



JOURNAL OF THE  
CANADIAN PHILATELIC SOCIETY  
OF GREAT BRITAIN

# Maple Leaves

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Whole No. 208

Vol. 20 No. 4

June 1986



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# MAPLE LEAVES

Journal of

THE CANADIAN PHILATELIC SOCIETY OF GREAT BRITAIN

INCORPORATED 1946

**Founder:**

A E. Stephenson, F.C.P.S.

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**Edited by: David Sessions, F.C.P.S.**

36 The Chimes, Nailsea, Bristol, BS19 2NH.

Opinions expressed in the various articles in this journal are those of the writers and are not necessarily endorsed by the Society

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## EDITORIAL

Members will be sorry to learn that ill-health has forced Eric Killingley to relinquish his position as Editor.

This issue has been compiled at short notice and will reach members somewhat later than normal. I have undertaken the task of producing *Maple Leaves* until matters can be regularised at the Annual General Meeting. In the circumstances all correspondence concerning editorial matters should be sent to me at my new address – see separate announcement.

I was delighted to see the article by John Hillson on the Small Queens in the April issue. The publication of a series of articles, aimed at newer members, has long been a hobby-horse of mine. It would be extremely helpful if some of the senior Society members would volunteer to produce a simple summary article on their particular field of study, whether it be a stamp issue, a postmark or whatever. Please contact me in the first instance, however, to avoid the possibility of duplication. Meanwhile, quite by chance, we have an extended summary of the Jubilee Issue from Hans Reiche which will help to keep the ball rolling.

In the last issue Eric appealed for a volunteer to take over the task of addressing *Maple Leaves* envelopes. I am pleased to say that volunteers were forthcoming; once a couple of hiccups have been sorted out the task will be in the hands of Betty Stephenson. Meanwhile thanks to Ron Kell and John Gatecliff for stepping into the breach.

This issue should be accompanied by the auction catalogue. I understand from John Parkin that a large and varied selection of lots is on offer. Even if you cannot get to Convention for the full period it may well be worth your while to attend the auction.

If you are booking in for Convention and have not yet sent off your form, please do so now as last minute bookings cause disproportionate problems. Apart from Convention, I hope to see many of you at the one-day seminar in London on 21 June (see p.62 of April issue).

David Sessions, F.C.P.S.

### **ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING**

In accordance with Rule 17, notice is hereby given of the Society's Annual General Meeting, to be held at the Pitlochry Hydro Hotel, on Saturday 4 October, 1986.

Nominations for the following offices are solicited :—

1. Vice President.
2. Secretary.
3. Treasurer.
4. Three Committee members, one from each region.

The retiring Committee members are :—

J. Hannah (Scotland), C. Hollingsworth (North) and C. A. King (South). They, together with the retiring Secretary and Treasurer, are eligible for re-election.

Nominations to the Secretary please by 3rd July 1986.

### **FELLOWSHIP**

Members of the Society are eligible for election as Fellows for :—

- (a) Outstanding research, or
- (b) Outstanding service to the Society.

Nominations are solicited for submission to the Fellowship sub-committee in accordance with Fellowship Rule No. 2. Such nominations must be on the prescribed form which is obtainable from the Secretary. Completed forms to be returned by 3 August 1986.

**PLEASE NOTE SECRETARY'S NEW ADDRESS :—**

**David F. Sessions, F.C.P.S., 36 The Chimes, Nailsea, Bristol, BS19 2NH.**

## THE 1897 JUBILEE ISSUE (Part 1)

by Hans Reiche, F.C.P.S.

### Introduction

In the year 1897 Queen Victoria celebrated her 60th year on the throne and, at the same time, 30 years of Confederation and 400 years since Cabot's discovery had passed. According to the Canadian Hansard, 20 May 1897, Mr. Gibson, Member of Parliament, asked :—

1. Is it intended by the Post Office Department to issue a set of Jubilee stamps on the occasion of Her Majesty's approaching Jubilee?
2. If so, will such stamps be put into public use, and what course will be adopted whereby the public may purchase such stamps?
3. Will there be any limit to the quantity to be issued?
4. Of what various denominations will such issue consist?
5. What will be the amount of each denomination to be issued?
6. What steps will be taken to limit the number to be issued?

The POSTMASTER GENERAL (Mr. Mulock). It is the intention of the Government to issue a set of Jubilee postage stamps. Such stamps will be put into public use by being delivered to postmasters throughout Canada for sale to the public in the same manner as ordinary postage stamps are sold. There will be a limit to the quantity to be issued. The denominations of Jubilee stamps, and the total number of such Jubilee stamps to be issued are set forth in the following schedule :—

### SCHEDULE showing the Denominations and Total Number of Jubilee Stamps to be issued.

Number to be issued	Denomination
150,000 . . . . .	½c stamps
8,000,000 . . . . .	1c stamps
2,500,000 . . . . .	2c stamps
20,000,000 . . . . .	3c stamps
750,000 . . . . .	5c stamps
75,000 . . . . .	6c stamps
200,000 . . . . .	8c stamps
150,000 . . . . .	10c stamps
100,000 . . . . .	15c stamps
100,000 . . . . .	20c stamps
100,000 . . . . .	50c stamps
25,000 . . . . .	\$1 stamps
25,000 . . . . .	\$2 stamps
25,000 . . . . .	\$3 stamps
25,000 . . . . .	\$4 stamps
25,000 . . . . .	\$5 stamps
7,000,000 . . . . .	1c post cards

Total value of one stamp of each kind, \$16.21½.

As soon as the total number of stamps mentioned in said schedule is issued the plates from which they will have been engraved will be destroyed in the presence of the head and two officers of the department. On the 10th June, the Post Office Department will proceed to supply Jubilee postage stamps to the principal post offices in Canada, and through them the minor post offices will obtain their supply until the issue is exhausted. If this Jubilee issue were to wholly displace the ordinary postage stamps it would supply the ordinary wants of the country for between two and three months, but as the use of the ordinary postage stamp will proceed concurrently with that of the Jubilee stamps it is expected that the Jubilee stamps will last beyond the three months. Inasmuch as the department is already receiving applications for the purchase of Jubilee stamps it may be stated that the department will adhere to the establishment practice of supplying them only to postmasters, and through them to the public, who may purchase them on and after the 19th June, 1897.

This information was published in a number of philatelic magazines and made collectors and others aware of the intent by the government to issue a set of stamps and one postcard for this occasion. The issue date was 19 June 1897. Official distribution to post offices began 10 June 1897. These stamps were the first Canadian commemoratives.

### **Printing Details**

This set was the first one to be printed by the new Ottawa-located American Bank Note Co. For each value, a die was engraved using a composite of the heads, the value inscriptions and the rest of the design, with the Tudor crown in the centre. A total of 16 dies and transfer rolls were made, of which nine transfer rolls were used to lay down the plates. Some transfer rolls contained five to seven subjects, and some had five different subjects on one roll. The Chalon head was designed by A. E. Chalon and the second portrait by Professor von Angeli of Vienna. The design of the stamps was by Lyndwoode Pereira, assisted by F. Brownell of the Department of the Interior. In C. A. Howes' book "Canada — Its Stamps and Postal History", mention is made of the destruction of 17 original dies, 19 transfer rolls and 31 plates. These figures do not correspond to the figures given by the records of the American Bank Note Co., or the files in the Post Office. The price for printing these stamps was 20c per thousand.

Plates varied from 50 to 100 subjects, depending on the value.

The dies for this issue were made in New York, and the following information is of interest :—

"In some of the available literature and respective catalogues some doubt is expressed about where the actual die for the jubilee stamp was made. Hansen in his book writes 'With the Diamond Jubilee issue a new company took over the printing of Canadian stamps. This was the American Bank Note Co. which in 1923 became the Canadian Bank Note Co. as a subsidiary of the parent

firm. Under the terms of the contract the new printers were required to set up facilities in Ottawa. This was done although there seems to be enough evidence to say that the dies of the Jubilee issue were made in New York.' (1)

Looking over some files in the Public Archives in Ottawa the following letter was found addressed to the Deputy Postmaster General by the president of the British American Bank Note Co. dated 5 May 1897 (file number RG3 Vol. 514).

"Dear Sir, In reply to your favour of 4th inst., we beg to state that about seven months ago we were notified by the minister of Finance that our contract with the government would cease and be at an end on the 22 April 1897. Since that notice was served the Postmaster General instructed us to prepare designs for a Three Cents Jubilee stamp, which we did in connection with which we had many interviews, with a perfect understanding that the work was to be performed by us. When however we pressed for a final decision the matter of shortness of time in which to execute and deliver the stamps, the Postmaster General delayed his answer for one reason and another until the expiration of our contract, when he informed me, during an interview on the 29 inst., that the work had been done in New York. From the action of the Postmaster General in this matter are we to assume that he has arranged for all the other postal supplies from the same source and that the Canadian Co. have no rights that will be fairly considered by the present government?"

From this correspondence it is clear that the work was done in New York not Ottawa.

Each plate contained an imprint in the top margin. For the plate of 50 subjects, the imprint appeared above stamps 2 to 4, and for the 100 subject plates, the imprint was above the 5th and 6th stamp. All stamps were line perforated 12 by 12.

The layout of the plates required certain guides for accuracy. These guides in form of guide lines and guide dots will be discussed separately under each value.

Two different papers were used for the printing: a horizontal and a vertical wove paper. Although initially it was thought that all 50 plate subjects made use of one type and all 100 subject plates of the other, this has turned out to be incorrect. Details are mentioned under the specific values.

Speculation arose about the possible changes of some colours to overcome difficulties in separating some of the values, but the government indicated that there was no intention to change colours.

(1) "The Guidebook and Catalogue of Canadian Stamps", G. Hansen.

### Proofs, Specimens, Essays

A number of different proofs, specimens and so-called essays exist. A proposed design was found in a letter kept by the Public Archives in Ottawa from a Mr. A. G. Allison. He proposed a specially-designed stamp for the 1897 Diamond Jubilee. The denomination was to be a 3c, as the government initially planned only a single value. This is confirmed by one Member of Parliament writing to the PMG and stating that he heard a 3c stamp would be issued and wanting to know what the design of this stamp would be. The proposed design by Allison is unfortunately in a weak pencil and of very poor quality for reproduction. A sketch of this proposed design was made, a picture of Queen Victoria was to be in the centre. The stamp was to be 1½ inches high and 1 inch wide.



Specimen overprinted stamps exist with two different types of overprint. One shows the word Specimen with, the other without, serifs. All values exist with both overprints. These overprints are simple in type and care must be exercised due to the fact that a number of such items have come on the auction market in Canada which must be regarded as unofficial overprints.

So-called Diamond Jubilee Essays were sold many years ago in an auction as a complete set of seven essays. The values are a ½d, 1d, 1½d, 2d, 3d, 4d and a 6d. The first four are small-size, the latter large-size stamps. The first four show Queen Victoria, the second shows Prince Edward of Wales, a third shows King Edward and Queen Alexandra and the same for the 4d, the 6d shows King George and Queen Mary. Although some believed these were Canadian stamps or essays, they are neither. They may be classed under British seals and belong in the Cinderella album.

A large book exists which contains the backer proof sheets of this issue. Unfortunately, all sheets have been defaced to the extent that hardly any details can be taken from this book. The book has the title "Specimen Sheets As Ready For Issue And As Cancelled Of Jubilee Stamps 1897". Inside the cover of this book is a note which reads: "Uncalled Specimen Sheets were not received, it having eventually been thought unnecessary to get such". Initialled E.P.S. The proof sheets are all in black.<sup>(1)</sup>

(1) Proof book in the vault of the Postal Museum, Ottawa.



### **Other Relevant Data**

A number of other points are worth noting. First, a number of rather crude forgeries exist of the Dollar values which are lithographed rather than engraved. These are easy to detect. The Dollar values also exist as engraved forgeries. Poor engraving and slightly different design arrangements will give these away. A fairly good number of these forgeries have come on the market over the last years. It is not known whether all of them come from the same source.

A rather controversial issue arose when the Post Office announced the quantities of each value to be issued. Some values had very limited quantities and collectors and dealers alike hoped to cash in on this by trying to buy these values in larger numbers. The Post Office began to ration them, especially the 1/2c and 6c, and many outlets could not even deliver a complete set with these two values. The philatelic press made a sharp attack on this procedure but the Post Office remained firm in not selling large quantities just to a few. As a matter of fact a number of each value remained for a long period and were finally destroyed by the Postage Stamp Division.

Earlier dates than the approval dates of some plate proofs exist, but these must be put down to incorrect daters.

Plates used for printing this set were numbered in the sequence they were laid down, rather than a consecutive numbering. The 3 cents, with Plate No. 1, was the first value to be laid down, the \$1 value was the last one, Plate No. 27.

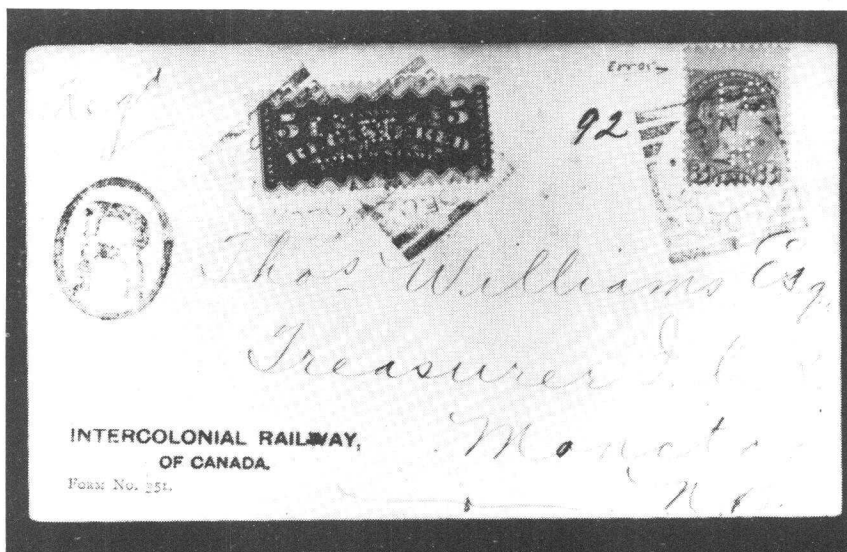
A few peculiar features, such as the guide dots and guide lines have been mentioned under printing details, and special reference is made to some of these under each particular value. There are, though, certain guides which appear constant on every value and no purpose would be served to repeat, for each position and for each value, the same information. For example, practically all values show guide dots near the bottom left or sometimes the bottom-right margin. One, two or three such dots may be found. The dots or dot are sometimes very close to the design and may appear simply as an extension of the design, such as the leaf. Another feature is the broken horizontal line above the right side of the crown. This occurs on almost all values and is caused by a line which is not cut or engraved as deep on the die as the rest of the lines. This is evident from the backer proof sheets in black which often show this line greyish rather than black, indicating less ink in this particular horizontal line. It is interesting that Plate No. 29 of the 3c does not show this, and it is possible the die was improved before laying down this plate.

Mention of some guide dots was made by H. Twichell in BNAPS Topics, March 1985.

*(to be continued)*

## NO STAMPS IN SOHO by The Yellow Peril

Photo by Bill Edward



*A registered cover franked with a 5c RLS and a 3c SQ.  
Both stamps perforated "I.C.R." and graced by the Baddeck square circle.*

The credit for my possessing this delightful cover has got to go to member Bill "Booklet-Pane" McCann. A few conventions ago McCann and I en route to the CPS of GB do, made an over-night stop in London. There, Bill admonished me: "Instead of spending the day and night in Soho, why don't you fish the dealers? You never know what you may catch! Soho will still be here this evening!" Not wishing to betray my motives, I half-heartedly heeded his words . . . but landed this catch.

The moral of this story? ATTEND CPS of GB CONVENTIONS!

### CONVENTION 1/4 October, 1986 – OVERSEAS MEMBERS

Any overseas member who intends to attend Convention this year is invited to write to the President (address inside back cover) as soon as possible giving the dates of arrival and departure and details of accommodation required. Elsewhere in this issue you will find a summary of events taking place and it is hoped that the full programme will be published in the June issue.

**NOTICE OF  
SEPTEMBER 1986 PUBLIC AUCTION**



**Our Seventh Public Auction, following the one in June, will be held in SEPTEMBER 1986 on our Premises at**

AS ALWAYS OUR CHIEF INTEREST IS IN B.N.A. SINGLES, SETS, POSTAL HISTORY, COLLECTIONS AND WHOLESALE LOTS, BUT WE WILL SELL ANYTHING OF PHILATELIC INTEREST FROM THE WHOLE WORLD.

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## MODERN USAGE OF THE BROKEN CIRCLE

by J. L. Winmill and R. B. Winmill

For a period of several years, access to a large number of pieces of current mail (7,000,000) was available to the authors. This enabled a study of several interesting facets of contemporary postal history to be conducted and written up.

The mail sampled was addressed to large financial institutions in Ontario and originated largely in Ontario (70%) and the west (28%) with the remainder originating in the east. The sample was also biased in several other respects – toward the more prosperous, toward English Canada etc., but aside from the geographical bias, none of the factors should be of much consequence to this series of articles.

The purpose of these pieces is merely to examine those cancellations and postal markings which, in the judgement of the authors, were unusual during the 1980-1983 time frame.

The first unusual find was that many of the old single broken circle hammers are still in use. These were initially employed in the 1850's and were still manufactured until well into this century, however to find these still in use, many on a regular basis, after 1980 is surprising.

Although all examples encountered were of the single broken circle category, no attempt was made to determine type etc. Findings were summarized as follows :—

**Bailieboro:** Six examples were found, all dated between April 19, 1982 and March 16, 1983 – strikes generally being clear.

**Bondhead:** Two examples were found, dated ON 01 82 and 10 AP (despite lack of a year date, the year had to be 1984) fine clear strikes, obviously misdated. The latter strike was not from the original study material.

**Britt:** A single example was located, dated 3 XI 81. This was a perfect strike.

**Cathcart:** Four examples were found all with only partially readable dates, the strikes of the indicia being a mess.

**Conn:** A single example was found with a PM 29 IX 82 date. This strike was in purple!

**Davin:** Six gorgeous clear strikes were located ranging from March 10, 1981 to April 6, 1983.

**East Kelowna:** Three strikes were located bearing 1981 and 1983 (2) dates.

**Fruitland:** One hundred and twenty-seven strikes were located in the sample and half that many again were observed from other sources. Between the two groups, strikes were noted for every month from January 1980 to August 20, 1983. A normal indicia arrangement sees the day first as 20 VII 83 however on several dates, such as VI 3 82, the month was first.

**Hornby:** Seventy-seven strikes were found in the sample and another fifty or so were observed from other sources. Many strikes of Hornby were badly blurred. All months from January 1980 to August 1983 were observed.

**Iddesleigh:** Fourteen sharp, clear strikes were observed, ranging from March 25, 1981 to July 13, 1983.

**McKague:** Three strikes were observed, all bearing 1981 dates.

**Pender Island:** Ten, often poorish blurred strikes, were observed some with illegible indicia, but all were dated between March 8, 1981 and June 14, 1983.

**Roche's Point:** A single strike, dated AU 10 82 was found.

**Sandspit:** Twenty-four widely dispersed 1982 and 1983 dates were observed. Many were fine, clear strikes, however some were barely legible. The odd rather peculiar indicia arrangement was found, such as 82 V 22 (undoubtedly May 22, 1982).

**Schreiber:** Four dates from May 7, 1981 to September 9, 1982 were located. All were respectable strikes.

**Sebright:** A single example dated 25 May 82, was observed. This had the month inverted.

**Talbotville Royal:** Eleven strikes were seen in the study material along with a number of others from external sources. Dates were observed irregularly from January 1980 to June 30, 1983. Frequently, this device is accompanied by an ugly grid killer which ties the stamp to the cover. Errors observed include 14 VI and no year date (Because this cover was received in 1983 and bore a 1983 commemorative, the blank must be 1983.). A second error observed was III 29 81, the '29' being inverted.

**Whaletown:** A single example dated 25 IV 81 was observed.

**Wilsonville:** Twelve examples dated between February 17 1981 and August 9 1982 were found. However, ten dates were 1981 and only two were 1982. Several other examples were also observed and the following indicia errors or variations from the norm were observed on this second group. 26 IVI 81.

17 2 81 – Roman numerals were always used in dates.

01-09 – The first days of the months are always preceded by a zero.

**Winnipeg– Manitoba:** Two examples, dated PM 11 VIII 81 and PM 7X 81 respectively, surfaced. This marking seems peculiar, coming from a large city, and it is extremely clear and sharp, almost as though it were a modern cancel.

There are doubtless other towns employing broken circle hammers and other indicia abnormalities etc. remaining to be located and reported; however, it is hoped that this is a start and may spur others on to further research.

## CANADIAN MAIL BY RAIL 1836-1867

by Lionel F. Gillam, F.C.P.S.

What the critics and dealers say about it :—

"I find it one of the most interesting books I have ever read. It is far more than a history of mail carriage by rail; it is also a good history of the early Canadian railways themselves, something not often seen."

*F.F.A.*

"For anyone interested in the history, development and postmarks of the early railway post offices of Canada this book will be indispensable."

*W.R.*

"We have been purchasing quantities of the reprint of your first book and would like to place an order for 100 copies immediately."

*D.W.*

"As we have had good success selling your other book, reprints of which we obtain from the American Philatelic Society, we are interested in carrying your latest book."

*G.W.*

"Most assuredly the finest example of writing on the subject, and you provide a comprehensive treatment of it. It is your usual superior effort."

*R.B.W.*

"Congratulations on a marvellous effort."

*R.C.S.*

"It is fascinating and deserves all the praise I have seen in print. Many congratulations."

*T.R.*

"Anyone having a copy of the author's previous publication will not need reminding of the meticulous research which has gone into this new emission."

*E.K.*

"A delight!"

*L.H.H.*



Limited stocks are still available from the author (Price £12.00 post-paid) at 66 East Bawtry Road, Rotherham, South Yorkshire S60 4BU.

*Overseas members order your copy from your dealer now.*

## STAMP PROGRAMME 1986

Canada Post has made several amendments and additions to the list shown in the January issue of *Maple Leaves*. For simplicity, a revised list follows :—

13 Jan.	2c Fishing Spear (Pl.2) CBNC perf. 13 x 13½.
13 Feb.	34c Winter Olympics — Calgary 1988.
7 Mar.	34c, 39c EXPO 86.
14 Mar.	S5 La Maurice Nat. Park (Pl.1)
14 Apr.	34c Phillipe Aubert de Gaspe; 34c Molly Brant.
28 Apr.	34c, 68c EXPO 86.
9 May	34c Canadian Forces Postal Service.
22 May	34c Birds, block of four.
27 June	34c Canada Day — Science & Technology, block of four.
23 July	34c CBC — 50th Anniversary.
29 Aug.	34c Explorers, block of four.
5 Sept.	34c James Macleod/Chief Crowfoot.
1 Oct.	CAPEX 87 — souvenir sheet of Explorers (29 Aug. issue).
15 Oct.	34c Winter Olympics — Calgary 1988, pair.
29 Oct.	34c, 39c, 68c Christmas.
4 Nov.	34c John Molson.
21 Nov.	34c (pair), 39c, 68c Trains.

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### FROM THE PRESIDENT

The philatelic side of the Convention programme is as shown on page 63 of the April issue. The auction will commence at 2 p.m. at the Convention venue, the Pitlochry Hydro Hotel. Auction lots will be on view after the displays on the Thursday and Friday evenings.

The social programme includes a visit to Blair Castle on Thursday afternoon, a coach tour on Friday afternoon and, for the non-collectors, a visit to Pitlochry Theatre on the Friday evening. As always, the Annual Banquet will provide the finale on the Saturday evening.

If I have not yet had your booking form, please send it as quickly as possible, otherwise I may not be able to arrange accommodation in the Convention hotel.

See you all in Pitlochry. Remember the dates :—

**ANNUAL CONVENTION, PITLOCHRY . . .**  
**Wednesday, 1st October to Saturday 4th October, 1986.**



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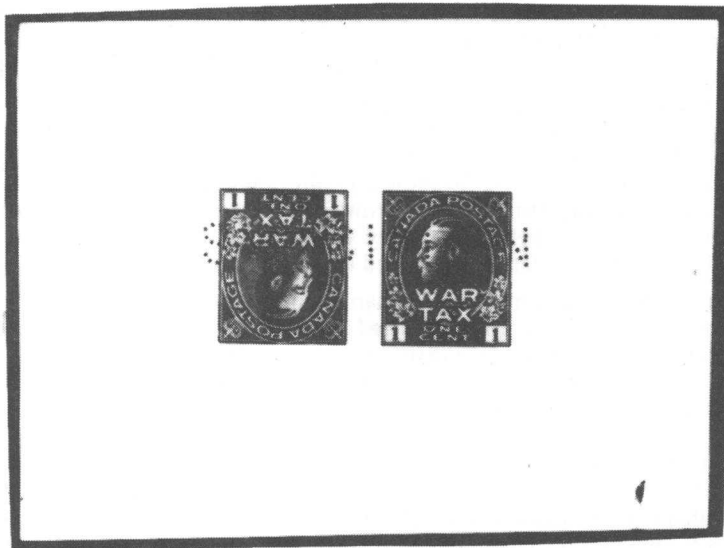
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TELEPHONE: (0332) 46753

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**TETE-BECHE ADMIRAL**  
**by The Yellow Peril**  
**Foto by Favourite**

In the April 1981 *Maple Leaves* (whole number 182) I described a “Frodel” Admiral War Tax imperforate tête-bêche forgery that is listed in an essay-proof book. Although the whereabouts of this pair is still unknown I am happy to report and illustrate below an identical item recently purchased from a Toronto auction. When the lot was knocked down to me at \$950.00 my immediate reaction was that I had again allowed myself to be “taken to the cleaners”! Its final price which includes the buyer’s premium is \$1045.00 – a record price for a Canadian forgery.



*“A TETE-BECHE LARGE DIE PROOF, UNIQUE, A GREAT ADMIRAL WAR TAX RARITY” (Auctioneers’ partial description).*

Reflecting on my purchase a few days after the sale, however, it suddenly dawned upon me that there is some credibility to the catalogue description . . . This tête-bêche pair is not just any forgery. This forgery is indeed unique to be featured in *The Essays and Proofs of British America*. Considering the many foolish and much less appealing stamps that I have let myself get hung with in the past, a “G” is not really too much to pay for such a fascinating forgery after all.

**Editor’s note:**

Non-Admiral tête-bêche Frodel creations include a 20c QV Numeral perforated pair with light postmarks and a 1c George V imperforate Scroll.

*After nearly a lifetime collecting, Stanley Cohen is disposing of his magnificent collection. We understand that part will be sold through Cavendish Auctions, here in the UK, later this year whilst the balance will come under the hammer across the Atlantic. Stanley has written for us a reminiscence of stamps and people he has known in that time. We are serialising the story and hope readers will enjoy the mixture of nostalgia and philosophy . . . . .*

## **THE STORY OF A CANADIAN STAMP COLLECTION (Part 1) by Stanley F. Cohen, F.C.P.S.**

I started to collect Canadian stamps almost sixty years ago when I was a young schoolboy and have done so actively ever since. "But why *Canadian* stamps?" I have often been asked.

The simple answer is that I had a **friend** at school who collected butterflies and Canadian stamps, so I emulated his example and did the same. By the time he was 14, both cricket and football had entered his life and he gave up his other hobbies. For my part, I abandoned entomology at the age of 15, after capturing my first Swallowtail, and now my grand-children are the proud owners of the butterfly collection, carefully preserved and resplendent in cases. It is hard to believe that fifty years ago so many varieties were to be found in England, alas later to be killed off by insecticides.

But my fascination for Canadian stamps continued and was to be augmented by an event that occurred in 1929. For in that year, Canada issued a beautiful new definitive series . . . the so-called 'scroll' issue (SG.275-285), of which the 50 cents value was a magnificent blue stamp depicting the fishing smack 'Bluenose'.

### **My first 'Bluenoses'**

About a mile away from the house in which I lived with my parents in Birmingham, there lived a small stamp dealer who operated from his home. As a boy I would take great delight in visiting him to see what I could acquire with my pocket money. One afternoon on such a visit, I spotted a tray full of Canadian stamps which he had clearly just soaked off paper. Amongst them were a dozen or more superbly used copies of a large blue stamp with a picture of a sailing ship. They were the most beautiful stamps I had ever seen and I immediately fell in love with them. Along with them I noticed three or four copies of a very drab olive \$1 stamp showing a building with a tower, which did not appeal to me at all, as well as a whole range of low values. But the 50 cent 'Bluenoses' were what I wanted and, with tongue in cheek, I asked the price for them. It appeared that the whole tray of stamps was for sale . . . all or nothing . . . and the asking price was 2/6d (12p or 25 cents). Although it sounds ludicrous today, this was a small fortune to a schoolboy in the twenties, and far more than I could afford.

I walked home very slowly that day, pondering how on earth I could raise the money. In the event, that evening I approached my father, who seemed to be in a reasonably good mood, and asked him for an advance of

five weeks pocket money, promising him faithfully to repay it as soon as possible, and explaining to him why I needed it. After a stern lecture on 'wasting money on silly bits of paper' he handed over the required half-a-crown (2/6d) and my day was made. Neither of us were then to know that these 'silly bits of paper' were to become a major part of my life . . .

The next day I rushed back to my dealer friend and came home with my 'collection'. I sorted through the stamps and put aside the 4 loveliest copies of the 'Bluenose'. All the rest were put into an envelope. At that time there were two stamp shops in the city and I took the envelope to each in an attempt to sell them. The first shop was not interested in buying them. But I was luckier in the second shop, the owner of which, after much haggling, agreed to pay me 2/- for the envelope's contents which I gratefully accepted. My 4 'Bluenoses' had cost me a mere sixpence, just one week's pocket money, and I had accomplished my very first 'stamp deal'. I recall paying back my father 2/- of the loaned 2/6d that evening, much to his astonishment, and then he asked me what I had got for the remaining sixpence. I still remember the puzzled expression on his face as I replied "Four blue noses".

To celebrate my good fortune, I recall that I went to the local Post Office to buy three very strange new stamps, a ½d. 1d and 1½d issued to commemorate the U.P.U. Congress (1929), thus lashing out 3d (about 1p), or half a week's 'wages'. There was also a 2½d value, which I thought far too costly. It was to be very many years later that I learnt that there was also a £1 value in the set. Had I known it at the time, I would never have believed such a thing possible. But the strange new designs of the British stamps did not really impress me. I was sold on the 'Bluenoses' and somewhere still, in a long forgotten little stock-book, the four lovely stamps still remain tucked away with their 'socked on the nose' city dated postmarks.

### **The war years**

By 1939 I had built up a reasonably good basic collection of Canada. But it had been a solo effort. I knew no one else who specialised in the country and a good deal of the collection was on a hit and miss basis. My sole guide had been quite old copies of Gibbons yearly catalogues, the few Canadian pages of which in those days I had more or less memorised.

Then came World War II and my stamps were put aside. That is until 1942 when I found myself serving alongside those wonderful Canadian airmen who did so much to help us win the war. I was intrigued at the huge number of parcels that were constantly arriving for all of them packed with food and goodies from fond parents and relatives back home. These parcels were usually covered with a brand new set of Canadian stamps that I had never seen before (1942 War Series. SG.375-396) and, since I think all philatelic publications had ceased during the war, no mention of them had appeared anywhere. I soon had all the Canadian boys saving all the stamps off their parcels for me. Mostly all were dreadfully heavily cancelled, both the Canadian and British Post Offices making quite certain that they were

well and truly obliterated. Amongst all the many values showing the King's head in uniform, just occasionally I spotted a small grey stamp showing a grain elevator that seemed quite out of keeping with the rest of the set. This 4 cent value (SG.379) was soon replaced by a 4 cent red in the normal uniform design, so I asked my Canadian airmen friends to ask their relatives to put the 4 cent grey on their parcels, which many of them did and soon I had a number of them. My instinct had told me that this little stamp would become a rarity one day.

As it turned out, I was quite wrong for, after the war, when full details of the set were published, the little grey 4 cents turned out to be quite common. It must have had considerable domestic use in Canada at the time, and today is still only cat. 60p whereas I had quite missed out on the scarcer 13 cents green that was so quickly replaced by the 14 cents in the same design and colour.

### The C.P.S. of G.B.

Shortly after the war had ended, once again I took up my Canadian collection. I had read in one of the magazines that a new Society was being formed in Scotland just to cater for collectors of Canadian stamps. I rushed to join it and, being one of the very first to do so, was a little surprised when my membership arrived and I found that my membership number was 72. I could not believe that there really were as many as 70 people interested in my side-line. On reflection now, so very many years later, I much doubt that more than one or two of us are left with membership numbers from 1 to 100. (*Ed's note:— you are one of just five, Stanley.*) The passage of years has taken a heavy toll.

Joining this new specialist Society was to open up completely new vistas for me. For the first time I was to meet, especially at the Annual Conventions, fellow collectors whose knowledge of B.N.A. philately completely enthralled me. I recall the great friendship and camaraderie that existed. Most of the members were older than me and, indeed, I believe I was for some years the youngest member of the group.

The names of the old time Canadian specialists, from whom all my knowledge emanated, are manifold. Alas, the great majority of them have passed on to a happier hunting ground, but their memory lives on, and, indeed, I shall never forget any of them.

The first of the great friendships I made was with Leo Baresch, a one-time engineer, who had forsaken his profession in order to devote all his time to his first love . . . postage stamps. He became one of the most respected of London dealers, but when I first met him he was an avid collector of Canada. He took me under his wing and helped me to build up my own collection. In those days, a young collector/dealer called Stanley Godden was tragically killed in a car accident and it was Leo who handled his Canadian collection. Leo persuaded me to buy most of the many gems that were housed in the Godden collection and, to this day, many of my finest pieces stem from this source.

Then there was the remarkable J. J. Bonar, whose knowledge of Canadian rates and postal markings has never been equalled by anyone. It was he who taught me, and so many other members of the Society, what true philately and research was all about.

One recalls the late Bill Lea Senior, Duncan McLellan, Sir George Williamson and others, with fond affection, not forgetting those who are fortunately still with us, like George Searles, Sandy Mackie, Dorothy Sanderson and David Sessions to name just a few. The combined knowledge of all aspects of B.N.A. philately of the British specialists was strangely found to be far superior to their Canadian counterparts, who, though far greater in numbers, were generally less well informed about their own country's stamps.

### **The Americans**

Shortly after the formation of the C.P.S. of G.B. a full membership list was published and it was noticeable that already quite a few overseas collectors had joined the Society. Amongst these in the early days, mostly Americans and a few Canadians were to be found. Their names, addresses and particular interests were listed.

I was always an active correspondent so that within a short while I found myself busily writing away to most of the overseas members, seeking out areas of common interest. It was in this way that I made contact with Horace Harrison, Norman Brassler, and John Siverts of the U.S., together with Arnold Banfield, Clarence Kemp, Bill Simpson and several other very active collectors in Canada.

It would be possible to write a whole article, or even a book, about the many years of correspondence with people like these, whom I then knew by name only, and only by the constant flow of airmail back and forth across the Atlantic, for it was not until years later that I was actually to meet them all.

So I will confine my reminiscences to just a few of them . . .

### **Horace Harrison**

During the fifties, my most active correspondence was with Horace Harrison, then living in Pikesville, Maryland. He was an insurance broker and he had a passion for Canada's first Dominion issue, the gorgeous series of Large Queens issued early in 1868. As it happened, I, too, had grown passionately fond of this series. I had long since decided to limit my Canadian collection to the 19th century so that anything issued after 1900 very rarely had any interest for me. The long forgotten Bluenoses and 1942 4 cents grey had been placed aside 'for the children'. But none of my children nor my grand-children ever showed the slightest interest in them as it turned out.

Horace Harrison was deeply into the Large Queens. He was studying their papers and printings in depth whereas I was devoting my time to a study of their postmarks, a rather easier and less demanding task. We teamed up to complete an intensive study of the series. I soon discovered that material was far more plentiful on the other side of the Atlantic, which had I given it any thought, should have been obvious to me. Horace came up with masses of working material. He was able to go through local dealers' stocks in profusion at that time whereas in England, supplies were limited. Canada was just 'another country' and we were not exactly on its doorstep.

My aim was to complete a set of the so-called 2-Ring Numeral postmarks on the Large Queens. The numbers were 1 through 60 in two solid rings that had been officially issued to the 60 largest Post Offices in Canada. Montreal, being in 1868 the largest office, had been allocated number 1, Toronto number 2, and so on, until the small office of Newmarket, Ont., with its final number of 60. It had been fairly easy going to find some fifty different numerals, but the last 10 were difficult and much sought after. But with the help of Horace I soon acquired all but two of them, the elusive numbers 20 and 22, although possibly scarcer ones like 17, 19 and 42 I already had.

It was in the final acquisition of these two numeral postmarks that I learnt a lesson that was to remain with me all my collecting life and is well worth passing on to budding new collectors.

#### **The generous trader**

No collector will part with stamps that you need for a cash consideration. It is strange but true that only very rarely can such stamps be bought out of a collection. However there is another way of acquiring them that sometimes not only costs little or nothing but pleases both you and the original owner. It happened that my missing numerals 20 and 22 were known by me to exist in two different quite small collections of these postmarks. I had written to each owner offering to buy them at an inflated price but without any success at all. In correspondence with them I found out that the one owner's passion was Canadian Postage Due stamps, especially anything at all on entire. I went through all my oddments of Postage Dues, in which I was not the slightest bit interested, but had accumulated from time to time from odd auction lots and collections. I found that I had quite a range of Mint and used specimens and even an odd item or two on cover. The whole lot I packaged up and sent to the numeral postmark owner, asking him if the enclosed lot were of any use to him, and, if so, would he care to trade them for his Large Queen numeral, adding that should he consider their value was less than the single Large Queen, I would gladly pay him any balance. By return airmail I received the most wonderful letter of thanks, together with the Large Queen, saying that a straight exchange was perfectly satisfactory to him, indeed, that if anything, he was indebted to me. We were both happy and I had also made a collector friend for life.

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## THE ELONGATED DUPLEX IN THE 1980's by J. L. Winmill and R. B. Winmill

As part of a study of contemporary mail, portions of which have been previously published in this journal, these obsolete cancellations were retained. A total of only seventy-eight of these were observed. At one time, earlier in this century, this style of cancellation device, bearing a killer of eleven thick bars was extensively employed throughout the Dominion. Even today a few of these devices survive in smaller offices.

Town	Frequency	Latest Usage Observed	Remarks
Beachburg, Ontario	11	PM/JA13/83	All strikes PM
Big River Saskatchewan	1	31/VIII/82	Proofed 9/10/22 <sup>1</sup>
Cupar, Saskatchewan	17	24/VI/83	Proofed 20/5/26
Elgin, Ontario	16	JUL 12/83	Day or month first. All months use alpha form except PM/31 XI/81. This 8 is inverted and this is the only timemark noted.
Elora, Ontario	3	PM/28 VII/83	
Florence Ontario	18	18 VII/83	Badly worn.
Gilbert Plains, Manitoba	10	PM/14 IX/82	Proofed 19/10/28 all strikes are PM.
Warworth, Ontario	2	PM/3 II/82	PM on both.
TOTAL	78		

To conclude, a total of seventy-eight strikes were noted from only eight different Post Offices. Within a very few years, no doubt all of these hammers will be retired: indeed it is probable that some already are.

1. These proof dates are as provided in L. A. Walker and J. G. Dalpe, "The Manitoba Duplex Postmarks" (Part 1) in *PHSC Journal*, No. 35, Sept. 1983, p.22-26 and L. A. Walker and J. G. Dalph, "The Saskatchewan Duplex Postmarks" (Part 1) in *PHSC Journal*, No. 37, March 1984, p.19-30.

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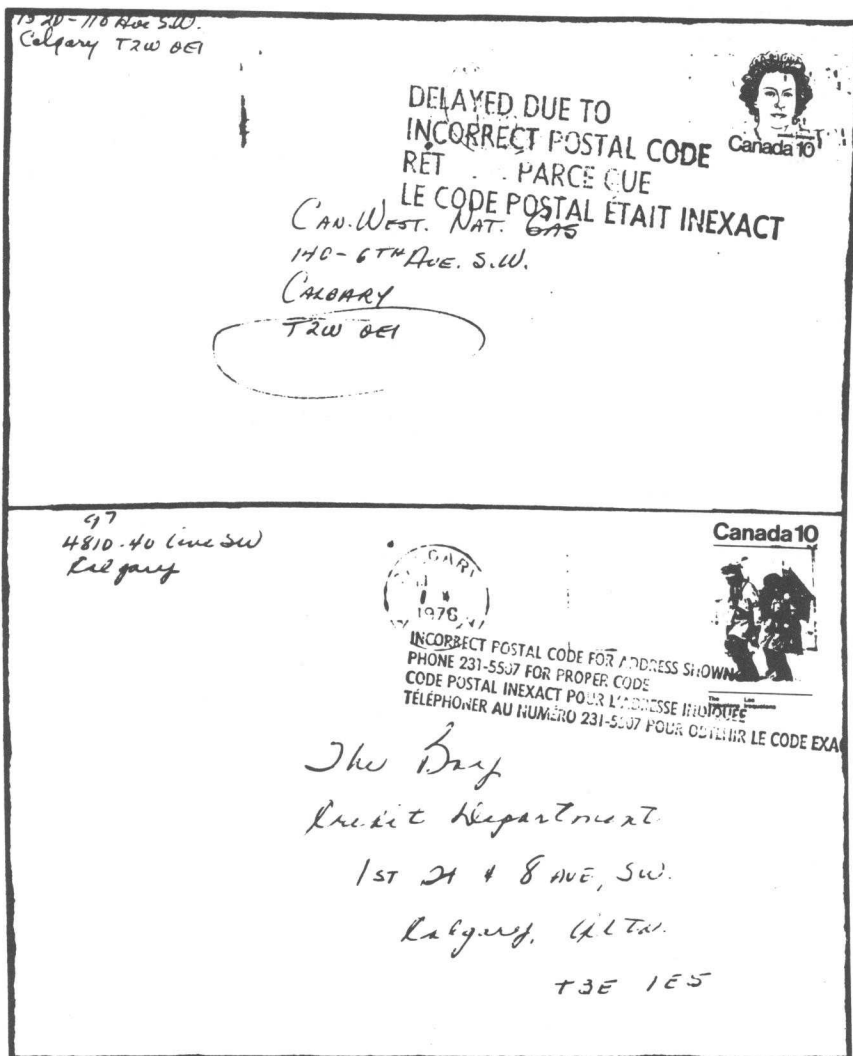
## POSTAL CODE ERRORS by Dale Speirs

Canada Post began its system of postal coding in 1972, but it was not until the middle 1970s that this system began to see widespread use (Tunniff 1976). As one might expect, there was initial difficulty in educating the general public as to the proper use of this system. Two covers illustrated with this article show one of the more common problems. In both cases, the postal code used is that of the return address, rather than the address to which the letters were sent. The rubber-stamp markings applied by the post office are self-explanatory, and indicate that this type of error was frequent enough to justify making up rubber-stamps.



**Reference:**

Tunncliff, SS (1976). Letter sorting mechanization in Canada. BNA TOPICS 33 (4): 19-20, 26.



## LETTERS TO THE EDITOR . . . . .

Phil Grey writes :—

I studied with interest Mr. Bellack's contribution on pages 79/80 of April *Maple Leaves* regarding a registered letter addressed from Upper Stewiacke, N.S. to Brazil.

The rail distance of 278 miles from Halifax to Saint John took over ten hours with numerous stops so I feel that there is no way that the letter could have travelled to Saint John and back to Halifax on the same day.

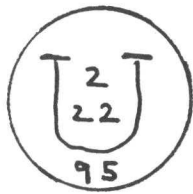
Although the illustrations of the cover are not too clear it appears that the "Amherst" postmark is probably the railway post office "Halifax & Amherst M.C. — EAST" which would suggest that the letter went first to Halifax from the mail train stop at Brookfield, N.S. One wonders why it went to Saint John at all!

Mr. T. E. Gartland writes :—

I enclose a photocopy of the reverse of a cover of mine, sent from Canada to U.S.A. by registered mail. On it, apart from the back cancels, are two round purple stamps containing a large letter 'U' with the figures 2 — 22 — 95 which I assume is the date, as it ties in with the other back cancels.

Can anyone please identify this mark for me? I believe that it could have been applied in the USA.

*Editor's note:— It is indeed most likely to be a U.S. marking, perhaps one of our members can confirm this. A drawing of the mark in question is shown as this is clearer than the submitted photocopy.*

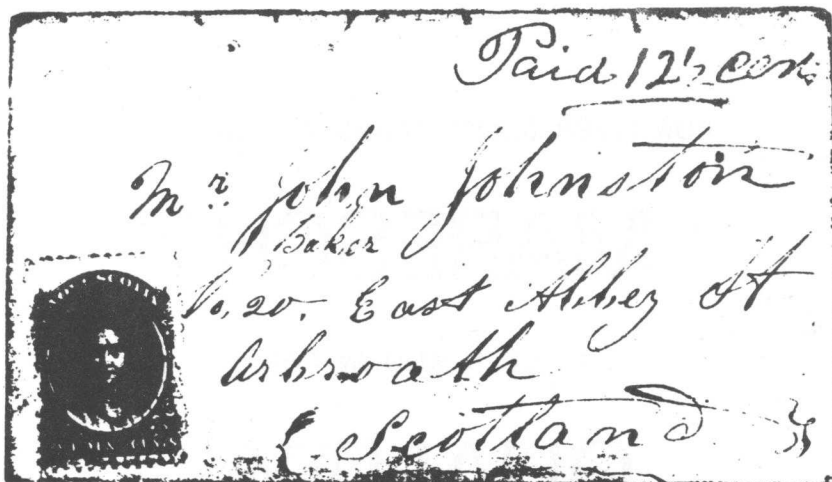


Mr. R. P. Hedley writes :—

I am enclosing a photo-copy of a cover that may be of interest for *Maple Leaves*.

The person I obtained this item from, frankly told me it had been turned down by one or two collectors. However, I believe it is a legitimate item. The thought is that this appearing in *Maple Leaves* will produce discussion.

The manuscript "PAID 12½ cents" is in red. Therefore, I feel the packet would not accept the letter unless an adhesive was thereon.



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2478 GARTSIDE, Lewis; 5421 Winston Road, Burlington, ON., CANADA, L7L 3B3. C.  
2479 HOB DEN, David L., 509 Glenelm Cr., Apt. 204, Waterloo, ON., CANADA, N2L 5C8. CS.

### Reinstatement

- 1844 SPENCER, Keith R.; 5005 Whitemud Road, Edmonton, Alberta, CANADA, T6H 5L2. Cov. PH., Alta.

### Deceased

- 687 Hicks, G. D.  
176 Searles, G. R. C.

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- 1671 Verity, D. M.

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- 2417 Dickinson, E., 20 Albert Road, Pittville, Cheltenham, Glos., GL52 2QX.  
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Revised Membership – 570.

### CORRIGENDUM

Re: "Steamboat Mail. Part 3" – April 1986 issue.

First para. page 72, line 7 should read "until 1848, when the Montreal & Lachine Railroad began regular services . . . . ."

Same para. fifth line from the bottom should read '1848' not '1850'.

No gremlins, the author generously admits to 'nodding'.

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WANTED: Sunny Alberta — Anything in Alberta Town Cancels — Territorial period forward. Also Small Town views, Advertising Covers, etc. Keith R. Spencer, 5005 - Whitemud Road, Edmonton, Alta, Canada T6H 5L2.

WANTED: Used strips of four, Scott 131, 132, 134. If dated, should be prior to 1930. Please send with asking price or write Gordon M. Hill, 1001-13 Ave SW, #320, Calgary, Alta, Canada, T2R 0L5.

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