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JOURNAL OF THE  
CANADIAN PHILATELIC SOCIETY  
OF GREAT BRITAIN



# Maple Leaves

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Whole No. 217  
Vol. 21 No. 1  
April 1988



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# MAPLE LEAVES

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**Founder:**

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## EDITORIAL

At the last AGM a question was raised concerning availability of past issues of 'Maple Leaves' and an index to the contents.

Members should be aware that a complete run of 'Maple Leaves' is held by the Librarian and that some back numbers are available for purchase. An index, by volume, is distributed to members free of charge, the index to volume 20 is enclosed. A cumulative index to volumes 1 to 14 was published in 1974 but this sold out several years ago. It is felt that completion of the first 20 volumes of 'Maple Leaves' is a suitable time to prepare and publish a new index. Assistant Editor Jed Taylor, to whom we are indebted for the enclosed index, has kindly agreed to prepare the new cumulative index and we hope to publish it later in the year at a price to be announced. While on the subject of indexes, we would remind student members of the invaluable bibliography and index to Canadian Philately produced in two parts by Cimon Morin; this is a most useful reference tool and should be on every collector's shelf.

It's good to hear of activity around the country. Lew Warren tells us that the London Group gave nine displays to other societies in 1987. Not to be missed, if you can help it, is their annual one-day seminar - please see the details elsewhere in this issue. Scottish members are reminded that, thanks to Jim McLaren, we shall be represented at

Scottish Congress, in Falkirk Town Hall, on Sunday, 1 May from 10am to 4pm; please give him your support. For members within reach of Bristol we have a preliminary notice that the successful one-day seminar at Portishead last August will be repeated this year on 21 August, a further note will appear in the June issue, meanwhile the Editor will endeavour to answer any queries.

### ATTENTION PRE-CANCEL COLLECTORS

Mr H. G. Walburn, editor of the Standard Pre-cancel Catalogue, is planning an up-date of the Canadian pre-cancel count which has not been published for some years. If your collection exceeds 1,000 different pre-cancels then perhaps you would like to help by sending in a straight count, regardless of type, value, etc., of the number of bar, city, number and 3rd Class Matter styles that you hold. All communications please to:  
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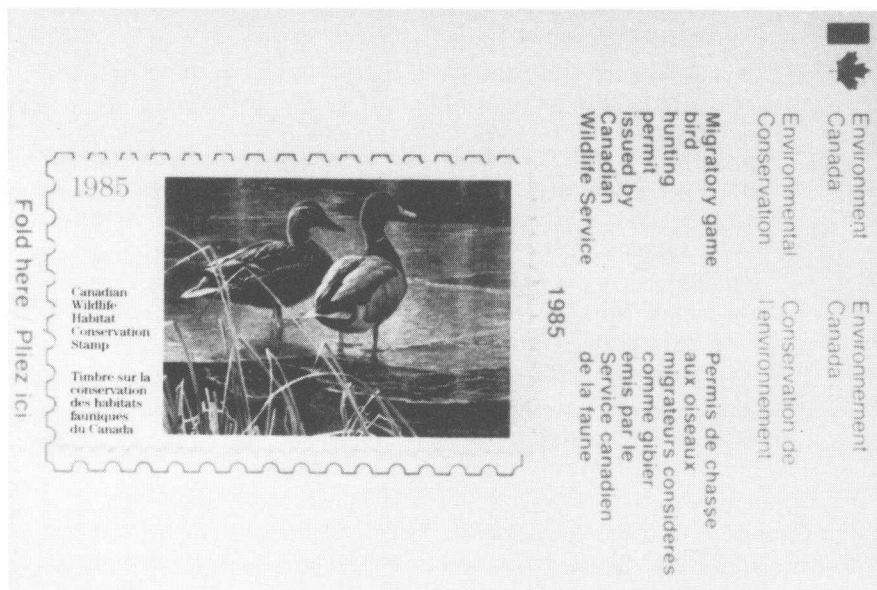
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## DUCK, ANYONE? by The Yellow Peril

Photos by Kimo

At the time of commencing this report (cold winter of '87) the hottest "issue" in stamp current events is Canada's first Wildlife Habitat Conservation stamps. On 1 August, 1985, Environment Canada produced 1,200,000 "duck" stamps. These attractive stamps were sold to migratory bird hunters to be affixed to their hunting licences. They were also available to conservationists and stamp collectors through Canada Post philatelic outlets. Since February of 1987 there have been at least four newspaper reports and much discussion amongst the stamp trade about these stamps.



*The duck stamp affixed to a 1985 Migratory game bird hunting permit*

Interesting and concise details of these stamps were provided by Wildlife Habitat Canada in their letter dated 24 August, 1987. The following are excerpts:

*"Canada's Wildlife Habitat Conservation Stamp program began in 1985 and involves an agreement among Environment Canada, Canada Post Corporation and Wildlife Habitat Canada. The stamp is issued August 1st of each year by Environment Canada. Funds*

*generated from the sales of the stamp are turned over to Wildlife Habitat Canada. We are an independent non-profit foundation, that works with government and non-government agencies to develop projects for the conservation, restoration and enhancement of wildlife habitat.*

*Every year the stamp portrays a painting by a different Canadian wildlife artist, selected by Wildlife Habitat Canada. The 1985 stamp featured "Mallard Pair – Early Winter" by Robert Bateman.*

*Migratory waterfowl hunters must purchase the stamp in order to validate their hunting permit. The hunting permits are issued by the Canadian Wildlife Service (Environment Canada) and are sold through all Canada Post outlets for \$3.50. In 1985, hunters purchased the stamp separately for \$4.00 (also from Canada Post) and affixed it themselves.*

*As well, each year the stamp is sold in a souvenir booklet to collectors from August 1 to March 31 of the following year. It is available only from Canada Post Philatelic Centres at face value. From April 1 to July 31 of each year, the stamp in souvenir booklets is sold by Wildlife Habitat Canada or its designated agent, at or above face value. This is part of the agreement among Environment Canada, Canada Post and Wildlife Habitat Canada.*

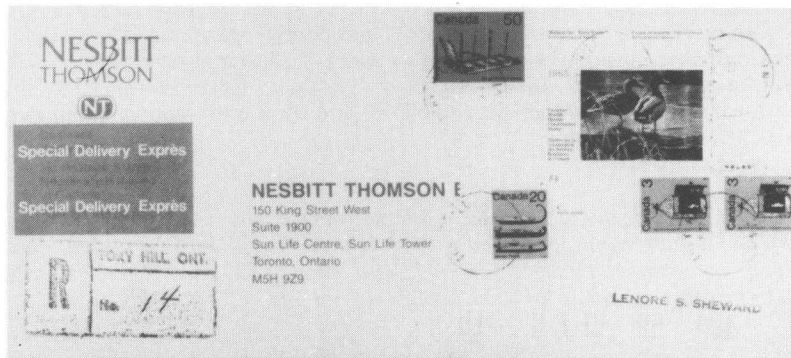
*In the case of the 1985 stamp, the original inventory in booklets was re-issued from December 1986 to June 21, 1987. The stamp was sold exclusively by: Maison Darnell, Montreal, Quebec.*

*Maison Darnell was not chosen in its capacity as a retail dealer, but rather, in its capacity as a stamp distributor. At that time it was the only stamp distributor available in Canada. After June 21, 1987, all unsold 1985 souvenir booklets were destroyed."*

Obviously the "Last Day of Sale – 31 March 1986" as stipulated on the Canada Post order form for the 1985 duck stamps caused terrible, terrible confusion. Normal Canada Post practice is to destroy unsold stamps after its stamps are taken off sale. Collectors, therefore, naturally assumed that after the last day of sale, these duck stamps would be cremated. This was not the case. Canada Post reportedly returned 700,000 unsold stamps to Wildlife Habitat Canada with an opinion that they were not to be sold. Despite this advice a dealer was given exclusive rights to market the duck stamps until 21 June 1987 for \$6.00 plus a \$2.00 handling charge each. It was also rumoured that wholesale quantities of these stamps were sold for only \$6.00 – without the \$2.00 handling charge. Because collectors and dealers believed that the 1985 issue was sold out on the last day, the price of the duck stamp

rose and they were traded around \$12.00 with highs of \$20.00 in the United States.

Patrick Donovan, head of Conservation Pledge Canada, Ste Anne de Bellevue, Que., purchased a large stock of these duck stamps – paying as much as \$6.30 each. He had planned to sell them to collectors at a future date to raise money for conservation projects. Fearing that Wildlife Habitat Canada’s arrangement to continue selling the duck stamps after the cut-off date would not only jeopardise his market, but attack the conservation stamp program’s integrity and erode demand and value as well, Donovan appealed to the foundation to stop the sale of the duck stamps. Wildlife Habitat Canada was not sympathetic to his pleas. Having tried everything from petitions to letters to Wildlife Habitat Canada and members of parliament, he was left with no alternative but to seek legal assistance. On 10 July, he filed a statement of claim to seek a permanent injunction to stop the sale of the undestroyed remainders. On 10 September 1987 counsel for the defendant Wildlife Habitat Canada filed a defense, but the court hearing date could be as much as three years away.



*A complete pane of the 1985 \$4 duck stamp + 1982 50¢, 20¢ 3¢(2) postal stamps totalling \$4.76 paying the \$2.46 registration fee, \$1.96 special delivery charge and .34 postage, are each tied to the above cover with “TORY HILL 14 III 86 ONT” cds to Toronto. There are several backstamps, two of which are “TORONTO 15 MARCH 1986” money order handstamp receivers.*

Because these stamps were available through Canada Post outlets, some conservationists apparently thought they were valid for postage. A few duck stamps were used to send letters. There are no first day covers, however.\*

The mallard is the best known and most plentiful of all North American waterfowl and has the widest distribution. It is known in every continent, but is probably most abundant in Asia; it is highly valued as an important food item in China. Like many puddle ducks, the mallard is capable of jumping from the water to instant flight, and often climbs almost straight upwards for several feet, at an incredible speed for so large and heavy a bird. The drake and duck are the same size, their average weight is three pounds. The normal diet of the mallard is 90 per cent vegetable and ten per cent insects. This duck is an avid destroyer of insects, especially mosquitoes. As its food is mostly vegetable, there is nothing finer than roasted, grain-fed, mallard. A mallard serves three.

*Recipe.* Wash and clean the duck thoroughly. Put a few slices of onion in the body cavity to remove some of the gamey taste. Keep the bird under refrigeration for several days. When ready to cook, remove the onion slices and place duck in a salt water brine (about 2 tbsp. salt per quart of water) and leave in a cool place overnight.

½ tsp salt	1 small peeled apple, quartered and cored
¼ tsp pepper	1 small onion, peeled and quartered
1 tbsp butter	1 stalk celery
2 tbsp poultry seasoning	½ cup hot water
	1 tbsp vinegar

Rub inside and out with salt, pepper, and poultry seasoning. Place apple, onion and celery inside the duck. Put in a heavy roaster, breast down. Melt butter in hot water, add vinegar and pour over duck. Cover and place in hot oven for 20 minutes. Reduce heat to 300°F. and cook until tender, about two hours. Season gravy highly.  
Bon appetit!

\* *Editor's Note: Beautiful cacheted envelopes franked with a Canadian definitive stamp and a duck stamp, cancelled with an Ottawa Aug 1, 1985 handstamp, are currently being traded by dealers in the United States at \$25 each. These are only pseudo first day covers as the duck stamps do not pay any postal charge.*

#### CANADIAN PHILATELIC SOCIETY OF GREAT BRITAIN

Annual Subscription £7, payable to Treasurer John Hillson.

Canadian members may settle in \$CAN (\$15) via Wayne Curtis and US members in \$US (\$11.50) via John Siverts. North American members requiring airmail service should add \$5CAN or \$3.75US. Please make your cheques payable to Wayne or John respectively.

Members who have not paid the current year's subscription by 31 December will be removed from the *Maple Leaves* circulation list and reinstatement will incur an additional fee of £1 or its \$ equivalent.



## THE LARGE QUEENS ISSUE (Part 2)

By Dr Dorothy Sanderson, FRPSL



Eight 2c L.Q. stamps pay 16c rate for half ounce letter to France, via Allan Line, 26 Feb 1872.

TWO CENTS

Issued 1 April 1868 and printed until 1870, superseded by the 2c Small Queen in February 1872.

Papers:

About 10,300,000 stamps were issued  
Thin, hard, semi-transparent  
Thicker medium soft  
Thick, soft, white absorbent (blotting paper type)  
'Bothwell' watermarked, medium thick and  
'Bothwell' paper

Perforations:

12x12

Shades:

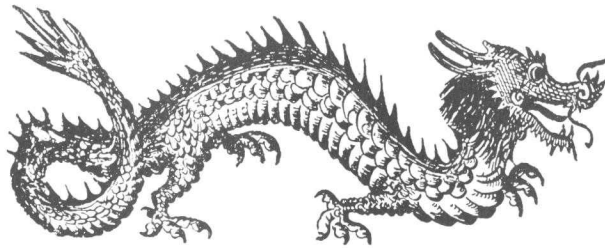
Deep green and blue green; grass green; emerald and yellow green

Varieties:

Two major re-entries:

- 1) a doubling in 'ADA PO' of Canada Postage – found in first printing and never corrected – plate position 7.
- 2) re-entry in 'TWO' seen in emerald green printings

Various minor re-entries are known. Also quite a number of stamps show plate dots, plate scratches and minor flaws.



## WANTED! CANADA FIRST DAY COVERS

Up till now I have done very little advertising. The results from previous attempts were just too discouraging. Either the covers I want are non-existent or collectors would not part with them. The response to an unplanned advertisement for cinderellas in the April 1987 Maple Leaves, however, was such a surprise that it has encouraged me to launch this all-out effort!

Twenty-two years ago I began a reference collection of first day covers. This project is now 75% complete and I am anxious to put the finishing touches to it. FDC's of the following issues – especially higher values – are urgently needed:

Queen Victoria *Jubilees*, Leaves and Numerals  
1898 Maps  
Edwards  
Quebecs  
Admirals

Covers should be in good condition but not necessarily with cachets just as long as the postmarks are clear and authentic.

If any lucky readers have any of the above and will swap them for money, please do not hesitate to take advantage of me. Even if your treasures are not for sale, you can still contribute to the project by letting me record them. If, in the unlikely event, someone has a substantial holding to sell, please provide me with the ablibi to travel (stopping over in gaie Paree)!

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STANLEY LUM, 19 BAMBER COURT,

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THREE CENTS

The date of issue was 1 April 1868 but several copies are known dated earlier, unofficially used. The Small Queen 3c was first used in January 1870.

Despite the short period of use of the Large Queen, about 22,000,000 were issued.

Papers:

Very thin, hard, semi-transparent and thin, hard to soft semi-transparent

Medium soft

Medium soft, coarse and yellowish toned

Thick, soft white absorbent (blotting)

'Bothwell' watermarked, medium to thick, and unwatermarked paper of this type

Laid paper



Two pairs of 3c L.Q. stamps pay double 6c rate to USA, 18 Apr 1870.

Perforations:

12x12

Shades:

Deep red-brown, then lighter shades; rose-red shades on laid paper; orange; red shades are commonest

Varieties:

- Plate cracks
- 1) in upper right vignette
  - 2) in left margin
  - 3) through CENTS and lower part of vignette

Major re-entry – doubling of ‘OSTAGE’  
‘NTS’ and upper and lower right ‘3’s

Other re-entries are known

Various plate scratches, guide dots and  
flaws have been found

FIVE CENTS

Date of issue: 1 October 1875, though die  
was engraved in 1867 and possibly plate was  
laid down then. About 1,250,000 were  
issued before February 1876 when the 5c  
Small Queen was issued.

Papers:

Thick, medium, soft

Thick, yellowish-toned, wove paper with  
vertical mesh

Perforations:

11.6x11.9

Rare perforations is 12.1x12.1

Shades:

Only known in olive-green

Varieties:

None known

SIX CENTS

Issued 1 April 1868 and used until January  
1872 when the 6c Small Queen was issued.  
Total issued approximately 9,400,000. Two  
plates known, the first had a guide dot at the  
extreme lower left, below the foliate orna-  
ment. This plate became damaged and a  
second plate was made in April 1869.  
Stamps from the second plate have a guide  
dot below the ‘S’ of ‘SIX’

Papers:

Plate 1. Very thin, hard, semi-transparent  
Medium soft

Thicker than medium, coarse,  
yellow-toned

Thick, soft, white, absorbent  
(blotting)

Medium thick ‘Bothwell’, water-  
marked, and paper of this type  
unwatermarked.

Plate 2. Medium soft

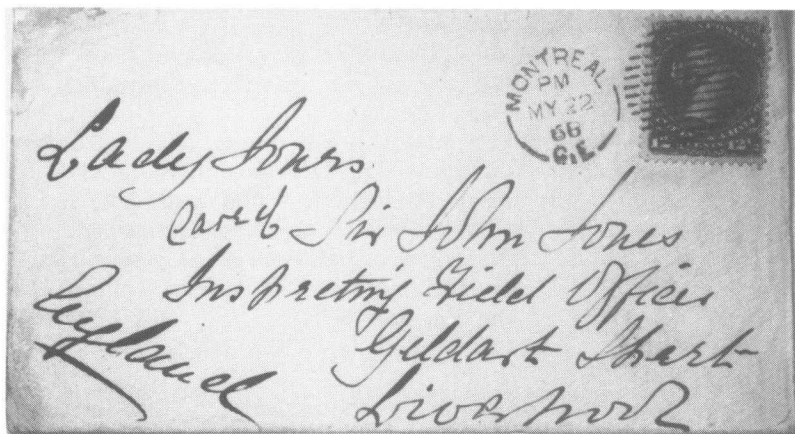
Thicker than medium, coarse,  
yellow-toned

Thick, soft, white absorbent  
(blotting)

Perforations:

12x12

- Shades: Plate 1. Black-brown, dark-brown, dull-brown, red-brown and orange-brown  
 Plate 2. Dull-brown, light-brown and orange-brown  
 Watermarked varieties are black-brown
- Varieties: Many exist, mostly Plate 1. Re-entries chiefly occur at the top of the stamp with doubling of frame lines, scroll lines and of letters of 'POSTAGE' and 'CANADA'  
 Plate flaws, gravers' slips and position dots are known chiefly on Plate 2.
- TWELVE AND ONE HALF CENTS Issued 1 April 1868, and distributed until 1888. Number issued was 1,950,000 approximately. It was never superseded by a Small Queen, value, though a die for one was prepared.
- Papers: Thin, hard, semi-transparent  
 Medium thick  
 Medium to thick soft  
 Thicker than medium, coarse, yellowish  
 Thick, soft, white absorbent (blotting)  
 'Bothwell' watermarked, medium thick and paper of this type unwatermarked



Single 12½c L.Q. pays letter rate to UK, via Allan Line, 22 May 1868.

Perforations:	Usually 12x12. A few known with 11.5x12 perforation
Shades:	Dark blue-early and watermarked copies Light blue and milky blue shades later
Varieties:	No re-entries known. Various flaws have been found, including missing frame line at the lower left and outer frame line missing from the right value tablet, flaw in vignette frame under 'PO' of 'POSTAGE' and a flaw in the 'A' of 'HALF'. Various dots are known on the stamp in the left and right value tablet numerals
FIFTEEN CENTS	Issued 1 April 1868, though known used in March 1868. Continued in use until 1900. Total issued was 2,370,000
Papers:	Many different types used because of long life, including both watermarked varieties. Later printings were on poor quality paper with a greyish or yellowish tinge.
Perforation:	12x12 up to June 1869 11.5x12 – Montreal printings from late 1874–1879 12x12 1879–1881 11.5x12 1881 12x12 1887 onwards
Shades:	Reddish purple, pale to dull purple Grey violet and grey Red lilac Grey, blue grey, grey blue and slate (for a full account of Shades and printings see Firth's book)
Varieties:	One major re-entry with doubling of the numerals of the left value tablet, in 'FIFTE', inside the vignette frame at the left, and in 'CANADA P'. (May be a kiss-print) Plate flaw in right margin at plate position 10, the 'pawn-broker variety' – three dots opposite top of '5'. Other minor flaws have been reported.

### **Postal Marking**

In addition to the study of the stamps themselves, this issue presents many other fascinating aspects for the philatelist and postal historian. A collection of the stamps on cover is difficult to complete and very costly



Single 15c L.Q. pays letter rate to UK, via Cunard Line, dated 22 Feb 1869.

nowadays, apart from the 3c internal rate. There were various rate changes even during the short life of these stamps and the 15c value on cover is uncommon, although it had a very long period of use. However, the postmarks on these stamps also were of great variety and interest. One can form a collection of these, such as numerals officially issued: the four-ring numerals used in the 1857–68 period, assigned to post offices in alphabetical order; and the two-ring numerals issued in 1868 to the 60 largest post offices in order of volume of mail handled. Fancy cork cancellations were used widely in the Large Queens' period and an interesting collection of these including leaves, over 70 Toronto '2' types, geometric and other designs, can be made. Railway cancellations were used in this period and various other types of obliterator such as duplex, roller and squared-circles can all be found on these stamps.

There is a considerable literature of articles and books on this issue. For those wishing to study further I would recommend:

*The Large Queen Stamps of Canada and Their Use 1868–1872* by H.E. and H.W. Duckworth

*Canada the Fifteen Cents of 1868* by L. Gerald Firth

*A Large Queens Report* by Hans Reiche and the appropriate sections in *Canada* by Boggs and *The Encyclopaedia of British Empire Postage Stamps* vol. V. North America, Robson Lowe.

**ACKNOWLEDGMENT:** Stamp and cover illustrations for this article were kindly provided by Geoffrey Whitworth, FCPS.



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*The following article was published in 'The Canadian Philatelist' (Journal of the Royal P.S. of Canada) in its original French. Your Editor felt it was sufficiently important to warrant translation and publication in 'Maple Leaves'. Our thanks go to author Richard Gratton and the Royal P.S. of Canada for permission to reproduce the article and to Ken Campbell for kindly translating it for us.*

*The author, a chemist with Rolland Inc paper mill in Canada, is French editor of 'The Canadian Philatelist' and one of his specialities is the forgeries of Canada and the Provinces. Since the story broke, in January 1987, Richard has been interviewed on radio and has been assisting the RCMP in their enquiries. The faker has had all his stock seized by the police, but an appreciable amount has gone into circulation, with the result that several dealers have been visited by the RCMP. Anyone who has purchased such material is advised to try to return it to the dealer concerned and seek reimbursement. If this fails and you are satisfied that the material is faked then Canadian members are recommended to advise the police (commercial fraud section).*

*Richard Gratton (CP2078, Sainte Adele, Quebec, Canada, J0R 1L0) has kindly offered to give advice on any doubtful stamps, free of charge, but please enclose a stamped, self-addressed envelope.*

## **THE QUEBEC CITY FAKES**

**By Richard Gratton (Académie Québécoise d'Etudes Philatéliques) with the assistance of Claude Beaulac**

The story which follow is authentic, the authors have kept quiet the names of those implicated in order not to soil their reputations.

### **The discovery of a major philatelic fraud in the Quebec City Area**

About mid-April, 1986, I received a telephone call and the caller asked me to give my advice on a group of stamps which seemed rather bizarre. This collector, well known in the Quebec area, proposed that he would send some items by courier in a few days. About a week later I received the lot and with a very quick examination concluded that they were genuine stamps which had been altered chemically.

I contacted my caller in Quebec and gave him my opinion, he asked me to meet with him personally to give him an explanation of my opinion and to return the lot. We agreed to meet at the Quoflex '86 philatelic show which was to be held a few days later in Montreal.

During the interval I recalled that my good friend Claude Beaulac had already mentioned that he had seen similar items, and this some

time ago. I called him and he agreed to visit at my home the next day. Claude confirmed that they were falsified and that he had seen similar items at the EXUP XV philatelic show in Montreal in 1983. It appears that there was a forger active and that he had been practising his art for almost three years.

A few days later I met my caller and he told me that these pieces had been bought by a Quebec area philatelist who preferred to remain anonymous. The stamp dealer who had sold these items possessed a certificate of authenticity for similar items of which the famous "CANADA 7" from the four seasons Maple Leaf series (Scott 537) was one. These certificates had been issued by a well known Canadian expertising firm and he showed me photocopies of these certificates.

I do not wish to throw doubt on the judgement of the expertising firm, actually it is always most important to be certain that the item photographed on the authenticity certificate is the same item as that offered to you and particularly if it is a photocopy of the certificate.

I then told him the tests I had made on these stamps and showed him why they were forgeries, he quickly understood and agreed with my conclusions. He asked me to keep quiet about the whole thing and to write him a letter explaining my tests and observations.

Many other collectors could be victims of this forger! He then explained to me that the philatelist in question wanted to see if he should or should not advise the RCMP, the police or his lawyer, because he could have the intention of taking legal action against the merchant who sold him the lot. He also wanted to contact the Royal P.S. of Canada's anti-theft committee in Ottawa to ask their assistance and advice. I then gave him my agreement to keep the story to myself . . . five months passed and I heard nothing.

Towards the end of September Claude Beaulac told me that someone had arranged a meeting with him in Montreal, to ask his opinion on a group of Canadian stamps which had a strange appearance. He asked me to attend at the Complex Desjardins, for expert assistance. It did not surprise us at all when we saw the same type of items, chemically altered, as we had seen some five months earlier.

We attempted to obtain details of the source of these items, but our young visitor, accompanied by a friend, was reluctant to give us any more information.

After much discussion we finally came to the conclusion that it was he who was the Quebec area dealer who had purchased one of the first lots of these stamps. He agreed that he did not know how to distinguish a genuine item from a falsified one because he was just starting in

business and he was seeking our expertise on these stamps and our advice as to what he should do in a similar case.

Many similar items, he told us, had been sold through auction sales in the USA and throughout Canada by well known firms and several of these were with certificates of authenticity. He also knew that several other dealers had purchased similar items and had sold them at a very good profit.

We advised him to try to recover all that he had already sold, explaining the whole affair to his clients, and asking their indulgence. He was good enough to say that he would do so and also attempt to be reimbursed by the person who had sold the items to him. We also asked him if we might publish the story so that no one else might be caught by this fraud. He agreed but asked for a delay of two months so that he could straighten things out with his clients and the one who had sold them to him.

He seemed to be an honest dealer who had paid to learn and was humble enough to permit us to write this and so warn other potential buyers of this type of thing.

*To be continued*

## **NEW BRUNSWICK POSTAL RATE TO UNITED KINGDOM VIA U.S.A. 1860-1868**

**By Eric Quinn**

The publication by Messrs Duckworth of "THE LARGE QUEEN STAMPS OF CANADA" has revealed a hitherto unknown source concerning the above postal rate. On page 129 we read of a document in the Public Archives of Canada which throws new light on postal rates just prior to Confederation. It seems that in the three provinces various mail matter rates differed and were not unified until the coming into operation of the POST OFFICE ACT passed 21 December 1867 and coming into force 1 April 1868.

According to this document ½ oz letters for the UK via Portland were charged 5 cents in addition to the Canadian rate. This means a rate of 17½ cents and presumably this applies to letters via New York, where the Canadian letters were charged via Cunard 17 cents. Argenti says the New Brunswick rate was 17 cents and, of course, there was a stamp issued for that purpose. Argenti mentions a specific letter routed via St John and St Stephen via Portland in 1864 at 17 cents, paid 10, 5, and 2 cents for that purpose. So how is it that 12½ cents plus 5 cents is stated to be the rate in this archive document?

In the sale of the late Dr Matthew Carstairs was a cover bearing this rate, viz 12½ cents ship plus 5 cents sap green; that was amended<sup>1</sup> to go via the USA. I acquired this cover and believed it to be ½ cent overpaid. I thought it likely that the sender put on the usual 12½ cent stamp for the Halifax–Liverpool service, but found on putting the letter into the post that he was too late and added the nearest stamp value to make up the rate via USA.



Perhaps this was not the case at all, maybe he knew the rate was 17½ cents and stamped it accordingly. The letter is dated 8 December 1865 St John's; at this date the Cunard ship CHINA left Halifax for Liverpool, so the letter would have to wait until 22 December for another by that route. The letter next received the transit stamp of St Stephen on 9 December; this was an exchange office with the USA. On the 9th the Allan Line Steamer NORTH AMERICAN left Portland for the UK and the letter could not, I think, have made that sailing. However on the 13th the SCOTIA of the Cunard Line left New York and arrived at Liverpool on the 23rd. The letter received the LEAMINGTON arrival mark of 25 December and must therefore have sailed in her. I should be glad to hear of any other 17½ cents or even 17 cents covers at this period from New Brunswick via USA to Great Britain.

1. The endorsement 'via New York', top left, appears to have been written over an earlier endorsement. It may be the same route and just heavier ink.

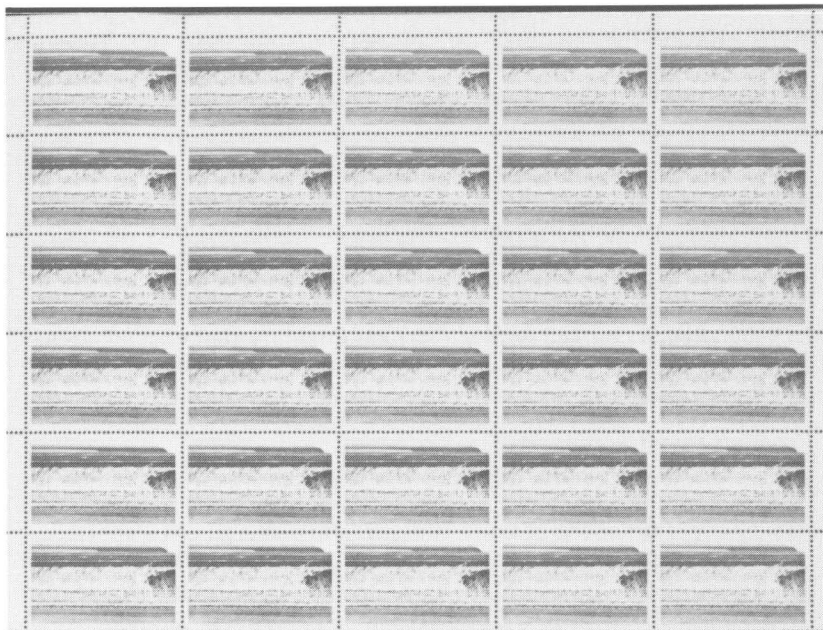
*We are indebted to John Jamieson of the Saskatoon Stamp Centre for the following information on the*

## **\$1 FUNDY NATIONAL PARK Missing Black Inscriptions**

A complete sheet of 50 was discovered in a Hamilton sub post office in 1982. This sheet had been hidden away for six years, only to reach the philatelic market in September of 1987.

This is the fourth pane reported and, after this length of time, is certainly the last. These stamps are printed in sheets of 200 stamps and then cut into four post office panes of 50 for distribution to the post offices across the country. It is not unusual for one pane to end up in Eastern Canada and another to be found in the West as was certainly the case with this error.

The first report was a 'couple' of stamps that were found in an unknwn post office in Ontario and sold to a Toronto area dealer. The



*Block from the Hamilton 'Find' of \$1 Fundy with missing black printing.*

office has subsequently been identified as having been Elmira, ON. Seven copies from this sheet were sold and assumed 'USED' on parcels. The other 43 were split up among postal employees and sold to local collectors. No individual ended up with more than a block of four.

Next reported was 'most' of a pane of 50 that was discovered by a collector in the Delta B.C. area. We have seen four 'USED' copies which came from two registered envelopes used in the area and, presumably, these came from this sheet.

The third report was a sheet found in Kamloops, B.C. That pane was somewhat mishandled with a number of stamps showing very noticeable fingerprints on the gum. The sheet has been broken up and also copies sold to collectors.

Finally the fourth sheet which was found in Hamilton, ON. This has been purchased by Saskatoon Stamp Centre and has been split up so that more collectors will have the opportunity to add an example of this modern rarity to their collections.

Thus there are fewer than 200 examples known of this error, about the same as thought to exist of the famous Seaway Invert. When the fingerprints on the Kamloops sheet, several counting creases and corner creases are considered, there are fewer than 150 very fine unhinged examples to satisfy the thousands of serious collectors of Canadian stamps throughout the world.

### **ONE DAY SEMINAR – LONDON**

The London Group invites all members to join them at the third annual seminar, to be held on Saturday 28 May at the Victory Services Club, 63/79 Seymour St., London W2 2HF (as previously). Members are urged to participate by giving a small display (say 20–50 sheets) coupled with a short commentary (not exceeding 40 minutes) on any aspect of BNA philately. The display material does *not* have to be of exhibition standard, this is a seminar not a competition. If you feel unable to show any material you will still be made very welcome.

The meeting starts at 10.30am and finishes around 4.30pm. It offers a rare chance to see a wide variety of interesting material in a relatively short space of time. There will be a charge of £3 per head to defray expenses, this includes coffee/tea and biscuits.

If you think you can make it, PLEASE CONTACT LEW WARREN AS SOON AS POSSIBLE: 82 Cleveland Rd., Worthing, Sussex, BN13 2NE (Tel. 0903 64170)

## LETTERS TO THE EDITOR



**Hans Reiche**

### **A New Admiral Marginal Guide Arrow.**

When examining a large holding of the 4¢ bistre Admirals in multiples, a new unrecorded marginal guide arrow was noted. This guide arrow looks like the sketch, with a guide dot below it. The stamp with the arrow comes from position No. 80 UR pane and from either Plate 3 or 4. It is not an offset of the usual pyramid guide but an entirely different type. It would be interesting to know if the left pane shows a similar guide.

*The following is an extract from a letter received from our Small Queens man, following a careful reading of the fine book on the Large Queens by H E & H W Duckworth (reviewed ML209 p. 137). We felt the points raised should give rise to some discussion among students of this issue . . . .*

**John Hillson**

It is clearly of particular value to postal historians. However, I must confess that certain of the assertions made in the early parts of the book, as they relate to the actual production of the stamps, give rise to misgivings and, as they raise matters that may be of general interest, perhaps I could air them in the columns of 'Maple Leaves'. They are:

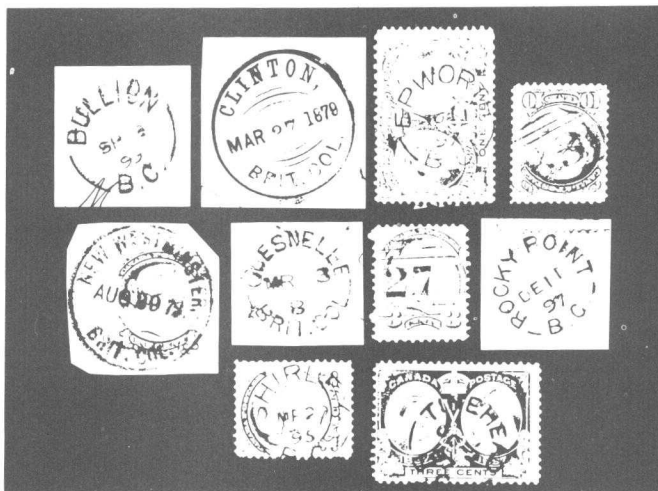
1. The statement that the W.C. Smillie 'group' had acquired premises in Ottawa before amalgamating with Burland and L'Africain to form the British American Bank Note Co., if correct (page 20), would make the proposal by that firm to the Government that if they were required to print in Ottawa, suitable premises free of cost were to be provided by the said government a piece of almost breath-taking impudence. Can the Duckworths substantiate their assertion?
2. In the sections on laying out the plates it is stated that after establishing the corners, four 'Centre Points' were located 'as reference points for the . . . guide lines'. My difficulty here is that,



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as drawn on the illustration on p. 42, they seem to have nothing to do with the guide lines. I of course have no knowledge of how Large Queen plates were laid down, but since there are similar dots – except at the bottom, on most Small Queen plates up to and including the 1892 Ottawas which were used to locate the imprints, I wonder if the Large Queen ‘Centre Points’ were for the same purpose. The bottom imprint locating point is to be found in the selvedge, I think without exception.

3. My main difficulty is with the claim that the early denomination Small Queen plates were laid down as early as April 1869. The writers may be correct, but it raises problems:

a. If the plates were made in Spring 1869, why did the printers go on printing Large Queens? It was cheaper to produce Small Queens, even from a 100 subject plate, than Large, and while plate material is scarce, there is no doubt that the two cents S.Q. made first was a twin pane plate (i.e. 200 subjects)

b. In displaying their wares by means of the Trade Sample Sheet, illustrated on p. 40, if the Small Queen plates were ready in April, why is only the one cent value displayed – and five of them at that?

c. How did the printers manage to preserve the two and six cents plates free of corrosion for almost three years? The five cents Large Queen plate was rendered useless from disuse.

d. In spite of its first appearance in March 1870, and the sample of dated Large Queens cited (Note 19 – p. 88) the one cent Small Queen is extremely elusive until the last quarter of 1870 when it becomes the norm, unlike the 3¢. S.Q. which was the norm from the word go. Until then the Large Queen is the norm.

Apart from my own collection, which was easy as I don't have a 1¢ S.Q. earlier than Sept 70 (professional members please note!) I searched through every catalogue and price list I have, including Firth's sale where half the 1c. L.Q. covers were post March 1870, looking for the incidence of one to the other. Large Queens came up not infrequently with post March 1870 dates but not after Sept/Oct. Against them was one solitary Small Queen, the Mar 10 cover in the Simpson sale.

We do know that the P.O.D. did not issue on the basis of ‘first in, first out’ but ‘last in, first out’. A prime example is the 15¢. L.Q., see Firth's excellent book. It would be quite consistent with the facts if the Dec 69 printing of 300,000 – Small Queens – were stacked on top of the Large Queen stock, issued, and then the L.Q. stock was again worked through – there was no further delivery until July.

Further, if one takes the postulated ‘real’ and ‘notional’ plates and repairs invoiced – a valuable piece of work by the Duckworths that

highlights the difficulties of establishing exact numbers of actual plates made in the Small Queen era – it exactly squares with 12 million Large Queens as previously supposed. It also removes some of the difficulties the authors experienced with the theory with other denominations.

If their theory of April 1869 plates is wrong, as I believe it is, then one can identify the invoices for the first Small Queen plates as under:

1¢	July 31 1870	(Remember the printers had a running contract and this almost exactly squares with the 'real/notional' sequence)
2¢.	March 31 1872	ditto
3¢.	January 25 1870	ditto
6¢.	June 23 1871	A little in advance.

I trust it will not be thought too presumptuous of me to tread on the preserves of the Large Queen enthusiast, but where the book touches the Small Queen series I do feel it has gone a little astray. Others may disagree.

**Dr J. Caplan**

In reply to Mr Wilbur Jonsson's letter in the October issue, enquiring about the Lachine Locks roller cancellation, I can supply some information.

The late Mr Smythies' handbook was the first attempt to classify these cancellations, and there are several hundred unlisted.

I have two covers in my collection, both with c.d.s. The rollers are Type III, that is, the Province is below the post office name.

#1 is "Que", on a KE VII 2¢. dated June 1st 1910

#2 is "P.Q.", on three Admiral 2¢ red (to the U.S.), and dated Jan 17, 1921.

About 1914, on most rollers, the abbreviation changed from Que to P. Q., and frequently a new number was used.

**Jim Karr**

The October '87 issue of "MAPLE LEAVES" arrived yesterday. I read with interest, the letter to the Editor regarding the Lachine Locks roller cancel. This reminded me of an example of one that I have had for several years.

My copy appears to be a Smythies illustration 4, type III.

A CDS of Lachine Locks with date NO 12 (presumably 07) appears to be struck over the roller, as well as a receiving date postmark, split ring type of Pointe Gatineau / QUE. dated NO 13/07.

## **FROM THE PRESIDENT. . . .**

The booking form for Convention is enclosed with this copy of "Maple Leaves", in the case of U.K. members. I do hope you will try to attend, please book early. Overseas members who are thinking of joining us should contact me direct, as quickly as possible.

Members will be interested to learn that we are having displays of the Postal History of the Post Card; The Maple Leaf and Numeral Issues of Queen Victoria; Flag Cancellations; The Admiral Issue and The North West Territories. I hope to reveal the full programme in the June issue.

The social programme will include events for the ladies and the usual two coach tours, one to Portsmouth for visits to "HMS Victory", "The Mary Rose" and the D-Day Museum amongst other attractions; the other to Wilton House near Salisbury. John Marriott, LVO, RDP, FRPSL, Keeper of the Queen's Stamps, will be the guest of honour at the banquet on the Saturday evening.

I look forward to a good attendance at the Convention and trust we shall all have a pleasant few days of fun and philately together.

Dorothy Sanderson

## **THE DATA PROTECTION ACT 1984**

The Act establishes new legal rights for individuals with regard to personal data processed by the use of all types of computing equipment including word processors. At present, personal data held on computing equipment either by, or on behalf of, the Society consists of Members names, addresses, Membership Number and collecting interests, and are as follows:

1. for compilation of the Members Handbook (held and controlled by the Secretary);
2. mailing list (held by mailing agent but controlled by the Editor of 'Maple Leaves');
3. Packet mailing list (held and controlled by the Packet Secretary).

In order to comply with the legal requirements for the Society to hold such data and claim 'conditional exemption' from the Act it is necessary for all members to be asked whether they object to the defined uses of the data. Accordingly, any Member objecting to the Society holding on a computer their personal data as listed above, is requested to inform the Secretary of their objection not later than 31 May 1988.



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## BOOK REVIEWS

### CANADIAN "HIDDEN DATE" STAMPS

by J.J. Johnston

Canadian stamp printers first began engraving a hidden date in the design of their stamps in 1935 and the practice has continued to this day, with some exceptions. This foible was probably first referred to, in print, in Mekeel's Weekly Stamp News in 1937 when W. L. Babcock wrote about the hidden dates on the 1935 issue. In 1938 Mekeel's was reporting the hidden dates on the 'new' stamps.

Since that time collectors have pored over Canadian stamps with high powered glasses in an effort to locate these sometimes very elusive 'secret marks'. For a period in the late 50's and early 60's the engraver's initial was also similarly hidden. A number of articles, illustrating the various locations, have appeared in the philatelic press and, in 1966, Garret Satfield published a complete listing up to that time. 'Jack' Johnston has now picked up the baton and produced a complete listing up to the end of 1987, he's also included the 1988 37c Queen's Head definitive.

The new book is an 80-page, soft covered, saddle-stitched production which provides a simple listing of all the postage stamps and semi-postals, with an enlarged black and white illustration showing the hidden date and, where applicable, the designer's initial. The illustrations are of photostat quality but are perfectly adequate for their purpose. The author has thus been able to produce the handbook for the remarkably low price of \$5CAN for Canada and USA and \$7CAN for other countries – airmail post paid!

The subject may be regarded as philatelic trivia but it has excited interest over the years and, at this price, the book should be welcomed by many. If you feel that this publication has taken away some of the fun, there's always postal stationery to apply your glass to and, I believe, some revenue stamps also carry such marks!

The book may be purchased direct from : J. J. Johnston, #27, 2315 198th Street, Langley, B.C. Canada, V3A 4P4

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## **THE NINETEENTH CENTURY POSTAL HISTORY OF NEWFOUNDLAND** by Robert H. Pratt

Colonel Pratt has compiled an encyclopaedic volume amounting to over 770 pages of information, listings, plates and photographs and to say that his coverage of the subject is comprehensive is a gross understatement. This magnum opus brings together information from a vast range of sources, much of it hitherto unpublished. Not only are we presented with facts, but very often the story behind the facts, and Colonel Pratt's crisp narrative style breathes life into the dusty records from official sources such as the Journals of the Council and the House of Assembly, the Incoming and Outgoing Letter Files of the Colonial Secretary and the Governor, the Reports of the Postmaster General and others.

Twelve main chapters cover the following subject areas:- Pre-colonial Postal System; the Postmasters General; the Commission of Inquiry 1900; St. John's Post Office; the Outport, Way and Post Offices; Ocean Steam; Inland Mail; the Railway; Coastal Steam; Colonial Currency; Postal Rates and Postal History Mail 1851-1900. Detailed bibliographies and sources of reference accompany each of the many sub-chapters. The text is enhanced by numerous photographs, engravings and plates of postal markings. However, the plates are largely free-hand sketches of the postal markings and it is disappointing that a more professional standard of drawing was not employed. Other minor irritants such as the lack of an index and many mis-spellings do not detract greatly from what is otherwise an excellent publication.

The book is beautifully produced in an 8" × 10" format and costs US\$140.00 post paid from the publisher 'The Collectors Club', 22 East 35th Street, New York, N.Y. 10016. Despite its price and the reservations noted above, it is a book that can be read, re-read with pleasure and used as a source of reference. Whilst its main appeal will be to students of Newfoundland Postal History it can be recommended to a much wider audience.

B.T.S.

### **NEWFOUNDLAND STUDY CIRCLE**

Mrs Judith Edwards has expressed her willingness to reactivate and organise the Newfoundland Study Circle. Members wishing to participate are invited to contact Mrs Edwards at the address given below. An indication of particular interests and suggested subjects for group study would be appreciated.

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2558	BURN, M.E., 52 Wear Bay Crescent, Folkestone, Kent CT19 6BA	Def's RPO
2559	CHUNG, A., Postal Station "E", PO Box 5071, Hamilton, ON, Canada L8S4K9	C/N PD
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FOR SALE: "Maple Leaves" 196 to date + quantity quality sale catalogues £10. "Stamp Collecting" A.B. Creeke (Nelson 1st Ed.) an early classic illustrated 74 plates-indexed. Collectors item £5. T.S. Martin, 323 Chesterfield Road South, Mansfield, NG19 7ES, England.

### WANTED

WANTED: 1930 ARCH and LEAF ISSUE on pioneer flight covers flown by Mattern, Hawks, Von Gronau, Balbo, etc. Airmail covers with postage due and/or special delivery from 1930-35 also of interest. James W. Goss, Suite 200, 25 North Gratiot, Mt. Clemens, MI 48043 USA

WANTED: Sunny Alberta. Alberta town cancels and postal history on cover, card or stamp. Territorial period forward. also Edmonton and Alberta small town views, advertising covers, corner cards - everything Alberta. Keith R. Spencer 5005 - Whitemud Road, Edmonton, Alberta, Canada T6H 5L2

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### HELP WANTED

Jacques Nolet is preparing an article on the postal history of Three Rivers, Quebec, and is seeking access to straight line postmarks (Canada Specialised Type Nos. II, III, IV & VII). If anyone is able to help, please send photocopies to Jacques at; Case Postale 558, Succursale Postale 'A', Montreal, Quebec, Canada, H3C 2T6.

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