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CANADIAN PHILATELIC SOCIETY
OF GREAT BRITAIN

Maple Leaves

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MAPLE LEAVES

Journal of

THE CANADIAN PHILATELIC SOCIETY OF GREAT BRITAIN INCORPORATED 1946

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Vol. 21 No. 10

JANUARY 1990

Whole No. 226

EDITORIAL

Scotland has once again lived up to its reputation for fine conventions, as all who attended can vouchsafe. We were particularly pleased to welcome no less than fourteen members and wives from overseas. Our thanks go to John and Christine Hillson for hosting a fine show; report and pictures will be found elsewhere in this issue.

One of the many highlights was the investiture of two new Fellows, John Hillson and Stan Lum, each of whom has been a member of the Society for some 34 years. John's work on the Small Queen issue, his service as Treasurer and latterly as President, will be known to most U.K. members. Stan is one of the few overseas members to gain the distinction of Fellowship; his service as our prime recruiting agent in Canada and long-time major supporter of our auction will be known to only a few but most members will appreciate the depth of knowledge, and willingness to share it, that flows from the pen of the ubiquitous "Yellow Peril".

Next year is the 150th anniversary of the issue of the Penny Black and is the occasion of the decennial International Stamp Exhibition in London. Against this background Geoff Manton will be putting on the 44th Annual Convention at Chesterfield, in October, and the regular conventioneers will be looking forward to it already. Those same conventioneers will however be saddened to hear that Mary Manton's illness, that kept Geoff away from the Ayr Convention, proved to be terminal.

STAMPWORLD 1990

At the forthcoming International Exhibition in London, the Society is hosting a cold buffet lunch for members attending the Show. Our overseas members are particularly invited and we extend the invitation to fellow collectors who are members of BNAPS but not yet members of CPS of GB.

Venue is the El Alamein Room of the Victory Services Club, 63/79 Seymour St, London, W2 2HF; the club is only a few minutes walk from Marble Arch.

Date is Sunday, 6 May and the time 12.30p.m. The date coincides with the 150th Anniversary of the official introduction of the Penny Black.

Colin Banfield is masterminding the operation and you are asked to write to him as soon as possible if you hope to be there. Colin needs to have an idea of numbers in order to organise the catering so PLEASE CONTACT HIM at:

32 Coolgardie Ave; Chigwell, Essex, England IG7 5AY (Tel; 01-500-5615)

Convention Auction - See page 311

CANADIAN PHILATELIC SOCIETY OF GREAT BRITAIN

Annual subscription, due 1 October, £8.50, payable to the Society, to John Hillson, Treasurer

The dollar equivalents are \$18 CAN (+ \$4.50 if airmail delivery required) and \$15 US (+ \$3.50 if airmail delivery required).

Canadian members may pay in \$CAN via Wayne Curtis, please make your cheque payable to him.

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.

BOTH HALVES by The Yellow Peril Photos by Canadian Stamp News

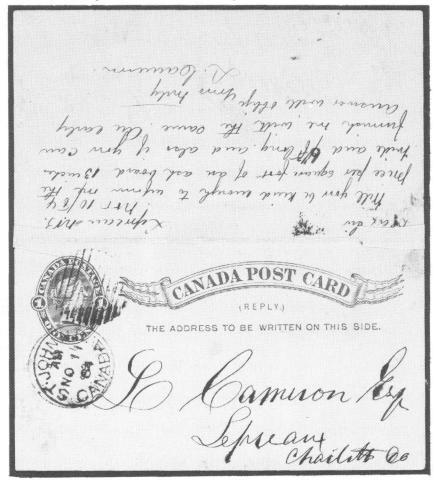


Fig. 1 Webb's P6A Reply Card, stamp at left, both halves used; unsevered.

Noting the price remarks concerning entire unsevered reply post cards with message half used and the attached reply half unused as compared to the valuation for unsevered cards with both halves used, during a persual of the fifth edition of Webb's (much improved) postal stationery catalogue, has prompted me to search for the one I acquired fifteen



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years ago (Fig. 1). Although I had no interest in postal stationery at the time, I was suckered into it because the seller led me to believe that the stamp was printed on the wrong side of the card – left instead of the right side. Later, when a stationery collector proved to me that cards with stamp printed on the left side of the card are common, I threw it into my 'WISH I NEVER BOUGHT' box.

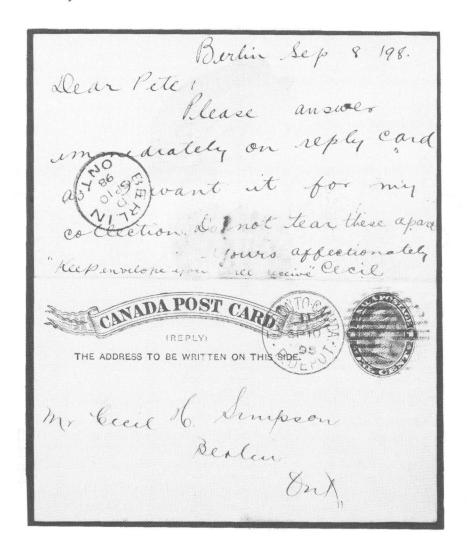


Fig. 2 Webb's P6 Reply Card, stamp at right, both halves used, unsevered.

I not only found the cast-off readily but I found another reply card with the stamp at right (Fig.2). Lo and behold when I unfold this card, its reply half too was used! The fact that I had these fascinating cards for such a long time without knowing what they were is enough justification for this report.

The message on the first card (stamp at left) dated at Lepreaux, N.B. Nov 10/84 and addressed to Mr. N. Irvine, Carleton reads:

Dear Sir: Will you be kind enough to inform me the price per square foot of an ash board 13 inches wide and 6 ft long and also if you can furnish me with the same. An early answer will oblige. Your truly, L. Cameron

This card went through the post uncancelled as mail sometimes does – even today.

The reply was dated at St.John Nov 11/84 and addressed to L. Cameron Esq, Lepreaux, Charlott Co. It was postmarked St. John N.B. Nov 11 / 84.

Dear Sir: You can get ash at two to ten cents per square foot. It will depend what kind of work you require it for. If you will let me know any time this week, I will send it to you. I can get at five cents will answer any purpose. Yours, N.H. Irvine.

The above card dated and postmarked Berlin Sp 8/98 is addressed to Miss Edith Simpson care Mrs. J. Rough, Termanagh Ave., Parkdale, Ont.

Dear Pete: Please answer immediately on reply card as I want it for my collection. Do not tear these apart. Yours affectionately, Cecil. Keep envelope you will receive.

The reply half dated at Parkdale, Sept 10 98 and addressed to Mr. Cecil H. Simpson, Berlin, Ont. is postmarked at Toronto P. Depot Sp 10/98.

Dear Cecil: Will be home Monday evening so have the band out. Am going down to see Normal today. Yours, Pete

This second card (stamp at right) is almost as interesting as the first card as the importance of keeping both halves intact is emphasised by the sender. As there are also Edward and Admiral reply post cards, I would recommend that members watch for these unsevered used reply cards. Good hunting!

Continuing our series for relative newcomers to Canadian philately, we cover the very popular Admiral issues. No short article could hope to do more than offer a taste of the various collecting opportunities offered.

THE ADMIRAL ISSUE by A.S. Mackie FCPS

What can one say to new collectors of Canadian stamps about the appeal of the Admiral Issue? No matter what area of collecting they may be interested in it will surely be found in the Admirals. Let us see what is on offer, be it cancellations, here one can still find cork cancels, squared circles, machine and flag cancellations, duplex type including the interesting letter and numeral ones of Montreal, plus those of military camps. In postal rates one has a large field to choose from, as there are numerous changes due to war tax and related to registered and special delivery rates, also there is mail to empire and foreign countries, be it postcards or letters. If the interest lies in postal stationery then this too offers a large scope for study in those of the Admiral period. As World War 1 was during the issue of the Admirals, here one finds letters to and from soldiers on active service, not forgetting prisoner of war mail, even stampless covers can be found. The 1920s saw the pioneer air mail services and later regular ones where many first flight covers are around today. The stamps, themselves provide precancels, perfins, booklets, coils, imperfs, surcharges and colour changes. Should one be inclined to study the stamps, a wide field is open for the student, this need not be expensive if only the lower values are covered, as these are still cheap.

An interesting collection can be formed illustrating the wet and dry printings and, after study, the various groups of plates these were printed from can be identified. Further expansion can be achieved by seeking the numerous re-entries and retouches that exist. The war tax issue can also be expanded on similar lines. Do not be afraid to tackle any of these areas mentioned, for they are most fully covered in excellent publications which are available from the Society's Library.

BIBLIOGRAPHY

Canada 1911-25 Admiral Issue (1982 Edition) Marler The Admiral Era, A Rate Study 1912-28 Steinhart Flag Cancellations 1896-1973 Richardson Canadian Railway Cancellations (1982) Ludlow Early Rapid Cancelling Machines of Canada Sessions Slogan Cancellations Proulx Civil Censorship in Canada during World War 1 Steinhart Canada Pre-cancels Noble Canadian Stamps with Perforated Initials BNAPS

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THE PEOPLE ON THE STAMPS - THE VIKINGS. by Alan Salmon.

A wild Viking from Icelandic water
Had to leave because of manslaughter.
He sailed to the West,
Seeking a place to rest,
But found America, as he ought'a.
Anon. The Saga of Eric the Red II.

The Vikings are on the second stamp in the "Exploration of Canada" series (SG 1199, SS 1105); it shows their ships sailing westwards towards Canada.



No excuse is made for beginning this narrative with a quotation about Eric the Red. Although he never reached Canada he did colonise Greenland - the first certain impact of Europeans on America. Also, as we shall see, he was the father of a family which produced many 'firsts' in the history of American exploration. Indeed most of the written evidence for what follows is contained in two Norse sagas, that of the Greenlanders, written about 1200, and that of Eric the Red, written about 1260. The reader should note that almost all the dates in this story are somewhat uncertain - plus or minus several years.

The Irish Monks

The Vikings are generally assumed to be the first Europeans to discover Canada, but there are counter-claims that Irish monks were there before them. This claim cannot be lightly dismissed; texts, dating back to 800, suggest that a St Brendan visited America in 550. He was the leader of a community of 3000 monks on the west coast of Ireland. His voyages are reported to be from Ireland, to the Hebrides, the Faeroes, Iceland, Greenland and eventually to Canada. His ship, with a wooden frame and a leather skin, had a crew of 14. Using the winds, between Ireland and the Faeroes, then the East Greenland and Labrador currents, between Iceland and Canada, he could have made the journey. The most difficult part may have been between the Faeroes and Iceland, but Norse legends tell that Irish monks were in Iceland when the Vikings arrived in 860. Proof that the journey was possible was Severin's voyage in 1976, in a boat similar to that used by the Irish. He, with a crew of only three, sailed by the same route from Western Ireland arriving at Pickford Island, off Newfoundland, after 15 weeks of sailing. The legend of St Brendan is intriguing; but no material evidence has been found to show that Irish monks were in either Iceland or Canada. Possibly a betting man would lay odds of five to one against them having reached Canada, but not much greater odds than that.

Without Doubt

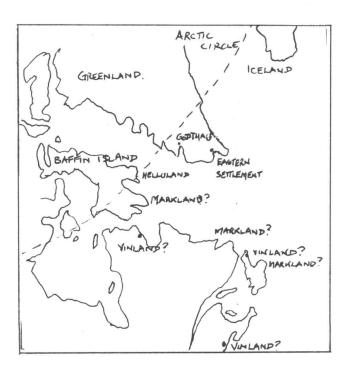
There is no such doubt that the Vikings reached Canada, by much the same route as suggested for St. Brendan. When the Vikings burst out of Scandinavia upon a startled Europe they were raiders - raping, looting and pillaging. However their excursions were not all malevolent, some were for trade and some for colonisation. In Eric we have a mixture of the wild and colonising facets of the Viking - he was banished from Iceland for three years for killing two men and he sailed away to another land to the west which had recently been discovered. In 982 he arrived there, then spent his years of banishment establishing a base and exploring the coastline. On his return to Iceland he organised an expedition of 25 ships and 500 migrants to this new land, he called it Greenland to attract colonists. Fourteen of the ships arrived in 986 and eventually two main settlements were established. The 'East Settlement' was just north of Cape Farewell, here Eric built his home; the 'West Settlement' was about 350 miles further to the northwest at Godthab.

That same year, 986, Bjarni Herjolfsson set out, following Eric, to Greenland but was blown west of his course. He saw land, the first certain sight of America by Europeans, but he didn't land. Perhaps he

felt he had had enough adventures for that voyage. Some years later Leif Ericsson, the son of Eric, left Greenland to investigate this western land that Bjarni had reported. Leif was fine sailor, outstanding even amongst this race of superb sailors, once he had sailed directly from Greenland to Norway. He set out with a crew of 35 and made three landings. The first landfall is accepted as being on Baffin Island, the first time that Europeans are known to have set foot on Canada; Leif called it Helluland (Slabrock Land) because of its barren, rocky features. The date given in the literature varies, ranging between 992 and 1003 with most estimates being around 1000; 1000 seems a reasonable and unforgettable date for this memorable event.

Vinland

The second landfall he called Markland (Forest Land) because it was a wooded, flat country. The location of Markland is uncertain, some say they were still on Baffin Island, on Hall Peninsula; others forward claims for Labrador and for the main island of Newfoundland. Possibly we will never know the position. The third landing was the most important; a winter, which was relatively mild, was spent there. They called the settlement Vinland; initially this was supposed to mean





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Wineland but more recent interpretations tend to favour Meadowland. The location of Vinland is even more uncertain, ranging from Delaware, to Maine, to Newfoundland and to the west coast of Ungava Bay. No natives were seen during their sojourn in Vinland; but there was abundant salmon, plenty of grass and they are reported to have found grapes. This was in accord with the translation of Vinland as Wineland; whether the 'grapes' were wild grapes or some type of berry is still debated by the experts.

Some years passed before the next expedition to the mainland; Thorvald, Leif's brother, sailed with a crew of 30 to explore Vinland. He found Leif's huts and spent two summers and a winter exploring both north and south of the base. Thorvald became the first European to meet the natives of America when he found nine men sleeping under three boats, possibly Indians. Unfortunately the Vikings killed most of them; this resulted in the Vikings being attacked by a large force; in the battle Thorvald was killed and was buried on the battleground - more firsts for Eric's family!

A colonising attempt followed in 1020; Thorfinn Kalsefni, who married the widow of Eric's third son, led 200 colonists in three ships to Vinland. Whilst there Thorfinn was presented with a son, Snorri, the first child to be born of European parents in America; I suppose we can be fairly sure of that, even if Irish monks had been there before. The colonists spent three winters inVinland but eventually returned to Greenland after fighting, successfully but unnervingly, with the natives. There was one further expedition to Vinland by the Vikings, led by Freyis a bastard daughter of Eric, but this time they fought amongst themselves. Freyis distinguished herself by killing the five other women in the party, after her men had refused the woeful task.

That unfortunate episode may have been the last landing by the Vikings on the mainland. However, the Iceland Annals record that a small Greenland boat, with 18 men on board, arrived there in 1347 having been blown out of its way when returning from a voyage to America for timber. There are theories that the Vikings explored along the Arctic coast as far as the Bering Straits, but no conclusive evidence of such travels has been found. However there is firm evidence in Newfoundland; in 1961 the remains of a Viking settlement were found at L'Anse aux Meadows (local pronunciation: Lancy Meadows). Carbon -14 analyses indicate a date of about 1000 for the settlement, fitting well with our voyages; there is also evidence of women colonists in the remains.

Myths and legends

One cannot leave the Vikings without reporting two outstanding embellishments of their story. In 1898 a large, inscribed, stone slab was found on a farm in Kensington, Douglas County, Minnesota; it is famous as the Kensington stone. The inscription purports to describe an incident, in which ten men were slain, on a Viking expedition westwards from Vinland in 1362. It is now generally regarded as a hoax; but the stone has its supporters: in 1949 it was exhibited at the Smithsonian Institution in Washington, and at Alexandria, the seat of Douglas County, there is a large sculpture of a Viking on whose shield is emblazoned - 'Alexandria, Birthplace of America' - readers of Maple Leaves may think differently. Another revision of history was the celebrated Vinland Map; appearing in 1957 in Barcelona, it was bought for Yale University in 1959 and published by Yale in 1965. There were always doubts about its authenticity, eventually it was found to be a forgery drawn after 1920, modern ink had been used.

The latest, solid evidence we have of the Vikings in North America is dated 1480 when the terminal reports came from the dying settlement in Greenland. As with Vinland, the Vikings had not been able to sustain their colony without adequate support from their home base, their lines of communication were overstretched. There are dubious reports of the Vikings in Greenland about 1500, but by then our next hero, John Cabot, had rediscovered North America!

FURTHER READING.

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- 2. Severin, T, The Brendan Voyage, Hutchinson, 1978.
- 3. Esterline, J R, Viking America, Doubleday, 1972.

THE AYR CONVENTION by Harry Duckworth

About 40 collectors and 25 spouses converged on the Station Hotel, Ayr on Wednesday, 4 October, to begin a remarkable four days of philately, special events and socializing, arranged by our outstanding hosts, John and Christine Hillson.

The philately comprised the convention auction, the informal discussions, the exhibits, the displays and, of course, the Annual

General Meeting. In the absence of Geoffrey Manton, Frank Laycock presided over the auction and coaxed us into bidding on most of the 580 lots. There was general satisfaction with the result, especially on the part of the Society's Treasurer. The informal discussions defy detailed description, but usually took place over coffee or other liquid in the hotel's commodious public rooms. The exhibition covered most aspects of Canadian philately, and well repaid close study. Unfortunately, not all could be mounted at the same time in the cramped space that was allocated to them. The five Displays were: Fakes and Forgeries (David Sessions), Classics of Newfoundland (Bill Lea), Large Queens (Harry Duckworth), Small Queens (Bill Simpson) and Postal History (John Hannah). The displays are, to me, a unique feature of the CPSGB Conventions. I know of no similar opportunity to examine and discuss such high quality Canadian collections and to enjoy the comments thereon by their owners and other knowledgeable members. The AGM revealed a healthy surplus, a re-born packet circuit and a willingness by many to further the interests of the Society.

Special events included: for spouses - a lecture on Old Ayr by Mrs S. Andrew, a visit to Burns' Cottage at Alloway, a performance in the Gaiety Theatre of the Dance School of Scotland; and for everyone - a tour of the splendid Burrell Collection in Glasgow (opened in 1983) and the magnificent Culzean Castle, located a few miles south of Ayr. Several paid homage to the game of golf, whose shrines abound in the region.

Socializing culminated on the Saturday evening when 50 of us assembled for the Convention Reception and Banquet. The haggis was piped in and harangued by a kilted figure who later proved not to be a man of few words. Following an excellent meal and greetings from Dr. Thomas Phillips, President of the Ayrshire Philatelic Society, President Hillson led us through the Presentation of Awards, a toast to the Ladies by Charles Hollingsworth, a reply by Nan Salmon, a toast to Guests and Overseas Members (nine from Canada, two from the USA and one each from Eire, Oman and South Africa) by Jim McLaren and a reply by Lewis Ludlow. Amongst the most popular awards were Fellowships to John Hillson and Stan Lum (alias the "Yellow Peril"). Remarks, without exception, were felicitous and lacked solemnity.

As the tired, but happy, group baled out of the hotel on Sunday morning, the Hillsons were warmly congratulated on the success of the 43rd Convention, and cries of "See you next year at Chesterfield" filled the air.



Lew Ludlow



John Hannah



Bill Simpson



Bill Lea



Harry D

The Ayı Co



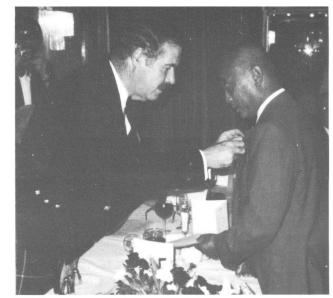
Piping in the Haggis

An at





kworth



Two new Fellows: President John Hillson invests Stan Lum

vention

Nan Salmon



ntive audience



John Wannerton with the Bunny Cup



Charles Hollingsworth



FROM THE SECRETARY

The following are the main points from the 1989 AGM, minutes of which are available on request from the Secretary (SAE appreciated).

The President, John Hillson, was pleased to report a number of successful initiatives taken during the last year and the prospect of more to follow in the coming year. Of particular note was the re-establishment of the Exchange Packet and the higher publicity profile to be adopted.

A continued decline in membership was reported by the Secretary and all members were encouraged to make greater efforts with recruitment.

The Editor, David Sessions, reported that a change of printer had resulted in more timely production of 'Maple Leaves'. More articles were sought to help maintain the balance of depth and breadth of content.

Reg Lyon, Exchange Packet Secretary, had received an almost 80% response to the questionnaire circulated earlier in the year. Forty seven members have contributed material and 17 packets and six Covermart lists have been put into circulation. More contributions are needed to keep up the momentum now achieved.

Low utilisation of the free Classified Advertising service was reported by George Bellack but support from trade advertisers continued at a high level.

More than 70 members had used the Handbooks service during the year and Tom Almond was pleased to be handing over a thriving service to his successor, Derrick Scoot.

The Treasurer's Report indicated that the Society's finances were in a healthy state with satisfactory reserves; subscriptions for both the coming year and for 1990/91 could therefore continue at £8.50.

Charles King, the incoming Publicity Officer, outlined the initiatives he intended to take to raise the publicity profile of the Society and thereby encourage a higher level of recruitment. It was suggested by Bill Simpson that twinning new members with longer serving members might help to reduce the loss of membership.

It was announced that in recognition of his involvement in Canadian Philately and membership of the Scottish Canadian Study Circle dating back to 1939, Charles Jockel had been elected an Honorary Life Member of the Society.

Mr G Whitworth announced that the Fellowship Sub-Committee had approved the award of Fellowship of the Society to:-Stanley Lum - The Yellow Peril - for his long-standing contributions to the advancement of the Society. also to:

John Hillson - for his involvement in the advancement of the Society and his study of the "Small Queens" stamps of Canada.

In conclusion, it was announced that the 1990 Convention would be held at The Chesterfield Hotel, Chesterfield from 3-6 October 1990.

The following Officers were elected at the A.G.M.:-

President
Vice President (South)
Vice President (North)
Vice President (North)
Secretary
Treasurer
Committee Members:
D G Manton
B T Stalker
Dr A Salmon
B T Stalker
N J A Hillson
J Hannah F.C.P.S.

North Dr C W Hollingsworth F.C.P.S.

Dr J Gatecliff South C A King

Officers elected by the Committee are as listed inside the back cover.

Competition Awards:-

Class 1	1.	M Perry	Montreal Postal Markings
	2.	L M Ludlow	Hamilton Squared Circles
Class 3a	1.	B T Stalker	Buffalo Lake Huron R.P.O.
	2.	G Whitworth	10 c Consort
Class 3b	1.	J Wannerton	1918 Canadian Tans-Siberian Expedition

Trophies:-

Stanley Godden Trophy	B T Stalker	Buffalo & Lake Huron R.P.O.
Bunny Cup	J Wannerton	1918 Canadian Trans-Siberian Expedition
Members Trophy	M Perry	Montreal Postal Markings
Aikens Trophy	C Campbell	Camp Borden and its Military Postmarks
Founders Trophy	Dr H Duckworth	Large Queens



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BOOK REVIEW

The Canadian Map Stamp of 1898. A Plating Study by W.L. Bradley

Over a decade of research and study by Whitney L. Bradley has gone into the preparation of this book. All those who had written on various aspects on the Map Stamp in the past are acknowledged, especially Frederick Tomlinson FCPS, to whom the book is dedicated, and the officers of BNAPS and study group members.

An outline of the printing process is followed by a page in beautiful colour of the ocean colours to be found on the four plates used to produce the stamp. The red plates A and B, which are broken down to cover ten areas, with their primary outstanding features, are again illustrated in colour; here I must say that throughout, the illustrations which are hand drawn, are truly excellent and leave no question as to what is meant. A chart of 100 subjects for red plates A and B which states the outstanding feature of each position with a cross reference, will prove to be a quick guide to students. The chapter on the laying down of the black plates 1-2-3 by the dots and arcs in the Tonkin Gulf are explained and illustrated, again with a most useful summary. Reentries, cable retouches and recuts, centre line cross, dots and lines, which are illustrated later, are detailed.

The preparation of black plate 5 and speculation regarding the two states are discussed, which leaves an area for future study. The illustrations of black plate varieties previously mentioned, with the island varieties in colour, follow. Chapter five presents the essential reason for the publication of the book: "Sequence of Examination of a Stamp to be Plated". As Bradley says, "Let's look at a Map Stamp". He takes us step by step through the process of elimination by the use of primary outstanding features and secondary outstanding features, which is most useful when a postmark may cover one of these. Plate 4 is discussed and illustrated by courtsey of the National Postal Archives.

The appendix is the largest and most useful part of the book. Here the ten various areas of red plates A and B show the outstanding features. Each stamp's island features and black plate features are illustrated, along with the Tonkin Gulf detail for the plates 1, 2 and 3. Plate 5 is similarly treated. This book, with its outstanding illustrations, will make plating so much easier for those who were shy of doing so.

With a basic 400 positions, excluding ocean colours, will we see the trade offer copies by plate and number, in the future?

Whit, you have done a monumental work for Canadian philately, which will be appreciated by generations to come.

A.S.M.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

John E. Milks

SMALL QUEEN SHADES

This letter refers to the wide variations in shade of the 3c Small Queens between 1870 and 1873, and to the misidentification of a reference stamp used in a study of the various shades produced between 1870 and 1897, as reported in a compilation of articles on colour published by the Philatelic Foundation in New York (1).

Stamps for the 3 c letter rate, following Confederation, were issued in the Small Queen size when it was realized that the printing capacity was too restrictive to meet the rapid increase in demand (2).

The wide variations in shade which began about the middle of 1870 and continued until early 1873 are really not trivial when compared with the relative uniformity in shade of letter-rate stamps starting in 1851. Mr. John Hillson has suggested through a series of very informative articlesin Maple Leaves and in a monograph (3) that a change in the printing works venue from Ottawa to Montreal was responsible for the significant change in physical characteristics of early printings.

Considering the large increase in printings of the 3c Large and Small Queens from 1868 to 1873, there must have been an equal concern that supplies of the naturally occurring components used in the recipe for the ink might also ultimately limit production.

In 1869, Sir William Henry Perkin developed a commercial method for synthesizing the organic dye alizarin, a constituent of the madder root, extracts of which were applicable for red shades. Accordingly, various attempts to solve the supply problem by incorporating a single dye into the prescribed formulation in place of the naturally occurring mixture may not have been successful, as exemplified by the large variation in shades observed for this period. It is possible that the

change in formulation of the recipe recorded by Boggs (2) occurred at this time through elimination of some of the Rose Pink which is thought to contain alizarin (1), the Venetian Red, a form of iron oxide, and the charcoal. Support for this alternative explanation for the variation in shades would be expected to be found in the metal content of the dyes using x-ray spectra of authentic, dated stamps issued in early 1870 as compared to 1873 and later. No unambiguous method exists to characterize differences in the organic content.

The advantage of using spectroscopic methods to study the 3c Small Queen issue has been discussed by T.A. Holmes (1). It is unfortunate, however, that greater care was not taken in selecting the stamps for study. A picture shown in the article of the reference stamps clearly reveals that stamp #2 was not an early rose red (1870 - 1872) but rather like stamp #1 was another rose carmine of the 1888 - 1889 printings. This can be seen, not from the colour of the stamp, but from the L type cancellation with seven vertical bars and a (1) in the middle. The killer used for the cancellation was part of a Toronto duplex hammer which did not come into use until 1888 (4). Accordingly, an inference cannot be drawn about similarities in pigment composition for early rose reds and later rose carmine printings. The data does show, however, that a new formulation to a mercury based vermilion did transpire after 1888.

References

- 1. Color in Philately, 1979. R.H. White editor
- 2. The Postage Stamps and Postal History of Canada by Winthrop S. Boggs, 1945. John Hillson, in his latest (1989) edition of (3) points out that the 'change in formulation' shown by Boggs was not a change at all but a case of miscopying and subsequent correction.
- 3. The Small Queens of Canada by John Hillson, 1981.
- 4. Canadian Duplex Cancellations of the Victorian Era 1860 1902 by E.A. Smythies, 1963, a handbook of the Canadian Philatelic Society of Great Britain.

Colin Campbell

YORKTON STAMP EXHIBITION

A few years ago I put together a six page exhibit on the Canadian Beaver in postal cancellations. I ended up with five, of which the style illustrated was common to 1924 and 1925. These two were tied to the Second and third Canadian Philatelic Exhibitions. What, if anything, was used for the first exhibition has until now been a mystery.



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An enquiry of May 1986 has just revealed the slogan cancel proofed in September 1923 for use at Yorkton, Sask., for their exhibition from 19 to 22 of that month. Little time would have been available to use the slogan for its intended purpose so it is likely to be a very scarce item.

A question comes to mind; would a little town like Yorkton have had a rapid cancelling machine capable of using the slug illustrated? Another question, has anyone ever seen a cover bearing the Yorkton slogan?



Editor's note: The slogan was listed by the CPS Slogan Study Group in M.L. of April 1957 so it is likely to have been used. No doubt Dan Rosenblat, Jeff Switt et al from the BNAPS Slogan Study Group will swamp us with replies! In the meantime I can confirm that a Universal machine was installed at Yorkton on 23 Jan. 1917, the rental of \$105p.a. being paid by the postmaster. By 1929 records show that the rental was only \$100 and that the P.O. Dept. were picking up the tab.

Harry Lambe ADMIRAL PARCEL POSTAGE

The other parcel postage lithographed essay, to which the Yellow Peril refers (Maple Leaves Aug. 89), was sold by J.N.Sissons twenty four years ago; it was lot 294 of Sissons' 18 August 1965 sale. The enclosed photograph is taken from this sale catalogue.

The essay is identical to the one illustrated (by the Y.P.) except for the words "WINNIPEG, MANITOBA" immediately above the permit number.

Footnote: David Negus of Vancouver also kindly wrote to draw attention to the item in the Sissons' sale of '65. Our thanks to all readers who take the trouble to come up with answers to points raised in "Maple Leaves"



George Bellack

SMALL QUEEN BISECT

I have recently come across an interesting and arguably unusual 'Small Queen' bisect cover. Legibly addressed and properly, albeit illegally, conveyed by the postal system (Lindsay squared circle is the receiving mark on the back), it looks like a 'prompted error'. Comments will be greatly appreciated!



The details are: despatched from a small place in Quebec (Richmond) on 19 June 1897 to Lindsay, Ont., where the letter arrived on 21 June. There are no signs of any 'manipulation' on stamps or cancel.

I wonder what prompted the sender to challenge the post office with a 1/2c + 5c bisect combination to make up the (correct) 3c rate?

Editor's comment, for what it's worth. As George implies, it looks as though the sender was trying it on with the Post Office just as others have done, with revenue stamps, green shield stamps etc. If the sender was genuinely trying to save half a 5c stamp for the next letter, his aim with the scissors was not very good! Perhaps he would have done better to go into the local post office on Saturday 19 June and buy one of those new-fangled Jubilee stamps, then we should have had a nice FDC!

CONVENTION AUCTION - 1990

Members should note that all lots for this year's Convention Auction, to be held at Chesterfield on Saturday 6 October, should be sent to John M.H.Parkin at his home 10 Alsfeld Way, New Mills, STOCKPORT, SK12 3DD, not later than 5 May, 1990. Please note John's new address.

This date must be adhered to in order that the catalogue may be prepared and despatched in good time for our overseas members to make their bids.

Only B.N.A. material is acceptable and lots must be accompanied by a brief description and estimate (preferably not under £4). Any reserve should be clearly shown. Single stamps or small lots should be mounted on card. No responsibility will be accepted for loosely mounted or badly packaged material.

Should any lots be received after 5 May, they will NOT be included in the catalogue but will be offered for sale to room buyers after the main auction, if time permits.

Hans Reiche

ADMIRAL FIRST DAY COVERS

The interesting article by The Yellow Peril about the unique Admiral plate block find (M.L. June 1989, P.204) brings some additional information to mind.

Both Marler and the writer have indicated before that plate 162 as well as 163 of the one line surcharge on the 3c have been overprinted. Plate 163, which was sold at the Maresch auction in January on a first day cover, certainly is a unique item. The cover is addressed to Mr T.E. Legault of the Post Office Department. Mr. Legault did prepare a number of other Admiral first day covers including a similar plate block of the one line surcharge with the plate number 162. In addition he prepared the following first day covers, 5c violet, 10c blue, 10c bistre plus one cover of the 3c perforated 8 x 12. The last one was sent by him to one of his friends, and is now in the writer's collection. The other



SHOWING AT 1990? **BEFORETHOUGHT**

Intending vendors would be wise to consider the merits of offering their collections (or individual rarities) for sale by Private Treaty while the international philatelic exhibition - Stampworld 1990 - is in progress at Alexandra Palace on May 3 to 13 next year. Harmers International's presence will be a major one - we are one of the very few 'Superbooth' standholders. Bring your collection before the world's most prestigious philatelists by arranging for it to be featured in our 1990 Private Treaty Brochure.

AFTERTHOUGHT

If you are exhibiting at Stampworld '90 we wish you all success in achieving the award you desire . . . and after 1990? You may be one of a number thinking of disposal after the Exhibition - either to tackle a fresh challenge or to hang up your philatelic hat. Whatever your reasoning we shall be pleased to make the most of your collection both as a tribute to your endeavours and to achieve the fullest possible monetary result. Planning is the key and early discussions enable us to reserve a date or space that will ensure the maximum advantage. Subject to value a special souvenir catalogue can be produced as a visual memento of a treasured collection. Early contact with one of our directors is advised. Speak to Christopher Harmer, Fred Twining, Ray Haffner or Graham Childs.

BRITISH AMERICATHOUGHT

The superb Dale-Lichtenstein Australasia will be offered in London on Tuesday May 15 1990 i.e. within a day of Stampworld '90 closing, allowing for overseas visitor participation uncomplicated by the 'pull' of the exhibition.

A BRITISH COMMONWEALTH sale is scheduled for the following day (May 16) thus offering an outstanding opportunity to offer material, especially of a British America flavour. While properties for inclusion need not reach us much before the end of this year, would-be vendors are recommended to make their intentions known to us as soon as possible.

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covers were once owned by Mr. Ray Kelley of Ottawa who sold them later on to someone in San Francisco. Their whereabouts at this time is not known. How many covers were made by Legault is not known either but most likely just one of each except for the last mentioned where may be a couple exist.

Jim Pilkington

CENTENNIAL PORTRAIT

The Centennial definitives originally appeared in 1967 with a portrait of the Queen shown as illustration 'A'. All denominations from 1c to 7c used the same portrait.

On 30 December, 1971, the 8c stamp appeared and, as will be seen in illustration 'B', it was issued with either a rejuventated portrait or a completely new portrait of the Queen.



Portrait A



Portrait B

I should be grateful for any information in reference to this change. None of the handbooks or articles that I have read seem to mention this particular feature

THE BRITISH LIBRARY

Our secretary, Brian Stalker, has a few leaflets giving details of the philatelic collections held by the British Library and how to gain access to them.

Members can obtain a leaflet by writing to Brian and enclosing a S.A.E.

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WANTED: THREEPENNY BEAVER. Collector seeks plate varieties, reentries, etc. – condition fair to fine. Roger Ordish, 49 Morley Road, Twickenham, Middx. TW1 2HG.

WANTED: To purchase Canadian Precancels – In collections, bulk or rare individual items. David Izzett, 1 Barberry Road, Hemel Hampstead HP1 1SD.

WANTED: MORRIS STREET, HALIFAX, N.S. cancel. Time mark "BLANK", 1895–98 period. On stamp/ cover, buy or trade. J. C. Campbell, 1450 Ross Road, Kelowna, B.C. Canada V1Z 1L6. WANTED: Flag covers from all periods, Meter Marks incorporating Flags, Royal Tour and Admiral covers bearing Slogans. Details and asking price to Tom Almond, 2 Filbert Drive, Tilehurst, Reading RG3 5DZ.

LITERATURE FOR SALE – Proof strikes of Canada Vol. 1 – Split Circles of Western Canada", the first in a series of books illustrating all proof strikes in the Canadian Postal Archives: £9.50 post paid. Robert Lee 203-1139 Sutherland Ave., Kelowna, Canada, BC V1Y 5Y2.

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