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CANADIAN PHILATELIC SOCIETY  
OF GREAT BRITAIN



# Maple Leaves

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# MAPLE LEAVES

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**Vol.22 No. 5**

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**Whole No. 233**

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## EDITORIAL

The response to Derrick Avery's letter in the last issue was not overwhelming (so what's new?), but John Hillson has provided comment on some of the points raised.

John quotes a cost of around £400 for printing the auction catalogue; there is also the additional postage to be considered, which amounted this year to about £50, bringing the total cost to £450. If the average number of lots is 600 then it will be seen that the average lot costs the Society 75p. With a 15% commission charge, a lot selling for £5 brings in 75p and we break even. Sales below this level and unsold lots cost the Society money. A small number of members work very hard, for no reward, to produce a first class auction for the benefit of all members. It would be discouraging if such work did not produce a tangible benefit which, as John says, goes into the general fund and helps keep subscriptions to a reasonable level. The £5 minimum was not made mandatory and the charge for unsold lots related only to those carrying a reserve. Our auctioneer imposes his own reserve, a reasonably high percentage of the estimate, so vendors are protected anyway. Having myself had no involvement whatsoever with the auction I feel that the organisers have acted in the name of good stewardship on behalf of the membership at large.

With regard to the articles for beginners, despite several requests no further articles were forthcoming. I could (as could many others) write such primer articles but would prefer them to carry the name of an authority in the particular field. Derrick's letter has been most useful in allowing these matters to be brought to members' attention.

Dick Malott, a tireless worker in the cause of Canadian aerophilately, has written to say that anyone interested in balloon covers should be able to obtain some this summer when the 'Festival de montgolfieres du Haut-Richelieu' will host the Tenth World Hot Air Balloon Championship at St. Jean-sur-Richelieu (about 40 miles south of Montreal). The latest Canadian 80c aerogramme advertises the event on the back panel.

Whilst on the subject of aerophilately, Bob Lee is advertising, in this issue, the sale of Bill Topping's semi-official airmail collection. Bill is showing at least a portion of the collection at Convention in August, as one of the formal displays, so UK members will have a great opportunity to do some leisurely viewing.

Increased postal charges, not to mention the pound's fall from grace, force us to increase slightly the levy on overseas members who require 'Maple Leaves' to be sent via airmail. Revised amounts are shown in the subscription 'box'. Subscriptions already paid will of course be honoured at the original rate.

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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 CANADA BANK NOTE CO. ESSAYS by William L. Simpson and George B. Arfken

These essays appear in auction catalogues from time to time but they remain items of mystery. The coverage of them in our philatelic books is rather incomplete. Here, we attempt to add to the information about these essays and try to remove some of the mystery.

The British American Bank Note Co., which held the contract for printing the Small Queens, had been formed in 1866 by a merger of two groups. One group of investors had been headed by William C. Smillie who became president of the British American Bank Note Co. The second group had been led by George B. Burland who became general manager (1). In 1881 William Smillie sold his interest in the British American Bank Note Co. to George Burland and withdrew from the company. Then, with some new partners, Smillie organised a competing company, the Canada Bank Note Engraving and Printing Co. of Montreal.

*Figure 1.*

*The vignette used*

*in the Canada*

*Bank Note Co. essays.*



*Printed in black*

*on india on card.*

The stamp printing contract came up for renewal in 1892. As this time drew near, the Canada Bank Note Engraving and Printing Co. made strenuous efforts to win the new contract. They offered to produce stamps at 13c per 1000, 7c less than the current rate. They also produced a handsome set of stamps (essays) to show the Canadian Post Office what they could do (2, p.300-301). These essays appear as plate essays for the 1c, 2c and 3c denominations and also as die essays for the 2c denomination.

The Canada Bank Note Co. essays are found in a wide variety of colours. Minuse and Pratt (3) listed the various colours. Here, we present information about plates and stones - size, imprints and counters. Figure 1 shows a die proof of the vignette used in these essays.



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### The One Cent Essays

The 1c essays appear both engraved and lithographed. Both forms carry the company name as the imprint: CANADA BANK NOTE ENGRAVING & PRINTING CO., LTD. The top imprint reads normally. The right imprint reads down. The bottom imprint is upside down! The left imprint reads up. There is a counter: ONE CENT on the left side of the top margin in thin Gothic lettering with shading lines. From a study of blocks of the 1c essay, we conclude that the plate size was 10 x 10. Boggs also reached this conclusion.



*Figure 2. A top left block of the 1c essay showing the ONE CENT counter and most of the CANADA BANK NOTE ENGRAVING & PRINTING CO., LTD. imprint. Lithographed in yellow on 0.0041" thick wove paper.*

Engraved plates and lithograph stones with this 10 x 10 size, imprint style and location and counter style and location will be called **Type A**.

The lithographed panes are known to have had ten stamps across and probably ten stamps vertically. All imprints and counters of the 1c lithographed essay are consistent with identifying the 1c stone as Type A. Figure 2 illustrates a yellow lithographed 6 x 2 top left block of the 1c essay.

### The Two Cent Essays

Two different engraved plates were used in printing the 2c essays. One plate, with a TWO CENTS counter, was the Type A described above. A top block, 10 x 2, was offered by J.N. Sissons, Sale 173, lot 921, 13 July, 1961. A portion of this block is in the Simpson collection. (Sissons, description of the imprint was incorrect).

The second engraved two cent plate, 5 x 5, does not seem to have been described in the literature. Figure 3 represents a 5 x 5 pane from this plate. The imprint reads: CANADA BANK NOTE COMPANY, MONTREAL. Note the difference between this imprint and the imprint on the type A plate. This imprint appears only at the bottom of the plate and is upright. There is no counter.

Engraved plates with this 5 x 5 size, imprint style and location and no counter will be called **Type B**.

Figure 3.

The 2c essay  
(ochre brown)  
printed from  
an engraved  
5 x 5 plate.

The imprint,  
CANADA  
BANK  
NOTE  
COMPANY,  
M O N T R E A L ,  
appears only  
at the bottom.



The essays from this 5 x 5 Type B plate do not show position dots. The stamps from the 10 x 10 Type A plate (excluding the extreme left column) do show position dots at the lower left. If a 2c essay shows a lower left position dot, it is from the Type A plate.

The Type A plate was printed on normal india on card and also on a thin Japanese paper (rice paper), 0.0017" - 0.0023" thick. Essays on this rice paper, allegedly napkins from a local Chinese restaurant, sometimes



show a 'running horse cancellation'. Figure 4 shows an example of this cancellation. The identification of the plate as Type A comes from the presence of position dots in this example. Robson Lowe (4, p.186) offers another illustration of the 'running horse cancellation'.

Both the 2c 10 x 10 Type A plate and the 2c 5 x 5 Type B plate used this unusual rice paper. However, no running horse cancellations have



*Figure 4. The 'running horse cancellation'. These 2c essays were printed from the Type A engraved plate. Green on rice paper.*

been reported on the 5 x 5 Type B imprints. It is possible that the running horses ran around the edge of the napkin forming a border and that the smaller Type B plate did not reach this part of the rice paper napkin. The use of the same unusual rice paper does indicate that both the 2c Type A plate and the 2c Type B plate were in use at the same time.

### **The Three Cent Essays**

The engraved plate used for printing the 3c essays is assumed to be Type A. All the material available to us is consistent with this identification. None of the 3c essay material suggests a 3c Type B Plate. The counter, of course, reads THREE CENTS. Like the ONE CENT and TWO CENTS counters, the letters are in thin Gothic with the shade lines shown.

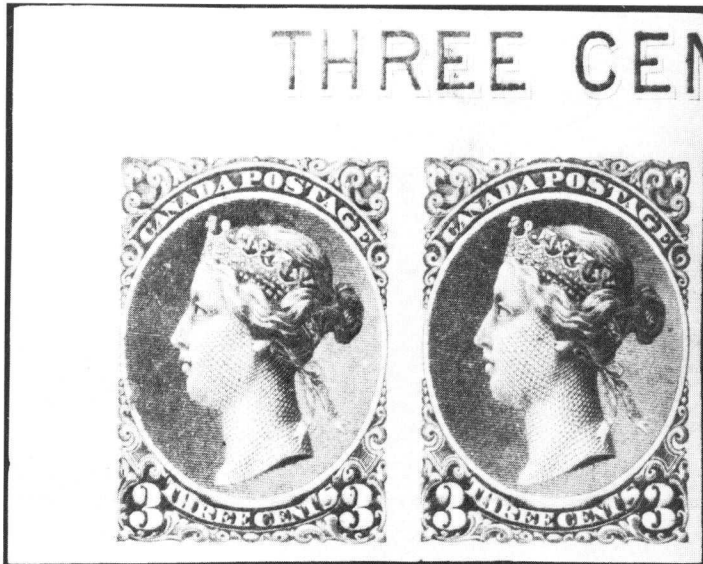


Figure 5. The *THREE CENTS* counter showing the shade lines. Printed in orange on india with engraved plate.

As with the 3c engraved plate, the 3c lithography stone is believed to be type A. The lithographed stamp pane is known to have ten stamps across and probably has ten stamps vertically. Figure 6 shows a 6 x 2 counter - imprint block clearly indicating that the full pane had ten stamps across (and is Type A).



Figure 6. A top left block of the 3c essay showing *THREE CENTS* counter and most of the *CANADA BANK NOTE ENGRAVING & PRINTING CO., LTD.* imprint. Lithographed in orange vermilion on 0.0041" thick wove paper.

### The Composite Die 5c, 10c and 15c Essays

There are also two very rare, possibly unique, essays of 5c, 10c and 15c denominations on one piece of india paper (5). These composite essays are known in two forms, one form printed in carmine with a counter and the other form printed in dark green without a counter. These essays were offered in the seventh Dale - Lichtenstein sale, H.R. Harmer Sale 1937, Jan. 30, 1970, lots 1148 and 1149. They appear again in the Maresch private treaty list 1977, lots 148 and 149. Figure 7 has been adapted from the illustration in the Maresch 1977 private treaty catalogue. The 5c, 10c and 15c essays on white wove paper are known as singles, in dark green and in carmine. These singles were probably cut from the composite die essays just described.



*Figure 7. The Canada Bank Note Engraving and Printing Co. 5c, 10c and 15c composite die essay, with counter. Courtesy of Wm. H.P. Maresch.*

Possibly because of their beautiful, essays more likely because of their sharply lower price, the Canada Bank Note Engraving and Printing Co. was awarded the stamp printing contract. However, before their stamps could be produced, the company was bought up and absorbed by the British American Bank Note Co, who thereby took over the stamp printing contract and continued to print the Small Queens for five more

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years. The British American Bank Note Co. was bound by the new contract to the new low rate, 13c per 1000, negotiated by the Canada Bank Note Engraving and Printing Co.

The Canada Bank Note Engraving and Printing Co. essays remain essays because they were never produced as adhesive postage stamps. The 2c design was used on the 2c Universal Postal Union Post Card, Webb P15, issued in 1896.

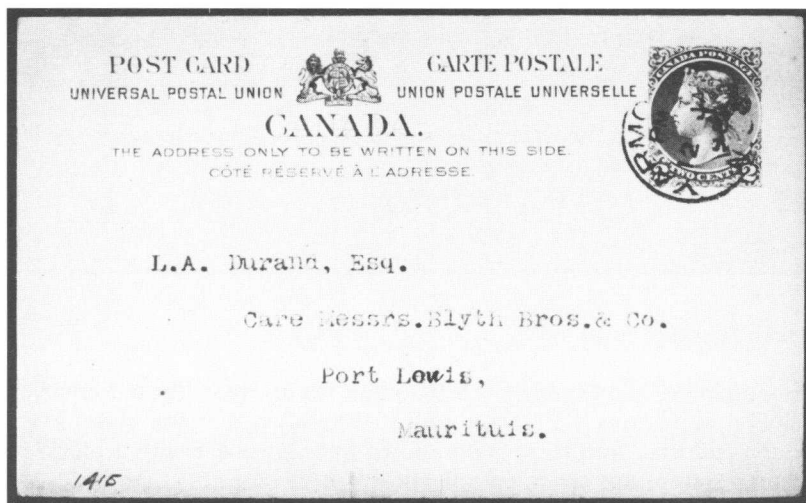


Figure 8. The Canada Bank Note Engraving and Printing Co. design post card. Mailed to Mauritius from Yarmouth, N.S., 12 JA 98. The message confirmed the registered mailing of a collection of postage stamps. Courtesy of Allan L. Steinhart.

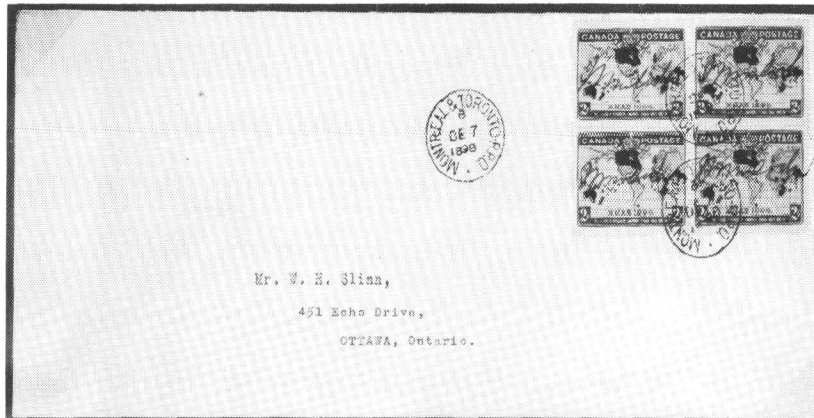
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1. *Ninety Years of Security Printing*, British American Bank Note Co., 1956. Also BNA Topics vol. 14, pp. 175-183, 1957.
2. *The Postage Stamps and Postal History of Canada*, Winthrop S. Boggs, Chambers Publishing Co., 1945, Quarterman Publications, Inc., 1974.
3. *Essays and Proofs of British North America*, Kenneth Minuse and Robert H. Pratt, Essay-Proof Society, 1970.
4. *The Encyclopaedia of British Empire Postage Stamps*, Vol. V, The Empire in North America, Robson Lowe, Ltd, 1973.
5. *Three Heretofore Unknown Essays of 1891*, Winthrop S. Boggs, Coll. Club Phil. vol. 30, p.228, 1951.

## FAKES AND FORGERIES (Conclusion)

by The Yellow Peril

Photo's by Canadian Stamp News



*A fake first day cover*

The opinion of the Greene Foundation on the above is 'the entire cover including signatures is a fabrication'. It certainly is that and more! Even though spurious, and there is no known first day cover with a block of the map stamp, this cover is academically more desirable than if it were genuine. The stories it tells are not told by a genuine cover.

As there is neither a return address nor transit mark, the town of origin and the direction the cover travelled are unknown. There is enough postage on the envelope to pay for it to be registered (5c registration fee plus 3c postage). The postmarks cancelling the stamps are on top of the signatures indicating that the name 'Mulock' was written on the stamps before they were cancelled. Stamps with writing or any marking are used stamps and the letter should have been rated and postage due collected from the addressee.

As to the 'MONTREAL & TORONTO R.P.O.' (railway post office) cancellation, member Ross Gray graciously provided the following details. The postmark is catalogued by Lewis M. Ludlow as Q-156 in his 'Canadian Railway Cancellations & Transportation Postmarks'. This particular RPO hammer did not come into use until 1918 and the train number '8' is not known on it. Train numbers, rarely used until the late Edwardian period, did not appear for several years

after 1898 on Montreal and Toronto cancellations. Moreover in 1898 an 'E' or 'W' direction and likely a 'N' (night) or 'D' (day) designation would have been used. Lastly, a four digit year indicia is unknown in steel hammers. The only boob the forger did not make is the first day date for the map stamp-December 7, 1898.

*Fake DE 8 1898  
backstamp*



Whoever the fabricator was, he must have had a passion for first days with full year circular postmarks as the year in the Ottawa DE 8 1898 backstamp is also in full. A similarly fabricated postmark sometimes seen on low value Jubilees is the infamous 'TORONTO ONTARIO SATURDAY JUNE 19 1897' first day - possibly by the same artist.



*Infamous  
'SATURDAY JUNE 19  
1897' first day cancel*

Compiling these notes has been a long and arduous chore but made more interesting and easier by the assistance of two friends. To Miss Ann M. Allan of the North York Public Library, to whom this essay is dedicated, many thanks for sacrificing so much time and effort to convince me to eliminate the excessive use of slang to describe forgers. To Mr. Don Antansoff, former editor of both Canadian Stamp News and Canadian Coin News; on behalf of the Society, sincere thanks and appreciation for the many excellent photographs.

If as a direct result of these notes, just one member is saved from being victimised, humble efforts will be more than rewarded. Caveat emptor!

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## THE PEOPLE ON THE STAMPS by Alan Salmon

*Do you know the blackened timber - do you know that racing stream  
With the raw, right-angled log-jam at the end;  
And the bar of sun-warmed shingle where a man may bask and dream  
To click of shod canoe-poles round the bend?  
Is it there that we are going with our rods and reels and traces,  
To a silent, smoky Indian that we know -  
To a couch of new-pulled hemlock with the starlight on our faces,  
For the Red Gods call us out and we must go!  
The Feet of the Young Men. Kipling*

Brûlé was the first of Champlain's young men, the *coureurs de bois*, who were his eyes and ears whilst he was confined on the St. Lawrence looking after the affairs of New France. During his travels Brûlé became the first European to set foot on today's Ontario, the first to see Lake Ontario and, almost certainly, the first to reach Lake Huron and Lake Superior. His explorations and exploits are honoured by Canada on the 34c multi-coloured stamp of 1987 (SG 1232, SS1126).

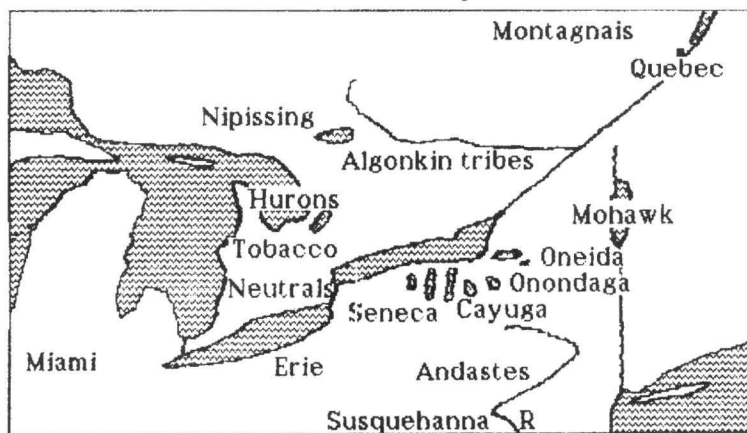


### The Beginning

Brûlé was born in northern France, sometime about 1592. He emigrated to New France in 1608 and expressed a wish to live with the Algonkians and to learn their language. He was recruited by Champlain to do just that: 'to learn what their country was like, see the great lake (Huron), observe the rivers....explore the mines....so that on his return we might be informed of the truth thereof.' Champlain's desire for information, on

the lands beyond the St Lawrence, arose from his fur trading and exploration interests. He used other young men in the following years but Brûlé was the first and greatest of these *coureurs*. The word *coureur* seems to have no agreed definition, I follow Brebner using it for those who operated in the forest regions, as distinct from *voyageurs* who travelled beyond the forests to the plains.

Brûlé lived amongst the Algonkians for a year (1610-11), learning their language and afterwards reporting to Champlain his discoveries. The next year he spent with the Hurons, so he probably reached Georgian Bay becoming the first European to reach Lake Huron. By 1615 he was an able interpreter between the French and the Algonkians, the Montagnais (see map), The Nipissings and the Hurons; indeed in his accounts he described himself as the 'interpreter'.



*The locations of the various tribes are shown. The Iroquois were a confederacy of the Mohawk, Oneida, Onondaga, Cayuga, and the Seneca - the Five Nations*

#### **Frustration at Oneida.**

In June 1615 the Indians, gathered at Lachine to trade fur, urged Champlain to lead a war-party against the Iroquois as the latter were laying ambushes on the way to Lachine. He agreed; Brûlé travelled with Champlain, via the Ottawa River, Lake Nipissing and Lake Huron, as far as Lake Simcoe. They left Montreal on 9 July and were at Lake Nipissing on 26 July, eventually reaching Lake Simcoe early in August. Here the Hurons gathered and went with Champlain, on 1 September, to Oneida. The Hurons had agreed with the Andastes, who had also been persecuted by the Iroquois, on a joint attack on their mutual enemy at

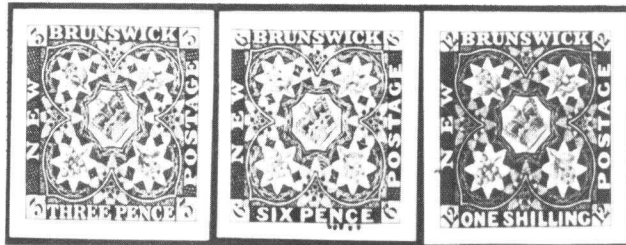
Oneida. Brûlé volunteered to go, with twelve Hurons, to the Andastes and to guide them to the battlefield - coming from the west whilst Champlain and his Hurons came in a pincer movement from the north. Champlain readily agreed, it seemed good tactics and it would provide knowledge of unexplored territory.

The Hurons attacked early in October, and were defeated, before the Andastes arrived; the Andastes were late at the rendezvous by some ten days. The Hurons retreated, two days before Brûlé arrived with 500 Andastes. He had left Lake Simcoe with his Hurons on 7 September, travelling by the Holland River and then probably by the Humber, he reached Lake Ontario sometime before Champlain reached it at its northern end. The small party skirted the western end of the lake reaching the Niagara River, Brûlé apparently missed the falls; now they had to travel carefully as they were in Seneca territory. Moving south of the Finger Lakes they had one clash with a Seneca war party before Brûlé eventually reached the Andastes on the Susquehanna River. He could not get them to sally forth quickly, hence they were late at Oneida. Not daring to attack without the Hurons they dispersed back to their villages.

### **More Years with Indians**

Brûlé spent some time studying the Andastes, but that winter he resolved to seek a shorter route to the interior than that afforded by the St Lawrence. Now, wearing Indian clothing, he followed the Susquehanna to the sea, reaching Chesapeake Bay; he appears not to have met any English settlers. In some nine months, he had travelled from Montreal, via Lake Huron, Niagara and Syracuse, to Virginia; mostly through unexplored country. He had also discovered the Susquehanna route to the Great Lakes. Returning to Huronia he was captured by the Senecas. They plucked out his nails, burnt him and were preparing to torture him slowly to death, such deaths usually took at least twelve hours, when a violent thunder-storm occurred, apparently at his bidding. This so impressed the Senecas that they released him and escorted him to Huronia.

He then turned north, paddling along the coast of Lake Huron for ten days after passing French River. In 1946, in the Laurentians with Canadian good companions, I could canoe 12 miles a day, with a couple of portages and a leisurely lunch; the *voyageurs* did average 25 mile per day in similar country. Brûlé, with his Indians, would certainly have been able to average 20 miles a day on the lakes. That would have taken him to, or very close to, the shores of Gitche Gumeé, the shining Big-



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**CHRISTIE'S**  
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Sea-Water of Longfellow's Song of Hiawatha - Lake Superior. In 1618 he returned to Trois Rivieres to report to Champlain on his explorations. For the past eight years he had lived and travelled with the Indians, exploring country never previously seen by a European.

He returned, in 1622 or 1623, to the northern end of Lake Huron and beyond. His account reads "Beyond the Sweetwater Sea (Lake Huron) there is another very large lake which enters into it by a waterfall which has been named the Saut de Gascon and is nearly two leagues (six miles) wide. The said lake and the Sweetwater Sea together extend for thirty days' journey by canoe according to the Indians' account and for four hundred leagues according to the interpreter (Brûlé)". He had over-estimated the length of the lake considerably (the combined length is about 630 miles,) indicating that he had not travelled its full length. The 'Grand Lac' soon, and for the first time, appears in print; Champlain's map of 1632. The Encyclopaedia Britannica says Brûlé 'probably' discovered the lake; surely his two journeys justify the claim that he did discover Lake Superior.

Brûlé apparently then explored the lands of the Neutral Indians, north of Lake Erie. He was reported to have given a 'grand account' and 'told wonders' of the Neutrals, however there is no documentary evidence of his visit.

### **The end**

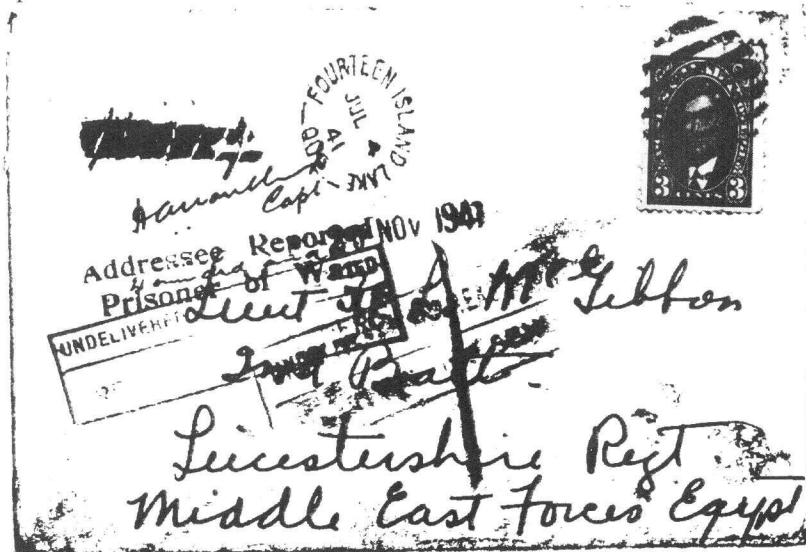
In 1629 New France fell to the English, Champlain was captured and Brûlé continued as a *coureur de bois* - for the English, to the disgust of Champlain. By 1632 Brûlé seems to have earned the hatred, for some reason now unknown, of the Hurons with whom he had lived for so long. They killed and ate him; a sad and brutal end of an exceptional explorer.

### **Le Premier Coureur de Bois**

Brûlé was a brave adventurer, thirsting for knowledge; he was a new type of explorer - the loner. He was happy to travel only with Indians as his companions for vast distances in the forests and lakes where no European had travelled. He was given a fairly free hand, but his reports back were of major importance to Champlain who was trying to fathom the geography of the interior and to know what was happening amongst the tribes. His discoveries, in the years between 1610 and 1626, place him amongst the great explorers of North America and of New France. Following his death Huron lore attributed a long-lasting curse upon them for his murder - this was to prove remarkably prophetic, within twenty years they had been destroyed by the Iroquois.

## JUNE 1941 - FIFTY YEARS BACK by Kim Dodwell

It was obviously unknown to the writer of this letter, but the intended recipient had already been captured in Crete, on 28 May, 1941. Also unknown to the writer, Lieut R.L. McGibbon had, some months earlier, left the 2nd Bn. Leicestershire Regt (then in 16 Brigade) and transferred to No. 52 Middle East Commando, in which he commanded a troop of Spanish Volunteers.



The letter would have gone by sea to Great Britain, then on around the Cape of Good Hope and up the Indian Ocean to the Suez Canal, thence overland to the Middle East H.Q. in Cairo, where it arrived in November. First marked 'missing' in m/s, this was amended with the handstamp 'Addressee Reported Prisoner of War' with the additional 'Wounded and' interposed in ink. The back shows a strike of the British Middle East FPO no.40 on 23 November, 1941 and enthusiastic stamping of the Army Post Office in purple. The letter then began its long return journey, retracing its original route until it received the accolade of the Ottawa Dead Letter Office, in the usual blue, on 27 March, 1942. The sender had certainly received good value for his three cents in terms of distance travelled, albeit at a painfully slow rate.

There are at least two other, somewhat similar, letters of this correspondence, and I am left wondering about Bob McGibbon's connection with Canada. Could he have been an official 'forerunner' of

the 'CANLOAN' officers? They were a select band of volunteers from the Canadian Army who, impatient of inactivity in Canadian depots, were seconded to the British Army prior to the opening of the Second Front, in June 1944, where they gained respect as gallant soldiers. The book 'The Middle East Commandos' by Charles Messenger casts no light on this, although it does describe the circumstances of McGibbon's capture. Of no philatelic interest, yet I hope members will agree that it bears retelling? During the defence of Crete against the German airborne assault, the Spanish troop of 52 Commando teamed up with a group of New Zealand Maoris in the chaos of the withdrawal, but after a stiff fight, in which McGibbon was badly wounded, they were captured. The Spaniards, all veterans of the Civil War against France and without the benefit of British nationality, feared the worst should the Germans discover their identity. They were told to pretend to be Gibraltarians, and this apparently was accepted by their captors.297mm  
210mm

## REPORTS FROM THE REGIONS

The London Section's annual Beaver Cup competition on 15 April attracted six entries:

WW1 & WW2 'On Active Service' Mail;

Post-Centennial Coils

1830-1900 Cross Border Mail;

Legislative Markings;

Numeral Cancellations of Belleville, Ontario

1870-1902 1c Rates.

The last mentioned entry won the Beaver Cup for Colin Banfield.

The Section's AGM was scheduled for Monday, 20 May with the evening being rounded off with members' displays featuring topics commencing with letters N,O or P.

The Society was represented on Collectors Day (24 March) of the Scottish Philatelic Congress at Falkirk by Bill McVey, Robert McLeish and Jim McLaren. Many aspects of Canadian philately were displayed throughout the day with interest being shown by the general public and collectors alike.

A lively discussion group in the afternoon centred on dies and perforations, particularly the merits of the Canadian perforation gauge - Kiusalas - which many considered was superior to any others sold on this side of the Atlantic.

## **RESEARCH SOURCES FOR POSTAL HISTORIANS: An Occasional Feature by R.B. Winmill**

Government documents are an especially rewarding source for the researcher. Of course, the most readily accessible ones are those which are published. The major ones to be considered are

- a) Debates of the House of Commons
- b) Debates of The Senate
- c) Journals of Pre-Confederation Legislative Assemblies
- d) Statutes of the Pre-Confederation Colonies and Canada
- e) The Sessional Papers of the Pre-Confederation Colonies
- f) The Sessional Papers of Canada after 1867
- g) Various documents, conventions, treaties, contracts etc

The first two listed items are widely available, both in the original and on microfilm. Moreover, a reference librarian confirms that complete sets from Confederation to date, are available in England, for consultation. These are fully indexed and one ought to not only consult the index under 'Post Offices' but also 'Post Matters'; 'Treaties'; and particular subjects such as parcel post, rural mail delivery etc. Especially important is the need to check postal financial matters in supply motions. These can be quite enlightening.

Pre-Confederation Legislative Assembly Journals have some postal references. These are available in England and Ottawa but generally speaking, they are to be found in few other locations.

The Pre-Confederation Statutes, in the original format, are difficult to secure though, once again, all are available in Ottawa and London, England. Most, but not all, have been microfilmed, however odd items are missing on the microfilm. Prince Edward Island Statutes from 1867 to 1873 appear not to have been filmed. Similarly, post 1867 Newfoundland Statutes appear not to have been filmed though the Post Office Acts are reproduced in Pratt. Holdings, with varied degrees of completeness, are to be found in scattered locales, normally in the province of origin. It is important to recall that not only are various Post Office Acts of importance but that there are other Acts such as Packet Boat Acts in New Brunswick and Newfoundland, which have a bearing on postal services.

The Sessional Papers from the pre-Confederation Colonies are



especially important as they include various Postmaster General's reports and related documents. A thorough study of these rare documents will prove rewarding to postal historians. Complete sets are held in only a limited number of places including various provincial libraries, Dalhousie University (Nova Scotia), Ottawa and London, England. At least one complete set of the New Brunswick and Canada Postmaster General's Reports, are in private hands. A few of these earlier Canadian PMG Reports have been featured from time to time in various periodicals and these reviews should provide ample incentive to students and demonstrate the breadth of their content and potential value as research tools.

It is particularly easy to utilise the Province of Canada Sessional Papers. During his long and distinguished career, Alpheus Todd, Canada's former Parliamentary Librarian, pioneered the indexing of government materials. While extremely detailed, these indexes were awkward and difficult to use. Until reprinted, these useful indexes were also largely unavailable to researchers.

In 1979, however, a new, abbreviated and easily understandable index to appendices was assembled and is now available to researchers.<sup>1</sup>



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This slender volume is worth its weight in gold to the researcher of early Canadian history and it contains material of value to the postal historian.

An even earlier volume covers the period 1840-1866. Of course this includes the period of Provincial Control of the Post Office and this generated much material, preceding and following 6 April, 1851.<sup>2</sup> The Canadian Sessional Papers from 1867 onward are very widely available in major research libraries and while one may have to travel to consult them, they are available in England and Canada. They include Postmaster General's Reports, various studies and responses to queries by Members of Parliament. Each year, a list of these papers appears, bound in the front of each volume. A quick scan of these lists will reveal all papers of interest to the researcher.

Over the years, assorted documents relevant to postal matters have been generated. These include studies such as the Griffin-Logen Report, the Glassco Report and even reports on security and intelligence matters. Except for a few security related matters, the reports are all widely available and are unrestricted.

Conventions and treaties involving Canada and numerous other nations in respect of postal matters can be found. Some are published with the Postmaster General's Reports. Others can be found in a variety of Treaty Series published in England and the United States. About half a dozen are to be found in a Canadian Treaty Series. At least one British Treaty specifically mentions Canada: this is a parcel post treaty between Japan and Great Britain. The references were to transit across Canadian territory.

Contracts can also be found. These involve transport of mails, Trans Atlantic Packet Services and such mundane matters as Labour Contracts. Some are published - for example Labour Contracts and major Ocean Mail Contracts. Various other contracts are to be found in the Public Archives of Canada.

When working with any of the above cited materials, it is important, unless the researcher is intimately familiar with government documents, to consult the reference librarian. They are always pleased to accommodate researchers and are often aware of other related material. Should one seek archival material, one ought to contact Mr. Thomas Hillman of the Public Archives of Canada. Postal records are his field of expertise.

It must be remembered that this note, and others in the series, are restricted in scope and are by no means definitive. References to sources are limited and are not all-encompassing: they are intended solely as a guide to the neophyte researcher.

<sup>1</sup>. D. Neufeld, *The Houses of Assembly of Upper Canada; a table of contents and index to Journal Appendices (Ninth to Thirteenth Parliaments, 1825-1840)*, London: Phelps Publishing Company, 1979.

<sup>2</sup>. P. Damphouse, *The Legislative Assembly of the Province of Canada: an index to Journal Appendices and Sessional Papers, 1841-1866*, London: Edward Phelps, 1974

## BALLOON MAIL by Eric Moore

Members will know of the special stamps and cards issued for the Papal visit to Canada in 1984. It is not so well known that permission was given for ten balloons to overfly the Mass Assembly at Lancaster Park, Edmonton, Alberta on 17 September, 1984, and for mail to be carried on these flights.

The visit of Pope John Paul II, from September 9 to 20 1984, marks the first time a Roman Catholic pontiff has come to Canada. His itinerary includes stops from coast to coast, making it one of his longest journeys and an event of important religious significance for Canadians, about half of whom are Roman Catholic.

Le voyage de Jean-Paul II, du 9 au 20 septembre 1984, est la première visite d'un souverain pontife au Canada. Ponctué d'arrêts à travers tout le pays, ce voyage est l'un de ses plus longs. C'est aussi un événement d'importance pour les Canadiens dont environ la moitié sont catholiques.

**BALLOON POST  
POSTE PAR BALLON**

10

Postcard / Carte postale



**CARRIED BY: C-GQPZ**  
**TRANSPORTE PAR: KLONDIKE LADY**

*Card flown in 'Klondike Lady', piloted by Nino Frank Chiovelli.*

## FLAWED STATIONERY by Horace Harrison, FCPS

The 2c postal stationery envelope carrying the stamp in violet (Webb EN12) was issued on 5 January, 1899, to flattering acclaim in the contemporary press. As is not uncommon, the newspaper got it wrong, referring as it did to the 'first few hundred' being printed in violet before the change was made to red to conform to UPU regulations. In fact 10,000 were printed and distributed to 25 post offices in amounts varying from 100 to 2,000 (1).

Despite the relatively low number printed, two consistent flaws can be found in the violet stamp. Neither have been seen in the succeeding red stamp (issued a few days later). It seems the flaws, presumably specks of foreign matter on the die, were quickly removed by the Department of Public Printing and Stationery who produced the envelopes.

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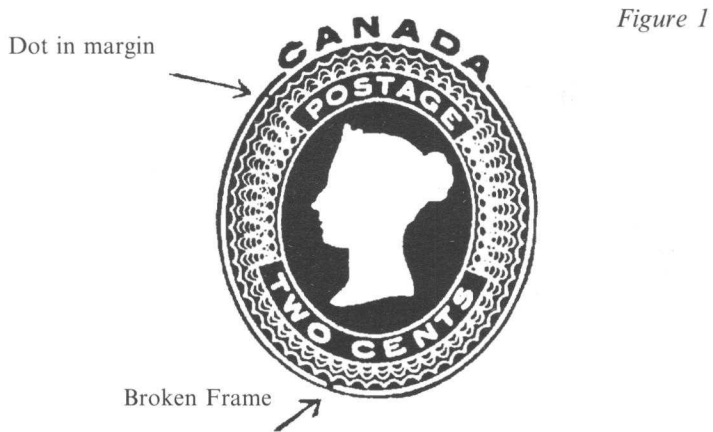
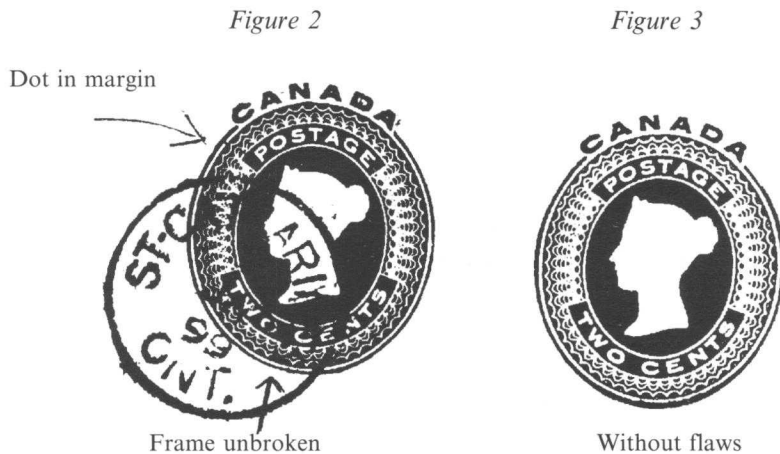


Figure 1 shows the two flaws and figure 2 shows the stamp with only the flaw at 10 o'clock, this on a first day cover. The flaw near 6 o'clock does not exist without the other flaw but, as figure 2 demonstrates, the reverse is not the case. Figure 3 is, as they say, flawless. Whilst only one printing was required for the violet envelopes, more than one working die was used in the process.



**Reference:**

1. The Postage Stamps and Postal History of Canada by W.S. Boggs. Page 528 lists the recipient post offices together with their respective allocations.



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## FROM THE SECRETARY

### PROPOSED RULE CHANGES

In accordance with Rule 27, the following proposed amendments to the rules have been received and are tabled for consideration at the Annual General Meeting to be held on Saturday 10 August 1991.

1. The following amendments have been prepared by the Rules Review Committee, chaired by Mr C A King and established in accordance with a motion approved by Committee on 7 October 1989. The rule changes are intended to achieve the following objectives:-
  - (i) minor changes to simplify and bring the Rules in line with current practice;
  - (ii) Relaxing the geographical requirements vis-a-vis election of Vice-Presidents and the venue of Convention;
  - (iii) to establish an Executive, chaired by a Chief Executive;
  - (iv) to provide financial support, on an exceptional basis, for regional groups.

#### Proposed Changes

- 2(b) delete 'reading and'
- 2(e) delete all of this sub-clause and replace by  
'to hold an annual Convention which normally shall meet in rotation in Scotland, the North of England and Wales, and the South of England'.
- 2(f) delete all the words following 'objects'
- 3 Re-word third sentence to read  
'Each candidate must be proposed by a member of the Society .....
- 6 delete '£3.50, or'  
replace 'decide' by 'approve'
- 12(b) Re-word second sentence to read:  
'Subject to the availability of suitable candidates, one Vice-President shall be chosen from members resident in Scotland, one from members resident in the North of England and Wales and one from members resident in the South of England'.
- 16(c) insert 'and Wales' after 'North of England' in the first paragraph.  
delete the final paragraph and replace by new sub-clause  
16(d) and new clause 17 worded as follows:-

- 16(d) Every third year the Committee shall elect a Chief Executive who shall be responsible to the Committee for co-ordinating the day to day management of the Society and for developing longer term strategies to fulfill the objects of the Society.

New Clause 17:-

EXECUTIVE 17 The Chief Executive shall hold office for three years and shall not be eligible for re-election for three years.

The Chief Executive shall be chairman of the Executive which shall consist of the Chief Executive, the President, the immediate Past President, the Secretary and the Treasurer.

The Executive shall meet not less than twice each year. Seven days notice of meetings of the executive shall be sent to all members thereof, along with an agenda of the business.

Any member of the Executive may appoint another member of the Executive as a general or specific proxy for the meeting. Three members present in person or by proxy, of whom the Chief Executive shall be one, will form a quorum. The Executive shall exercise all such powers of the Society as are not, by the Rules, required to be exercised by the Society in a General Meeting or by any specific officer of the Society.

Re-number existing clauses (17) to (28) to become (18) to (29) respectively.

- 24 (proposed 25) Insert additional sentence after the first sentence:  
'However, the Executive may authorise contributions to defray any exceptional expenses incurred'.
- 25 (proposed 26) replace 'Committee' in lines 4 and 9 by 'Executive'.
- 26 (proposed 27) replace 'Committee' by 'Executive'.

Amend footnote to read:-

'ATTENTION IS DRAWN TO RULES 16 AND 22'

2. The following amendment is proposed by Dr Alan Salmon with the purpose of lowering the age eligibility for membership from eighteen to fifteen years; Rule (3) Membership: change '18 years of age' to '15 years of age'.



## Letters to the Editor

**Alan Spencer**

In the January issue of 'Maple Leaves' mention was made of the Yukon Airways forgeries. This reminded me of an item in my own collection - see illustration.



As can be seen it is a mirror image of the Yukon Airways stamp, the printing being in black on a matt board 4" x 3". I am not sure of its status and have not been able to find any reference to it - is it also a forgery?

I would be grateful if any other members have any information on this item.

*Editor's note: Part of an extensive article by H.L. Banner, in my files, refers to 'four die proofs in reverse in matt on black board and six die proofs in reverse in black on wove paper. In supplying technical details Banner listed the die proofs' backing as being 51mm x 26mm and 16.4cm x 10.2cm respectively, which is at variance with the size of backing reported by Mr. Spencer.*

**George Bellack**

There are a few points in Derrick Avery's letter which I would wholeheartedly support -

- 1) No charge for unsold lots at the Society Auction.
- 2) 'NEW-COLLECTOR-FRIENDLY' initiatives in displays and competitions; the former to highlight post-1918 collection subjects and the latter to provide for one or more additional competition categories, appealing to likely new recruits.

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### **John Hilson FCPS**

I thought the first part of Derrick Avery's letter in the April 1991 issue a little misleading, although I agree wholeheartedly with the sentiment that the Society's auction is firstly for the benefit of the members who ARE the Society. Members may be interested to know that the cost of printing the auction catalogue was close to £400 in my final years as Treasurer and the implication that the Convention was funded by a surplus of £900 in 1990 is quite wrong. Very early on when I took over the office, I adopted the principle that those who attended Convention should by and large pay for it. In fact the surpluses made through the auction (most years but not all) together with other financial activities - sales of handbooks etc., helped considerably to keep the annual subscription to a level much below inflation. All members therefore benefit by these activities, directly or indirectly.

As far as a lotting charge is concerned, it is up to members at the AGM to decide on that suggestion, but it was prompted because a substantial number of lots were unsold due to unrealistic reserves; these lots added to the cost of the catalogue, but did nothing for anybody. I would not like to see lotting charges introduced for lots offered without reserve, but do not think it unreasonable to charge for those unsold for the above reason. Our auctioneers do not sell at ridiculous discounts from valuation anyway.

As far as imposing a minimum valuation, bearing in mind the cost of the catalogue, a case could be made out for this; possibly £3 would satisfy everyone. Again this would be a matter for members at the AGM.

As far as the second part of Derrick's letter, I am in total agreement. Perhaps the imaginative modern material was not asked for.

### **Revd. David Izzett**

First of all, may I say that I like very much the occasional introduction of an 'Editor's Note' in recent issues of 'Maple Leaves'. It makes the article itself more interesting because it makes one think of the necessity of the additional comment and often means weighing up two points of view.

Secondly as a keen collector of precancels, I am interested in the comment on George Bellack's letter. I have no doubt that this is genuine

use of unofficial precancels. In 1897 the Toronto Postmaster admitted "we obliterated with roller stamps \$10,000 worth of 3c annually for Simpson's and Eaton's catalogue" (p57\*). The implication is that once the stamps were issued to an authorised person he was at liberty to use them as and when he found it desirable to do so.

I have several covers which appear to be genuine use of roller-cancelled stamps as precancels. A significant common feature in these is that the cancellation is normally **not** Toronto, where presumably there was immediate and unlimited use of style T cancellation (I also have evidence that style R was in use there too). In other words when precancelled items were in demand in smaller cities such as Prescott (or Brockville where I have a 1c Jubilee on cover, or St Hyacinthe where my example is a 1/2c Small Queen on a wrapper), the local postmaster took the initiative and produced his own supply. It is clear that the process spread back to Toronto and I have an example of 1c Maple Leaf on piece. But this is exceptional - other roller cancellations on cover or piece, suggesting use as precancels, are from Niagara Falls, London (p58\*), Amherst, Bridgeburg, Franklin, Dundalk, Shediac and Teeswater (1c Admiral 1912). Despite the strictures of Mr Coulter in 1904 I have examples, on 1c Admirals (1922), from Sussex N.B. and Summerside PEI.

Can any member help please? I have a 1c Maple Leaves on cover, precancelled with a roller, but I cannot decipher the City on the Roller. The only clue is the name, 'The First Canadian Company'. The cover is addressed to Toronto and is backstamped 'Toronto, 16 May 99'. Does anyone know where it is likely to have been posted?

\* *The Canada Precancel Handbook.*

### **Allan Steinhart**

I would like to take this opportunity to thank the Fellows of the Canadian Philatelic Society of Great Britain for the deep honour they have afforded me by awarding me the Founder's Trophy for the past year, at the annual convention. This award means a lot to me and I appreciate it. The best to the Fellows of the Society and to all.

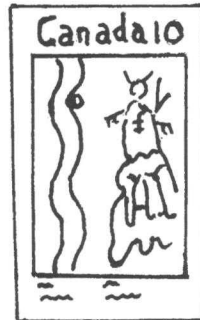
### **CENSORSHIP AT YARMOUTH**

James Felton has written to tell us that, following his article in the August 1990 issue, a Sault Ste Marie censor mark has turned up. The code is SM, a two-letter code, thus Yarmouth remains the only three-letter code (YTH) seen to date

**D. Sunderland,**

I have a copy of Gibbons 729/730 (Scott 580) with a flaw on the thunderbird stamp, comprising a small ring on the wavy lines on the inside of the stamp. Despite much searching I have found no mention of the flaw anywhere.

The very rough drawing gives some idea; the ring is very visible and measures approx. 2mm in diameter and is roughly 12mm from the top and 5mm from the left edge. The stamp in question is in a block of four.



I should be grateful for any information on this stamp, I have become quite attached to it!



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