



Maple Leaves

**JOURNAL OF THE
CANADIAN PHILATELIC SOCIETY
OF GREAT BRITAIN**

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MAPLE LEAVES

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EDITORIAL

2020 is turning out to be one of the most unusual of years for all of us. The global pandemic known as COVID 19 seems to have had a profound effect on lives across the globe. As I write this, we are into our ninth week of lockdown here in Scotland (unlike our neighbours in England we are still being urged to ‘Stay at Home’). We now only speak to friends and family by phone or video-conference and the local gardens have never looked better under a regime of constant care and attention. Even the lockdown weather has been good with long sunny spring days and rising temperatures. No doubt this will all change the minute restrictions are relaxed!

For philatelists, it is the social side of our hobby that has suffered the most with virtually all stamp shows and exhibitions cancelled, auctions limited to ‘internet only’ with limited or no viewing possibilities and most or all local stamp clubs shutting down until further notice. It has, however, allowed more time for research and sorting out all those stamps and covers that have accumulated in the bottom drawer over the years – even sometimes managing to write up some of these long-forgotten treasures. In truth, the digital age has allowed us to continue many aspects of our chosen hobby to the full. Thank goodness this particular pandemic never made an appearance in 1980! We are fortunate that our chosen hobby is partly immune to the lockdowns and other privations caused by COVID. That said, it will still be nice to get back to stamp club meetings and stamp shows again in the fullness of time.

The situation has also introduced many of us to new possibilities of digital connectivity. Our recent Scottish regional CPSGB meeting managed to go ahead as planned. Not in a house in Glasgow but over the internet via *Zoom*. Nine members enjoyed a good range

of presentations and a chance to catch up and have a blether (all we missed was the wonderful home baking usually provided by Mrs Henshilwood and Mrs Blakeley – Steve Jobs and co. please take note of this potential but highly important IT improvement!) In fact, it worked so well we decided to hold an additional meeting in July. No doubt other local groups, formal or informal, can explore the possibilities and stay in touch.

Video-conferencing has also allowed us to continue the basic administration of the Society with a couple of Executive Committee meetings taking place in May. More about all this on pages 363 and 417.

Our Packet Manager, Hugh Johnson, has asked me to put in a plea for more material to be consigned to the packet. The recent lockdown has provided an ideal opportunity to have a bit of a clear-out so if you have unearthed some duplicates and unwanted covers please consider the Society packet. The commission charge of a flat 10% is very competitive and, of course, you will have a captive audience of potential buyers. Please get in touch with Hugh if you can help to stock the packet.

Finally, after a period of relative plenty, the editorial cupboard is starting to look a little bare. Maybe all members could use a little of their 'lockdown' time to put pen to paper on a subject dear to your hearts or something you have been researching lately. I look forward to a bulging mail bag!

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IMPORTANT NOTICE FROM THE PRESIDENT

Convention 2020 cancelled – deferred to 2021!

Convention 2020 falls victim to Corona Virus / Covid-19 – regrettably we join the ever-growing list of philatelic events that have been cancelled during 2020 and, no doubt, many more will succumb to a similar fate. As presaged in my column in the April 2020 issue of “*Maple Leaves*” the ongoing uncertainties relating to Covid-19 have resulted in your Executive Committee deciding to cancel Convention this year. Our over-riding concern is the on-going and future health and welfare of our members and with almost all of our regular attendees being in the 70+ age group, several also falling into the ‘vulnerable’ category, social distancing is likely to be a feature of our lives for many more months to come. Added to that is uncertainty of international travel and the timing of when hotels will be allowed to re-open – it may take many months for some to return to their normal standards of service.

On 10th May I sent an e-mail notification of cancellation to everyone who had undertaken to give an invited display and also to all those who had contacted me with ‘expressions of interest’ of attending Convention 2020. Without exception, the response to that e-mail was one of support and sometimes relief that an early decision had been made. I am grateful to everyone concerned and particularly grateful to our editor, Graham Searle, who has provided stalwart support and assistance during recent months – he has also led (mis-led?) me into the world of *Zoom*!

The good news is that the general manager of the Cumberland Hotel in Eastbourne has been very understanding of our situation and she has transferred our booking to **20-24 September 2021** (Monday to Friday as planned for 2020) and, subject to no significant changes in VAT, at the same convention package rate. Hopefully we will meet again in Eastbourne in 2021 for our 74th Convention and in Dundee, Scotland, in 2022 for our 75th Anniversary Convention.

Please refer to the ‘*Society News*’ section of this issue to find details of how we propose moving forward and handling the constitutional aspects of our decision to cancel Convention 2020. I trust that everyone will find these an acceptable solution to dealing with an unprecedented situation. In the meantime, and until we meet again, take care, stay healthy, be kind and tolerant – and enjoy your collecting interests.

Brian Stalker *FCPS, FRPSL, OTB*



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THE COLOURFUL TALE OF A TOWN CALLED CANNINGTON MANOR

Derrick Scoot *FCPS*

In the second half of the 19th century there was a significant and steady flow of immigrants into Canada from the UK. Much of this flow of people resulted from a combination of famine in Ireland and the Highland Clearances in Scotland and resulted in large numbers of relatively poor people flooding in to the colony in search of a better life and the prospect of owning land free of the shackles of landlords.

There was, however, another type of immigrant who came from much wealthier families in the UK. These were sometimes the second or third sons of landowning families who would not inherit and sought their fortunes elsewhere not wishing to follow the traditional career paths of the army or the clergy. They also included some who had lost their assets in banking or business failures back home and wished to start afresh in a new land. One such immigrant was Captain Edward Pierce who arrived in Canada in the early 1880's. (see fig 1)

When the federal government bought its claim to Western Canada from the Hudson's Bay Company in 1869-70, it planned drastic changes for much of the territory. The age of wilderness fur trading was to end and economic expansion through settlement was the new aim.

Through the 1870's and 1880's, Canadian settlement policy for the west sought to establish a very British social order based on a largely agricultural economy. The Federal government actively advertised for new settlers from the UK and Europe with offers of cheap land ownership and a, no doubt, rather nuanced view of what the settler could expect from life in the colony. (It seems likely that these advertisements may have forgotten to tell the folk back in the UK about the nature of Saskatchewan winters, not to mention the need to clear large tracts of land before any crops could be sown).



Fig 1. Edward Pierce, founder and main driving force behind Cannington Manor

Land was surveyed and selected areas were opened up for settlement. Canada waited for the floods of immigrants to arrive but in truth the flood initially proved to be a mere trickle. There was a modest influx in 1882 but available land in the Dakotas drew many settlers south to the United States. With the Canadian Pacific Railroad still incomplete, transportation to new homesteads in the Canadian west was next to impossible. To make matters worse a continuing economic depression crushed wheat prices while frost and

drought destroyed crops. In many respects, Edward Pierce could not have chosen a worse time to emigrate.

However, Pierce was nothing if not a visionary. In 1882 he established a township called Cannington Manor is what was then Assiniboia (now part of south eastern Saskatchewan). The town was located about 40 miles south of Moosomin. The township gained its rather odd name to avoid confusion with Cannington, Ontario. This latter town was well established by the 1880's and had a post office as early as 1849 (see fig 2 below). The name of Cannington was from a town of the same name in England, located near Bridgewater in Somerset (see fig 3 opposite). Pierce's stated intention was to create an 'ideal' community in the 'gracious' English manner. After establishing his large family in a log farmhouse, he advertised in Britain and among the expatriate English population of Canada his plan to develop an aristocratic community based on Victorian society and custom. Cannington Manor's virtues, he proclaimed, were inexpensive living among English 'gentlefolk' in a colony featuring many of the benefits and few of the drawbacks of upper-class life back home in England. In one newspaper notice extolling the virtues of Cannington Manor, Pierce wrote that *'with a few hundreds (of pounds) a year, (a gentleman) can lead and enjoy an English squire's existence of a century ago!'*

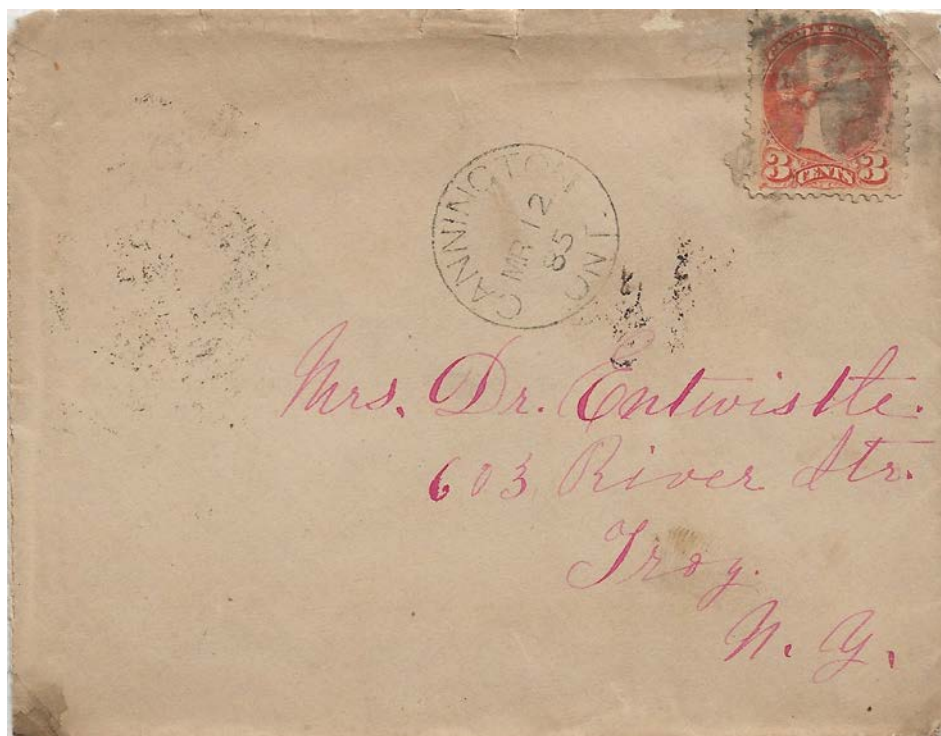


Fig 2 March 1885 cover from Cannington, Ontario to New York



Fig 3 September 1950 postcard cancelled with double ring date stamp of Cannington, Bridgewater, Somerset, England.

Pierce co-founded the Moose Mountain Trading Company (see fig 4) and used it as an industrial development tool to assemble many of the commercial and service enterprises required for a successful community. As proof of its success, by the mid 1890's, more

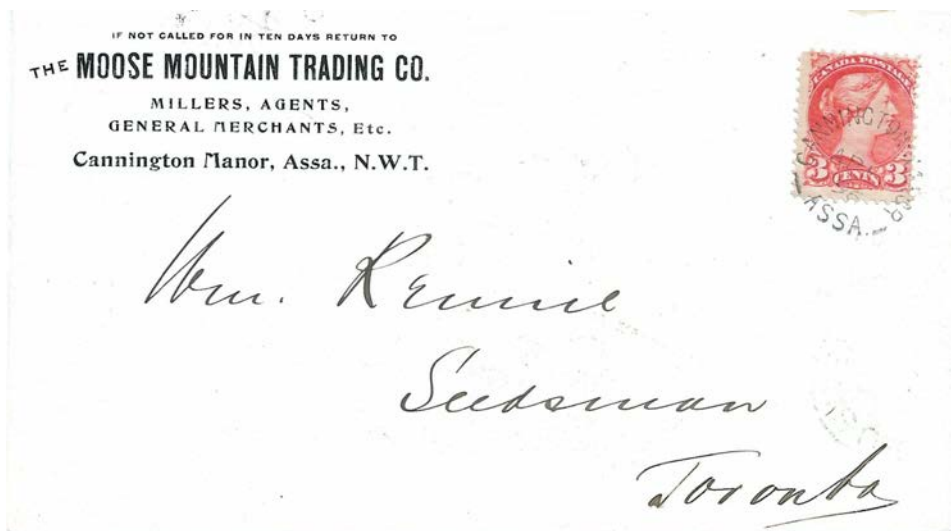


Fig 4 Moose Mountain Trading Company advertising cover mailed to Toronto on 1 April 1896, showing a fine strike of the Cannington Manor broken circle cancel.

SPARKS

★ AUCTIONS

A sampling of what will be offered in our October 2020 sale:

- One of the most important collections of Canadian Pre-1959 First Day Covers we have offered, loaded with scarce and rare items
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than 200 people lived at Cannington Manor. The village provided them and neighbouring settlers with carpentry and blacksmith services, a hotel, general store, dairy, a school/ town hall, two cheese factories, a pork packing plant, a land titles office and a flour mill. The product from this mill earned the community a gold medal at the 1893 World's Fair in Chicago. The settlement also boasted a fine Anglican church (see fig 5). All Saints church was consecrated in 1885. Built of squared poplar logs it was the first church to be consecrated west of the Red River. Most important of all, Cannington

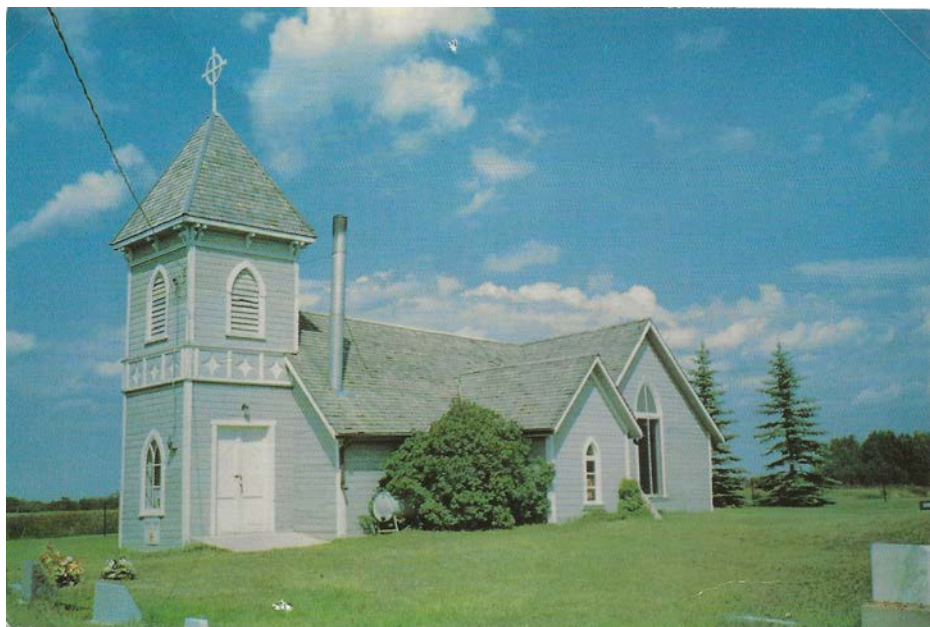


Fig 5 All Saints Church, Cannington Manor

Manor opened a post office in March 1888. The postmaster was one Ernest N. Maltby who held the office until 1901. Fig 6 overleaf shows the Maltby house where the postmaster and his family lived. Fig 7 shows a picture of Maltby and his wife.

Only the one postmark has been reported from Cannington Manor. This is a broken circle mark 20mm in diameter and is illustrated in several pictures in this article, including fig 4 above and fig 8 overleaf. The earliest recorded date of the postmark is 12 April 1888 with a latest recorded date of 28 July 1905.

The population of Cannington Manor in the 1890's fell into three main groups, first were the traditional homesteaders and tradesmen, then a few upper-class families and thirdly a group of young bachelors or 'dudes'. This last group were the result of another of Pierce's initiatives. He launched an agricultural college aimed at training wealthy young English bachelors to come to Cannington Manor to learn farming. For a fee of £100 (a sizeable sum in the 1880's) old country boys of suitable social background and strong agricultural leanings could be apprenticed at the college. A number of well-to-do



Fig 6 The Maltby House, home of the first postmaster of Cannington Manor

English families clearly felt it was a heaven-sent opportunity to rid themselves of unwanted younger sons!

It seems that Pierce's agricultural college succeeded in attracting a good number of registrants but failed in what it managed to accomplish with them. Many of the 'students' were 'remittance men', the bachelor sons of wealthy families who were unable or unwilling to land gainful employment in England and who lived on money sent to them by their families. Many were more interested in having fun than farming!



Fig 7 Ernest Maltby and his wife. Maltby was the first postmaster of Cannington Manor. In 1901 he moved to nearby Manor and also became the first postmaster there.

This rather unusual mix of population gave rise to an extensive cultural and recreational



Fig 8 March 1891 seed merchants letter showing a fine strike of the Cannington Manor broken circle postmark.

life that set Cannington Manor apart from other utopian, religious and ethnic communities that sprung up on the Canadian prairies in the latter part of the 19th century.

Theatrical plays were performed at the town hall, where tiered curtains and coal-oil footlights added finish to the productions. (see fig 9) Other indoor pastimes included a literary society and a sketch club which benefited from the presence of respected artists Mary Maltby and Inglis Sheldon-Williams, the latter an Oxford graduate whose landscapes and cavalry paintings drew international acclaim.

Fig 9. The Cannington Manor Dramatic Society





Fig 10 Tennis group



Fig 11 Cricket team – from a time when cricket was still widely played in Saskatchewan!

In the fairer seasons, outdoor pursuits took up a good portion of the bachelor's lives. These included tennis (fig 10), cricket (fig 11) and rugby football. The Cannington rugby team joined members of a nearby club to form the Moosomin- Cannington Combines who defeated a Winnipeg team of Mounties to win the 1891 Western Canadian rugby championship. It is not clear if Bertram Tennyson, Alfred Lord Tennyson's favourite nephew, was among the Combines who spent the night in jail after celebrations at the Winnipeg opera house got out of hand but Bertram was, indeed, one of the stars of the team.

Native Indians from the region became respected participants in local horse racing events although one can only imagine how members of the Whitebear First Nation reacted when confronted with their first foxhunt! The unlikely introduction of fox-hunting to the Canadian prairies was the result of the arrival in Cannington Manor in 1889 of three brothers from Manchester, England, the Becktons. The Becktons were descendants of two of the wealthiest families in northern England. Their paternal grandfather had earned a fortune in textiles, the same industry in which their maternal grandfather, Matthew Curtis became rich as a founder of one of the largest textile mills in Britain. Curtis who also served three terms as Lord Mayor of Manchester, left his 18, 19 and 20 year old grandsons a great deal of money when he died in 1887. The young men used a portion of their inheritance to buy 2600 acres of land and build a huge ranch house 'Didsbury' (named after the area of Manchester where they had grown up) in Cannington Manor. (see fig 12). 'Didsbury' was a two storey, 26 room mansion



Fig 12 Didsbury – the impressive ranch home built by the Beckton brothers. The group in the foreground appear to be preparing for another fox hunt

HUGO DESHAYE (Philatelist) Inc.

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BNA AND CANADIAN POSTAL HISTORY



*Medicine Hat Alta to England, May 1914,
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constructed of limestone and blue rolling stone. Inside it featured hand carved fireplace mantles, Turkish carpets and gilt framed oil paintings; all a far cry from the typical homesteaders dwelling!

The Becktons, with their independent wealth, quickly became leading members of the bachelor set in Cannington Manor and it was they who introduced the sport of fox-hunting. Foxhounds were imported from Isle of Wight stock and occupied kennels near the mansion while thoroughbred horses lodged in stone stables that featured mahogany lined stalls with brass nameplates. A head groom was employed from the then-renowned Lincolnshire stables of Lord Yarborough. The Becktons and their friends conducted fox hunts in 'correct dress' including top boots, breeches and hunting coats (see fig 13). They organised a Hunt Club with an annual ball and bred the best racehorses west of Winnipeg.

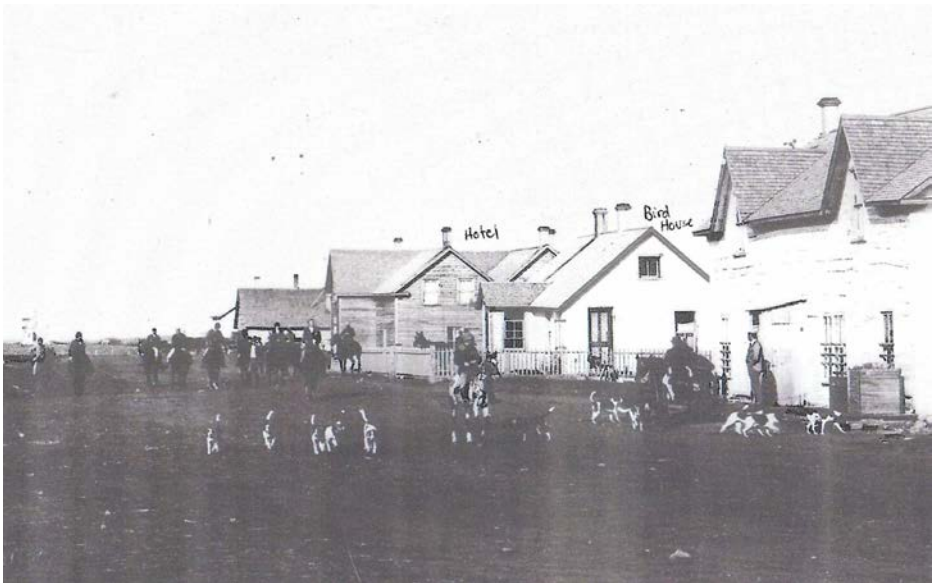


Fig 13 Fox hunting – perhaps the most unusual leisure pursuit introduced in Cannington Manor

Although he was regarded by some residents as autocratic and overbearing, it seems that Edward Pierce was able to maintain a balance between the educational and recreational pursuits of the bachelor group. However, in 1888 Pierce died suddenly. He was buried alongside the church he had helped to build a few years earlier. In the absence of his leadership, the settlement began to deteriorate.

With Pierce gone, the bachelors spent increasingly more time drinking, carousing and chasing women, including some who were married. The Becktons were typical of this group. They drank heavily and by the turn of the century had squandered most of their money. By the mid to late 1890's the settlement had been brought to the brink. A

combination of its' unprofitable industries, lack of leadership and failure to achieve standing as an economic centre for the district, combined with drought and low grain prices all contributed to this steady decline. The death knell came in 1900 when the Canadian Pacific Railway decided to construct a regional branch line, the Souris to Regina branch, some 10 miles south of the village rather than through it. The majority of the settlers from Cannington Manor moved to the railway site and established a new community there, named simply Manor. A post office opened in Manor on 1 April 1901. The first postmaster there was the same Ernest Maltby who had moved his family from Cannington Manor. He remained as postmaster of Manor until late 1909. (see fig 14 below). Cannington Manor itself became largely abandoned and gradually disappeared (see fig 15 opposite).



Fig 14 June 1907 card from Manor, Assa.

So, what of the philatelic legacy of this short-lived settlement? The broken circle cancel from Cannington Manor mentioned earlier can be found on all of the late Victorian stamp issues and on contemporary postal stationery (see fig 16 on pages 377 and 378).

In addition, Cannington Manor has something to offer the revenue collector. Contemporary Saskatchewan revenue stamps from the early years of the 20th century can be found with the punched letter 'C' used from the Cannington Registration District. Examples on a Chattel Mortgage document are shown in fig 17 on page 379. A range of other values, off cover, are also shown in fig 18 on page 379. A nice set of Saskatchewan Law Stamp proofs all overprinted with the words 'Cannington Manor' are shown in fig 19 on page 381. The scope for the revenue collector, it seems, is considerable!



Fig 15 A rather sad and deserted view of the main street in Cannington Manor, taken in 1902.



Fig 16a Range of late Victorian stamps all showing the Cannington Manor broken circle postmark. The earliest recorded date of this mark is 12 April 1888, the latest recorded date is 28 July 1905.

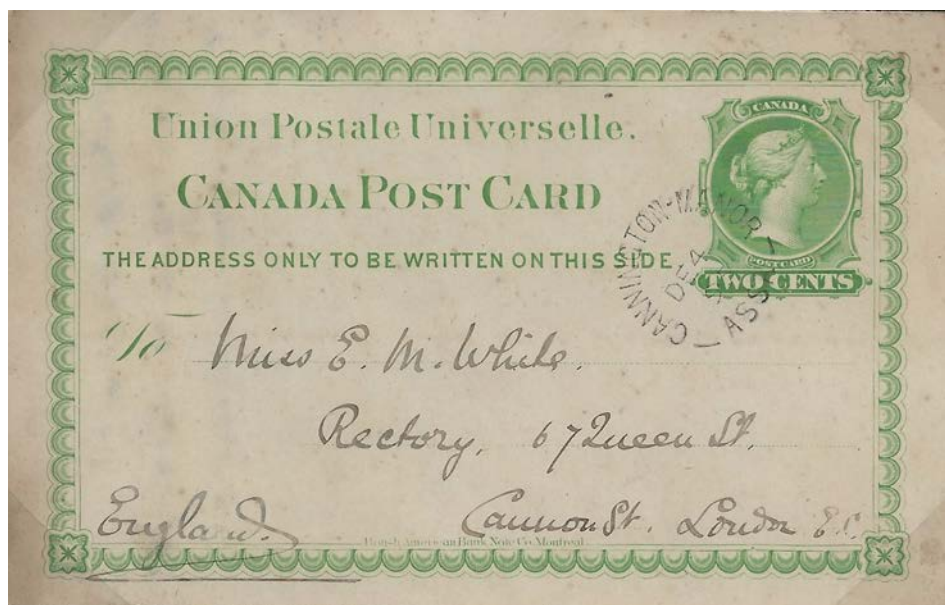


Fig 16b Two examples of Victorian postal stationery both showing the Cannington Manor broken circle postmark.

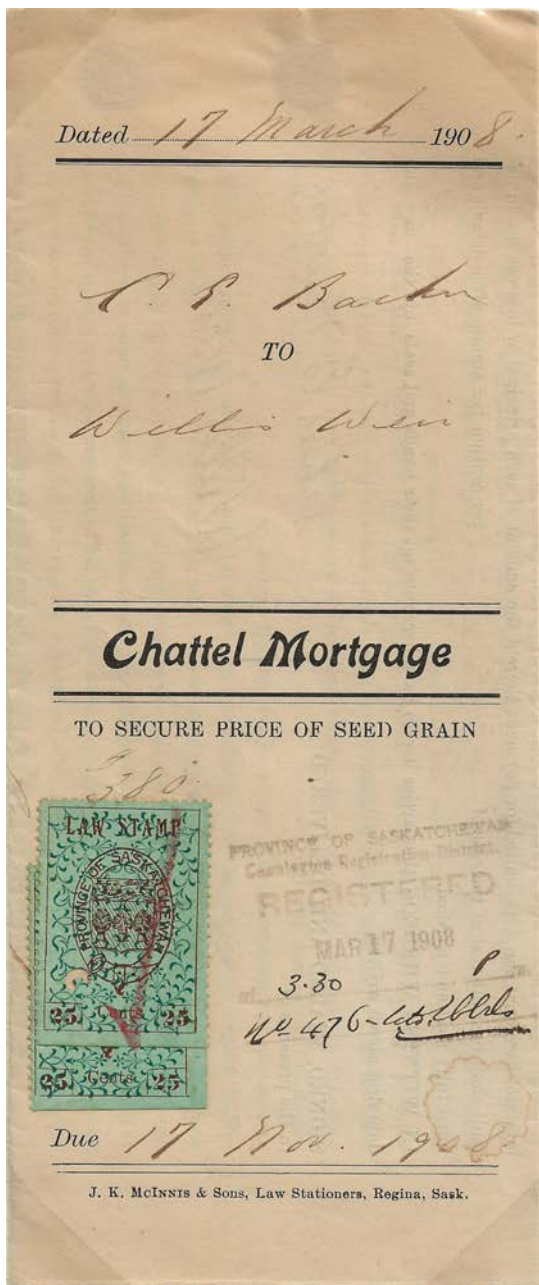


Fig 17 March 1908 Chattel Mortgage document registered at the Cannington Registration District office. The two 25 cent Law stamps pay the 50 cents fee and are tied by a 'C' punch used from Cannington.

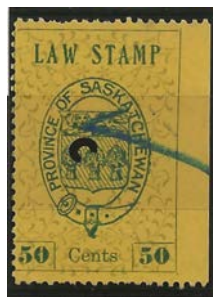


Fig 18 Small group of Saskatchewan Law Stamps all showing the characteristic 'C' punch applied in Cannington.

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Fig 19 Saskatchewan Law Stamp proofs all overprinted 'Cannington Manor'. These overprints were done privately and are regarded as Cinderellas.

Despite a hey-day of little more than 20 years, you can still discover some of the history of this unique settlement today. The Cannington Manor Provincial Historical Park has been established on the site of the original village and features a number of reconstructed and restored buildings, including the church and the Maltby House, to give a flavour

of what life was like some 130 years ago. The Park is open daily, excluding Tuesdays, between late May and Labour Day weekend with self-guided tours available.

My thanks go to Sarah Schafer, the Head Interpreter of the Park who provided much useful information on the history of Cannington Manor and also provided copies of several of the historical pictures contained in this article.

Editors note: The Park has been subject to closure during the COVID 19 outbreak so check online re opening hours before you rush out to jump in your cars!



Fig 20 Some views of the Cannington Manor Provincial Historical Park as it exists today.

SUPPORT THE SOCIETY PACKET

The Exchange Packet Manager is always looking for more material to add to the packet. So, if you have unwanted or duplicate material please consider the Society Packet as a good means of disposal.

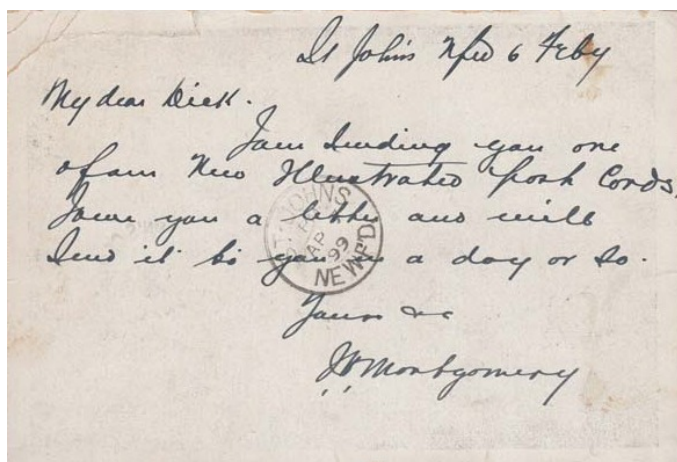
NEWFOUNDLAND MULTI-VIEW (MV) POSTCARDS

Brian C. Bursey and John M. Walsh, *FRPSC*

These are among the earliest, if not the first, privately produced Newfoundland postcards. These postcards depict multi-view images. It can be found on the bottom front of these cards the imprint: ENTERED ACCORDING TO THE ACT OF THE LEGISLATURE OF NEWFOUNDLAND IN THE YEAR 1899, BY J. H. MONTGOMERY, AT THE COLONIAL SECRETARY'S OFFICE. They appear to have been available for a relatively short period of time. In our research the earliest example we have found is a card dated 7 April 1899 postally used at St. John's Central and St. John's; signed by J. H. Montgomery (see fig 1). Note that although postmarked in April, the message on the card is dated 6 February.



Fig 1



Six sizes of postcards are known; with trimming, 1-2 mm size differentials can be observed within the same set. Different sizes often displayed the same images. Two images shown on these cards also appear on postcards that were published by the *Newfoundland Pictorial Post Card Co, 1904*. This, and the fact that their cards appeared on the market immediately after the Multi-View cards, suggests a possible connection between the two. One of their cards is known dated 7 May 1904. In the Evening Telegram of 10 August 1904 is a notice saying a beautiful artistic set of postal cards has just been issued. (see fig 2)

Fig 2. Except from the Evening Telegram 10 Aug 1904 Nfld.

(Courtesy of John Griffin, Library Technician, Newfoundland and Labrador Collection, Provincial Resource Library Arts & Culture Centre, St. Johns, Newfoundland)

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journey. The citizens generally have done their best to entertain the visitors, and good will certainly come of it.

ARTISTIC POSTAL CARDS.

A BEAUTIFUL and artistic set of postal cards has just been issued through the enterprise and good taste of a well-known amateur photographer of the city. The views are chaste in design and well selected, and are, moreover, suggestive of the principal industries of the colony. They include pictures of the sealfishery and codfishery, and views of the principal buildings of the city. They are bound to come into general use, and are a splendid medium to advertise what is best in the colony. They are copyrighted by the "Newfoundland Pictorial Post Card Co."

WORD OF WARNING

These early postcards of Newfoundland seem to have gone through several development trials/times. The Multi-View postcards have a small, about a quarter of the card area, clear space on the front image side on which to place a brief message. In the top right location is another small clear area to accommodate the stamp required to pay the postcard rate. Often the direction ADDRESS ONLY THIS SIDE is present on the reverse or it may simply be blank. Early post office regulations mandated that the reverse side be reserved exclusively for the address. Such postcards are described as having an 'undivided back'.

As development progressed, the front image size grew larger, often with an image description. Some blank space was available for the sender to formulate their message. On the reverse the blank space was occupied by PRIVATE POST or PRIVATE POST CARD or PRIVATE MAILING CARD or such wordings. Sometimes these words were surrounded by a box, at times, of an ornate presentation. The top right corner had open space often with a rectangle box. As time progressed this stamp area box had directions printed inside of its borders, stating the postage rate 2¢ or as time unfolded, different destination rates.

As the image on the front increased to occupy the full frontal area, the back was manipulated. With the image at about 80% of the front the back had the direction of Address only on this side provided below the PRIVATE CARD styles. The stamp box was still present. A change in postal regulations in the early 1900's allowed the postcard back to be divided evenly between a message and the address. Such postcards are referred to as being 'divided backs'. This regulatory change led to a more modern style of postcard with the face dedicated to one or more images, and the back equally divided between the address and a message.

As development progressed further the presentation of the back changed again. While still having the previous information, the back was now divided by a central vertical line. On the vertical far left margin was written WRITE HERE. Then the back progressed into having far left margin WRITE HERE; a vertical divider line; horizontally centred high ADDRESS on the right section. The box for the stamp area disappeared. The back of the card continued to endure directional information polishing. While this was ongoing, postcard makers manipulated their personal mannerisms to position their business name. However, at times they did not print their business name!

Figs 3 (below) and 4 (on page 388) show two more examples of these cards. The postcard in fig 3 is addressed to Madame Marie Toulinguet, c/o Miss Stirling, London UK. Marie Toulinguet was the stage name of Georgina Stirling from Twillingate Newfoundland. She was an internationally famous opera singer. The message on the



Fig 3

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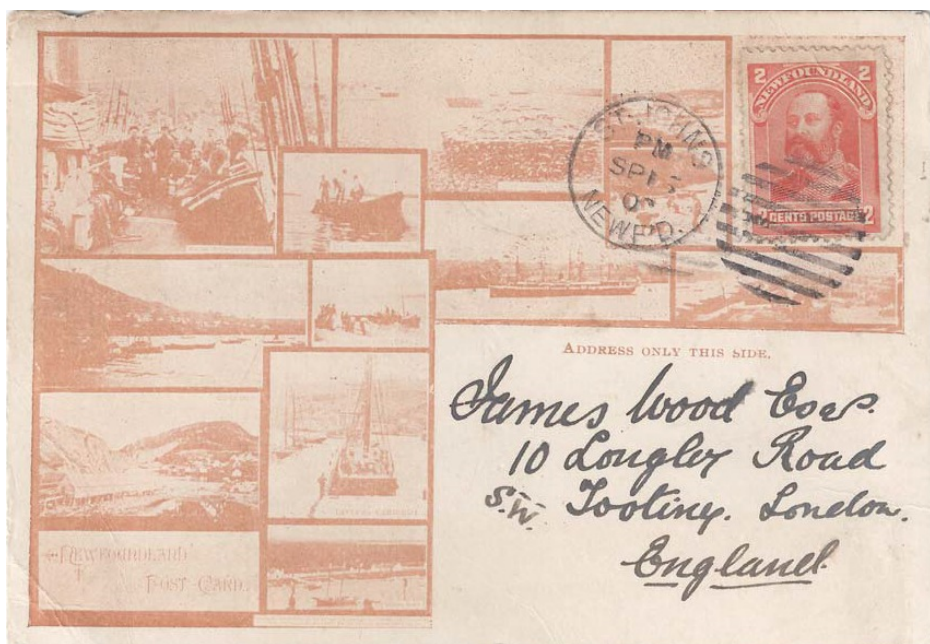


Fig 4

card reads: ... *"if you are in Italy this winter please send postcard now and then"* ... In the 1900's postcard collecting and exchanging was a popular hobby.

The table in figure 5 provides a listing of all the card types we have been able to find. Please contact the authors or the Editor if you can add any new types to the list or provide any corrections to the listing.

Fig 5 (below and opposite) complete listing of all recorded types of these multi-view cards (courtesy of the Newfoundland Specialised Stamp Catalogue)

MULTI-VIEWS (MV) believed to be the initial postcards developed for Newfoundland

NSSC#	paper colour	SIZE / PRODUCT DESCRIPTION / # views	images seen; NSSC can identify clearly	STYLE
Size 117 mm x 76 mm				
MV 1	cream	Top left image: Bust of Man. 15 views.		B/W
<i>images seen:</i> Busts of 4 (named) men; Gazette Building; S.S. Bruce; N.F. Railway; Newfoundland Dog; Newfoundland Caribou; Port aux Basque; On the Humber; Saw Mill; Troutling scene; On the Humber; Men hunting.				
MV 2	white	Top left image: Roman Catholic Cathedral. 9 views.		B/W
<i>images seen:</i> Roman Catholic Cathedral; Colonial Building; From Railway Depot Looking West; Ruins Episcopal Cathedral; Government House; Crosbie Hotel; Ruins Kilbride Chapel; Gower St. Meth. Church; Insane Asylum				

Size 133 mm x 89 mm

- MV 21 white Top left image: **Banker Fishing Boat Crew.** 12 views. B/W
image seen: Bank Fishing Crew; Casting Cod Seine; Drying Fish On The Beach; Avondale; Hauling Caplin; H.M. Fishery Protection; St. John's After Great Fire; Portugal Cove; Hauling Caplin (boat); Quidi Vidi; Drying Codfish; Fishing Boats
- MV 22 white Top left image: **Bust of Man.** 15 views. B/W
images seen: Busts of 4 (named) men; Gazette Building; S.S. Bruce; N.F. Railway; Newfoundland Dog; Newfoundland Caribou; Port aux Basques; On the Humber; Saw Mill; Trout scene; On the Humber; Men hunting.
- MV 23 white Top left image: **Roman Catholic Cathedral.** 9 views. B/W
images seen: Roman Catholic Cathedral; Colonial Building; From Railway Depot Looking West; Ruins Episcopal Cathedral; Government House; Crosbie Hotel; Ruins Kilbride Chapel; Gower St. Meth. Church; Insane Asylum
- MV 24 white Top left image: **Ships In St. John's Harbour.** 10 views. B/W
image seen: Ships in St. John's Harbour; Steady Brook Falls; St. John's Harbour View From Upper Levels; Humber River; Clode Sound (Port Blandford); N.F. Railway; Woman Face; Iceberg; etc
- Message on Oct 21 / 03 used card says: *We expect to have our new series of 20 all different Picture Post Cards of Nfld. scenes etc, in course of a week or two. We are quite sure you would be pleased with them.* Signature is imaged; possibly someone can identify. Even though no company name and not knowing the signer; the release of 17 postcards by the Newfoundland Pictorial Post Card Co., 1904 suggests a possible link.
- MV 25 cream Top left image: **Ships In St. John's Harbour.** 10 views. B/W
image seen: Ships in St. John's Harbour; Steady Brook Falls; St. John's Harbour View From Upper Levels; Humber River; Clode Sound (Port Blandford); N.F. Railway; Woman Face; Iceberg; etc.
- MV 26 white Top left image: **Steamer On Dock. [other images are sealing related]** 12 views. B/W
image seen: Ship on Dock; Departure of Sealing Fleet; Iceberg; Skinning The Seal; Landing Seals; White Coat Seals; [etc, difficult to read]
- MV 27 white Top left image: **Tilt Cove Copper mine.** 10 views. B/W
image seen: Tilt Cove Copper Mine; S.S. Bruce; A Group Of Waltonians At Nine Miles Post, Placentia Line, N.F.; Loading Pier Bell Island; etc.

Size 138 mm x 95 mm

- MV 41 cream Top left image: **Banker Fishing Boat Crew.** 12 views. B/W
image seen: Bank Fishing Crew; Casting Cod Seine; Drying Fish On The Beach; Avondale; Hauling Caplin; H.M. Fishery Protection; St. John's After Great Fire; Portugal Cove; Hauling Caplin (boat); Quidi Vidi; Drying Codfish; Fishing Boats
- MV 42 orange Top left image: **Banker Fishing Boat Crew.** 12 views. ORANGE
image seen: Bank Fishing Crew; Casting Cod Seine; Drying Fish On The Beach; Avondale; Hauling Caplin; H.M. Fishery Protection; St. John's After Great Fire; Portugal Cove; Hauling Caplin (boat); Quidi Vidi; Drying Codfish; Fishing Boats
- MV 43 cream Top left image: **Steamer On Dock. [other images are sealing related]** 12 views. B/W
image seen: Ship on Dock; Departure of Sealing Fleet; Iceberg; Skinning The Seal; Landing Seals; White Coat Seals; [etc, difficult to read]

Size 142 mm x 98 mm

- MV 61 cream Top left image: **Steamer On Dock. [other images are sealing related]** 12 views. B/W
image seen: Ship on Dock; Departure of Sealing Fleet; Iceberg; Skinning The Seal; Landing Seals; White Coat Seals; [etc, difficult to read] (colouring and image differences; Card of April 07, 1899 shown with J H Montgomery signature) Suggestive of initial printing BECAUSE of the full inking in address area. Others do not have this.

Size 146 mm x 92 mm

- MV 81 white Top left image: **Ships In St. John's Harbour.** 10 views. B/W
image seen: Ships in St. John's Harbour; Steady Brook Falls; St. John's Harbour View From Upper Levels; Humber River; Clode Sound (Port Blandford); N.F. Railway; Woman Face; Iceberg; [etc, difficult to read]
- Message on Jan 27, 1901 used card says: *Compliments of A.A. Delgado.* Possibly an indicator of the origin of this card.

Size 146 mm x 99 mm

- MV 101 orange Top left image: **Roman Catholic Cathedral.** 9 views. ORANGE
images seen: Roman Catholic Cathedral; Colonial Building; From Railway Depot Looking West; Ruins Episcopal Cathedral; Government House; Crosbie Hotel; Ruins Kilbride Chapel; Gower St. Meth. Church; Insane Asylum

Auction Announcement

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1897 60c Gas Inspection,
rouletted; a great rarity of
Canadian Federal Revenues



12½c engraved die essay
in bright blue on thin
hard wove paper



1935 10c RCMP "Broken Leg" variety
superb mint NH; 1990 Greene cert.



1897 ¼c Leaf progressive die proofs
– unfinished designs in violet



1919 3c Hawker Flight
Overprint mint LH;
1980 BPA and 2019 Greene cert.



1861-1862 1p red brown (Scott 16)
error of colour; 1994 Holcombe cert.



1880 5c pale dull blue mint NH;
a great rarity in this condition.



1868 3c die essay in green

THE STORY OF A WORLD WAR II DEATH A LONG WAY FROM HOME

John Cranmer

It is extraordinary how the acquisition of a humble cover and the questions it raises in your mind can lead you into research and subsequent discovery of some long-forgotten aspects of World War II. There is a tendency to think that the war was fought primarily in Europe, North Africa and the Far East but as this tale will tell it was truly a 'world' war.

For me, the cover in question was the one shown below, front and back, in figs 1 and 2 below and opposite. The letter, mailed in Toronto in early 1944, was sent to a R.E. Honderich who was serving in the Royal Canadian Airforce somewhere 'overseas'. The letter was returned some months later with the handstamp 'REPORTED KILLED' and confirmatory sticker on the reverse. What caught my eye was the pencil manuscript marking on the cover front reading 'RAF Pretoria SA'. What an earth was a Canadian airman doing serving as part of the RAF in South Africa in 1944? So, the research began.....



Fig 1 Cover front



Fig 2 Cover reverse

Robert Wayne Honderich was born in St. Catherine's, Ontario in June 1921. His family subsequently moved to Baden, Ontario where his father was a printer by trade. After school, Robert worked as a shipper, stock-keeper and catalogue compiler for a number of local companies before answering the call and enlisting in the RCAF on 9 August 1941 as an Aircraftman 2nd Class R122695. He progressed quickly in the military as many did in the war years, being promoted to Pilot Officer class in November 1942 with a new service number of J14993. His principle role was as an air gunner. Shortly after this, in February 1943, he was posted overseas to the UK where he served at a number of locations and air bases over the course of the year, being promoted again to Flying Officer in April 1943.

In December 1943, Honderich was posted to South Africa where a small number of Canadians were serving with the South African Air Force. He was posted to Number 27 Squadron which was established in August 1942 as a World War II maritime patrol squadron. Although part of the South African Air Force, the squadron was placed under the control of the RAF's Coastal Command and was employed as a coastal reconnaissance and patrol unit. The squadron flew Lockheed Ventura Mk IV aircraft (see fig 3 overleaf) which performed convoy escort and anti-submarine warfare patrols as well as conducting operations off the South African west coast. One flight was based at Aus and the rest of the squadron flew from Walvis Bay and Rooikop. All three locations were in the Mandate Territory of South West Africa (now Namibia). Between February and April 1944, a squadron detachment was deployed to Darling, a small town in the South Western Cape district some 75km from Cape Town, to patrol the northern and

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Fig 3 Lockheed Ventura aircraft of the South African Air Force.

western approaches to Cape Town harbour. Robert Honderich was part of this detachment.

On 12 April 1944, Honderich was part of a crew on a training mission out of Darling. In poor weather, the plane crashed into the side of the Dassenberg mountain. The four South African officers on board were killed instantly but Honderich initially survived the crash and was brought down to a local farm by the rescue party mobilised out of Darling. However, he died shortly thereafter on his way to the local hospital. The rather terse telegram sent to his parents back in Canada is shown in fig 4 overleaf. Whilst the wording of this telegram may seem a little harsh, it is worth remembering that Canada lost over 17500 airmen during the course of the war. After a while, the wording of these missives no doubt became a little formulaic.

The part of the story I found the most moving was all the personal details about his death that survive in the military records. Despite being just 23 years old, Honderich, no doubt in common with all serving officers, had written a will which was kept on file by the military (see fig 5 overleaf).

After his death, there was a great deal of form filling! A comprehensive list of his possessions was compiled – including, for example, ‘4 coat hangers, one damaged’ and ‘1 safety razor, 1 nail file and 1 shaving brush’. All the minutiae of life were written

Call and Pre	OUT IN	Serial No
(Above this line is for Signals use only)		Date
R.C.A.F. MESSAGE		R.C.A.F. S. 1 R.M. PAGE OF R.C. 4-61 (SUN) H.Q. 885-2-1 R.P. 8812
NO. OF GROUPS <u>19</u>	FILE	OFFICE DATE STAMP & SERIAL NUMBER
TO* MR J W HONDERICH ✓ BADEN ONTARIO ✓ (REPORT DELIVERY) ✓		
FROM* RCAF CASUALTIES OFFICER		
ORIGINATOR'S NUMBER <u>M 9855</u>	DATE <u>14</u> APR <u>15</u> MY	REFERENCE AND DATE YOUR
(Use Double Space Typing)		
<p>DEEPLY REGRET TO ADVISE THAT YOUR SON FLYING OFFICER ROBERT WAYNE HONDERICH J ONE FOUR NINE NINE THREE WAS KILLED ON ACTIVE SERVICE OVERSEAS APRIL TWELTH STOP PLEASE ACCEPT MY PROFOUND SYMPATHY STOP LETTER FOLLOWS</p>		
54/14		
PRES.		
This message must be sent AS WRITTEN and must be sent by W/T. Signature <u>[Signature]</u> (R04)		This message must be sent IN CYPHER and must be sent by W/T. Signature <u>[Signature]</u>
Originator's Instructions* Degree of Priority* IMMEDIATE		TIME OF ORIGIN <u>0386</u> G.M.T.
*The Signal Department is responsible that these details are transposed to the appropriate portion of the message form and that all possibility of compromising distinguishing signals, etc., by omitting to remove their signification from the address, etc., is avoided. Before delivery of the message these details are to be re-inserted in P/L.		T.O.R. T.H.I.
SYSTEM IN	TIME IN	READER
SENDER	SYSTEM OUT	TIME OUT
SENDER	SYSTEM OUT	TIME OUT
SENDER	SYSTEM OUT	TIME OUT
SENDER	SYSTEM OUT	TIME OUT

Fig 4 Initial telegram to Honderich's family notifying them of his death

down. The sale of some of these items to the airmen in his unit in South Africa raised \$61.60 which was returned to his family as part of his estate.

The terse telegram was followed up by two far more personal letters to the family. The second of these, dated 26 May 1944 (see fig 6 on page 399) even enclosed some photographs of the funeral. One wonders how often this type of personal follow up happened.

Read this whole Form and Instructions on other side before commencing to complete.

WILL

R.C.A.F. R. 60

4034-5-41 (225)

H.Q. 1002-3-45

Last
Permanent
Civilian
Address

(1) I, HONDERICH ROBERT WAYNE of the City
Town
Village
Township
of Baden in the County of _____
District of _____
Province of Ontario Catalogue Impulse
(Civil Occupation)

a member of the Royal Canadian Air Force, Number 122695 do hereby
revoke all former Wills by me made and declare this to be my LAST WILL.

(a) Relation-
ship
(b) Name
and
(c) Address of
beneficiary
and
(d) What each
is to receive.

(2) I GIVE, DEVISE AND BEQUEATH unto my Mother

Mrs Rae Laura Honderich
Baden, Ont.

all my estate

Relationship,
Name and
Address of
Beneficiary

(3) I GIVE, DEVISE AND BEQUEATH all the rest and residue of my estate, both real and personal,
of whatsoever kind and wheresoever situate unto

(4) I appoint Mrs R. L. Laura Honderich Same
(Name) (Address)

as above, to be the Executor
Executrix of this my Last Will.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF I have hereunto set my hand this 11 day of

August 19 44.

Signed and acknowledged by the Tes-
tator, in the presence of us present at
the same time who in his presence, at
his request, and in the presence of
each other have hereunto subscribed
our names as witnesses.

R. W. Honderich
(Signature of Testator)

Fig 5 Will provided to the military by Honderich

The other thing that struck me was a handwritten note at the end of a form sent by the Estates Office in Ottawa to Robert Honderich's father. On it, his father noted that the list of Robert's possessions had not included an engagement ring he was said to have bought for his fiancée back in Canada and asked the military if this could be investigat-



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	Canada #4dii Used	£108.00
	Canada #5	£619.00
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	Canada #5a	£696.00
Canada #5d	Canada #5d	£619.00
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OTTAWA, Canada, 26th May, 1944.

Mr. J.W. Honderich,
Baden,
Ontario.

Dear Mr. Honderich:

Further to my letter of April 19th advice has been received from the Canadian High Commission in South Africa concerning your son, Flying Officer Robert Wayne Honderich.

The message states that your son was one of a small number of Canadian Officers who were stationed near Cape Town. On April 12th, an aeroplane in which your son and four South African Officers were flying, accidentally crashed. The four South African Officers were killed instantly but your son died while on route to the hospital without regaining consciousness.

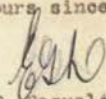
Your son's funeral took place on April 17th in Cape Town with full military honours. A representative from the Canadian High Commission in South Africa was present and a Canadian flag covered the casket.

We are enclosing photographs and negatives of the funeral, together with cards attached to the floral tributes and a Memorial Record.

Please be assured that should any further information be received it will be forwarded to you at once.

May I again express my deep and heartfelt sympathy in your great loss.

Yours sincerely,


R.C.A.F. Casualty Officer,
for Chief of the Air Staff.

MS

Fig 6 One of the follow up letters from the RCAF to Honderich's family.

ed. In a final letter sent to the parents which detailed Robert's account (see fig 7 overleaf), it is confirmed that the ring had never been found.

ESTATES

BRANCH

Ottawa, Ontario, 19th July, 1945.

Mrs. Rae L. Honderich,
Baden,
Ontario.

HONDERICH, Robert Wayne F/O (Deceased)
No. J14993 R.C.A.F.

Dear Mrs. Honderich:

By this time you will have received from the Treasury Office a cheque payable to your order in the amount of \$1,207.21.

This was the total held at credit to your son's Service estate, being made up as shown in the following statement:

Balance withdrawn from Canadian Bank of Commerce,	
Acct. No. 4237, London, England	\$ 636.84
Balance withdrawn from Barclay's Bank, Cape Town,	
South Africa	212.98
Proceeds of sale of some effects at unit	61.60
Cash in effects	27.22
Balance of pay	268.57
	<hr/>
	<u>\$1,207.21</u>

You are entitled to this money as the sole Beneficiary named in your son's Will.

We would appreciate your completing the enclosed receipt form and returning it to this Branch at an early date.

We regret to advise you that Overseas Headquarters has reported that, although a most careful enquiry was made, no

/over

Fig 7

There is one final chapter to the story. In April 1988 the wreckage of the plane was discovered on Dassenberg mountain. It was airlifted off by a Puma helicopter of 22 Squadron of the S.A.A.F. The remains reside to this day in the S.A.A.F. Museum just outside Cape Town.

trace could be found of the engagement ring which Mr. Honderich mentioned in completing our Form P-64. We realize that this will be a source of great disappointment to you and are sincerely sorry that the ring has not been found for return to you.

Owing to the difficulty in forwarding bulky articles from the South African theatre of War, Regulations provide that clothing of deceased personnel may be sold at their units. Attached hereto is an inventory of a few of your son's articles of clothing which were sold. The money received was credited to his Service estate as shown in the statement set out above.

It is noted from the information supplied by Mr. Honderich, in completing our Form P-64, that your son purchased some War Savings certificates which he had forwarded to his brother Edgar. It is assumed that these certificates are in the name of your son, Edgar, and that he will be able to realize their value in due course. In the event that they were issued in your deceased son's name, however, please let us know and we shall be able to assist you in having them transferred to your name as the sole Beneficiary named in his Will.

Yours faithfully,

GSG:TF
Encl.

for G.C.
(L.M. Firth) Colonel,
Director of Estates.

Fig 7

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Dean Mario

NEWFOUNDLAND 'JOHN CABOT' ISSUE

I refer to the article from John Walsh in the last issue of Maple Leaves. I can share a picture of another 'second day' cover shown in fig 1 overleaf. This is a 25 June 1897 registered cover mailed to the Postmaster in Halifax. The stamps pay the 3 cents letter rate plus 5 cents registration fee.



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Scott #1123 VAR-1125 VAR

Scott #1454i VAR

Well the moment has arrived! After 15 years of negotiations, the owner of these three UNIQUE imperforate sheets has finally agreed to sell. The editors of the Unitrade Canada Specialized were aware of their existence and they were listed in a footnote. Orders will be taken on a first come first basis and cut up accordingly. Sheets are all VF Never Hinged but some do have minor gum pinches or wrinkles and were originally bought from an Archive Sale. Prices will be as follows. Payment plans can be arranged.

Canada #1123-1125 CPL set of 3 corner blocks: (light gum wrinkles)

\$7,500.00 CAD

XF NH Fault Free

\$8,950.00 CAD

Set of Vertical Imperf Pairs:

\$3,750.00 CAD

Minor gum bends:

\$2,685.00 CAD

Canada Scott #1454i VAR

84c Weihnachtsmann "Accent over E of NOËL"

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\$2,950.00 CAD each

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Fig 1 Registered letter mailed on 25 June 1897 and showing three values from the Cabot issue which had been first released the day before.

Simon Taylor-Young

2 CENTS LARGE QUEEN VARIETY

I wonder if any of our members can throw any light on the variety shown in fig 2 below (plus blow up to better show the variety). It appears as a plate scratch or crack and is superficially similar to the well-known 'needle nose' variety. In this case the scratch or plate crack is to the left and lower than that found on the 'needle nose' stamp and is also longer. Has anyone seen this variety and, if so, does anyone know if it is constant and what the plate position may be?

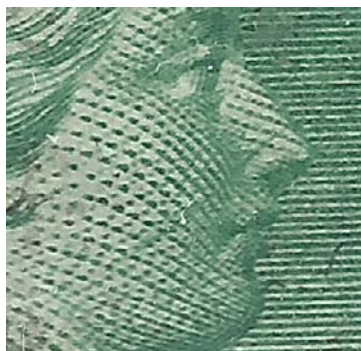


Fig 2

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EARLY CANADIAN POSTAL RATE HANDSTAMPS (PART 5 – A POSTSCRIPT)

Graham Searle *FCPS*

One of the perils of writing a long running series of articles on any subject is that new discoveries and varieties come to light during the telling of the tale. Hence the need for this short postscript. Whilst I am sure there are many more types of rate handstamp to be discovered, here are just a few I missed on my first run through.....

The first of these, shown in fig 101 below, was sent to me by member John Wright and it demonstrates a remarkable piece of ingenuity. The cover shown was sent from Fort Erie, Ontario in 1874 and sent unpaid. It was judged to be seven times the standard weight (i.e. over 3 oz) and charged 35 cents due. Rather than simply write the rate in manuscript, the postmaster, one George Lewis who obviously took great pride in his work, took out a '3' handstamp (Jarrett type 604c) and applied it. He then took out a '5' handstamp (Jarrett type 610h) and applied it alongside making a very creditable '35'

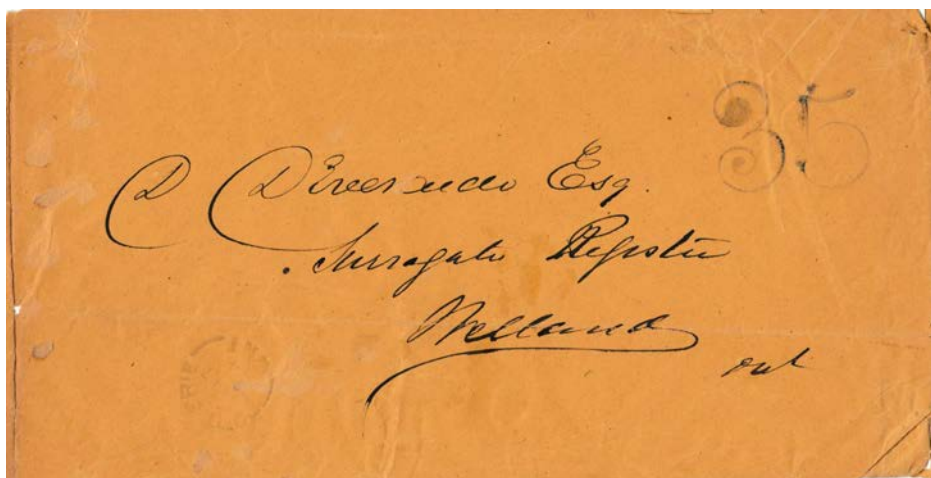


Fig 101 Example of a handmade '35' handstamp from 1874 (courtesy of John Wright)

handstamp mark. I have little doubt that this specific mark is unique given the very high rating. I was tempted to think that the practice itself may be unique until I saw the cover in fig 102 overleaf in a recent list sent out by member Grégoire Teyssier. This 1868 unpaid cover rated at three times the standard rate and thus rated 15 cents due shows a similar piece of ingenuity putting together '1' and '5' handstamps to create the '15'. This one comes from Clinton, Ontario where the postmaster was Thomas Fair. One wonders how many other postmasters went to this kind of trouble!

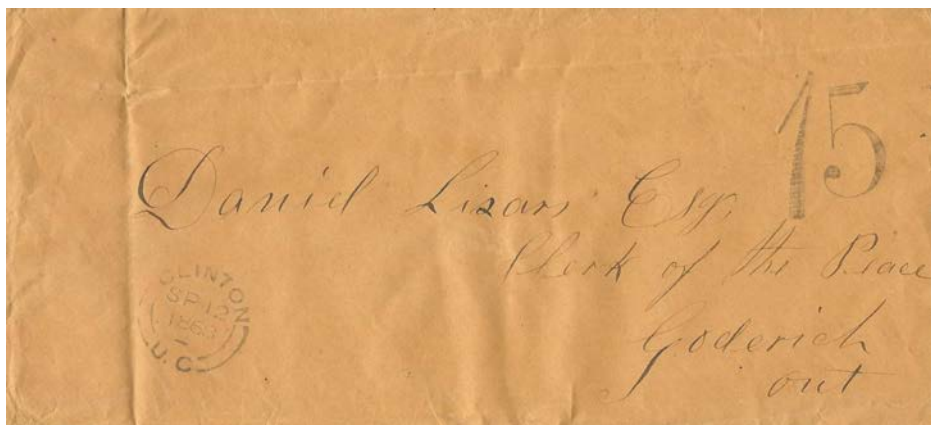


Fig 102 Another example of a handmade handstamp from the post-Confederation era. The scope for producing such marks only really existed from 1868 onward but the inclination to make them was probably rather limited.

In an earlier instalment in this series, I remarked that I had only ever seen two rate handstamps used on domestic mail prior to April 1851. This is, of course, the very kind of remark that always comes back to bite you as I have now seen two more, both of which are probably unique!

The first of these is shown in fig 103 and is a simple 1d handstamp used in Quebec in early 1851 on a drop letter in the period when the British rate system was still in use. This particular cover appeared on e bay recently.



Fig 103 One penny handstamp used on a letter mailed within Quebec City in January 1851.

The second example, shown in fig 104, was sold recently by Siegel Auctions as part of the magnificent 'Dubois' collection of early BNA mails. It shows a rather crude '4½' handstamp on a domestic letter sent from the small post office of Hillier, Ontario in January 1848. The postmaster at the time was a Philip Flager. The 4½ pence paid the



Fig 104 Early 4½ handstamp from Hillier, Ontario

rate for the 18 odd mile trip to Picton. One interesting aspect of this cover is that Hillier is just 7 miles away from Wellington, the source of the other two known letter rate handstamps prior to 1851 (see Maple Leaves, April 2018 pages 333 - 335). Both places were very small settlements in Prince Edward County and in 1848 were almost certainly adjacent post offices (see the map below). Was this something of a local industry, or just a bit of local rivalry to see who could produce the best handstamps? We will never know.



Fig 105 Map of Prince Edward county, Ontario

The last example is another of the transatlantic rate handstamps from the period prior to 1854. Although I indicated I would not show all of these as they are well illustrated elsewhere, I will deviate from that line to show you the example in fig 106 below. This is an example of a rate handstamp used on unpaid mail from Canada to the UK which, out of courtesy to the UK postmasters, was denominated solely in Sterling – thus the 1/2 (1 shilling and two pence sterling) rate. This is one of the rarest of all transatlantic handstamps with only three copies recorded (1). This particular example featured in a recent Eastern Auctions sale.



Fig 106 One of the scarcest of the transatlantic handstamps, this 1sh/2d mark in a diamond was used from Quebec. Despite an apparently long life, with examples recorded from both 1843 and 1855, only three examples in total have been recorded.

References:-

1. Handbook on the Transatlantic Mails of British North America by Montgomery and Mulvey, published by BNAPS in 2015.

**HAVE YOU TRIED TO ENROL
A NEW MEMBER RECENTLY?**

NEWFOUNDLAND: ‘major misplaced re-entry’

sheet position 55, 3¢ vermilion and blue denominations, perforated and rouletted from the second cents issue.

John Walsh, *FRPSC*

The Philatelic literature and some stamp catalogues make mention of a ‘major misplaced re-entry’ on a stamp from the engraved 3¢ denomination sheet. The initially 1870 released 3¢ stamp was in the vermilion colour. Later, in 1873 the same image design was released in blue. Both of these were 12 x 12 perforation. Then in 1877, the blue colour was re-issued with roulette separation. On all releases, the major misplaced re-entry can be found at sheet position 55.

At Ralph E. Trimble’s www.re-entries.com website, this well known variety is imaged at www.re-entries.com/nfld2_centsB_Sc39.html

However, other than the re-entry being reported, no-one has offered or shown the reason for its’ existence.

Upon request, the archivist at Library Archives Canada found two plate proof sheets of the value, one being the green colour trial proof and the other the vermilion plate proof (see below).



Upon receiving the 800 dpi scans the author undertook an in-depth detailed examination of the vermilion colour sheet. The well documented 'major misplaced variety' was readily found at position 55 on this colour plate proof sheet. Shown in fig 1 below is the plate proof vermilion colour having position 55 digitally cutout. From the image you can see that this position has the major misplaced re-entry visible at the top and the right hand side. The stamp is even vertically positioned lower on the horizontal row when compared to its neighbours. The issued stamp is known to visually display this reentry. The issued blue 3¢ version, which is found both perforated 12 x 12 and rouletted, are both known and were seen with this visual reentry. The Trimble site also shows the 3¢ red colour trial plate proof at position 55 showing the same.

Still the lingering unknown remained. What caused this major misplacement to happen on both of these coloured plate proof sheets? Having received the LAC green colour trial plate proof sheet image an examination of sheet position 55 was undertaken.

A digital cut of the full stamp from the sheet along with a close up cut is presented in fig 2 opposite that shows the reason to undertake the plate re-entry on the sheet.

At sheet position 55 the green colour trial plate proof has an inspector's indelible mark applied. Upon further examination it is seen why this specific stamp has been marked. On the vignette left side is seen damage to the design that shows a diagonal scrape or cut.



Fig 1

From this discovery it is demonstrated that the green colour trial proof was among the first, if not the first, colour trial tested. Whether the other known colour trial proofs violet, deep green, brown and deep brown have this damage present will require their examination. The author does not have access to those other colour trials.

The plate proof chosen for printing the vermilion, and used later for printing the blue colour, had this damaged area fixed prior to going to press for printing the requested 3¢ orders.



Fig 2

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VALUABLE CANADIAN, NEWFOUNDLAND AND BRITISH COLUMBIA REVENUE STAMPS STOLEN

Members are warned that nine valuable British North American revenue stamps were stolen between 6 – 8 May 2020 while on their way back to their owner in the United States after being expertised by the Vincent Graves Greene Philatelic Research Foundation Expert Committee. The stamps in question are illustrated below, they are BCD1, BCT1, FB53a, FSC10, FSC13, FSC19, FWS2, NFB1 and TNR7 (all numbers from the Van Dam Revenue catalogue).

The theft happened while the material was in the custody of FedEx Corporation somewhere in the South East of the United States.

Revenue collectors are asked to watch out for these items being offered for sale on the market and to be cautious if offered any of these items at ‘bargain’ prices.

It is also a timely reminder that material of this value should always be insured even if you are shipping it via normally secure means.



NEW BOOKS

This quarter has seen the publication of the latest edition (the seventh) of the Stanley Gibbons Catalogue for Canada and Provinces. The previous edition dates from 2016 so this is a timely update for all BNA collectors.

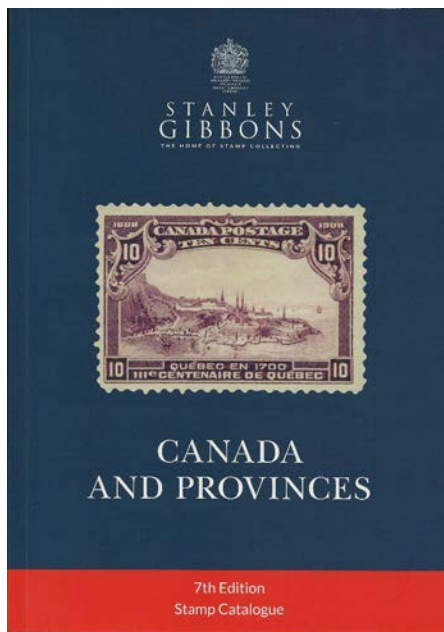
As before, this new edition covers all the stamps of British Columbia, Vancouver Island, New Brunswick, Newfoundland, Nova Scotia, Prince Edward Island and, of course, Canada. The latter are listed up to and including November 2019. Whilst it is probably not quite as comprehensive as the Unitrade catalogue in listing varieties and errors, this aspect of the listings has been enlarged considerably and all the major varieties are now listed and priced. The listings also include all the main shades to be found along with paper and perforation varieties. Listings also include stamp booklets, and the usual 'back of the book' types such as officials, registration stamps and postage dues.

The ever-expanding list of new stamp issues combined with the four year gap since the last edition has served to make this volume noticeably thicker than its predecessor. The price has also risen slightly to an official retail price of £27.95. At this price it remains remarkably good value for money.

Gibbons note that the catalogue prices have been carefully revised and updated but don't expect major changes up or down – a reflection of a fairly static market.

The various notes in the catalogue – both within the listings and in the introduction – have been expanded and a new feature is the inclusion, in the introduction, of an article on Lathework written by the late John Hillson. We should also thank Gibbons for including an advertisement for our Society within the volume.

Overall, this remains the pre-eminent catalogue for UK based collectors and the SG listings of the 19th century stamps of Canada remain the best in the business by far. It is, no doubt, a volume that many members will wish to have on their bookshelves. As usual, the catalogue is available direct from Gibbons and also from many other philatelic outlets.



The remaining four new books have all been published by BNAPS. **These are all available from Bill Longley, c/o Longley Auctions, PO Box 620, Waterdown, Ontario L0R 2H0, Canada.** BNAPS have simplified the pricing system for their books and now simply quote a 'Members' price in CAN\$. As usual review copies of these books will be finding their way into the Society Library in due course, so if you would like to have a closer look please get in touch with Mike Slamo.

The National Christmas Seals of Canada 1927 - 2018 Second Edition, Cliff A. Beattie, Andrew Chung and Robert D. Vogel. A profusely illustrated and amazingly detailed catalogue of all the different aspects of the Christmas Seals released in Canada since 1927. 2019, Spiral bound, 182 pages, 8.5 × 11, colour. ISBN: 978-1-989280-02-7. Stock # B4h099-1. Price: C\$38.00

The second edition of *The National Christmas Seals of Canada* includes new National Christmas Seals since 2008; Quebec Christmas Seals and Country Hearts and Country Valentines to 2018, and Spring Seals to 2019 plus new discoveries and up-dates. New topics include the Annual Christmas Seal Sale and Campaign Letters; Christmas Seal Errors, Freaks and Oddities; Ornaments and Christmas Seals issued by the provincial associations of The Lung Association.

Letters from Santa, David A. Hanes. A very colourful journey through the Christmas-time letters from Santa Claus to children originated by the T. Eaton Company in the early 1900's, and later by the Robert Simpson Company and the Canada Post Office, continuing into the 1960's. 2019, Spiral bound, 104 pages, 8.5 × 11, colour. ISBN: 978-1-989280-03-4. Stock # B4h100-1. Price: C\$32.00

The first Eaton's Santa Claus letter was prepared and sent to children in 1905, the same year the first Santa Claus parade was held in Toronto. A new Eaton's Santa Letter was prepared each year until 1967. Between 1928 and 1930 the Robert Simpson Company in Toronto produced at least two Santa Claus letters. From 1972 until 1983 several regional departments of the Canada Post office, later the Canada Post Corporation, intermittently prepared Santa Letters. *Letters from Santa* includes illustrations of all Santa Letters known to date. The author hopes that with publication of the book more letters will come to light.

Catalogue of Privately Produced First Day Covers of Canada, 1927-1977, Gary Dickinson. An illustrated catalogue of the first day covers produced by private individuals and organizations for Canadian stamps issued over five decades. 2020, Spiral bound, 222 pages, 8.5 × 11, colour. ISBN: 978-1-989280-05-8. Stock # B4h101-1. Price: C\$44.00

From the first known cachet for a Canadian stamp issue which appeared in 1927, through the apex of FDC collecting in the 1950s and 1960s, to the gradual decline of new products following the introduction of Canada Post's own line of official covers in 1971, privately-produced FDCs have rarely been studied and never thoroughly

documented. This catalogue represents the start of a broader and more thorough treatment of FDCs as a sub-field of postal history.

Official Canadian FDCs are dealt with in detail in *The New Specialized Catalogue of Canada Post Office First Day Covers* by Andrew Chung and R.F. Narbonne which was published by Unitrade in 2015, so they are not included in this FDC catalogue. Also excluded from this first edition of the private FDC catalogue are such back-of-book covers as airmail, special delivery, official, and semi-postal stamps as well as the stamps of Newfoundland.

This catalogue is also a companion to the current edition of *The Unitrade Specialized Catalogue of Canadian Stamps* which includes prices for FDCs from 1927 onwards, and these serve as minimum price points for the new volume. The assumption behind the stamp catalogue's pricing is that all cacheted FDCs are worth the same amount, however, prices for privately produced FDCs often run higher or lower than those listed in the stamp catalogue depending on a variety of factors.

More than eight thousand different cacheted covers are included in the volume. All of the special purpose cachets produced for specific stamp issues are illustrated in colour, while general purpose cachets that could be used for any stamp issue are each shown once in a separate section and cross-referenced to every stamp for which examples have been documented by at least one reported cover.

The catalogue provides guidance to both novice and experienced collectors regarding their acquisitions by illustrating the range of covers that have been produced for specific stamps and suggesting market prices for a wide range of FDCs.

The collecting of first day covers, long overlooked by serious philatelists, is growing in popularity and this new catalogue and the following book will, no doubt, be an essential guide for those who have an interest in this field.

Collecting First Day Covers of Canada, Gary Dickinson. A comprehensive overview of collecting and studying first day covers for Canadian stamp issues. 2020, Spiral bound, 144 pages, 8.5 × 11, colour. ISBN: 978-1-989280-06-5. Stock # B4h102-1. Price: C\$36.00

This is the first book-length treatment of this topic and will be of interest to those new to this area of philately or who have developed an interest that they wish to pursue in greater depth. Topics include collecting by stamp issue, cachet maker, theme, and postmark, with each approach being illustrated profusely with sample covers. Canadian cachet makers are emphasized, but American makers of FDCs for Canadian stamps are also discussed. Do-it-yourself cachet makers are well-represented.

The role of the Canadian post office in the production and distribution of FDCs is examined, as are cachet errors and oddities and information resources for the collector. The final chapter describes the ownership process beginning with deciding what to collect and concluding with disposing of a collection.

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SOCIETY NEWS

FROM THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

Following our decision to cancel the 2020 Convention in Eastbourne, we would like to confirm the arrangements for the various Society meetings and activities that would normally have taken place during Convention and other matters that would normally have been subject to discussion or vote at our AGM.

Executive Committee Meeting:- two meetings have already taken place during 2020 using video-conferencing. Further meetings will be arranged on this basis as required.

Committee Meeting:- we no longer plan to hold a Committee meeting in 2020 unless any specific matters arise that require one. In this latter case a video-conference meeting will be arranged. There were no significant matters arising from the 2019 meeting and thus our next planned Committee meeting will be during the 2021 Convention.

Fellows Meeting:- we no longer plan to hold a Fellows Meeting in 2020. Any nominations for Fellowship that have been received during 2020 will be automatically carried over to the 2021 meeting.

Convention Auction:- the planned Convention Auction will now be run as a postal/ internet sale. See the notes from the Auction Manager below.

Annual General Meeting:- there will be no AGM in 2020. Approval of the minutes of the 2019 AGM and consideration of any matters arising from that meeting will be held over to the 2021 AGM. In respect of other matters normally on the agenda of the AGM we can confirm the following:-

- a) All serving Officers of the Society will continue in office for another year. The list of Officers will therefore remain as is until the 2021 AGM. Should the need arise to replace any Officer prior to the 2021 meeting, this will be done by the President in accordance with rule 13 of the Society Constitution.
- b) The Treasurer has confirmed her intention to retain the 2021 Subscriptions at the existing level of £15 for UK members and £20 for overseas members.
- c) Annual reports from the Officers of the Society will be produced in the normal way and will be included in summary form in the October issue of Maple Leaves. This will allow any member having questions or needing clarifications to take these up with the relevant officer.
- d) Annual accounts for the year ending 30 June 2020 will be produced in the normal way, independently examined and published in the October issue of Maple Leaves. This will allow any member having questions or seeking clarification on any aspect of the accounts to take these up with the Hon. Treasurer.

If any member has other pressing business that they would have raised under A.O.B. during the 2020 AGM, they are asked to pass this, in writing, to the Secretary no later than **15 August**

2020 so that the Executive and, if necessary the Committee, can determine how best to deal with it. Otherwise, any other business will be held over until the 2021 AGM.

Brian Stalker FCPS, FRPSL, OTB for the Executive Committee

FROM THE AUCTION MANAGER

With the 2020 Convention sadly cancelled due to the prevailing COVID 19 restrictions, we have re-organised our next sale which will now be a postal/ internet sale with a closing date of **Friday 2 October 2020**. I hope to have the catalogue online by mid August at the latest. Paper copies will be mailed out to those who have requested them in the past (no need to ask again!)

Graham Searle FCPS

LONDON GROUP

The London Group programme for the remainder of 2020 is outlined below. All meetings will take place at the offices of the Royal Philatelic Society, 15 Abchurch Lane, London EC4N 7BW, commencing at 12 noon and ending at 3pm and all are, of course, subject to further Government relaxations regarding meetings etc during the COVID 19 pandemic. Following the meeting, those who wish, may join us for refreshments at a local tavern or restaurant. A charge of £5 per person per meeting will be levied to partially offset the costs of the meeting room.

Sept 14	AGM and Beaver Cup
Nov 9	Members – V to Z

For confirmation of meetings, or for any further information, or if in doubt due to weather etc. please contact Colin Banfield on or cbjubilee@yahoo.co.uk

Colin Banfield FCPS

SCOTLAND AND NORTH OF ENGLAND GROUP

The next meeting of the Scotland and North of England Group will be held on **Saturday 18th July 2020 commencing at 1400hrs**. We will once again be meeting virtually, via *Zoom*. Following this, we are hoping that by our next planned ‘in person’ meeting on **14th November** we may once again be allowed to meet in Glasgow (see below), if not we will be repeating our May experiment with a virtual meeting via ‘*Zoom*’. If meeting in person, we will be meeting ‘chez George’ at ‘Kilmory’, 20 Mirrlees Drive, Kirklee in Glasgow. The postcode is G12 0SH and Mirrlees Drive is located just off the Great Western Road to the west end of the Royal Botanic Gardens. All members (and their guests) are welcome to attend, please bring along a few sheets to display or any items you need help with identifying. Please contact the Editor for any further details or if you would like a map! Confirmation of the arrangements will be circulated by e mail nearer the time.

Graham Searle FCPS

SOMETIMES YOU DO GET LUCKY

Doug Lingard FRPSC, OTB

My favourite cover is shown below in fig 1. It is a Copeland and Company illustrated cover with the Montreal 'K' Ensign flag cancel. Not only is it a scarce flag cancel on an attractive cover, but it is now considered to be from the first trial use of a Bickerdike cancelling machine. However, what really makes it special to me is the way I acquired it.

This cover surfaced as lot #340 in Jim Hennock's December 1993 auction and was estimated at \$800. Being a public servant with a wife who did not work, two teenage children, and mortgage and car payments, I did not have enough 'spare change' to place a serious bid on this lot. So, I sold some of my better philatelic material and raised enough cash to bid up to \$1000 for it (plus all the usual add-ons of buyers fee and sales taxes which would have taken my bill to \$1265). I thought that amount would secure the lot. When Jim got to this lot, he stopped and explained what had happened. He had two tied top bids of \$1000 and also another bid of \$1050 which had to be reduced to \$1000 as the next bidding increment was \$1100. So, he opened the lot to the floor at \$1100. I somehow got my hand up and won the lot, for \$100 more than what was going to be my top bid! A few months later, I was at the large stamp show outside of Boston attending a meeting of the Machine Cancel Society. Here, a philatelist whom I had never met before, came up to me and started screaming as to how I had stolen his cover from him. On seeking clarification, he yelled back 'My 'K' cancel cover in the Hennok sale'. He then pretended he was going to strangle me. Up to this point in time, I had no idea why he was



Fig 1

acting in this way. When he settled down a bit, he explained how he had placed the \$1050 bid on the lot, but his bid was in US\$. Since the Canadian dollar was worth about 75¢ US at the time, his bid should have been converted to \$1400 Canadian. If that had been done, I would not have been able to outbid him and he would now be the owner of my favourite cover. Sometimes you do get lucky!

AMENDMENTS TO MEMBERSHIP

to 15th JUNE 2020

New Members:-

- 3081 COHEN, Kenneth; 278 Hidden Trail, Toronto, Ontario, Canada M2R 3R8; e mail kenpersonal@icloud.com; **C to 1950**
- 3082 BACK, Malcolm; 97 Stuart Street, Stouffville, Ontario, Canada L4A 4S4; e mail mback1217@rogers.com; **B, CS**
- 3083 HODGES, Sean; Little Kingshill, Walwyn Road, Upper Colwall, Herefordshire WR13 6PL; e mail shdgs6@aol.com; **C**

Change of Address and Corrections to Address:-

- 0956 HILL, Gordon; Room 5 Normandy, c/o Carewest Colonel Belcher, 1939 Veteran's Way N.W., Calgary, Alberta, Canada T3B 5Y8.
- 2776 VERGE, Charles; 1907 – 33 Rosehill Avenue, Toronto, Ontario, Canada M4T 1G4
- 3042 BAXTER, Peter; 19 Forsdene Walk, Coleway, Coleford, Glos GL16 7JZ

Resigned:-

- 2819 BARRETT

Revised Total:- 242

FORTHCOMING EVENTS

2020 Note that all events previously listed up to early September have now been cancelled or postponed due to COVID 19.

- July 18** CPSGB Scotland and North of England meeting - via Zoom
- Sept 14** CPSGB London Group meeting
- Sept 28 - Oct 2** CPSGB Convention - cancelled
- Sept 30 - Oct 3** Autumn Stampex, BDC Islington, London - cancelled
- Oct 7 - 10** ANKARA 2020 FEPA Exhibition, Turkey
- Nov 9** CPSGB London Group meeting
- Nov 14** CPSGB Scotland and North of England meeting - Glasgow

2021 Provisional Programme

- Jan 22- 23** York Stamp & Coin Fair, York Racecourse
- Feb 17 - 20** Spring Stampex, BDC Islington, London
- Sep 3 - 5** BNAPEX, Winnipeg
- Sept 20 - 24** CPSGB Convention - Cumberland Hotel, Eastbourne
- Sept 29 - Oct 2** Autumn Stampex, BDC Islington, London

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