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Copies Mailed: 119

Thanks Eppe

After nine years of service to The Elizabethan II Study Group, Eppe Bosch has officially “retired” from the position of Treasurer. Eppe was first announced to our group in the Nov-Dec 1994 *Corgi Times*.

During his nine years, Eppe has had to put up with two editors: John Arn for six years, and myself for the past three years. Even from a distance, Eppe was very quick to help me out.

The funds of the group have been transferred (very smoothly) from Eppe in the USA to the new Treasurer, Ronald Rush, in Canada. ♣

Congratulations John

We have just received word that John Arn's *Cameo Definitive Issues* exhibit (9 frames) received a gold and the grand at the just-completed FRESPEX show. Congratulations John!

Unitrade Supplement

Unitrade has released a black and white 16-page supplement to their 2003 Edition of the *Specialized Catalogue of Canadian Stamps*.



A quick glance at the supplement shows that there are several typos; several issues are missing specific details such as perforation measurements; some of the illustrations appear to be based on pre-issue images or are misplaced; and many of the Scott numbers for 2003 are *incorrect* guesses. The latter is particularly unforgiving.



\$5 Victoria Public Library
See page 75 and 76

\$5 Victoria Public Library — New Printing Discovered

The just-replaced, and soon-to-be-withdrawn \$5 Victoria Public Library stamp, has just been discovered with having a distinct revised printing.

Exclusive details of this new discovery can be found starting on page 75 of this issue of the *Corgi Times*.

This new printing will certainly be sought after but could prove to be very elusive to find.

Additional study of the \$5 Library stamp has shown some other interesting features and the possibility that all 25 stamps on the pane can be individually plated!

Who are We?

We are the Elizabethan II Study Group under the auspices of the British North America Philatelic Society (BNAPS) — *The Society for Canadian Philately*.

Our journal, the *Corgi Times* is published 6 times a year.

With the exception of the 1967–73 *Centennial Definitives*, we study *all* aspects of Canadian philately during the Elizabethan era.

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Please make cheques payable to "The Elizabethan II Study Group" and send to Robin Harris, Editor at the address listed to the right.

Articles with *no* by-line are written or compiled by the Editor. All articles are ©2004 by the author and/or the Elizabethan Study Group.

Canada Post News

Do we like more stamps being issued by Canada? Sure we do! Every new issue is a part of the Elizabethan era — right up our alley. Here is what Canada Post is up to these days...

Tourist Attractions: 2004 style

This year's Tourist Attraction stamps, as we noted in the past issue, are being issued at the domestic first-class rate on various dates throughout the year. This is to highlight each event in a more 'important' manner.

One item of interest is that most of the relatively low quantity of stamps are being made available in and around the event being portrayed. As such, these 'geographically-based' stamps may prove to be harder to find in other parts of the country. In fact, my local post office noted that these stamps are *not* an automatic shipment to them — they must be *special ordered*.



Home Hardware

Canada Post has done it again. They seem to have 'sold' a postage stamp to a business.

On April 19th, a self-adhesive stamp will be issued in a Prestige pack 'honouring' the 40th anniversary of the founding of Home Hardware. This surprise stamp was announced just five weeks prior to its issue date.

Three similar issues — those featuring a prominent Canadian business — come to mind:

Mar 17/94	T. Eaton Company (125th anniversary)
Mar 3/97	Canadian Tire (75th anniversary)
Sep 13/00	Petro Canada (25th anniversary)



Pre-release image

I wonder why *Henry Birks & Sons* are being honoured for their 125th anniversary with only a commemorative envelope (qty of 12,000) on April 1st, while Home Hardware, a company with only a 40 year presence is given their own postage stamp (qty of 8,000,000)?

As an aside, two other stamp issues have featured Macdonald's and Kraft on the pane's selvedge. ♣

Corgi Times

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(Six issues per volume) Vol I through V C\$17/vol, US\$13/vol; Vol VI C\$21, US\$16; Vol VII C\$18.50, US\$14; Vol VIII to XII C\$20/vol, US\$15/vol

Corgi Times is produced with WordPerfect® for Windows. Manuscripts should be submitted to the Editor at the address above. Electronic format is preferred but not required. Scanned illustrations (300dpi, colour, actual size, JPEG or TIFF, black background), if available, should be sent as separate files from text files.

Study Group Business

New members

E-mail changes

Eirwyn Jones

eirwyn.jones@btinternet.com

John P. Wynns

jwynns96@cox.net

Planning Calendar

This is a listing of major exhibitions and bourses with a large content of both Canadian Exhibits and Canadian dealers. Minimum listing criteria: two day event; 1000 page exhibition; 18 dealer bourse with 50% offering Canadian material.

The goal is to list events far in advance to encourage either exhibiting or attendance and preferably both.

2004

May 1–2: **ORAPEX 2004**. Ottawa's 43rd National Stamp Exhibition. Ottawa, ON

Sep 3–5: **BNAPEX 2004**. Marriott's Hunt Valley Inn, Hunt Valley, MD, in conjunction with **BALPEX**, an American Philatelic Society World Series of Philately show. Website: www.balpex.org

Editor's Desk

Scott Numbers

On page 68 of this issue will be found the Canada Post 2003 stamp program, the last time we will include these entries. This is because the last group of Scott numbers have been assigned — to the rate-change definitives of December 19th. A couple of items of interest...

- < in recent years Scott has been assigning separate groups of numbers to Canadian definitives in amongst the commemoratives issued during the same time period rather than grouping similar designs into a singular range of numbers. Perhaps this is because even Canada Post has not been consistent in maintaining a common theme to its definitives in recent years?
- < the Scott numbers for the new coils have been assigned *before* the numbers assigned to the booklet stamps. I cannot recall when this happened before? Typically, the coil stamps are placed at the end of any definitive listings. In fact, the *highest value* in this group of definitives has been assigned the *first* number, and so on down to the *lowest value* in the group. That too is opposite to what we have become used to over the years.
- < notice the number assigned to the \$5 Moose stamp? Scott number 2007. I am very curious why Scott did not assign it 1699? Why 1699? Well, as noted in the sidebar to the right, notice the numbers assigned to the other three high value Wildlife definitives — all of which are still current at the post office. Scott number 1699 has *not* been assigned. It certainly *looks like* it was being reserved for a \$5 value. Well, the \$5 value in this “series” was just released *but* given a Scott number no where near the other three similar designs. Too bad.

Issue	Scott #
\$1 Loon	1697
\$2 Polar Bear	1698
\$5 Moose	2007
\$8 Grizzly Bear	1700

What is Your Opinion?

What do you think? Should Scott have placed the \$5 Moose *within* the previous group of Scott numbers assigned to the other three similar designs? or is the new number of “2007” OK with you? ♣

Canada Post 2003 Stamp Program (partial)

Issue dates are subject to change by Canada Post. Shaded entries are changed/new from the last time we presented this list.

Scott numbers as of March 10, 2004

Issued	Description	Scott#
Dec 19	Rate-change definitives < 49¢ Queen Elizabeth II (vertical self-adhesive in booklet panel of 10) < 49¢ Flag over Edmonton Skyline (horizontal self-adhesive booklet panel of 10) < 49¢ Stylized Maple Leaf (self-adhesive coil of 100) < 80¢ Red Maple Leaf on Stem (self-adhesive coil of 50 and booklet panel of 6) < \$1.40 Green Maple Leaf on Stem (self-adhesive coil of 50 and booklet panel of 6) < \$5 Moose (pane of 4)	Coil Booklet 2012 2011 2008 2009 2013 2010 2014 2007

Canada Post 2004 Stamp Program (partial)

Issue dates are subject to change by Canada Post. Shaded entries are changed/new from the last time we presented this list.

Issued	Description	Scott#
Jan 8	Year of the Monkey < 49¢ single < \$1.40 souvenir sheet < \$1.40 <i>overprinted</i> souvenir sheet < two (\$1.49) postal card (non-denominated) — one for each postage stamp design Also: uncut press sheet and playing cards	
Jan 24	49¢ National Hockey League All-Stars (5th set in a series) < pane of 6 (6 designs: Larry Robinson, Marcel Dionne, Ted Lindsay, Johnny Bower, Brad Park, Milt Schmidt) < booklet pane of 6 (self-adhesive)	
Jan 29	49¢ Tourist Attraction: Quebec Winter Carnival (self-adhesive, booklet of 6)	
Mar 16	49¢ The Right Honourable Ramon John Hnatyshyn	
Mar 26	Norwegian explorer Otto Sverdrup (joint issue with Greenland and Norway) < 49¢ single < \$1.40 souvenir sheet	
Mar 26	49¢ Army Cadets (self-adhesive, booklet of 8)	
Mar 30	49¢ Urban Transit/ Light Rail (4 designs in strip of 4)	
Apr 2	49¢ Tourist Attraction: St. Joseph's Oratory (self-adhesive, booklet of 6)	
Apr 19	49¢ Home Hardware (self-adhesive, booklet of 10)	
May 4	49¢ University of Sherbrooke (booklet of 8)	
May 6	49¢ The Montreal Children's Hospital (self-adhesive, booklet of 8)	
May 8	49¢ University of Prince Edward Island (booklet of 8)	
May 14	John James Audubon's Birds < 49¢ block of 4 designs < 80¢ self-adhesive, booklet of 6	
May 28	49¢ Sir Samuel Cunard and Sir Hugh Allan: Pioneers of Transatlantic Mail Service (self-adhesive pane of 16)	
Jun 1	49¢ Tourist Attraction: Festival International de Jazz de Montréal (self-adhesive, booklet of 6)	
Jun 6	49¢ D-Day	
Jun 18	49¢ Tourist Attraction: Traversée Internationale du Lac St-Jean (self-adhesive, booklet of 6)	
Jun 26	49¢ 400th anniversary of the French Settlement in North America (joint issue with France)	
Jul 28	49¢ Summer Olympics (pair — Soccer and Marathon Race)	

Year of the Monkey

This year's "Year of the Monkey" issue has a couple of more postal items available, compared with previous "Year of the ..." issues.

Yes, we have the customary domestic-rate stamp and international-rate stamp in a souvenir sheet. Of course, there is the press sheet. The overprinted souvenir sheet is 'standard issue' now. Of interest here, is that the UPC barcode on the overprinted souvenir sheet matches that found on the un-overprinted souvenir sheet. This suggests that Canada Post, at least in terms of inventory control, does *not* consider these two items as separate entities. Also available this year is a framed print of the souvenir sheet (the third in a series).

In addition this year, we have two postal cards. The two cards reproduce the images found on each of the postage stamps.



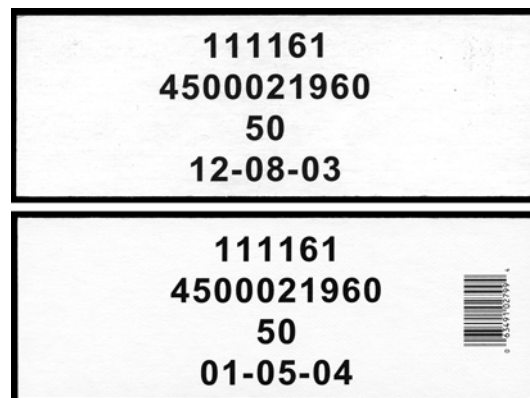
Also new this year is a set of playing cards, featuring the design from the international-rate stamp. ♣

Booklet Packaging Labels

In the last issue we promised to pass along the 'first draft' list of packaging label dates of the current booklets (first issued Dec 19/03):

49¢ Flag Over Edmonton	80¢ Maple Leaf	\$1.40 Maple Leaf
111161 with UPC barcode	111162	111163
11-24-03	11-02-03	11-05-03
12-08-03	11-04-03	12-15-03
12-15-03 ¹	12-15-03	01-02-04
	12-21-03	
	12-29-03	

¹ UPC barcode was printed on a white label that was applied to the plastic wrapper



49¢ Flag over Edmonton
Packaging labels (bottom one includes UPC barcode)

Illustrated at right are samples of the packaging label from the 49¢ Flag over Edmonton booklet. ♣

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Increased Postal Rates vs. *Corgi Times* Mailing

As you are aware, postal rates in Canada increased January 12, 2004. Illustrated below are some selected previous and current rates (those that are most appropriate for mailing the *Corgi Times*). We will make some observations after you have had a chance to peruse the charts (I have included the Registration rate, for those who use this type of service).

™18¢ era

Canada Postal Rates Jan 14/02 – Jan 11/04				
Service and size	30g	50g	100g	Registration
Canada				
Standard letters, cards	48¢	77¢	n/a	\$4.50
Other (oversize)	96¢			
USA				
Standard letters, cards	65¢	90¢	n/a	\$9.00
Other (oversize)	\$1.40			
International				
Standard letters	\$1.25	\$1.75	n/a	\$9.00
Other (oversize)	\$3.00			

™19¢ era

Canada Postal Rates Effective Jan 12/04				
Service and size	30g	50g	100g	Registration
Canada				
Standard letters, cards	49¢	80¢	n/a	\$6.00
Other (oversize)	98¢			
USA				
Standard letters, cards	80¢	98¢	n/a	\$11.00
Other (oversize)	\$1.60			
International				
Standard letters	\$1.40	\$1.96	n/a	\$11.00
Other (oversize)	\$3.20			

™*Corgi Times* rates

Throughout the year, the *Corgi Times* uses two of the above rates. A ‘normal’ issue, with the mailing envelope, weighs in at just under 50 grams. A couple of issues per year require another sheet or two of paper which pushes the weight over the 50g rate into the 100g rate.

Based on this, the chart to the right compares our approximate postage rates for last year to what is expected this year [the totals assume no change in membership; a couple of people on the membership receive more than one copy of the journal so their rate is higher — this is not reflected in the chart].

A typical issue will increase by about \$6 while the ‘larger’ issues increase by about \$9. Thus, over the course of the year we will be paying about \$42 more for postage to mail the *Corgi Times* [(4 issues x \$6) + (2 issues x \$9)].

™New definitives

In anticipation of the new rates that came into effect in January, Canada Post issued new definitives last December. For past rate increases, *four* values were issued: two for Canada’s 0–30g and 30-50g rates and one each for the USA and International 0–30g rate.

Notice that the *new* USA rate is equal to the Canada 30-50g rate. Thus, for this rate increase, only *three* new values were required. In fact, the careful use of *multiples* requires **only** these three new values to make up all *nine* of the new rates listed above: the 49¢ value for four of the rates; the 80¢ Maple Leaf for four of the rates; and the \$1.40 Maple Leaf for one of the rates. For those of us who like to collect all possible usages of a given stamp, we have several rates, both domestic and international, that can use any of the new definitives. ♣

Postage Rates to mail *Corgi Times*

To...	Qty	for 2003		est. for 2004	
		50g	100g	50g	100g
Canada	83	77¢	96¢	80¢	98¢
USA	32	90¢	\$1.40	98¢	\$1.60
International	4	\$1.75	\$3.00	\$1.96	\$3.20
Total (per issue)	119	99.71	136.48	105.60	145.34

Fresh Waters of Canada – 2000

by: Robin Harris

In 2000, Canada Post issued two self-adhesive booklets featuring Fresh Waters of Canada. What made this particular interesting was that each booklet contained five stamps for the current United States and International rates. These were the precursor to the currently issued annual Tourist Attractions booklets that began in 2001.

The Fresh Water stamps do *not* indicate anywhere on the stamp design or on the booklet cover the *location* of each of the images — neither did any of the publicity information for this issue.

A check of the National Archives website however, provides this information. Each stamp includes two images:

95¢ (sc# 1854a–e)

- a Helmcken Falls,
Wells Gray Park,
British Columbia,
Howe Sound,
between
Vancouver and
Squamish, British
Columbia



- b Unnamed Lake
near Baldwinton,
west of Battleford,
Saskatchewan,
Waterlilies,
Saskatchewan



- c Cameron Lake,
Waterton Lakes
National Park,
Alberta, Peyto
Lake, Banff
National Park,
Alberta



- d Red River and
Lake Winnipeg,
Manitoba



- e Niagara Falls,
Ontario, Hattie
Cove, Pukaskwa
National Park,
Ontario



95¢ (sc#1855 a–e)

- a Iceberg,
Newfoundland,
Western Brook
Pond, Gros Morne
National Park,
Newfoundland



- b Grande Riviere de
la Baleine,
Hudson Bay,
Quebec,
Broadback River,
James Bay,
Quebec



- c Saint John River,
New Brunswick



- d DeSable River,
Prince Edward
Island, St. Peters
River, Prince
Edward Island



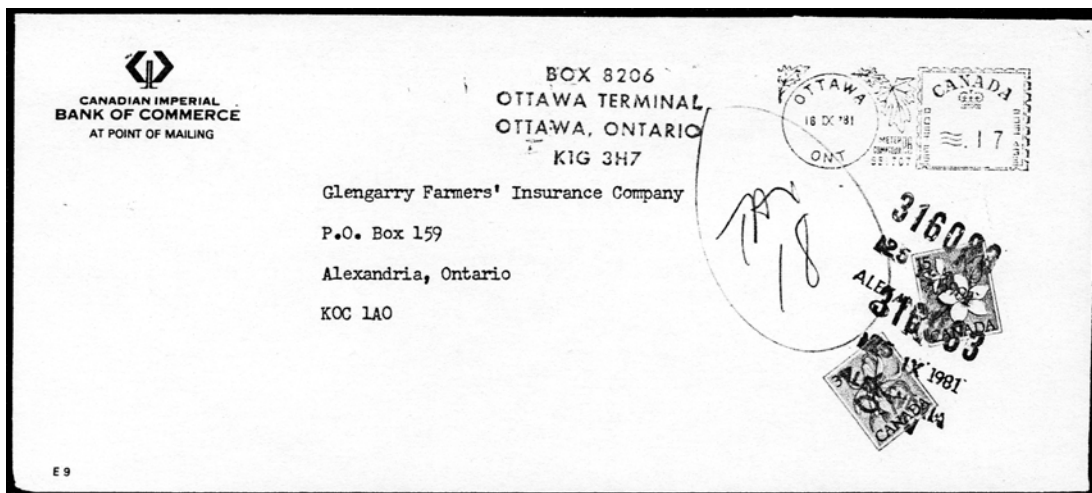
- e Lake O'Law, Cape
Breton Island,
Nova Scotia



Red Dues

by: John Arn

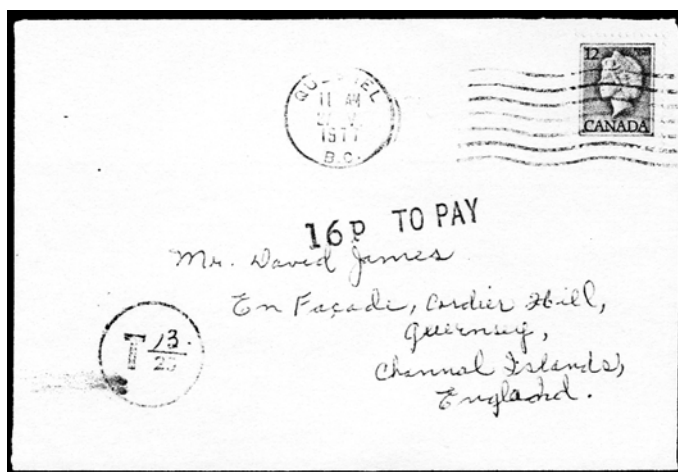
Shown is a sampling of postage due covers. One is a domestic cover; one is a Canadian cover to a foreign destination and two are covers from other countries to Canada.



The first is a domestic cover using Canadian regular definitive issues to pay postage due. It is a metered Ottawa Bank of Commerce corner card to Alexandria, Ontario on 16 Sept. 1981 paying 17¢ and marked tax due of 18¢. Paid with a 15¢ Violet (#787) and a 3¢ Lily (#783) from the Environment series and tied with POCON cancellations - #316083/ 25 IX 1981/ Alexandria / ON. The 18¢ paid twice the deficiency of 9¢ in the second step gram rate (>30 G to <50 G) of 26¢. At this time the use of regular definitives to pay postage due was not unusual.

Next is a cover from Quesnel, B.C. 27 May 1977 to Gumsey, Channel Islands, England franked with a 12¢ Queen Elizabeth II #713 from the Environment series. The Canadian Postal service correctly rated the cover "T 13/25" for underpayment of the first step air mail rate of 25¢. The British postal service indicated "16 P (Pence) TO PAY" based on the then current exchange rate.

continued on next page...



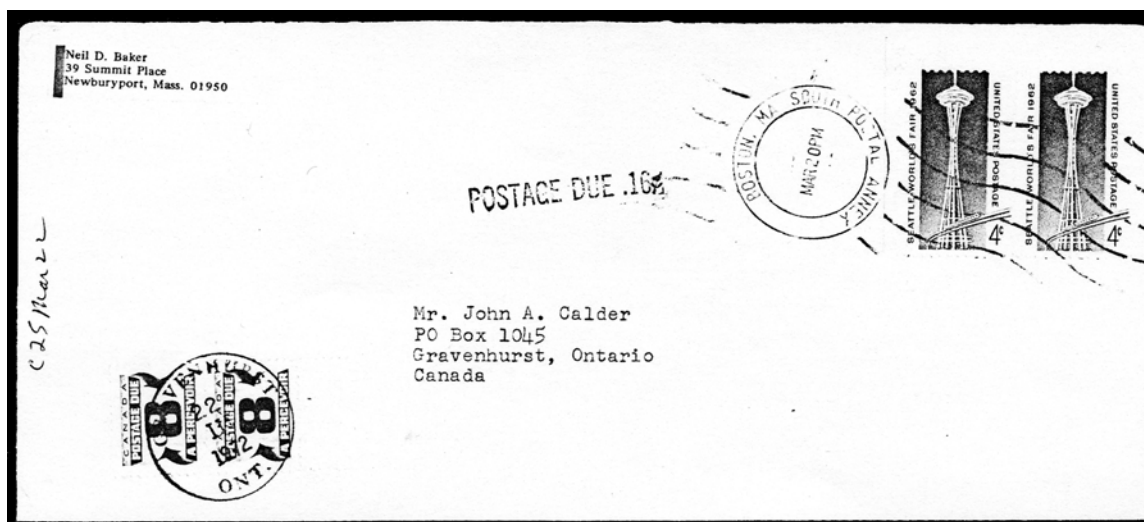
Elizabethan II Market Place

Wanted: April 1984 issue of *Gibbons Stamp Monthly*.
Lt. Col. Dr. K.J. Radley, 23 Heritage Pt. W, Lethbridge, AB T1K 7B7

Classified listings in the Market Place are \$1.00 for 25 words. Additional words are 5¢ each. Camera ready display ads (preferably 300dpi, black and white TIFF scans) pertaining primarily to the Elizabethan era will be accepted at the following rates: 1/8 page \$5.00; 1/4 page \$8.00; 1/2 page \$15.00 and a full page at \$30.00. 25% discount for four consecutive insertions of the same ad. Full payment must accompany ad. Payment in Canadian funds to: Elizabethan II Study Group. Mail to Editor: Robin Harris, 770 Inkster Blvd, Winnipeg, MB R2W 0L5, Canada. ♣

continued from previous page...

Next are two covers entering Canada each of which required the payment of postage due. In each instance the amount of postage due collected was incorrectly calculated.



A. Surface from Boston, Mass. to Gravenhurst, Ontario on Mar. 20, 1972 with 8¢ U.S. postage. Marked by the U.S. Postal Service "POSTAGE DUE .16¢" as provided by the country of origin. Correctly executed by Canadian Postal Service with two 8¢ red dues neatly tied to the cover at Gravenhurst 22 III 1972. The postage dues are from the second series - J34i (Not hibrite). The third series had an 8¢ but it was not released until Jan. 1974.

Note: The U.S. postal service incorrectly rated the cover. The second ounce rate was 6¢ and tax should have been 12¢.

B. From Heidelberg, Germany - metered envelope with Circular Date Stamp Cancel HEIDELBERG 1 13 5 80 6900 DEUTSCHE/BUNDESPOST / 060 --- The German Postal service rated tax due using a large T 20/90 in a rectangular box.

The numerator of the fraction is the amount of the under payment. The denominator of the fraction is that country's (Germany) charge on an international surface letter of the first weight step.

Canadian postal regulations provide the following for the calculation of tax on International incoming mail.

"Since Jan. 1, 1976 the tax to be collected is calculated by multiplying the amount above the fraction line by 2 and then multiplying the fraction by the International air letter rate of the first weight step from Canada." (in effect at that date). At that time the first step air letter rate was 35¢.

In this case the 20 is multiplied by 2 = $40/90 \times 35¢ = 15.6$ or 16¢. Undoubtedly this calculation was not made. Evidently the postal person merely looked at the numerator of the fraction and attached two 10¢ red dues – 20¢ resulting in an over charge of 4¢.

It is not unusual for the prescribed formula to be ignored. The stamps were nicely tied at Hamilton, Ont. on 19 VI 80. They are from the fourth series – perforated $12 \frac{1}{2} \times 12$. ♣



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It seems like Yesterday — 50 Years ago

Here is a look back at 50 years ago in Canadian philately...

1954 was a mildly busy stamp year, for its time. Four commemoratives were issued in 1954 with a total face value of 18¢! (1953 saw four commemoratives with a face value of only 13¢). Also issued in 1954 was a new set of low-value definitives to replace the short-lived *Karsh* definitives — the start of the *Wilding* definitives.

The 1954 Commemoratives



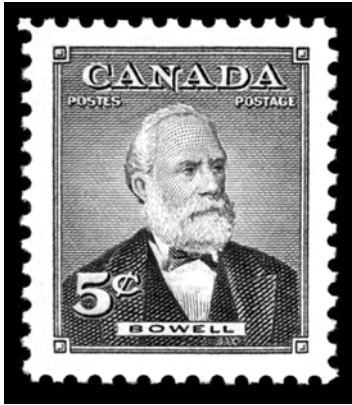
4¢ Walrus
Apr 1/54



5¢ Beaver
Apr 1/54



4¢ Sir John Thompson
Nov 1/54
Prime Minister 1892–1894
(died in office)



5¢ Sir Mackenzie Bowell
Nov 1/54
Prime Minister 1894–1896

Each stamp was engraved in a single colour, printed by the Canadian Bank Note Company in sheets of 400 subjects and released to post offices in panes of 100 stamps. All had two different plate numbers. Each plate produced about 25 million stamps for a total of about 50 million stamps for each value. That is a far cry from today’s average of less than 3 million stamps per issue.

Each stamp has a ‘hidden’ date of 1954. The two wildlife stamps also have an ‘H’ inscribed in the design to indicate the stamp designer: Emanuel Hahn.

The 5¢ Beaver is noteworthy in that it was also in a booklet pane — the first Canadian *commemorative* to be issued in this format. Two binding styles on this booklet exist: stapled and stitched.

Definitions:

Local: letters mailed and delivered from the same post office and includes the rural routes served by the same post office.

Forward: non-local letters.

This culling by destination was in affect until November 1, 1968 when the first-class letter rate became standard to anywhere in Canada.

1954 at a glance:

Wildlife (2) , Prime Ministers (2) ,
*V V V *

)))3)))3)))3)))3)))3)))3)))3)))3)))3)))3)))3)))3)))3)))3)))
Jan Feb Mar Apr May Jun Jul Aug Sep Oct Nov Dec

V indicates a definitive issue

Postage rates in Canada rose on April 1, 1954. The local letter rate for 0–1 oz. rose from 3¢ to 4¢ (met by the Walrus and Thompson issues), while the forward first class letter rate for 0–1oz. rose from 4¢ to 5¢ (met by the Beaver and Bowell issues). ♣

\$5 Victoria Public Library

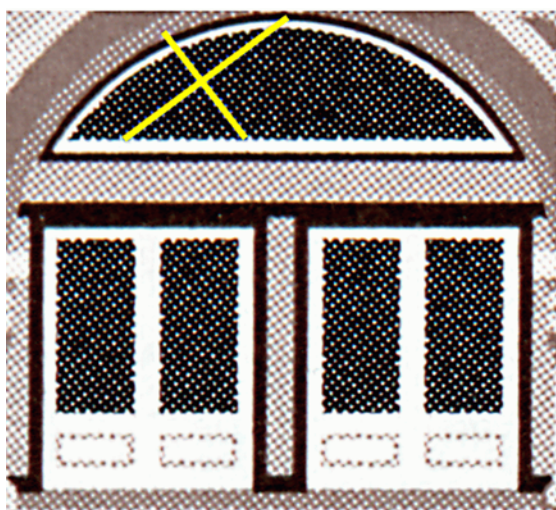
By: Robin Harris

In early February 2004 I received an e-mail from Tom Moffat of Dufferin, New Brunswick who suggested that he had a second printing of the \$5 Victoria Public Library stamp (Scott #1378). He indicated that the stamps he was using for comparison purposes had different colour tones of windows and brick work. Could this indicate a second printing? None was ever announced by Canada Post,

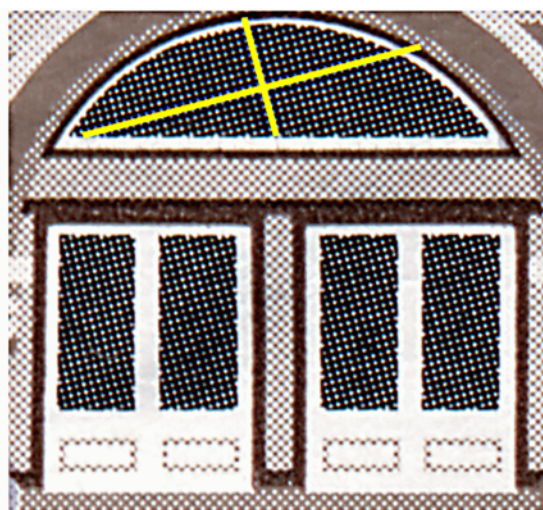
This is the kind of e-mail I love to receive. Did a *second printing* of this stamp occur, and if so, how could one identify it? The search was on.

We have a sample of about 100 *used* copies of the \$5 Library stamp. After studying these specimens, we can safely say that **there is** a distinctly different, second printing of the \$5 Library definitive. However, we **cannot** use the colour tones as a deciding factor in all instances [darker and lighter tones were found across both printings].

I used a 10x magnifying glass to study these stamps. I found that the *screen angle* of the lithographic colours (specifically, the black colour) proves that **there are two different printings** of this value, as illustrated.



Left: First printing



Right: Second printing

The yellow 'X' (ok, you won't see yellow when printed in black and white — visit the ESG website for a colour illustration) in both details shows that the screen angle of the black lithographic colour is clearly different on both stamps. [The light beige colour dots are also at different angles on the two printings but not nearly as pronounced as the black colour]. The earlier printing of the \$5 Library stamp has a 'sharper/steeper' screen angle (about 38 degrees from horizontal) whereas the reprint (or second printing) has a much flatter screen angle (about 13 degrees from horizontal).

This stamp was first issued February 29, 1996. For the second printing, I have dated, used copies from as early as December 1998 — it has been around for quite sometime!

It turns out that the \$5 Library stamp is to be withdrawn from sale at the National Philatelic Centre in Antigonish this coming July (July 12, 2004 to be exact). What are the chances that Antigonish has the second printing *and* that it is philatelic? Recent orders that have been placed with Canada Post via Antigonish, since the new printing was discovered, show that their existing stock is still the first printing.

I have visited several post offices here in Winnipeg and have found limited copies of *either* the first or second printing, but nothing available in quantity. Only field stock of the second printing is known at this point.

Starting on the next page, is a follow-up article that Leopold Beaudet has prepared, based on the above news. ♣

Notes on the Two \$5.00 Victoria Public Library Printings

By: *Leopold Beaudet*

The \$5.00 Architecture definitive issued on 29 February 1996 was printed by Canadian Bank Note Co. (CBN) using four-colour lithography (green, dark brown, light brown, and black) and one-colour engraving (dark green). Each colour is printed from a separate plate.

The traditional way of producing litho plates is as follows. The stamp design is photographed through appropriate colour filters to produce an image for each colour. To achieve the variation in colour shades or tones, the separated colours are photographed through a fine mesh screen called a halftone screen. The result is a photograph of each stamp colour consisting of a regularly-spaced grid of dots, usually around 200 to 250 per linear inch. The size of the dots determines the colour shade. Large dots produce a dark shade, small dots a light shade. The colours are printed on top of each other on the stamp. To ensure that the dots of each colour don't overlap uniformly, the mesh of the halftone screen is rotated before each colour is photographed through it. A halftone screen may not be used if a colour appears as a solid mass in the stamp design and no shade variations are required.

Using a step-and-repeat camera, the colour-separated image is replicated the required number of times to produce all the images on the plate. This replication is typically done in stages. For example, the stamp image may be replicated to produce a row, the row replicated to produce a pane, and the pane replicated to produce a sheet.

The colours from each plate are printed on top of one other. The overlap of differently coloured large and small dots produces the spectrum of colours characteristic of litho stamps. The grid of dots produced by the half-tone screen and the orientation of the dots for each colour can usually be seen through a 10 to 30 power magnifying glass.

In the mid 1990s, CBN adopted computer-based technology to produce litho plates. Instead of photography, CBN used computers to separate the design into its constituent colours and a computer-generated "stochastic screen" to reproduce the colour shading. In its extensive exhibit at CAPEX 96 in Toronto, CBN described a stochastic screen as a very fine, randomly distributed array of dots. The dots are only 15 microns (millionths of a metre) in size, much finer than the 200 to 250 dots per linear inch achieved with photography. Because the dots are randomly distributed, they no longer form a regularly spaced grid. The move to computer imaging has improved the detail in the designs. It also appears to have drastically diminished the occurrence of plate flaws.

CBN used computer imaging technology to produce the litho plates of most commemorates from the mid 1990s onwards. The series of Historic Land Vehicles souvenir sheets is particularly interesting in this regard. As CBN pointed out in its CAPEX 96 exhibit, the litho plates for the first souvenir sheet, issued in 1993, were produced using traditional photographic techniques, but the final souvenir sheets issued in 1996 were produced using computer imaging.

CBN used traditional methods to produce the litho plates for the initial printing of the \$5.00 Victoria Library in 1996. The grid of dots for the green, black, and light brown colours is easily discernable under a good magnifier, and Robin Harris uses this characteristic in the accompanying article in this issue (page 75) to identify the two distinct printings of this stamp. The dark brown colour appears very sparingly in the design (the trellis-work to the left and right of the main doorway and the thin frame around the doors and windows). It appears to be solid everywhere in the design so it was probably not photographed through a halftone screen.

In several areas of the design, the light brown colour is solid rather than dotted. This is true of the lettering "VICTORIA PUBLIC LIBRARY", the large archway above the main doors, and the horizontal areas of the building between the brickwork. These areas could have been produced by dots so big that they merged into each other to form a solid mass of colour. But they weren't. Using the lettering as an example, the pattern of light brown dots around the lettering varies from one stamp to the next in the pane. This would be impossible if both the light brown lettering and the light brown dots around it were photographed as one image through the halftone screen and the image then multiplied to form the plate.



My first thought was that CBN used two litho plates for the light brown, one for the solid areas of colour and a second for the light areas. This theory fell apart when I compared four lower left corner pieces from different panes, all from the first printing. The relative position of the lettering and the dots was identical on stamps from the same position on all four pieces.

What I now believe happened is that CBN produced separate photographic stamp images of the dotted and solid light brown colour. The printer replicated the dotted light brown image 25 times to form an image of a full pane, and repeated the process with the solid light brown image. CBN then superimposed the dotted and solid images, and replicated the result to form the light brown plate. If this theory is correct, every stamp in the pane can be plated using the position of the light brown dots relative to the lettering.

On the original printing, the grid of dots formed by the half-tone screen runs in exactly the same direction for all colours. This is contrary to normal practice. Now, the two most prominent colours, the green and the light brown, do not overlap, so perhaps there was no need to rotate the half-tone screen for these two colours. However, the black litho colour definitely overlaps the light brown, so the screen should have been rotated between the photography of the black and light brown colours.

As Robin Harris illustrates in his article, CBN did in fact rotate the halftone screen on the second printing. The green and light brown dots flow in the same direction, but the black dots flow in a different direction. Although best seen with a high-powered magnifying glass, there are also notable differences in the light brown colour between the two printings. One of the most startling is the lettering. Under 30 times magnification, the lettering is quite misshapen on the original printing, but extremely well formed on the second. Both printings do have in common the fact that the relative position of the light brown dots and solid lettering varies from stamp to stamp.

An interesting feature of the second printing is that in some areas of the design the light brown “dots” are actually almost perfect squares. I doubt that the traditional halftone screen could produce the well-formed lettering or the almost perfect squares. CBN obviously did not use a stochastic screen because the traditional grid of dots is visible. Nevertheless, I suspect CBN used a computer-generated screen rather than photographic methods to produce the light brown plate because of the very sharp features. ♣

ORAPEX Envelopes – Follow-up

By: Doug Lingard

Dear Robin.

[February 15, 2004]

Just read Joseph's interesting article on the RA Stamp Club Envelopes [Jan-Feb 2004 *Corgi Times*, page 55] and thought I should make the following correction to it.

In his introduction he mentions “Two different procedures formerly existed for obtaining these envelopes. In one case, the printer manufactured the envelopes and printed the stamps and private impressions on the envelopes. In the other case, the customer supplied the envelopes and the printer printed the stamps and the private impression on the envelopes. The current procedure at the moment is the first.”

Actually, since 1999 the RA Stamp Club has been using a third procedure for obtaining its ORAPEX envelopes that is not covered in Joseph's article. Since 1999 the club has been purchasing the Canada Post postal stationery envelopes from Canada Post and taking them to a local print shop to have the private impression (cachets) applied. Up until 1998 Canada Post supplied the cachet show covers to the club but discontinued that practice in 1999, as some of the special event covers that Canada Post provided to the RA Stamp Club and other philatelic organizations, were being used for postal purposes. It is my understanding that as of 1999, all philatelic organizations (other than perhaps the Royal for that year), that wished to continue using these postal stationery items for fund raising purposes, had to purchase their own envelopes from Canada Post and make their own arrangements to have the cachets printed.

When I took over this responsibility for the RA Stamp Club in 1999, I contacted Canada Post to determine who had been printing the cachets. They informed me it was the Ottawa firm

Lowe-Martin Printing. I obtained a quote from Lowe-Martin to have the Colin Bayley cachet printed (believe they were also printing the regular stationery envelopes for Canada Post at that time) but their quote was significantly higher than the quote we received from a local print shop. This same local print shop has printed all of our show cachets from 1999 to 2003.

Also, I should add it is my understanding that future editions of *Webb's Postal Stationery Catalogue Of Canada and Newfoundland* will not be listing any of the more recent special event covers, since they have not been produced by Canada Post, and are thus not a special Canada Post stationery item. In fact, the 1999 ORAPEX show cover was accidentally included in the Webb catalogue, since at the time of publication, it appears that the authors of the Webb catalogue were not aware that the 1999 ORAPEX show cover was a non-Canada Post product.

Since I have had the responsibility for preparing the ORAPEX show covers since 1999, I thought it would be best to document the process we follow at the RA Stamp Club, so that there will be no misunderstandings in the future. Also, I should mention that the RA Stamp Club still has a few of the covers from some of the prior years (there are definitely no 1991 covers left) available @ \$2.00 each plus postage. If any member is looking for these, please contact me at lingardd@istar.ca and provide me with the year and size (#8 or #10) of the cover you are seeking, and indicate if you want a cancelled or unused cover.

Warmest regards,
Doug Lingard ♣

Millennium Keepsake — a Sixth Variety

by: Rick Penko

On November 26, 1999 Canada Post launched www.epost.ca in partnership with Cebra. This was Canada Post's first venture into an electronic mailing system.

The event took place in Toronto with approximately 150 dignitaries and guests in attendance. The highlight of the launch featured, via satellite, Princess Elettra, the daughter of Guglielmo Marconi. She conveyed her best wishes and sent the inaugural epost message as a symbolic ribbon cutting.

As a memento to the occasion each guest received a Millennium keepsake tin. Included in the tin was the illustrated sheet insert commemorating the launch of Epost. ♣

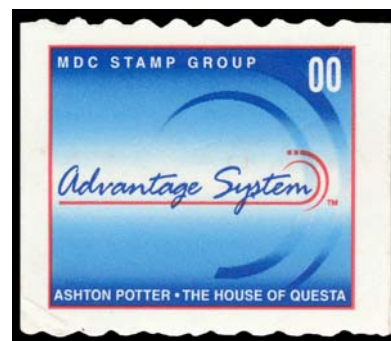


Self-Adhesive Test Coil

by: Rick Penko

Illustrated here is a test coil from Ashton Potter to highlight their self-adhesive product line for philatelic needs. The central portion of the design is blue. There is a red outline around the design. The line and arcs under and around the right side of the 'Advantage System' text is red.

If you have seen this, or any other examples of self-adhesive 'test coils', we would like to hear from you so that we can pass it along to the membership. ♣



Cameo Cello paqs — Part 2

In the last *Corgi Times* (Jan-Feb 2004, page 54) we illustrated two Cameo-era cello-paqs that used the *Centennial*-era shrink wrapping.

It turns out that these were listed, as early as the May-June 1969 issue of *The Canadian Philatelist* (page 132–134). The listing at the right is taken from this issue.

The A2 refers to the inscription found at the top of the cello-paq wrapper, the D is then central inscription/image (in this case, D is the Centennial-era style), and the B2 refers to the inscription type found at the bottom of the wrapper.

The noted article is written by C.F. Black, and lists some 25 different cello paqs in the 1954–1967 era.

1962 Regular Issue	
6. 2c.	402a Inscript. green—A2, C mult., B2.
7. 4c.	404b1 Inscript. red—A2, C mult., B2.
8.	404b2 Inscript. red—A2, D mult., B2.
9. 5c.	405b1 Inscript. red—A2, C mult., B2.
10.	405b2 Inscript. blue—A2, C mult., B2.
11.	405b3 Inscript. blue—A2, D mult., B2.
12.	405ta Tagged stamps. Inscript. blue—A2, C mult., B2.

Partial listing of Canadian Cello-Paqs, from *The Canadian Philatelist* (May-Jun/69, pg 133).

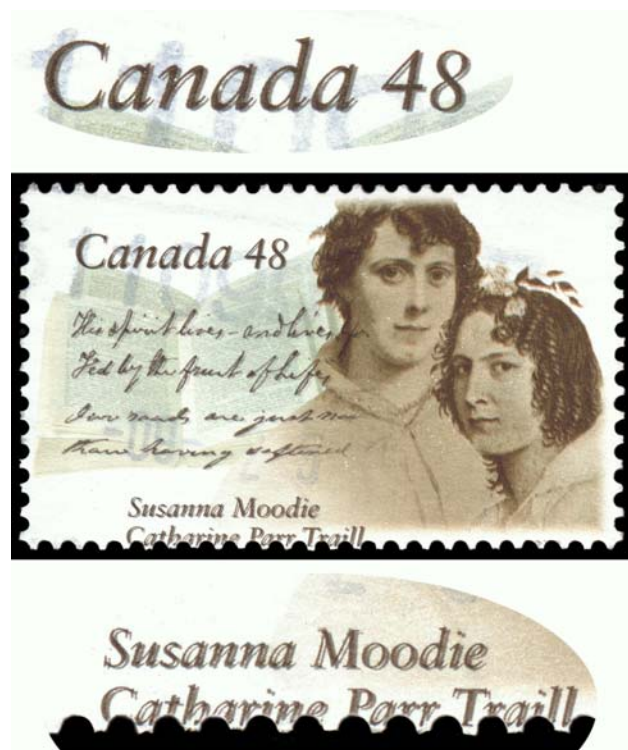
Varieties

All courtesy: *Rick Penko*

™National Library/Author's Double Print

Here is a used copy showing a very good example of a double print. The stamp in question is from the National Library/Author's block of four issued September 8, 2004 (Scott #1997)

The 'Canada 48' at the top and the 'Susanna Moodie/Catharine Parr Traill' inscriptions at the bottom are clearly doubled. The script writing is also doubled, but requires a better look to see the variety due to being printed on the coloured background.



™Sackville Colour Shift

Here is a lovely colour shift, again on a used stamp.

This is found on the 45¢ HMCS *Sackville* stamp, issued in a se-tenant pair on November 4, 1998 to honour the 75th anniversary of the Canadian Naval Reserve .

The deep blue-green colour used for the 'CANADA 45', the hidden copyright date, and the ocean has shifted nearly 2mm to the left in relation to the rest of the design.

Very nice colour shift.



Normal (top); Colour shift (bottom)

™Dust Storm

And a third variety...

Here is the 5¢ John McCrae issue of October 15, 1968 (Scott #487) showing a 'dust storm', consisting of lots of brown 'dust' throughout the green border of the stamp design.



"Dust Storm": Normal (left); Variety (right)

Quantities Issued

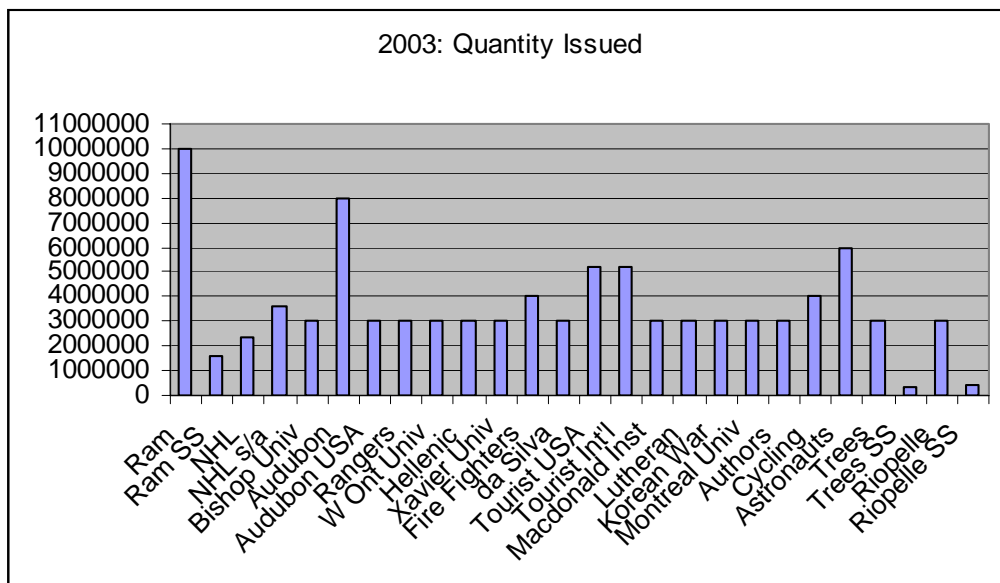
Is it just me, or does it seem like we have *more* stamp issues but *fewer* stamps of each commemorative being issued? I produced a couple of graphs to see if this trend was indeed occurring. The quantities were taken from those announced in Canada Post's *details* quarterly magazines.

2003 Issues

The graph to the right does *not* include the QEII Coronation and Christmas stamps. These two "special" issues distort the numbers significantly. The Coronation issue had 20,000,000 (more than twice the next highest issue) and the domestic rate Christmas stamp had a printing of 48,000,000.

Except for the Year of the Ram, the next four highest quantities are for issues having multiple stamps: Audubon, Tourist, and Astronauts.

A quick look shows that most of the issues had 3,000,000 stamps printed, including all of the "University" stamps.



2004 Issues

Although only *half* of this year's issue have been announced, there appears to be a trend: *more* issue dates but *less* of each issue being printed.

The biggest anomaly is the Home Hardware with some 8,000,000 stamps being issued, compared to a typical 1,500,000 for *many* of the other issues.

A quick glance shows that many of the issues have only 1,500,000 stamps being printed — all of the Tourism and University issues fall into this category. This is *half* of last year's numbers. ♣

