

FIRST IMPRESSIONS

Newsletter of the BNAPS

First Day Cover Study Group

Issue No. 26 January-March, 2016

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Editor's Notes

Our chairman and Treasurer, Bob Vogel, had not yet been overwhelmed by members rushing to pay their \$10 Can. dues for 2016. If you would like to lead a stampede, a cheque made out to Bob or cash can be mailed to him at 68 Victoria Street, Barrie, ON, L4N 2H9.

We are fortunate in this issue to have extracts from presentations made by two of our members at recent meetings and exhibits. Some highlights of Andrew Chung's collection of errors, freaks, and oddities from Canada Post FDCs are shown along with selected pages from Brainard Fitzgerald's exhibit of FDCs for the 1937 King George VI coronation issue. Gary Dickinson reviews the cachet production of Herman Jacobi during his decade of activity as well as some early covers from the Scotia Stamp Studio.

Andrew Chung reports that an updated edition of the specialized catalogue of Canada Post official FDCs is being readied for publication and should be available for purchase from Unitrade in the near future. (See page 17)

We were saddened to learn recently of the passing of FDC Study Group member Terry Mainprize on March 17, 2015. He shared with us on our website his marvelous collection of earlier FDCs created by such luminaries as Walter Crosby, Ralph Dyer, and Michael Sanders, among others, and it is one of the more frequently-visited albums.

Submitting Articles to First Impressions

Articles may be submitted in writing or MS Word, and scans should be in JPEG format at 300 dpi. E-mail submissions should be sent to Gary Dickinson at gandbdickinson@shaw.ca or mailed to Gary at 648 San Michelle Road, Kelowna, B.C., Canada, V1W 2J1.

THE JACOBI JEWELBOX

by Gary Dickinson

Herman Jacobi of Hamilton, Ontario had a brief but productive career as a FDC maker. His first cachet appeared in February, 1948 and his last in June, 1957. Between those dates he produced covers for 36 stamp issues. The majority of them had two or more variations and at least 115 different Jacobi cachets have been documented. With up to sixteen different cachets for a single stamp issue, collectors continue to search for new ones.

During his decade of cachet making, Jacobi produced new cachets for every regular stamp issue except for coils and the unrevised issue of 1950. He also did not create cachets for a handful of stamps of medium and high denominations for the era including #294, 320, 321, 351, 362, and 363.

Usually Jacobi's cachet variations consisted of different colour combinations, and the table below shows the number of different cachets he produced for each Scott numbered stamp.

Variations	Scott Numbers
16	284-288
12	282
7	283
6	277
5	303-304, 315, 335-336
4	276, 301, 311-314,
3	316, 325-329, 354
2	317, 318-319, 323, 324,330, 337-342, 343, 349-350, 355, 357-358, 359, 364, 365-368, 369, 370
1 only	302, 322, 352, 353, 356, 360, 361

In most cases the cachets with the greatest number of variations were in the

early part of Jacobi's FDC production while the later years tended to see only one cachet or a single variation. He usually produced a different cachet for each stamp in a set of two or more when most makers would use a single design and colour for all of the stamps in a set.

Following are some representative examples of Jacobi's cachets. They are presented here in chronological order with brief commentaries.

The first Jacobi cachets were for the Royal Wedding commemorative of February 16, 1948. (Figure 1) The four known variations of this cachet were all based on a common design featuring hearts, a crown, and a lion and unicorn. Similarly, his second cachet for the Newfoundland entering the Canadian confederation had a dozen variations based on a common design which was printed in four colours (black, green, blue, and red) but then was hand-coloured to produce unique varieties. One of the more complex versions is shown in Figure 2.

Jacobi at his most inventive prepared at least sixteen different versions of his cachet for the 1949 King George VI definitive issue. (1) The basic artwork is illustrated in Figure 3 and has a profile portrait of the king within a circular frame, and three lines of text at the bottom.

Successive versions included circular frame lines around the portrait or parallel vertical lines flanking it. Additional elements had the portrait enclosed in a complex setting consisting of a lion and unicorn, triple circular frame lines around the portrait, a pair of flags, and a helmet.

The more complex versions of the King George VI revised issue set were uniquely hand-coloured, and one such FDC is illustrated in Figure 4.



Figure 1. The first Jacobi cachet, for #276

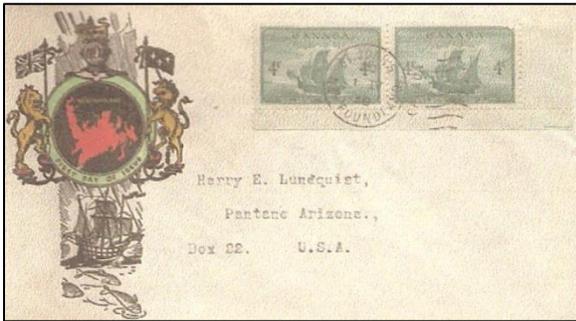


Figure 2. One of a dozen variations for #282



Figure 3 Basic version of cachet for #284-288.

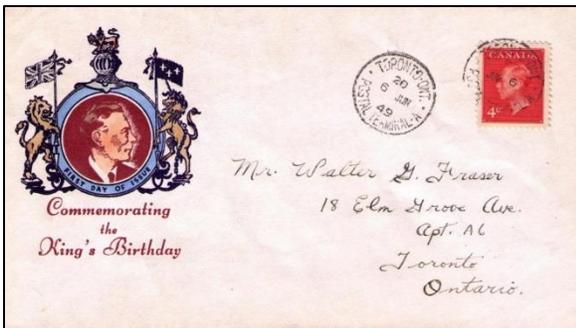


Figure 4 Hand-coloured version of #284-288 cachet.

The only higher value stamp for which Jacobi prepared a FDC cachet (Figure 5) was the \$1.00 fishing issue of 1951 (Scott

#302). It was also the first of his cachets to be produced in only one version, possibly because of an anticipated low volume.



Figure 5. Cachet for #302

The five figures that follow (Figures 6 through 10) illustrate the type of variations that Jacobi made frequently for his cachets for individual stamp issues. The stamp in this case (Scott #315) marked the Royal Visit to Canada of the Duke and Duchess of Windsor in October-November, 1951. The basic design of the cachet featured a head and shoulder portrait, the route to be travelled, and a banner reading "Welcome to Canada."

In the first four cachets, each portrait has a differently coloured background while the banner appears in three different colours and the line marking the route was also in three different colours. The fifth cachet was hand-coloured, but it is not known by whom.

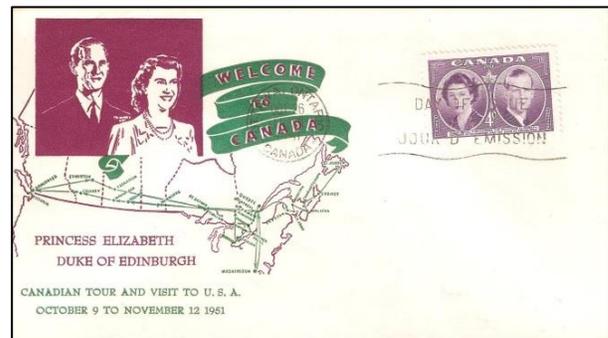


Figure 6. Type 1 cachet for #315

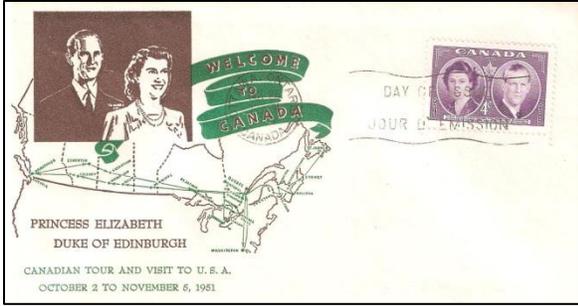


Figure 7. Type 2 cachet for #315



Figure 8. Type 3 cachet for #315

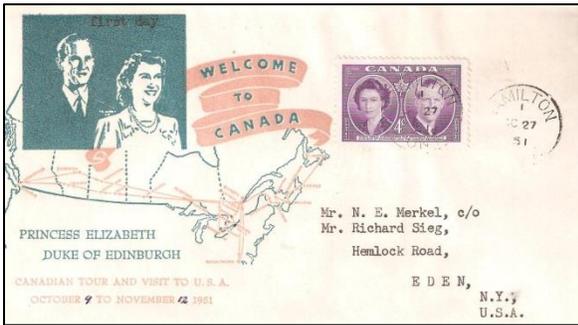


Figure 9. Type 4 cachet for #315

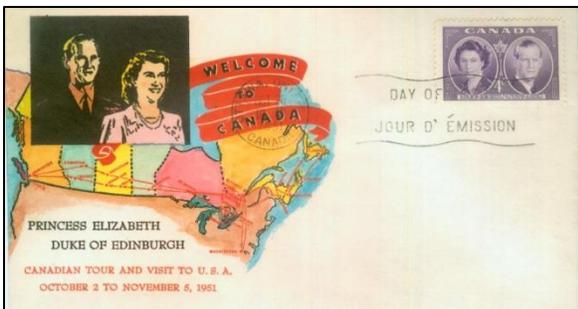


Figure 10. Type 5 cachet for #315

The Jacobi cachets for the Karsh and Wilding set FDCs of 1953 and 1954 both featured the same portrait of the new queen and the minimal text (“First Day of Issue”) was the same.

For the Karsh set (Scott #325 to 329, Figure 11), the portrait of Queen Elizabeth II was surrounded by maple leaves while for the Wilding set (Scott #337 to 342, Figure 12) it was in a white oval surrounded by a coloured frame. Again there were colour variations of both the portrait and the surround.

The cachet that Jacobi used for the Wilding set was also used for two stamps in the Wildlife series (Scott #335-336) which were issued on the same day as the 5 cent denomination of the Wilding stamps. Jacobi also made other, different cachets for the Wildlife stamps. The cachet in Figure 11 was also used for the Coronation issue (Scott #330 with additional text reading “Coronation 1953/ First Day of Issue.”



Figure 11. Cachet for #325 -329



Figure 12. Cachet for #337-342

The three cachets following were for two different stamps but shared the same basic artwork consisting of a gannet in flight and an airplane above it. The two stamps included the 15 cent gannet issue of April 1, 1954 which was intended for airmail use, and the International Civil Aviation Organization commemorative of June 1, 1955. Both stamps dealt with the theme of flight, so there was a rationale for using common design elements.

The airmail issue was printed in two different shades of blue, one of which is shown in Figure 13. There were only two lines of text.

Two different colour combinations were used for the ICAO cachet as shown in Figures 14 and 15. There were six lines of text marking the ICAO's tenth anniversary.

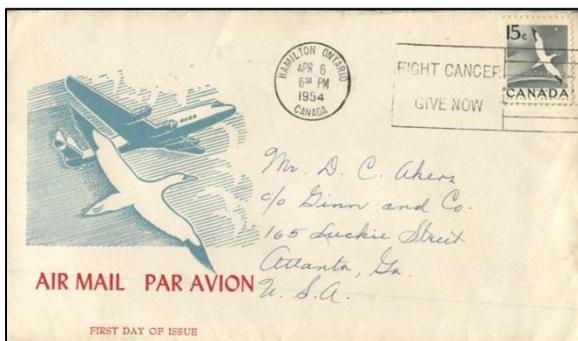


Figure 13. Airmail cachet for #343

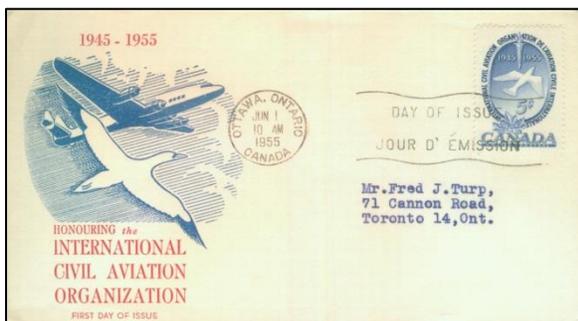


Figure 14. Blue and red cachet for #354

One of the relatively few Jacobi cachets without any variations was his design for the stamp (Scott #356) marking

the Boy Scouts World Jamboree held at Niagara on the Lake, ON in August, 1955. Shown in Figure 16, this cachet was printed in black and red, with a banner noting the occasion.

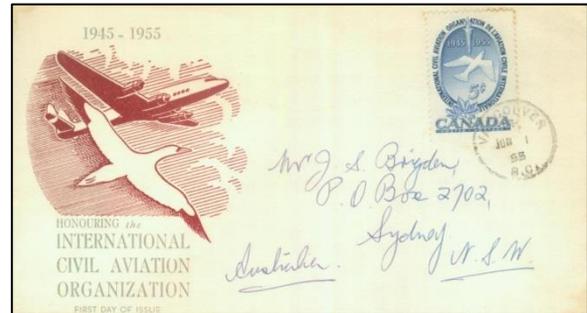


Figure 15. Maroon and silver cachet for #354

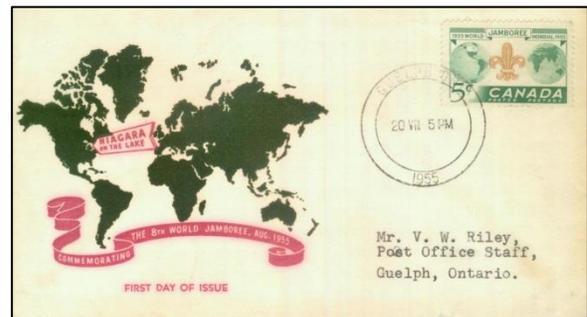


Figure 16. Cachet for #356

The final Jacobi FDC cachet was produced for the David Thompson commemorative issued on June 5, 1957. It appeared in two colour variations as shown in Figures 17 and 18. The text highlighted a few of Thompson's achievements while the scroll termed him "The Greatest Land Geographer who ever lived." The scroll element in the cachet design had been carried forward from his cachets for previous issues in 1951, 1952, 1954, and 1955 that honoured eight prime ministers.

Although his production of FDC cachets ended in 1957, his career as a philatelist continued. His 1969 response to an inquiry from Robert Markovits (2), shown in Figure 19, indicated that he had closed the door quite firmly on that aspect of

ROBERT L. MARKOVITS

Philatelic Agent

POST OFFICE BOX 744
NEW YORK, N. Y. 10005
PHONE: 212 533-4122
February 10, 1969

Mr. Herman Jacobi
Americana Apartments
99 Herkimer Street
Hamilton, Ont. CANADA

Dear Mr. Jacobi:

I read Mr. Bentham's column in Westerns with great interest and would especially like to obtain a copy of your work.

I am particularly interested in the first day cover material, as specialized as possible, for this issue. Do you have any information available as to whom made up cachets, how many were services, what cities were servaced, etc. I am studying all Canadian FDC.

Cordially,

Robert
MARKOVITS

Sory, I cannot help, as my work is on Silver Jubilee plate blocks only!
RM.

P.S. There were 23 first day cities for this issue. (very few cachets FD) (Scotts 211-216)
RM.

Figure 17. Correspondence between Robert Markovits and Herman Jacobi

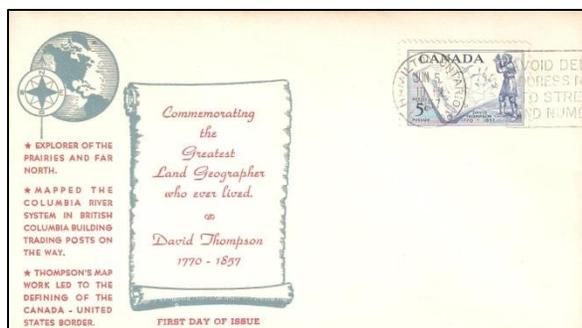


Figure 18. Grey and red cachet for #370

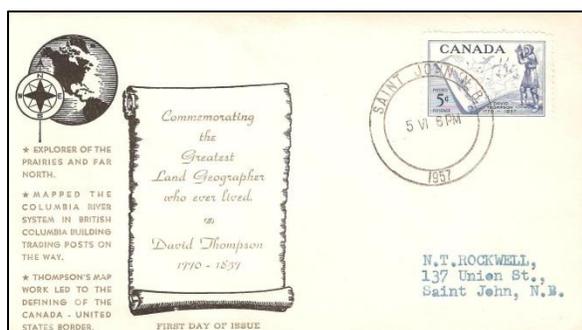


Figure 19. Black and gold cachet for #370

his philatelic career. The business corner card on his philatelic correspondence envelopes (Figure 20) did include the globe and compass artwork from his final FDC cachets.

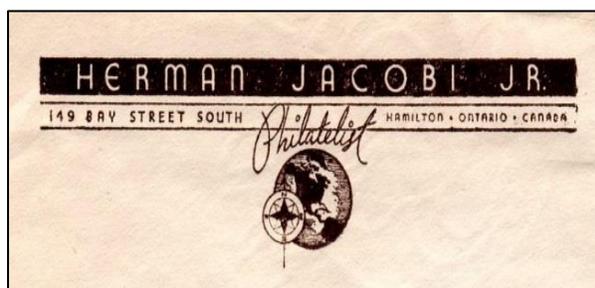


Figure 20. Business corner card in 1957

Jacobi subsequently focused his attention on collecting and documenting the plate blocks of the King George V Silver

Jubilee as his later note to Markovits indicated. At one point in the early 1970s, philatelic writer Lorne Bentham referred to him as having been “this country’s leading specialist in Canada’s 1935 Silver Jubilee series, particularly plate blocks” for “well over 30 years.” (3)

Jacobi’s credentials as an authority on the Silver Jubilee issue were established in part through a 1939 article in *Western Stamp Digest* and a series of five articles in *Popular Stamps* that were published between 1950 and 1956. He also compiled, or assisted in the compilation of, several catalogues detailing Canada plate blocks, and especially the Silver Jubilee sets.

In his decade of activity as a FDC maker, Jacobi produced an interesting and varied body of work that still intrigues a considerable number of collectors.

Note:

The complete “jewelbox” of Herman Jacobi’s documented cachets is available on the FDC Study Group website. It may be found at the following address:

<http://canadafdc.org/Gallery/v/MemberAlbums/Gary+Dickinson/Jacobi+Jewels/>

References

1. Gary Dickinson. *First Day Covers of the King George VI Definitive Issues of 1949-1950*. British North America Philatelic Society, September, 2015, 54pp.
2. Personal communication between Robert Markovits and Herman Jacobi, 1969. Courtesy of the Robert L. Markovits Archives.
3. Lorne W. Bentham. “Canadian News and Comment,” *Western Stamp Collector*, Circa 1970.

EARLY SCOTIA STAMP STUDIO FDCs

by Gary Dickinson

Stu Blumenthal's Scotia Stamp Studio of Halifax formally began its FDC business in 1974 using the SCS brand of cachets. Along with NR Covers and Brickley Jones, SCS covers had to compete with Canada Post's "official" FDCs which had been introduced in 1971. They apparently felt, however, that the recent departure of Rosecraft from the FDC marketplace would give them a reasonable chance for success. All three newcomers produced their first cachets for the Winnipeg commemorative issue (Scott #633) on May 3, 1974.

I recently acquired the FDC shown in Figure 1 below from FDC Study Group member Brainard Fitzgerald via eBay. The cachet is for the March 3, 1965 issue (Scott #437) marking the International Cooperation Year. It features a group of human figures holding hands and circling the globe. More interesting than the cachet, however, is the addressee (Scotia Stamp Studio) and the postmark (Halifax), both suggesting that this

might have been an early effort on Blumenthal's part to prepare day of issue cachets.

I followed up with Brainard (who is a Haligonian) to see if he had any other cacheted FDCs that might be considered antecedents of the SCS covers, and he sent a scan of three from the Provincial Flowers and Emblems series of the mid-1960s. One of these is shown in Figure 2 and is stylistically similar to the others. All three were postmarked at Halifax, in this case on February 3, 1965. The pencilled address was "Scotia Stamps/ 432 Barrington/ Halifax."

Both of the cachets shown here were produced almost a decade before Stu Blumenthal began his series of published, cacheted FDCs, which raises the possibility that there may still be many more such products remaining to be discovered. Please let us know if you have any likely candidates for pre-SCS day of issue covers.

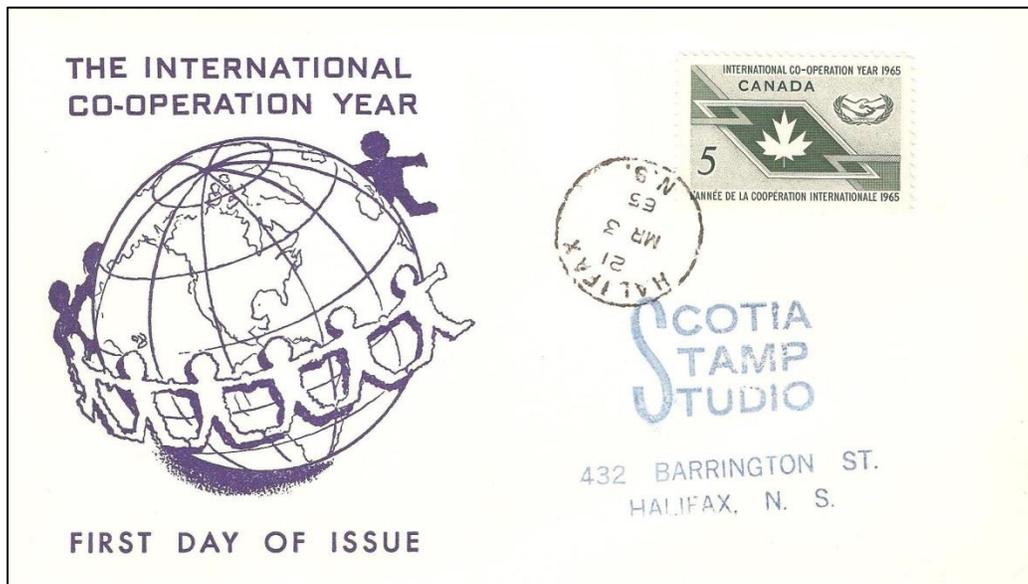


Figure 1. Scotia Stamp Studio FDC for #437.

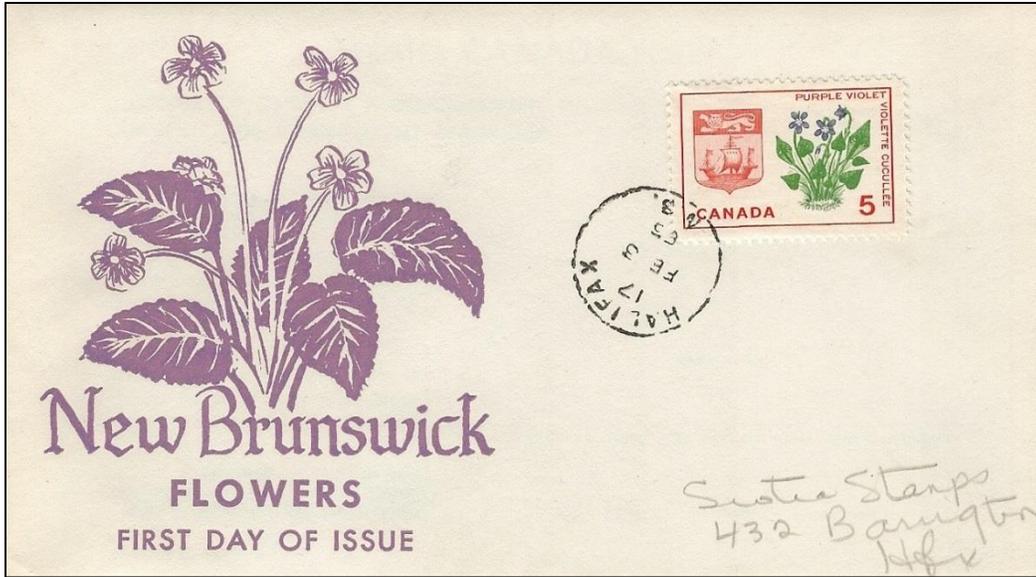
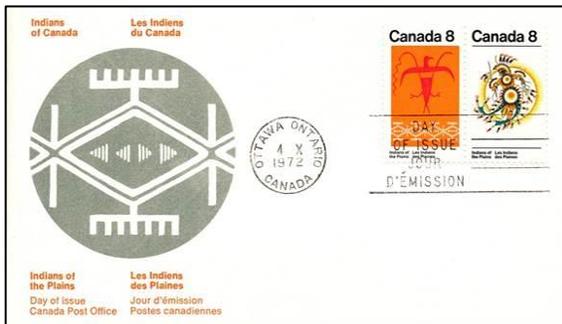


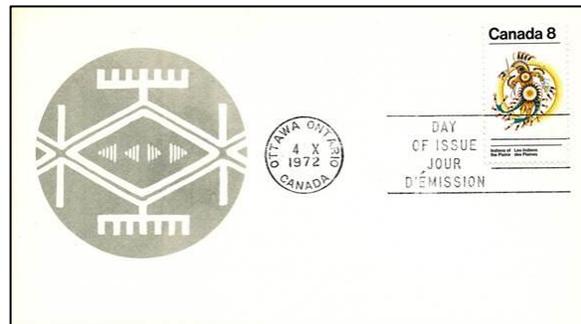
Figure 2. Scotia Stamp Studio FDC for #421.

EFOs FROM ANDREW CHUNG

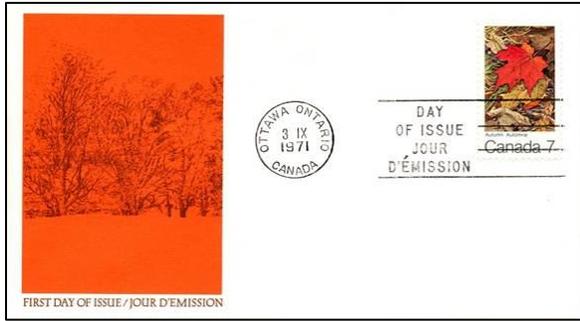
Canada's leading authority on Canada Post official FDCs, Andrew Chung, has acquired a collection of errors, freaks, and oddities over the years. He assembled a few of them recently for a presentation to the Golden Horseshoe Regional Group of BNAPS which met in Ancaster, ON in September. Following are a few examples from his presentation as selected by the Editor. The correct FDC is shown in the left column and the EFO in the right column. The Homer Watson stamp (Scott #2109) seemed to be especially susceptible to errors.



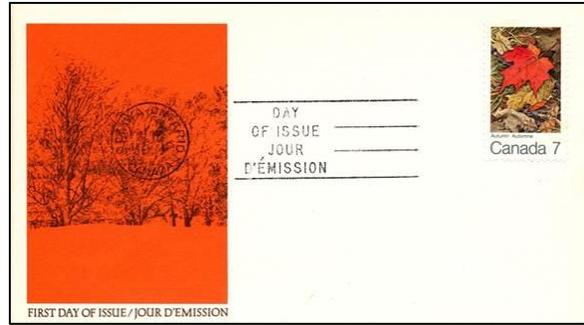
1A Cachet for #564-565



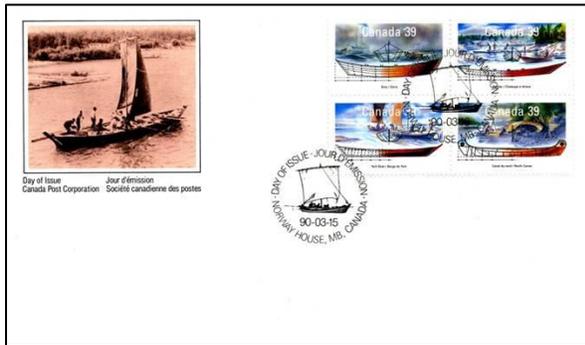
1B No text for the cachet



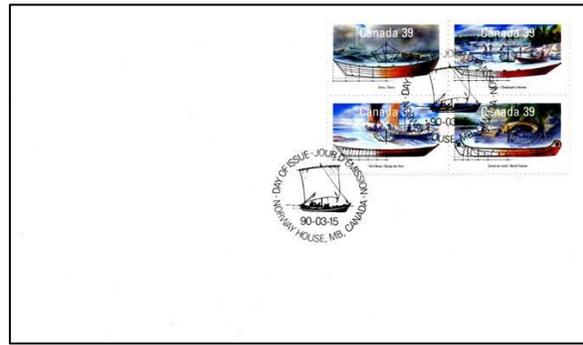
2A Cachet for #537



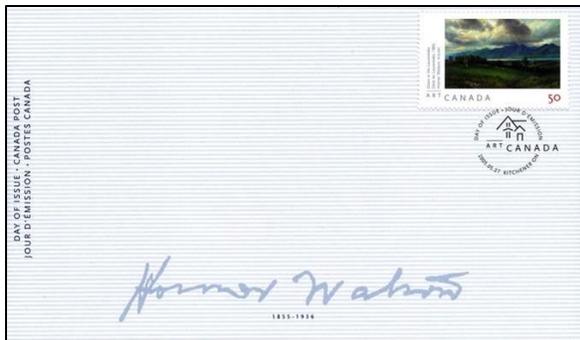
2B Cancellation shifted left, stamp uncanceled



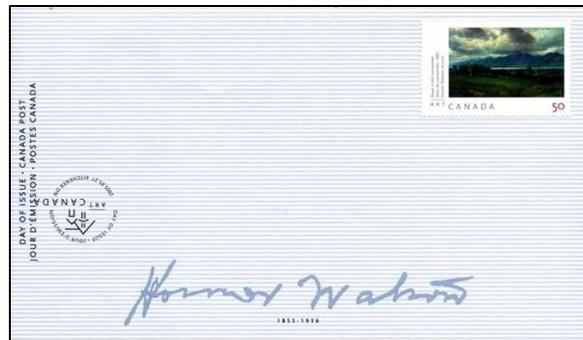
3A Cachet for #1266-1269



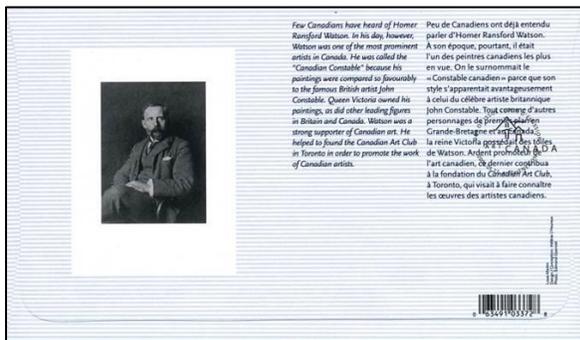
3B Cachet not printed



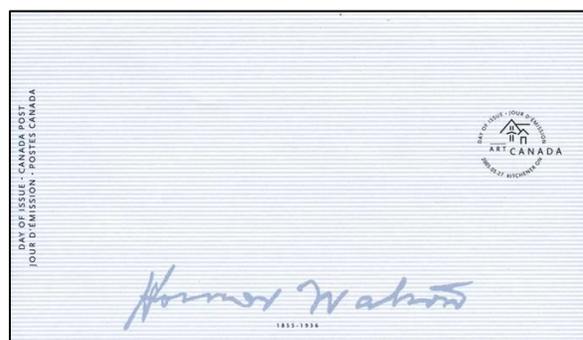
4A Cachet for #2109



4B Inverted cancellation at lower left



4C Cancellation missing on front, appears at right side on back



4D Stamp missing

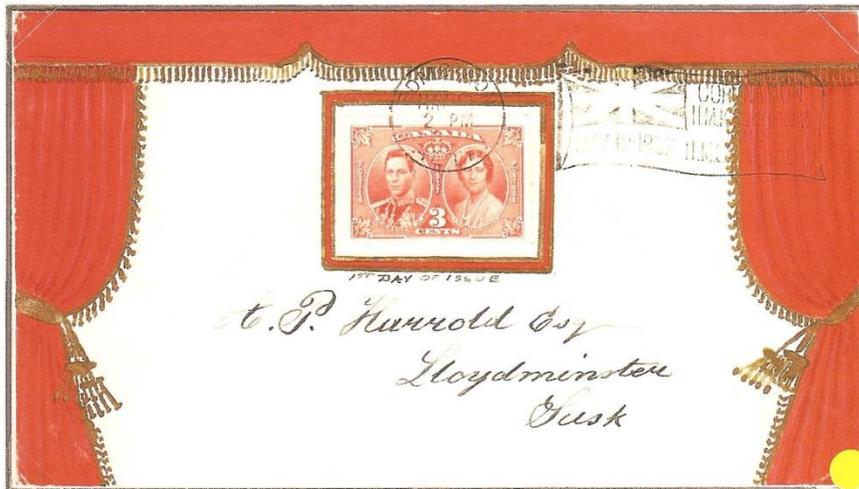
BRAINARD FITZGERALD'S EXHIBIT OF 1937 CORONATION FDCs

FDC Study Group member Brainard Fitzgerald has prepared a three-frame exhibit of cacheted FDCs of Canada's 1937 Coronation stamp (Scott #237). He received a silver medal at the 2015 BNAPS in Niagara Falls and gold medals at regional exhibitions in Montreal and Halifax. He is currently working towards expanding his exhibit to four frames. Your faithful editor has selected in an entirely arbitrary manner several pages from Brainard's exhibit, and these are shown in the following pages.

Cacheted First Day covers of Canada's Coronation Stamp of 1937

Introduction and Background Information

George VI was King of the United Kingdom and the Dominions of the British Commonwealth. His reign was from Dec. 11, 1936 to Feb. 6, 1952. As the second son of King George V, he was not expected to inherit the throne. His brother abdicated in order to marry the divorced American socialite, Wallis Simpson. In Canada to honor the occasion of his Coronation of May 12, 1937, a Coronation stamp was issued on May 10, 1937. Along with this stamp, the high value of the definitive stamp was issued on the same day. Starting with the Coronation celebrations, it became a golden opportunity to inspire the production of new philatelic material with one being the creation of one's own First Day Cover.



Cachet Maker Unknown

Purpose

Exhibit is primarily a collection of cacheted covers produced for the Coronation of King George VI. It is intended to:

- Show the tremendous number of different covers created for the Coronation
- Show the varieties of some of the cachets and identified some of the cachet makers where possible.

Plan

Page 1 -	Title Page
Page 2 - 4 -	Multi Stamp Postage
Page 5 - 10 -	Crown Cachets
Page 11 - 36 -	First Day Covers of the Coronation Stamp
Page 37 - 40 -	First Day covers with blocks of four
Page 41 - 46 -	First Day Covers by Philatelic Societies
Page 47 - 48 -	First Day Covers Coronation Stamp May 10 th to Coronation Day May 12 th

A yellow dot is placed on those covers that the exhibitor considers hard to find.

Coronation First Day Covers

King George VI
CORONATION
ISSUE.
May 10, 1937
Dominion
of
Canada

✻ ✻ ✻
First Day Cover

Cachet Maker Rev. E. Butcher

OTTAWA
MAY 10
10 AM
1937
ONT.

HAMILTON
MAY 10
7:30 AM
1937
ONT.

Rev. E. Butcher,
Fort Burwell,
Ontario.

CANADA

Coronation
GR

17 TH MAY 1937

Commemoration
GR

J. E. LEA Esq.,
36 Cross Street,
MANCHESTER. 2,
England.

FIRST DAY COVER

The Rev. E. Butcher designed numerous First Day Covers for a number of stamps and occasions. All that I have seen are handmade and probably not many of each if more than one.

J. E. Lea of Manchester, England was the publisher of this elegant overall cachet. His address was printed along with the cachet.

Cachet Maker J. E. Lea

Plate Block #2 First Day Coronation Covers

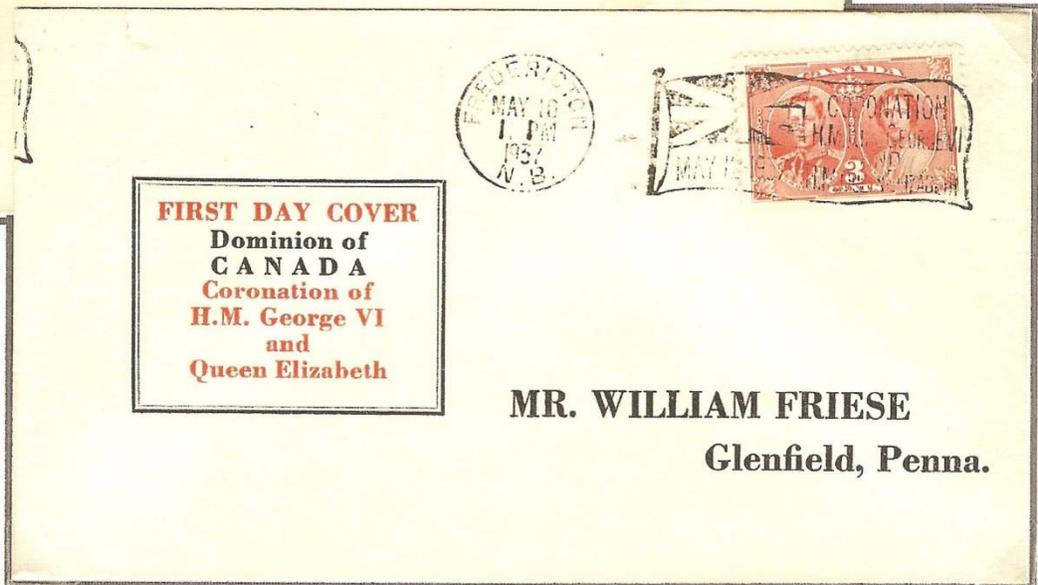
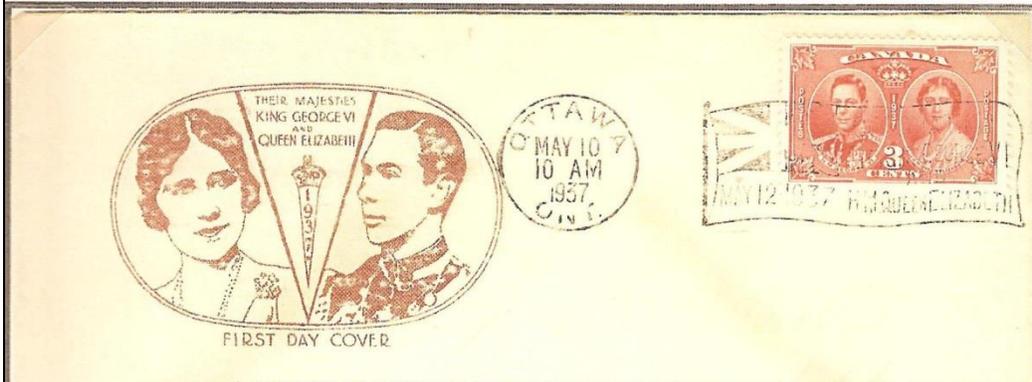


Cachet Maker Michael Sanders



Cachet Maker J. McHale

Coronation Covers – Cachet Makers Unknown



Covers Not Included in Exhibit



Combination Homemade Coronation First Day Covers



A homemade registered Coronation Cover with complete set of stamps issued on May 10th, 1937. Also is added the three smaller definitive issues of Apr. 7, 1937 and it is a rare destination for a First Day Cover to Waipukurau New Zealand.



Unusual combination cover of the Coronation stamp, it is a homemade First Day Cover nicely tied by CDS Toronto Ontario Terminal A. May 10th, 1937. It also includes the Toronto Ontario Coronation Flag Cancel. The one and two cent stamps would have been issued on April 1st, 1937.

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Authored by Andrew Chung and R. F. Narbonne

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