

MISCELLANEOUS CANCELS AND MARKINGS STUDY GROUP

Issue #2, July 2000

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Perhaps I am a bit overdue in getting out another newsletter but unfortunately I was somewhat "underwhelmed" with responses to the first. I thank those who did provide some materials and these are included below.

Among the responses were comments about the name of the newsletter. Most suggested staying with the original and so that is what I have done. One responder volunteered to be a co-editor-consultant and another suggested that members who have e-mail addresses provide them to me so I may list them in a future issue of this newsletter. Responses to my request for areas and items of interest follow.

Horace Harrison notes that his cancellations of interest within the scope of this study group include Forward, Returned for Postage, CALL, and REGISTERED FREE; however, his involvement will have to be minimal for the time being as he is involved with George Arfken on a book on Registration.

Taras Cheberiak is interested in Saskatchewan Postal History, Misc. cancellations and postal slogans. Mr. Cheberiak was under the impression that our group's "focus is on miscellaneous cancellations of material which is at least 100 years old." Not so, there is no date emphasis. In any event he seeks others interested in Saskatchewan cancellations, including modern, with whom he could trade and exchange information.

John M. Hillmer reports his areas of interests are Modern Duplex and Marks of Ontario, mainly eastern counties of Glengarry, Stormount and Dundas.

Dave Lacelle, longtime editor of the Fancy Cancel Study Group NL and author of a new and definitive work on Fancy Cancels writes that he will be willing to serve as co-editor for questions concerning fancies. Thank you Dave. He noted that he has a reciprocal arrangement with the Small Queen Study Group wherein "we each have a free membership, and run each others queries in the newsletters." He said he would "run the 'Ottawa 1' query (in our last NL) in his next Fancy Cancels N..C.S.G. newsletter" and asked "Is this (reciprocal arrangement) doable with our group?" Does anyone have a problem with it? I don't see any.

Brian Plain responds with offers to provide some material for future issues for which I told him I would be grateful. One he mentioned in particular "deals with the large circle reading District Director....or.....District Superintendent of Postal Services/DLO/...handstamps ... Type 2a."

Dean Mario is interested in any 20th century misc. cancels and anything "interesting/unusual," letter carrier depot markings (not stamps,) Saskatchewan-related cancels/markings. Dean and Taras need to correspond.

Dean sent copies of several interesting items. First is a Banff cancellation (see pg. 2) the non-dater part of which proclaims "BANFF ALBERTA/WINTER SPORTS/FEB 3-16/25." Dean refers to it as an "unusual 'duplex' cancellation" and asks for information about its ERD, LRD and scarcity.

1842-1916 WATERLOO

CANADA POST CARD

THE ADDRESS TO BE WRITTEN ON THIS SIDE.



Mr. J. N. Meyer

Lehringville
Ont

OPEN 01 01 1877 H. 1005. Co.

CANADA POST CARD

THE ADDRESS TO BE WRITTEN ON THIS SIDE.

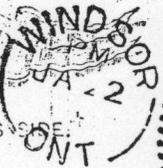


Mr. H. G. Goud in
Bellville Safe & Drug Store
Ont

1241-2 ESSEX

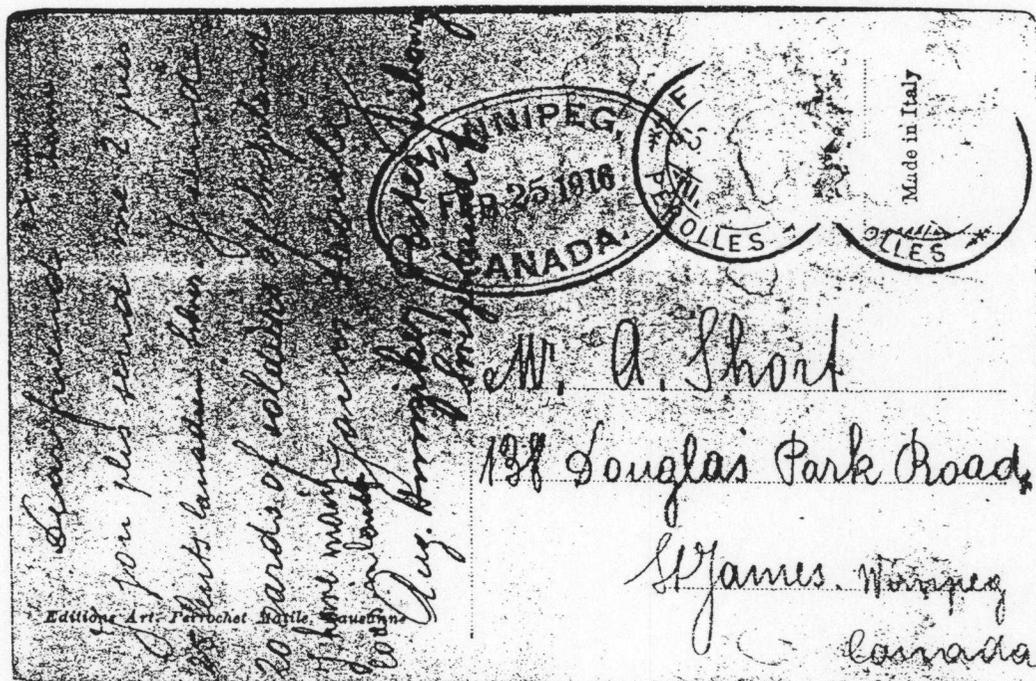
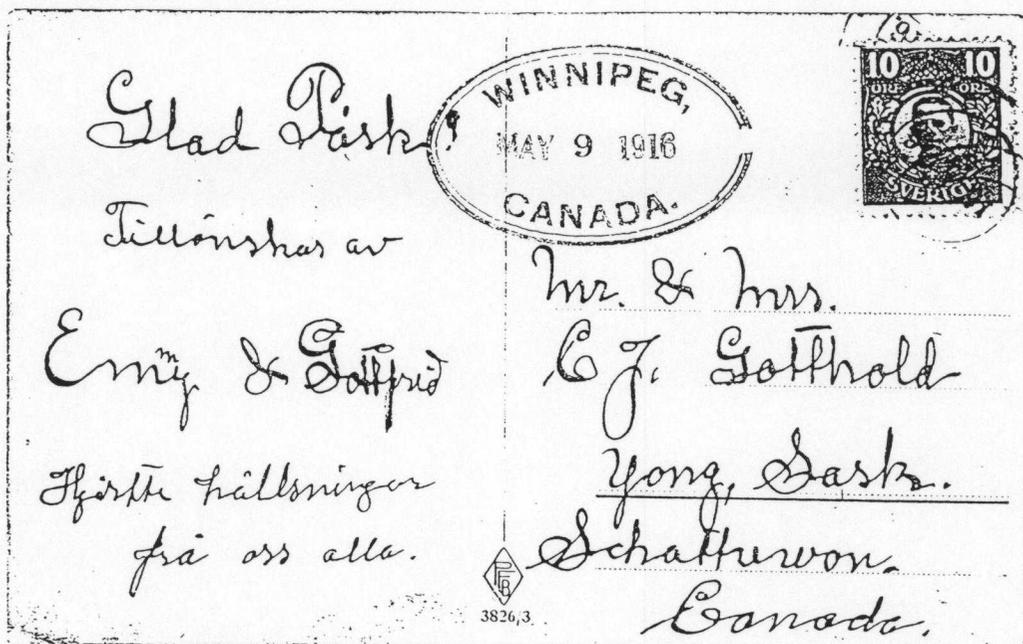
CANADA POST CARD

THE ADDRESS TO BE WRITTEN ON THIS SIDE.

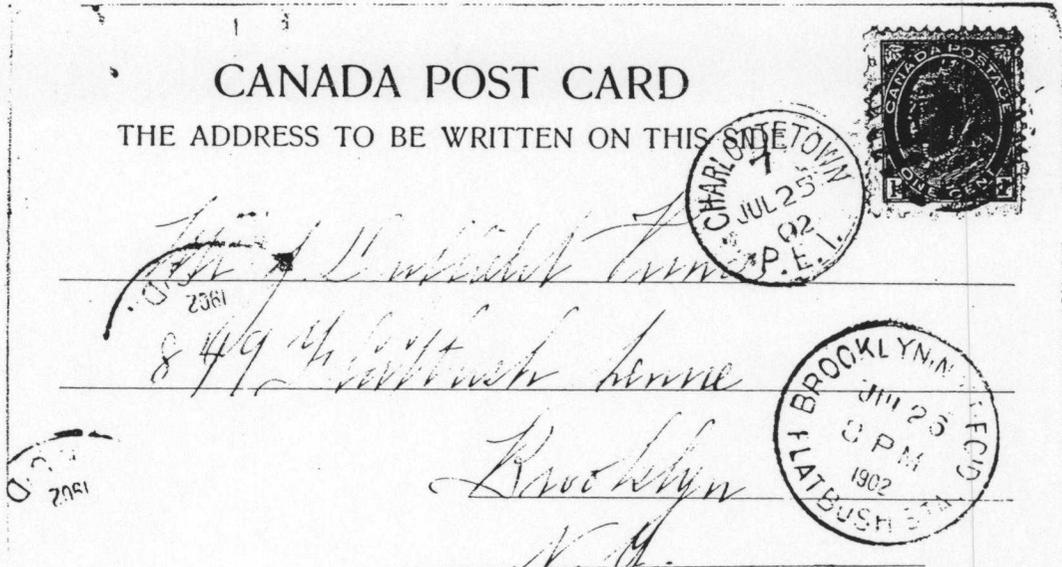


Messrs. W. D. Hephurn & Co.
Windsor
Ont.

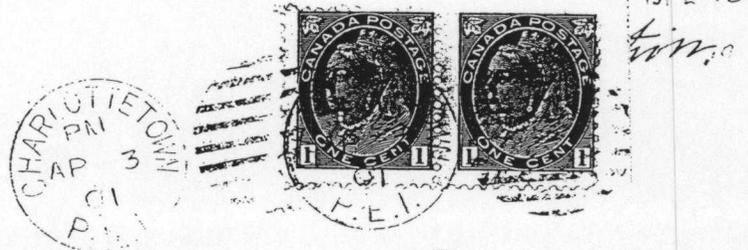
Finally, Dean provided two strikes of a Winnipeg WWI cancellation noting:
 "These two items are very interesting in that both illustrate the same damaged device from Winnipeg. Each is outside of Allan Steinhart's April 1916 'neutral terminal' censorship period. Is this possibly an unreported civil censorship marking/device used by Winnipeg postal officials for incoming foreign mail to Canada from neutral countries (Switzerland and Sweden)? I will be asking the Military Mail Study Group members to comment as well but if there are any collectors of Winnipeg/Manitoba postal history within the Misc. Group, who can illustrate other foreign mail items with this recognizable ellipse (in magenta,) we may have something here. . . ."



This concludes material sent me. Let me now discuss some duplex material of interest to me beginning with P.E.I. First, I have obtained what I believe to be a new Charlottetown duplex. Lee lists DPE-16 as Type II, (full ring) A9 (circular killer with 9 bars) dater size 23 mm., Time Marks 7 & 19. Later, in a Duplex Newsletter he reported additional TM's of 11, 13, 14, 16, and 22, also new ERD 1902/05/21 and LRD 1903/05/12. DPE 16 is the only A-9 he lists with a 23 mm. dater. Under remarks for this duplex Lee noted "wide spacing between dater & lettering." Note also that the data lettering is very narrow. Below I show a strike of DPE-16 dated July 25, 02, TM 7 and one of another strike dated April 3, 01, TM PM (I have another dated May 29, 01, TM AM.) The second is clearly different from DPE-16 in that the spacing between dater ring and lettering is narrower and the letters are wider. Also by use of straight-edge markings I show other position differences. Finally, their TM's are AM and PM, not numerals-another difference. Bob Lee, are there any other examples of this?



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out.

DPE-16A

Continuing with duplexes, the strike (a) below may or may not be a duplex for Gladstone, Man. Frank Campbell, in his Canada Post Office 1755-1895, lists Gladstone, Man. (previously Palestine) as coming into operation in 1878. Lee lists no duplex usage for Gladstone until 1914 when two B-11 (oval killers with 11 bars) are proofed and 1940 when an O-7 (killer with 7 wavy bars) is proofed. In this strike the dater and killer are widely separated (6mm.) which is a lot for a duplex cancel and also the bars of the killer do not line up well with the lettering in the dater. What is the verdict on this one?

a)

(b)

(c)



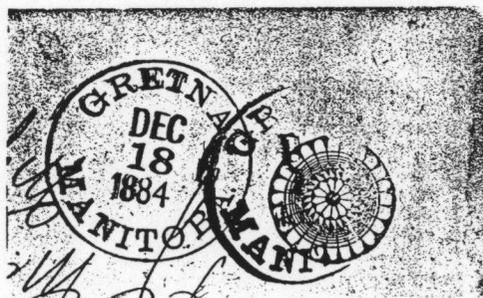
AU 28/00

11/MR 9/07

11/SP 6/06

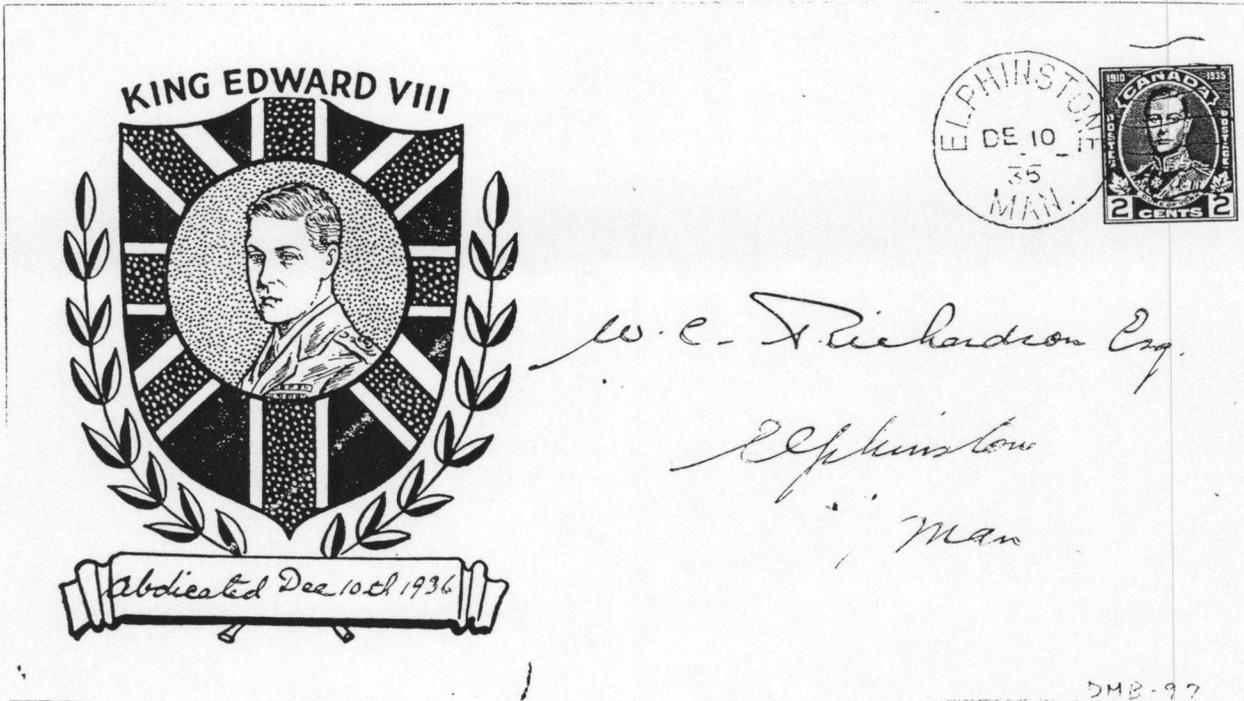
Exhibits (b) and (c) are strikes of Brantford, Ont. duplexes for which I can find no record in Lee's Catalogue. Both are A-9's and Lee lists four of these. Item (b) appears to match Don-191 which is not in the Proof Book, has a 23mm. dater diameter, latest recorded date of 1903/08/03, TM's B,D,E,F, (I have A and C but have not reported same.) and later dates including 1906/03/26 with TM F. Beginning in 1905 DON-191 shows dater damage, especially by the 1906 date just noted. Item (b) shows even greater damage and now appears with a TM 11. It appears, then, that some time between late March, 1906 and early September, 1906 a switch in time marks occurred. Item (c) is interesting because it appears to be in the era of DON-192; has, like 192, a 23mm. dater but, unlike 192, has a numeral 11 instead of letters for time marks and, most important, has an undamaged dater circle and letters 3mm. high that are close to the rim of the dater circle. Don-192 has letters 3.5mm. high that are not close to the rim. I believe (c) may be a new duplex.

Shown below is a copy of the only known example of an unofficial "fancy" duplex cancel for Gretna, Manitoba. Unfortunately, a partial second strike marred the beauty of the original strike. (Only three duplexes are reported for this town, the first in 1916.)



(6)

Below is an Elphinston, Man. Duplex cancel on a King Edward VIII cachet envelope, with Edward's abdication date apparently written in with the same ink as in the address. I suspect the sender was also the addressee. Note that it was purposely mailed on the abdication date. Has anyone seen this cache either blank in the space under the shield or with something else written in it? Following it is a piece from a package cancelled Jan. 25 from Naples, Italy (CFPO 34-Bailey and Toop, Canadian Military Post Offices To 1993,) and received in Halifax, N.S. cancelled with an Armed Forces duplex, DAF 21 (LEE.)

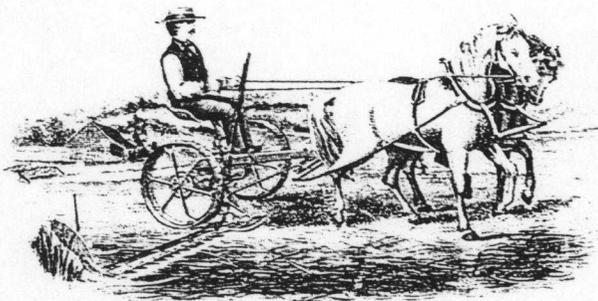


I look forward to seeing you all at our annual meeting in Schaumburg. I plan to have a Miscellaneous Cancellations and Marks Study Group Meeting and ask that you bring items to show, discuss and/or seek answers to questions you may have concerning them. Also, the future of this group (if it really has one) needs to be reviewed. Initially I had hoped, as you know, that we could develop a cadre of "point persons" for various categories of cancellations, but that hasn't happened except to a very limited extent. So what has developed is a newsletter focused on duplexes because that is what I am into. Interestingly, much of what I received for discussion also was duplex material. (I have to confess that when I first saw Dean Mario's Banff Winter Sports Cancellation I didn't believe it would be classified as a duplex. Fortunately I decided I had better check it out in Lee's Catalogue and discovered it really was.)

For those who like advertising covers I'll conclude with an unofficial Toronto duplex (DUN 134) on an attractive item that I believe is earlier than the ERD recorded in Lee.

Cheers,

Clint



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INTRODUCTION

This catalogue is a technical presentation of all known Canadian duplexes hammers. It classifies all such hammers by listing number, identifies each as to wording and type, defines the period of use with earliest and latest known dates, known timemarks, establishes a new innovative approach to rarity and finally offers assistance in separating hammers of similar types.

The dictionary defines "duplex" as double; twofold; having two parts operating in the same way. An apt description of the postal cancellation device we are about to explore.

A duplex hammer (struck exactly as you would a hammer) is composed of two parts, the dater, to indicate the office of origin, province, month, day, year and sometimes a timemark; and the obliterator (or killer), normally horizontal bars of varying numbers, used to render the stamp unusable for a second time.

Postal regulations required that an envelope be postmarked and that the stamp be cancelled. This was usually accomplished by striking the envelope twice, once with a date stamp and once an obliterator. A duplex hammer served this purpose and simplified the process by requiring only one strike per envelope.

Duplex hammers were first introduced in Great Britain in 1853, as a result of increased volumes of mail and the desire to speed up its handling.

Canada's first duplex hammers were manufactured in England by D.G. Berri and first placed in service in 1860.

Although the use of duplex hammers in Canada has had its ups and downs over the years, they have been in continuous use from 1860 until the present time (1993).

Several different styles have evolved over the years and these will be detailed in the following pages.

Collectors are fortunate indeed to have available for study, the Pritchard & Andrews, as well as the Canada Post Office, proof impression books covering the period 1876-1953, except for the period May 1895 to July 1907 which are missing from the Pritchard & Andrews book. These proof strikes are now available in a series of books published by Robert A. Lee Philatelist Ltd.

In addition to the duplex cancelling devices issued by the Post Office, some postmasters chose to manufacture their own, combining two issued devices or one issued and one made from wood or cork. These interesting oddities will be detailed under Unofficial Duplexes.

Some 6000 different listings are contained herein, some extremely common, others so rare that no strikes have been reported at all. Most collectors, because of the over 130 years of use, have duplexes in their collection. It is my hope that this publication will in some way spark your interest in this field and add a little extra pleasure to this wonderful hobby of ours.

Robert A. Lee,

September, 1993.