

NEWSLETTER NO. 72
MARCH 1987

Thank you to all who have been so good about sending in your dues promptly, and to those of you who have taken the time to send notes, letters and items for the newsletters. It is encouraging! Those of you in the minority regarding dues will find in red, above, an indication of what is owing. Should there be no response before the next newsletter goes out you will be dropped from 'Active Service' in order to be fair to those paid up members. Remember that the tangible costs of the newsletter are at least 50 cents each. Thank you!

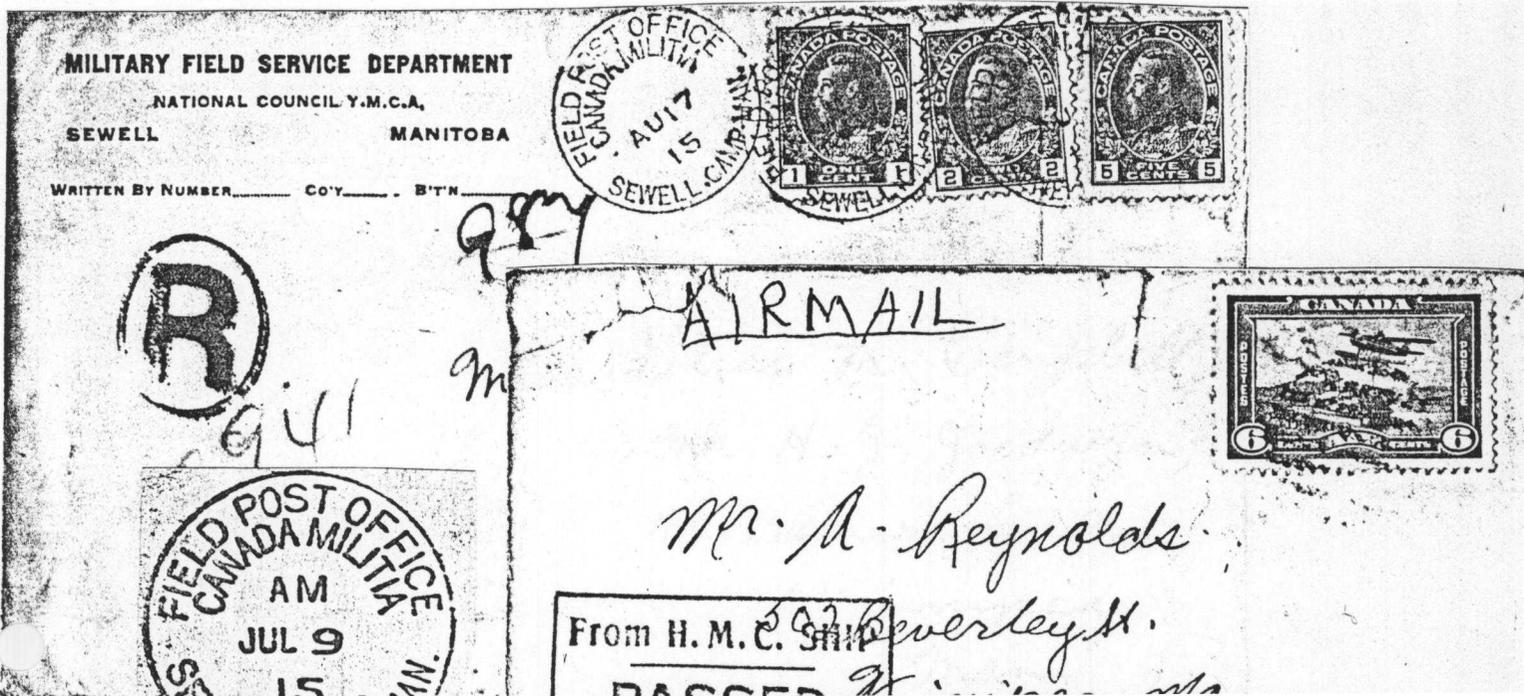
Several very interesting items have come to hand and are as follows:

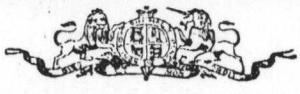
FROM H.M.C.SHIP/PASSED BY CENSOR.

Colin Pomfret reports this previously 'unreported' item. This may look like the many other similar markings, but note the smaller 'Y' of BY and the sloping lines of the 'M' in H.M.C. Also the printing seems to take up more of the box - outline space than is usual. The cover, although undated, appears to be 1941, or early 1942, and passed through Halifax post office. Wilf Whitehouse has been consulted on this item and requests your reports on further examples. Please watch also to see if any indication is given as to specific ships using this marking

SEWELL CAMP, MANITOBA, Militia cancel #2

Again from Colin Pomfret: This is the #2 hammer marking from Sewell. It is also the second one of #2 reported to Colin Campbell. Would you check and report if you have this marking in your collection. Both Colins would like to hear, I am sure. Colin P. suggests that this hammer may have been used exclusively for registered mail as this illustrated one is. Please check that avenue of use should your copy be registered. This hammer can be checked by the dots (comma ?) and register of the letters in the upper two lines - FIELD POST OFFICE and CANADA MILITIA. If you have Bailey and Toop's book, there is a sketch of both hammers, Figure B, Page 125.





DEPT. OF MILITIA AND DEFENCE,
OTTAWA

SEALED TENDERS (in duplicate) for the supply of Coal and Fuel Wood required to heat the Military Buildings at Victoria, Vancouver, Vernon, Chilliwack, Kamloops, Esquimalt, and New Westminster, B. C., for the period ending March 31, 1917, will be received up to Friday, June 2 next. Each tender is to be marked "Tender for Fuel," and addressed to the Director of Contracts, Militia Headquarters, Ottawa.

Printed forms of tender and full particulars may be obtained from the Director of Contracts, Militia Headquarters, Ottawa, or at the office of the Officer Commanding, Military District No. 11, Victoria, who will furnish all information required.

No security deposit is required with these tenders; but if, and when, any contract is made, the contractor must furnish, as security for the due performance of the contract, a certified cheque for an amount to be fixed at the time; notice of which will be given him by the Director of Contracts.

The Department does not bind itself to accept the lowest or any tender.

EUGENE Fiset,

Surgeon General,
Deputy Minister of Militia and Defence, Ottawa, May 5, 1916.
(H.Q. 99-11-14.)

Newspapers will not be paid for this advertisement if they insert it without authority from the Department. 75987. 05-1



Men Wanted for the Navy

The Royal Naval Canadian Volunteer Reserve, wants 'men for immediate service Overseas, in the Imperial Royal Navy

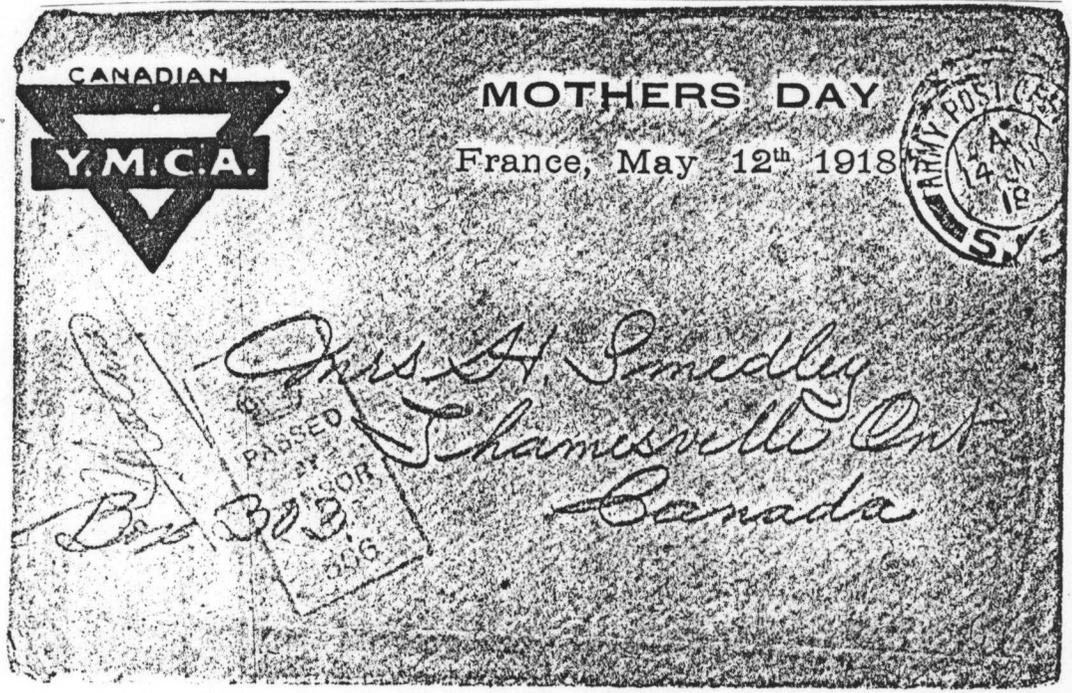
Candidates must be sons of natural born British subjects and be from 18 to 38 years of age.

PAY \$1.10 per day and upwards. Free Kit.
Separation allowance, \$20.00 monthly.

Apply to the nearest Naval Recruiting Station
or to the
Department of the Naval Service, OTTAWA.



1916



Another item, this time from Dr. Frank, is the 1918 Canadian Y.M.C.A. MOTHERS DAY envelope from France. It seems to your editor that this item has been reported before, but where? Dr. Frank notes that Mother's Day received recognition nationally in the United States on 9 May 1914 when President Woodrow Wilson proclaimed the day an "annual observance" starting in May 1915. Do members know of any covers produced for special events such as this during World War I? Wasn't there one for the Armistice on 11 November 1918?

Of note in the auction world is the continuing sale by Robert A. Lee (Box 937, Vernon, B.C., V1T 6M8) of the Military Collection of Lloyd

1st CANADIAN EXPEDITIONARY FORCE - 1914 - SHIPS IN CONVOY //

Colin Campbell

Part 4

A fifth part will be necessary in order to complete the Convoy story. An URGENT appeal now goes out for cards or photos of the following transport ships needed to "finish the job". These are;

BERMUDIAN (Canada Steamships) MANITOU (Atlantic Transport) LAKONIA (Donaldson). Please send to Colin direct. Will return if needed.

A quite remarkable card, illustrated below, was written and dispatched from S.S. ANDANIA on the very day she completed loading. The message reads;

Quebec 29/9/14

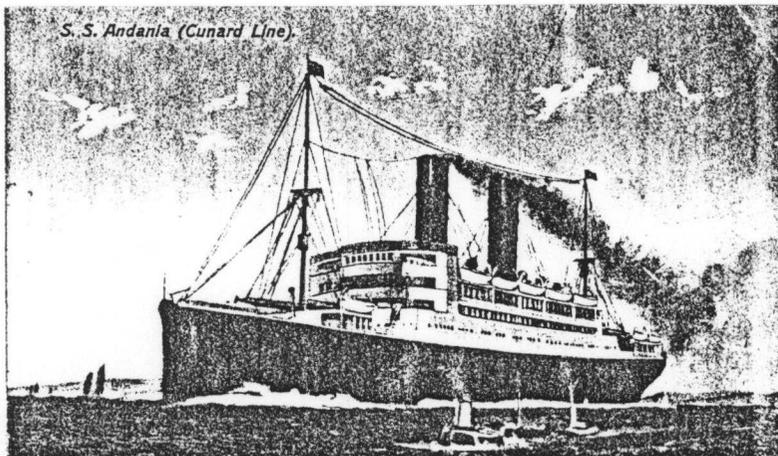
Dear Chrissie & Charlie

Embarked on board the Transport Andania this morning but will probably be in the Gulf for a few days waiting on other transports. Don't know where we are going but surmise & hope, England. Am fine & dandy, hope you are the same.

Dick

A 1/4 Admiral (104) is cancelled SP 29 14 and card is addressed to a Montreal address.

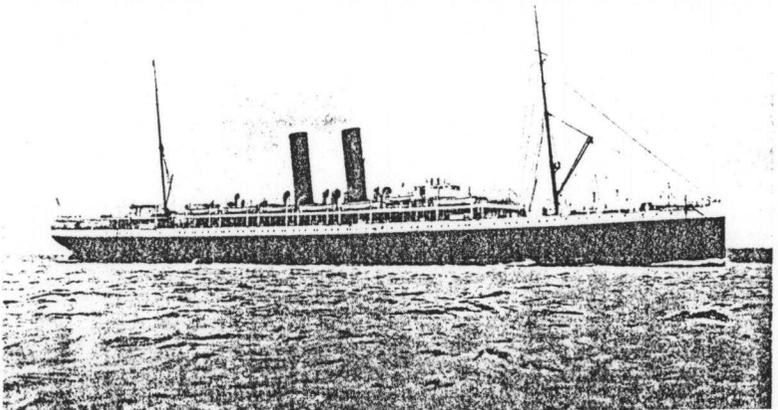
Re escort ships...The escort ships come to us through the efforts of Ted, former Officer in the Prince Line and R.N.R. during WW2 and Arthur, ex R.N. Thank you gentlemen.



ANDANIA

Launched 1913 for Cunard. Tonnage 13,405. Carried Div. Sigs Co.(170), 14th Battalion (549), 16th Battalion (1,158), 15th Battalion (3) for total 1880 Officers and men. Also, 1700 tons grain, 227 tons cheese and 50 tons lumber. Completed loading Quebec SEP 29 and offloaded OCT 17-19. ANDANIA torpedoed/sunk 1918.

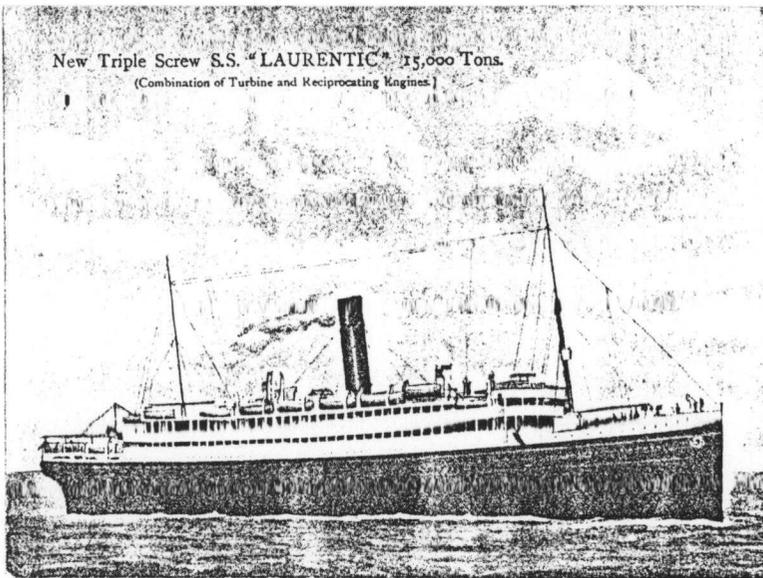
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ARCADIAN

Of R.M.S.P. Company launched 1899. Tonnage 8,780. Carried a squadron of cavalry, 3rd Field Company (Div. Eng.) Sigs. Co., Field Amb. personnel, and Officers for total 601. Cargo of ammo and other stores. Finished loading October 1 and offloaded October 15.

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LAURENTIC

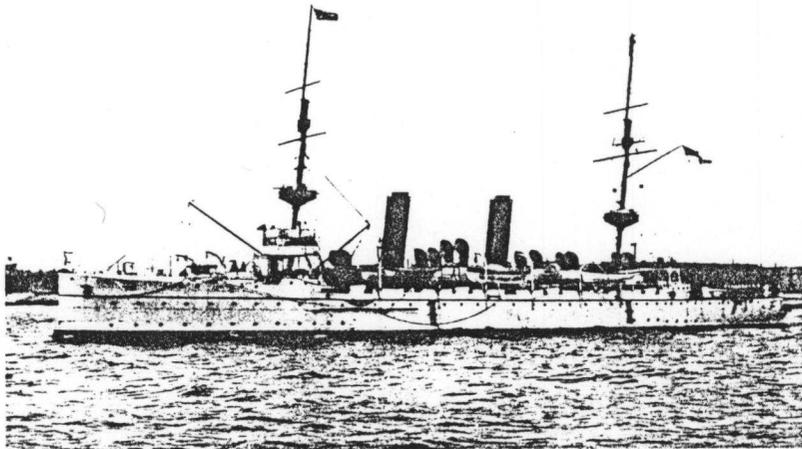
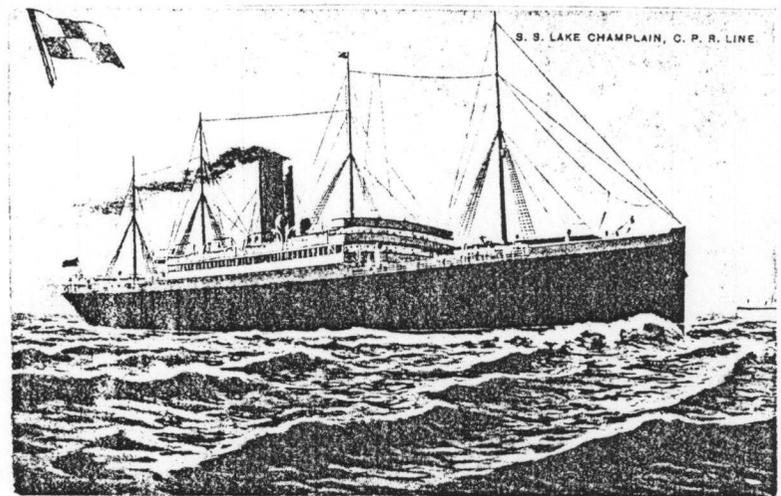
White Star Line launched 1908. Carried Royal Canadian Dragoons, 1st Battalion (1st CIB), Field Ambulance personnel for total 1,816.

Cargo of 15,209 sacks flour. Completed loading September 26 and offloaded October 17-18, 1914.

RUTHENIA (of C.P.R.)

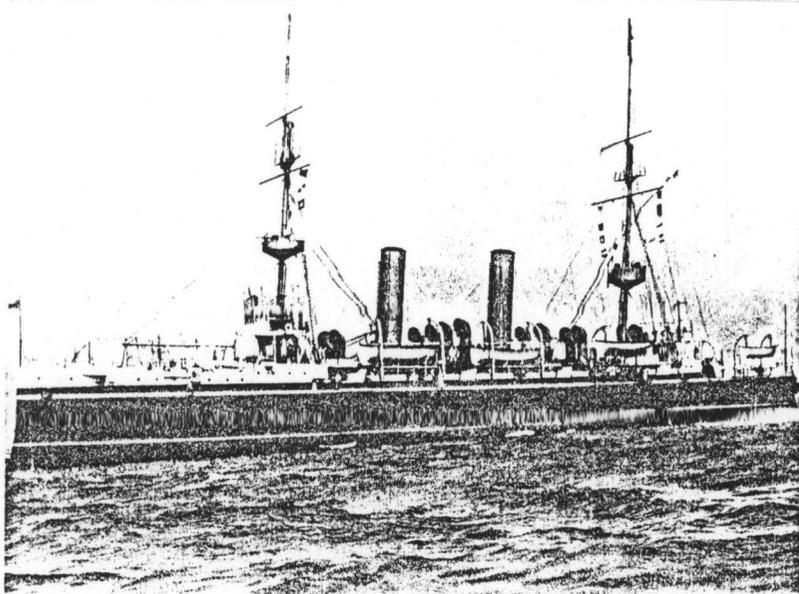
Formerly S.S. Lake Champlain. Launched 1900. Tonnage 7,394. Carried a Cyclist Company, 17th Battalion (Reserves), surplus Officers and British Reservists for total 886.

Cargo of 7,916 sacks flour. Completed loading September 30 and offloaded Plymouth October 21.



H.M.S. ECLIPSE (completed 1897)

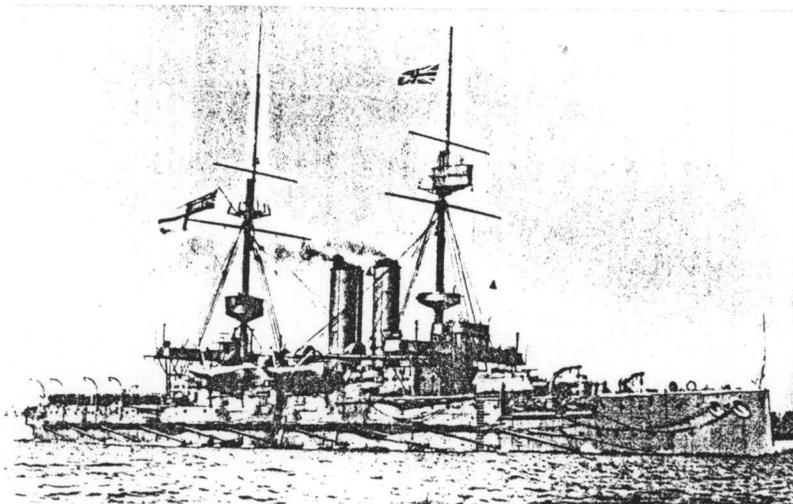
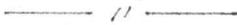
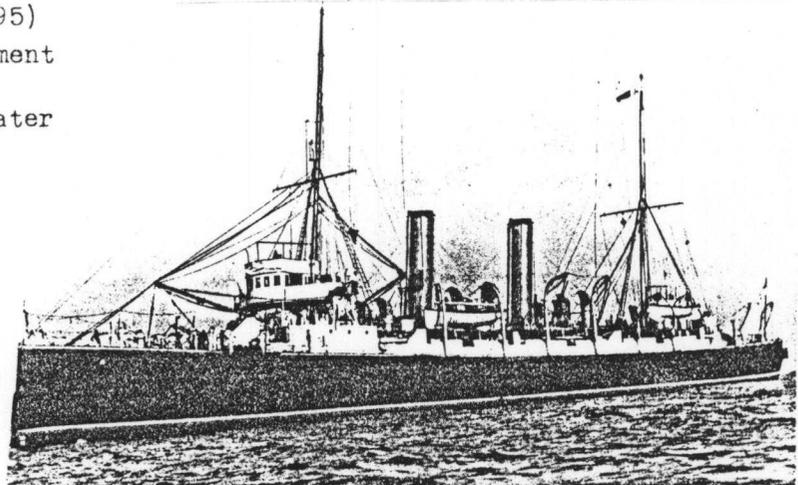
Served in 12th Cruiser Squadron. Displacement 5,600 tons. War Service 1914-18. Complement 450. Depot ship 1915. North America and East



H.M.S. DIANA (completed 1899)
Displacement 5,600 tons.
Served 12th Cruiser Squadron.
Complement 450.
Then served China and East
India Stations.
Sold 1921.



H.M.S. CHARYBDIS (completed 1895)
Astraea Class Cruiser. Complement
326. Displacement 4,360 tons.
Served 12th Cruiser Squadron later
as accomodation and storeship.
Sold at Bermuda 1922.

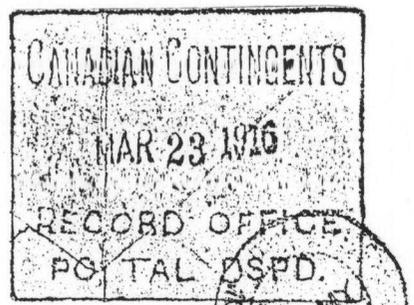


H.M.S. Glory (completed 1901)
Battleship with displacement
12,950 tons. Complement 750.
War service North Atlantic
1914, Mediterranean 1915,
North Russia 1916, depot ship
(re-named CRESCENT) 1919.
Sold 1922.



A Canadian Casualty Assembly Centre postal marking - WW1 - GARY CAMPBELL

Quite recently we have been informed of a scarce postmark used by Canadians at Folkestone, Kent during the First World War. On looking back at Newsletter 47, item 402, it was apparent the listing, which included the newly reported postmark and Registered oval markings on the same page, needed amending. This has been done and, in addition, includes the few reports received since item 402 was written.



Here is the postmark referred to above dated 3 MY 16 together with an official strike made just before the hammer was despatched to the o/c Canadian P.O. Shorncliffe Camp on 11 April 1916 for use at the C.C.A.C. Also shown is the oval Registered stamp despatched on the same date. Additionally a single ring stamp was sent which bore the abbreviation D.L.S. (Dead Letter Service, or Section?) in its design. No illustration is available nor is an example on a cover known to the writer.



From Sir Andrew Macphail's book, "The Medical Services" published in 1925 details are found of the Centre established at Folkestone February 13, 1916. Here, soldiers, discharged from convalescent hospitals were cared for, "hardened" is another term used, before rejoining their units or returning to civil life if no longer capable of military service.



In October the Assembly Centre was removed to Shoreham, Sussex and in November to Hastings. Is it any wonder that postmarks from these locations are hard to find? Following the move to Shoreham a double ring cancellor bearing the abbreviation C.C.A.C. was prepared and is illustrated here along with the unique hooded (curved portion above ring) REGISTERED handstamp. Examples of these also are unknown to this writer. We have not seen any record, or examples, of postmarks used while the C.C.A.C. was at Hastings.



On February 27, 1917 the Canadian Casualty Assembly Centre at Hastings became #1 Canadian Command Depot and housed troops from the Shorncliffe area. The role was the same as before where physical training and military skills were practiced to prepare soldiers for further service. #2 C.C.D. was set up at Bramshott, Hampshire and #3 for troops in other parts of England. Up to 5000 soldiers could be accommodated at each.



The double ring postmark with Maltese cross shown here likely was used at one of the depots listed above.

Further information on this interesting group of cancellations is solicited. Can any reader provide the official meaning for the abbreviation D.L.S? Hopefully our guess is not too far off track.