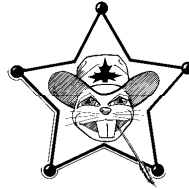


BEAVER**CHATTER**

The Newsletter of the Prairie Beaver Regional Group of the British North America Philatelic Society, Ltd.
 Chairman: **George Dresser** Treasurer: **John Furlong** Editor: **Vic Willson**
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MARCH 7 MEETING in College Station

The next meeting of the Prairie Beavers will be held at the College Station Conference Center on George Bush Drive just south of the Texas A&M Campus. Those driving up from Houston should come up Texas Ave. (Business Hwy 6) to George Bush Drive and turn left. It is past the first stop light and just before the second stop light heading west.

For those coming from Austin Hwy 21 to Hwy 47 brings you to Wellborn Road fronting campus on the west; turn south onto Wellborn (go under the railroad bridge and turn right as directed), then go to George Bush Drive and turn left at the south edge of campus. It will be just past the third light going east.

For those coming from the north utilize the Hwy 6 bypass to the University Ave. exit, head west toward campus, turn left (south) onto Texas Ave., go to the south edge of campus and turn right onto George Bush Drive. Just before the second stop light turn into the conference center.



Here is a scarce franking- 20¢ Widow Weed dated Winnipeg OC 20, 1893, to Pontypool, Nov. 2 backstamp, paying quadruple letter rate to UK. At least one other similarly franked cover is known, as well as a registered 25¢ paid with a 20¢ and 5¢ Small Queen. A 20¢ franked to Costa Rica was sold some years ago. Examples to the US are typically philatelic. Newspaper receipts include the 20¢ as part of the payment but are scarce.

REVISIONS TO THE *CANADIAN POSTED LETTER GUIDE*

Vic Willson is revising the CPLG, first edition published at the time of CAPEX 96. With a 13 year time lag since, both the listing volume and prices for covers have drastically increased over that time. The first edition was printed in spiral bound form, and has since been dispersed, including to all BNAPS members as a gift following a donation by Chuck Firby and Vic. The second edition will not be published in printed form, only as a sectioned series of pdf's. These are expected to be made available free to BNAPS members on the web without charge and with no cost to BNAPS; availability to the public will be determined by the BNAPS publication committee.

Currently, final drafts of both the Pence and Decimal sections have been completed and will be reviewed by various postal history experts. The focus is on complete inclusion of all rates and frankings for domestic, interprovincial, US, UK, and other foreign destinations. In addition to including all recorded rate/franking/destinations, stampless as well as stamped covers will be included comprehensively. Shortpaid covers, registered, special delivery, and nonletter mail (circulars, newspapers, parcel post, 4th and 5th class) will be included. Pricing will be given in Ave, Fine, VF, and EXF conditions as warranted by the particular material.

As far as we can determine, no one in any other collecting area has attempted such a project. The purpose of the project is to provide collectors with a comprehensive resource for postal history collecting

PRAIRIE BEAVER MEETING, March 7, 2009
SCHEDULE OF ACTIVITIES

8:45 - 9:00	Coffee, donuts, informal
9:00 - 9:15	Introductions
9:15 - 9:30	Book reviews- new BNAPS books
9:30 - 9:45	Internet review (new sites, action)
9:45 - 10:15	Swap, Sell, Buy, Trade
10:15 - 10:45	Presentation: Edward VII to UPU - George Dresser
10:45 - 11:15	Swap, Sell, Buy, Trade
11:15 - 12:00	Clothesline Exhibit (BNA stuff, anything else of philatelic interest)
12:00 - 1:30	Lunch
1:30 - 2:00	Business meeting and BNAPEX09
2:00 - 2:30	Presentation:TBA
2:30 - 3:00	Swap, Sell, Buy, Trade
3:00 - 3:30	<i>Large Queen 15c census</i> - Vic Willson, computer presentation
3:30 - 4:00	<i>Canadian Philately- An Outline</i> - Vic Willson
4:00 - 5:00	Wrapup
5:15	Dinner at local restaurant

SERVICE SUSPENDED AFTER WWI- Vic Willson

In the January 1919 Postal Guide Supplement for Canada, Steinhart (1981) listed the following countries to which mail was no longer transmissible due to various problems and disruptions:

- Austria-Hungary including Bosnia-Herzegovina
- Bulgaria
- Luxemburg
- Roumania
- Germany
- Montenegro
- Turkey (in Europe or Asia) except Palestine and other British occupied lands
- Russia (in Europe or Asia) except Finland, Murmansk, Archangel, Vladivostok and its district

The February 1919 supplement indicated resumption of mail to Alsace-Lorraine, Belgium, Russia (letters to

Armur Province, east coast of Siberia, and Russian Sakhalin).

Steinhart showed an example of a postal stationery envelope to Russia dated Birtle, MAN, DEC. 29, 1918. It has a boxed SERVICE SUSPENDED on the front. Below is an example with "SERVICE SUSPENDED" in purple, and "RETURNED TO WRITER" in purple. The cover was intended to be sent to the Ukraine. There are two Montreal strikes on the back, one dated 14 FEB, and the other 21 MAR. A Vancouver strike on front is dated 20 FEB, and on both front and back another is dated 16 MAR, including the strike on the 10¢ stamp. It appears from this progression that the cover, even though return-addressed Vancouver, was sent from Montreal, attempting to go via Vancouver to Siberia and perhaps across Russia. It was returned from Vancouver to Montreal. Why the stamp was not cancelled initially is strange since registered covers in the large cities would not have slipped through.



AIRMAIL COVERS THROUGH THE U.S.- EARLY AND LATE – Vic Willson

The two covers shown illustrate two extremes of the Canadian airmails through the U.S. The registered cover, while philatelic, shows the two-zone rate of 8¢ per zone in effect only until Feb. 14, 1926. It was sent from Windsor, Ont., Feb. 8, 1926, to Los Angeles. Mr. Williamson apparently sent several covers to himself or his daughter in this period prior to the rate change to 10¢ per oz. under 1000 miles or 15¢ per oz. over 1000 miles that took effect Feb. 15. I have previously shown a Feb. 6, 1927, cover that is the earliest recorded example. The cover below is the only registered example from this period. Williamson also sent a special delivery cover the same date, shown in Steinhart (1981), another overfranked cover paid 7¢ Canadian as well as the pair of 8¢ US, shown in Arfken and Plomish (2000), and one other cover sold on ebay that I neglected to chase. These items represent to date the only examples recorded of the multiple zone rate.

The other cover is dated AUG 4, 1928, sent from Vancouver to Pottstown, PA, franked with a 2¢ Admiral and a 5¢ 4th Bureau. Per agreement July 14, 1928, airmail service for either country to and through the other could be sent for 5¢ 1st oz, 10¢ each additional oz. Steinhart noted that an Aug. 7 post office document clarified the

situation, as apparently many mailers thought the 5¢ was in addition to the domestic postage. The cover shown demonstrates this confusion. I have an Aug. 28 cover paid 15¢ Admirals that demonstrates the confusion had been cleared up by then at least.



BONDED REMOVAL PERMIT STAMPS – Vic Willson

The stamps shown here represent three of the four types of tobacco that were removed from the bonding warehouse for imported tobacco products. These include PLUG CADDY, BOX, FINE CUT CHEWING, and SNUFF. Brandom lists variations in perforations and imperfections, control number or not, blue or black control number, and control number size for CADDY, only a few variations for BOX, only 3 for FINE CUT CHEWING (blue, black, or no number), and only 2 for SNUFF (control # or none). It is likely many more varieties will surface for these as the interest in tobaccos continues to increase.

Recently, a Dutch dealer has put up many tobaccos lacking control numbers with "CANCELLED" in purple. One such Bonded Removal PLUG was listed in Brandom's second volume of additions. It turns out, as Bill Walton emailed me, that when the stamps were no longer valid, many were handstamped that way, probably in government storage, and while a variation, the cancel has no particular significance otherwise. Brandom listed remainders without control numbers erroneously as trial proofs. They are just printed tobacco stamps that did not get the serial numbers put on when sent to the companies that used them. I have noted much confusion about this when I listed for sale on ebay real plate proofs that have been released from the American Bank Note Company archives sale of 1990 in the last few years. Potential buyers were not interested, thinking they were just the TP numbers in Brandom rather than true plate proofs.

Speaking of proofs, shown here is a die proof of the 1/4 lb. TWIST in black. It was not previously recorded, and came out of the ABNCo sale. I saw and passed on the 1/2 lb. recently, and this stamp also has a 1 lb value that should have a die proof. How many of these proofs exist, and if in color of issue (green or blue) is not known to me. I have plate proof pairs of the 1/2 lb and 1 lb in green, black, and blue. These stamps were part of the 1897 omnibus issue of tobacco stamps that produced many spectacular items.



15¢ LARGE QUEEN CENSUS- Vic Willson

Below is shown part of the census of the 15¢ Large Queen being conducted by the Confederation Study Group. It currently has 324 entries of covers that have at least one 15¢ LQ on it. I have created the excel file you see from the original, adding columns that will eventually be turned into a relational, searchable data base. That will permit researchers to sort or select by date, franking, rate, etc. You see a reduced version of the database, since

later covers include Small Queen, Leaf, Numeral, registration stamps, etc., all of which have a column designator.

This census is probably not complete, although with this fairly high value, unrecorded items are likely to be fairly few at this point. We will be asking Confederation members in future to begin sending in information for the other Large Queen issues, working downward in values. It is not feasible, however, to record all 6¢ or lower values, so that only exceptional items for those will be listed in a census, although we might ask how many covers people hold. Similar censuses might be done for higher value Small Queens also in future.



Shown at left is a cover on ebay paying the Cunard 15¢ rate plus 8¢ registration. One 1¢ stamp is clearly missing to left of the one on the cover. It is one of two such rates recorded in the list. The other one, complete, sold for \$22,000 according to my records. This one is being listed at \$2500 as is. One of the values of the census, and its expansion to all 19th century better covers, is an accurate assessment of rarity of rates, destinations, frankings, and combinations of stamps.



At left is a cover recently offered by Saskatoon. It was listed as the earliest cover with a 15¢ on it, but the census indicates a domestic cover with a pair dated March 16. This cover has not been seen since 1976, apparently. Saskatoon was correct in stating the earliest 15¢ to England. It was offered at about \$2000. Jeff Switt long ago found the earliest dated stamp, dated in early March, which I unfortunately did not record.



Below is one of the three recorded 23¢ rate covers paid with stamps prior to the rate reductions. There are also paid cash letters, such as the one I showed in Arfken and Firby's Decimal book

Date	YEAR	MONTH	DAY	Originating Town	Originating Province	Stamps	RATE	LQA	LQB	LQC	Destination	UK Destinations	Domestic/Foreign	Registration	extra note
MR 16/68	1868	3	16	St. Catherines		15(2)	0.30	15			Welland		D		6 x 5c domestic rate
MR 23/68	1868	3	23	Toronto	O	15(2)	0.30	15			UK Scotland	Scotland	F		
MR 23/68	1868	3	23	London	O	15	0.15	15			UK England	England	F		
MR 28/68	1868	3	28	Fonthill	O	15	0.15	15			UK England	England	F		
AP 2/68	1868	4	2	Hamilton	O	15(2)	0.30	15			Chatham		D		Firth book
AP 11/68	1868	4	11	Kingston	O	15	0.15	15			UK England	England	F		
AP 25/68	1868	4	25	Montreal	Q	15	0.15	15			UK England	England	F		
AP 27/68	1868	4	27	Hamilton	O	15	0.15	15			UK England	England	F		
AP 30/68	1868	4	30	Brantford	O	15 + 6 + 2	0.23	15	6	2	Australia		F		Firth book
MY 1/68	1868	5	1	Montreal	Q	15	0.15	15			UK England	England	F		
MY 2/68	1868	5	2			15	0.15	15			US California		F		Firth Book -
MY 4/68	1868	5	4	Hamilton	O	15	0.15	15			UK England	England	F		
MY 18/68	1868	5	18	Hamilton	O	15	0.15	15			UK England	England	F		
MY 28/68	1868	5	28	Kingston	O	15	0.15	15			UK Gloucestershire	England	F		
JU 10/68	1868	6	10	Hamilton	O	15 + 6 + 1B	0.22	15	6	1B	Australia		F		Firth book
JU 22/68	1868	6	22	Hamilton	O	15	0.15	15			UK England	England	F		FAW N