

# Canadian postal history: via registration, 1899–1952

**T**HIS exhibit/exposition is part of a series dealing with postal history of Canada and provinces. My original motivation was to scan and record well over 2000 BNA stampless and early stamped covers that I have accumulated over the past fifty years of collecting postal history. It soon became apparent that these should be organized into relatively small chunks.

Earlier ones in this series (all of which are freely downloadable from Richard Frajola's website):

- *Postal history of Nova Scotia & New Brunswick* <https://www.rfrajola.com/DH/dhNSNB.pdf> and <https://www.rfrajola.com/DH/dhNSNBpart2.pdf>
- *Postal history of Prince Edward Island* <https://www.rfrajola.com/DHPEI/DHPEI.htm>
- *Manuscript town postmarks of Canada* <https://www.rfrajola.com/DH2022/Canadapostmarks1.pdf>
- *Early Canadian town postmarks* <https://www.rfrajola.com/DH2022/Canadapostmarks2.pdf>
- *Canadian postal history (domestic)* <https://www.rfrajola.com/DH/DCPH.pdf>
- *Mail between Canada and the US, to 1875* <https://www.rfrajola.com/DH2023/DHCanadatoUS.pdf>
- *Newfoundland postal history, to 1875* <https://www.rfrajola.com/DH2023/DHNFph.pdf>

Older ones (which will be updated):

- *Mail between United Kingdom and BNA* <https://www.rfrajola.com/mercury/DHE1.pdf>, <https://www.rfrajola.com/mercury/DHE2.pdf>, <https://www.rfrajola.com/mercury/DHE3.pdf>, and <https://www.rfrajola.com/mercury/DHE4.pdf>
- *Canadian DLO returned letter covering envelopes and wrappers* [rfrajola.com/mercury/DH9.pdf](https://www.rfrajola.com/mercury/DH9.pdf)
- *Mail to and from Canada prior to joining the UPU* [rfrajola.com/DH/DHCanadaExternalMails.pdf](https://www.rfrajola.com/DH/DHCanadaExternalMails.pdf)

Planned

- *British Columbia postal history, to 1875*

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This exhibit is the heavily and recently revised version of <https://rfrajola.com/mercury/DHreg.pdf>. A companion to this exhibit is

- *Canadian postal history: incoming registered mail, 1899–1952*

It is the sequel to

- *Canadian registration to 1898*

which is itself the sequel to

- *Canadian money letters*

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Comments, suggestions, queries, offers of material (to trade) etc, are solicited.

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David Handelman, Ottawa

April 2023

# Canadian postal history via registration, 1911–1952

## Introduction

**T**HIS is a pseudo-virtual exhibit; *pseudo-* because it is intended to be printed (with real covers, not the scans) as an exhibit. I put it in this virtual form in order to expose it to criticism before I mount the pages, and also to see just what I have, what I need, and what I can dispose of.

There is so much material available that it was difficult deciding what to leave out. It is likely that the organization could be improved, the story line might be obscure, . . . . Some of the material could be upgraded, too. I hope readers will send comments, criticisms, and suggestions (e-mail address below)—this is the main point of putting it on-line.

I am also interested in buying or trading for material that would fit in.

The scans are 300dpi, very low resolution, hence some of the images look a lot worse than the covers really are (and the appearance of some is considerably improved). This is another reason to call this *pseudo-virtual*. Had I intended to make this a real virtual (!) exhibit, I would have scanned at 300dpi. Many of the side images are in greyscale (as they were done when I had only a black and white printer). The images of the covers are within  $\pm 5\%$  of their actual size, or so I hope.

This was prepared in the typesetting language T<sub>E</sub>X (but *not* straitjacket L<sup>A</sup>T<sub>E</sub>X). The font family is ITC Elysium. When text overlaps an image, it means that the cover will be mounted to the left of where it is shown.

David Handelman, Ottawa, November 2010–January 2011  
rochelle2@sympatico.ca

*March 2011:* Some minor modifications made, adding to pages, and replacing some by others.

*March 2012:* Title changed from *Canadian registration, 1911–1947*, to *Canadian postal history via registration, 1911–47*, as a consequence of the (probably dubious) comments made by the judges at Orapex 2011, who only gave it vermeil. Some material replaced.

*April 2023:* Extensive changes and additions including yet another title change, and a separate exhibit for incoming registered has been prepared. It is the sequel to *Canada & Maritimes money and registered letters to 1898*, [rfrajola.com/DH/DHRegistered.pdf](http://rfrajola.com/DH/DHRegistered.pdf), which has since bifurcated into two exhibits, and the Maritimes portion absorbed into [rfrajola.com/DH/dhNSNB.pdf](http://rfrajola.com/DH/dhNSNB.pdf) and [rfrajola.com/DH/dhNSNBpart2.pdf](http://rfrajola.com/DH/dhNSNBpart2.pdf) (*Postal history of Nova Scotia & New Brunswick parts 1 and 2*), and [rfrajola.com/DHPEI/DHPEI.pdf](http://rfrajola.com/DHPEI/DHPEI.pdf) (*Postal history of pre-Confederation Prince Edward Island*).

# Canadian postal history via registration, 1911–1952

## Synopsis

**T**HIS exhibit deals with Canadian postal history via the registration system from 1899 (coinciding with the inception of Imperial Penny Postage) to slightly beyond the post-war normalization of rates around 1946–47. In addition to studying registration itself, we discuss the interaction with other services (such as COD, postage due, and airmail), as well as services elaborating on registration (such as extra indemnity and money packets).

The organization is roughly domestic, then international—thus domestic rates come first, then services that applied only domestically, such as extra indemnity, COD, and these are followed by a brief section on some of the fancier postmark intended for registered mail.

The international section is divided into surface rates (which more or less is itself divided into U P U, Empire, and preferred), and then airmail; whereas the former is fairly straightforward, the latter is almost chaotic, and we provide a representative sampling. Then we have a number of special sections: *postage due registered*, itself divided into domestic and international, *complimentary & compulsory registration*, the very difficult to find *registered wreck* combination, *money packets* (divided into domestic and international), *free registered* (also divided into domestic and international, which here means U S), and finally, *covering envelopes for the return from the D L O of registered mail*.

The companion exhibit, *Canadian postal history: incoming registered mail, 1899–1952*, deals with incoming and through registered mail.

Aside from showing many aspects of Canadian registration in this period, one of the aims is to point out very unusual and unexpected combinations (such as postage due registered), and little known relationships between services (such as first, second, or third class mail sent COD was *automatically* registered). The emphasis tends to be on lesser studied aspects of registration (such as money packets and A R). Air mail, both international and domestic, is a particularly important aspect of postal history in this period and we deal with airmail sent by registered mail in great detail.

*Organization* The first division is domestic/international.

**Domestic registration** The nominal registration fee changed just twice in the period, but domestic rates changed several times, as did the drop letter rate. We show various rate combinations, with preference given to multiple rates. Examples with the early extra indemnity (1904–1910), special delivery, and with officially sealed stamps appear. Highlights include the diagonally overprinted W A R T A X 5¢ Admiral paying the registration fee (in the period of validity), and the massive duovigintuple (22 ×) rate, as well as a strip of ten 2¢ imperforate Edwards on a commercial cover.

Then we have a few oddities—*registration with precancelled stamps* (not normally permitted, but here used

to send medals and awards to WW I veterans) and letters intended to be registered (with appropriate postage) but *dropped* in a mail box, then registered by the post office (indicated by *ms drop*).

*Fancy registration cancels* We show a representative sampling of the unusual registered datestamps and handstamps used at Canadian post offices (these are mostly holdovers from the late nineteenth and early twentieth centuries, but some persisted well into the 1940s). Some also appear in the rest of the exhibit. The tiny **St J** and the Birtle (Manitoba) are highlights, as is the *Cathcart* manuscript registration rectangle.

*Extra indemnity* After the failed experiment offering extra indemnity, it wasn't tried again until 1924; this time it took hold, the rates remaining unchanged for almost thirty years. This service was available only domestically. Since no registered mail was permitted to have any indication of value marked on it, we can only infer extra indemnity from the postage paid and the nature of the item. Examples of \$50<sup>+</sup>–75 indemnity (30¢ fee) are rare, and two are shown.

*Cash on delivery* Although various delivery firms had been offering COD service on packages, the post office did not get into the act until 1922. It was available on all classes of mail, but on first, second, or third, registration was compulsory (and included in the fee). Again it was available only domestically (unlike the situation in virtually all other countries in the world). Among the highlights is a third class COD envelope (survival of these things is problematic).

**International** (*surface*) There were two changes in registry fees and several in each of U P U, Empire, and preferred rates. These are arranged (roughly) chronologically within each subgroup. We show the rate changes with an extensive array of destinations or high multiple rates, or other interesting features. A complete turned (reused) wrapper between Switzerland and Canada is one of the highlights, as are a 1904 registered printed matter cover to Denmark and a 1904 paquebot cover to Queen Alexandra.

(*Airmail*) Canada established its own airmail rates and services in 1930. We show two early and massive registered airmail letters to Belgium and Panama (twelve times rate, with \$1 Admiral), and then illustrate examples of subsequent rates, including the British Empire scheme. During and after World War II, rates varied tremendously. A highlight is the non-philatelic 1944 airmail registered cover to Grahamland (Operation Tabarin). Another is the 1946 cover to Manchuria wherein registration was cancelled.

**Postage due registered** Registered mail can be postage due for a variety of (improbable) reasons, although clerical error seems to be the most frequent explanation. Others include forwarding to a destination requiring more postage, or dropping the letter in the mailbox without checking the rates, or as a result of the very complicated early air mail rates; sometimes, destination offices charged for forwarding registered mail. These divide into domestic and international, and both are difficult to find.

**Complimentary and compulsory registration** Mail that was registered by the post office after it was received, either with no additional charge, or with postage due assessed for registration; typically this occurs when the envelopes are suspected to contain items of value. Examples of complimentary registration include one from the twelve-day civil censorship period in 1916 and three from the six-day civil censorship period in 1917. It is very difficult to decide whether compulsory registration has occurred (since it was a violation of the regulations to indicate value of the contents on the envelope), but we show a couple, including one where the postage due fee was withdrawn (1933).

**Registered wreck covers** This is a particularly unusual combination; shown are two incoming (one recovered from a ship sunk in the first world war, the other from an air wreck), and one outgoing (recovered from the *Eros*, damaged by the Nazis in 1940).

**Money packets** These are packets of bank notes or securities with value exceeding \$100 (so that extra indemnity, when available, could not cover it). Prior to the official adoption of this service (1922), these packets were sent as first class mail. When the service was introduced, much more expensive rates applied. It was available to several other countries, although even to the US, only a handful of examples are known.

Highlights include the tag for a presumed gold brick with \$20.10 in stamps applied (1931), and examples to the U S and U K.

**Free registered mail** Here *free* refers to any portion of the postage (but usually applies to all fees), typically to or from government offices. Canadian free registered is relatively difficult to find. Examples



are possible to the US (owing to an 1887 treaty, allowing free mail to continue), and we show a few of these as well, and a spectacular one forwarded (at no additional charge) to the UK and returned.

**Returned from dead letter office** If a registered letter could not be delivered and no return address were visible, it would be sent to the D L O , where the envelope would be opened, the address found, and returned to the sender in a covering envelope, by *registered* mail, with the standard D L O fee charged, but no charge for registration. Examples are few.

**Avis de réception** A R service (providing a form or card to be signed by the recipient of a registered letter, which would be returned to sender as evidence of delivery) was very unpopular in Canada. It is covered in an exhibit wholly devoted to Canadian A R on Richard's website, [rfrajola.com/DH2019/4ar.pdf](http://rfrajola.com/DH2019/4ar.pdf) (updated April 2023).

**Period discussed** From 1899 (the beginning of the Imperial Penny Post scheme) to 1952.

There are four levels of headings (excluding the exhibit title)

# Title

## Subtitle

### Subsubtitle

*Subsubsubtitle* (in-line) Practically all pages have a subsubtitle, and all descriptions of covers have a sub-subsubtitle.

**Research & References** There is a heavy research component in this exhibit; among the sources are Canada Postal Guides, and many articles (including a lot of mine) in BNATopics (during the period when it was a good journal) and the PHSC Journal.

Basic rate information is provided on the next page.

# Basic Canadian rates 1899–1952

dates →	<	15/4/15	20/7/15	21/10/1	25/10/1	26/7/1	28/8/24	30/7/1
registration	<b>5</b>	→	<b>10</b>	→	→ <sup>i</sup>	→	→	→
AR	<b>5</b>	→	→	<b>10</b>	→	→	→	→
AR, after the fact	<b>5</b>	→	→	<b>20</b>	→	→	→	→
money packet	<b>NA</b>	→	→	→	<b>5/ + 11</b> <sup>ii</sup>	<b>5/ + 10</b>	→	→
domestic first class	<b>2/</b>	<b>2/ + 1</b>	→	→	→	<b>2/</b>	→	→
drop letter	<b>1/</b>	<b>1/ + 1</b>	→	→	→	→	→	→
domestic airmail	<b>NA</b>	→	→	→	→	→	<b>10/ – 5</b>	→
UPU first class*	<b>3/ + 2</b>	→	→	<b>5/ + 5</b>	<b>4/ + 4</b>	→	→	<b>3/ + 2</b>
British Empire (I P P)**	<b>2/</b>	<b>2/ + 1</b>	→	<b>3/ + 1</b>	→	<b>3/</b>	→	<b>2/</b> <sup>iii</sup>

dates →	31/7/1	31/10/23	43/4/1	51/4/2
registration	<b>10</b>	→	→	<b>20</b>
AR	<b>10</b>	→	→	→
AR, after the fact	<b>20</b>	→	→	→
money packet	<b>5/ + 10</b>	→	<b>5/ + 12</b>	<b>5/ + 22</b>
domestic first class	<b>2/ + 1</b>	→	<b>2/ + 2</b>	→
drop letter	<b>1/ + 1</b>	<b>1/ + 2</b>	→	→
domestic airmail	<b>10/ – 4</b>	<b>5/ + 1</b>	<b>5/ + 2</b>	→ <sup>iv</sup>
UPU first class*	<b>3/ + 2</b>	→	→	→
British Empire (I P P)**	<b>2/ + 1</b>	→	<b>2/ + 2</b>	→

All rates are in cents (¢). The notation **m/ + n** means *m*¢ per ounce plus *n*¢ – in other words, (*m*+*n*)¢ for the first ounce, and *m*¢ for each additional (as occurs with some of the airmail rates, *n* can be negative). **m/** is an abbreviation for *m*¢ per ounce.

Dating system is **year/month/day**. Printed matter, special delivery, COD, DLO return fee, international airmail, . . . not included. Parcel post could not be sent registered for almost all of the period, so is also not included here. Almost all of the rates were taken from Bob Smith's *Canadian postal rates*.

<sup>i</sup> Extra indemnity introduced 1924/8/1 for domestic registered mail only: 20¢ for up to \$50 indemnity, 30¢ to \$75 indemnity, and 40¢ to \$100 indemnity; these rates continued to 1951.

<sup>ii</sup> Money packet service introduced 1922/4/1; available domestically and to a few countries (same rates).

<sup>iii</sup> Rate change occurred 1928/12/25.

<sup>iv</sup> All-up service on domestic mail was instituted in 1948, so it is unclear why a domestic airmail rate was needed.

\* Domestic rates to US throughout. Preferred (that is, domestic) rates applied to most PUAS countries, most of the time.

\*\*Not all countries in the British Empire adhered to the Imperial Penny Post (I P P) scheme initially; for those, the U P U rate applied.

NA = service not available.

# Canadian postal history via registration, 1899–1952

**C**ANADA'S postal history in this period is discussed through the lens of registration; this includes some rather obscure aspects, such as COD, through registered mail, money packets, and A R, as well as some very unusual combinations, such as wreck, returned from the Dead Letter Office, and free. Emphasis is placed on international registered mail, especially airmail.

**Contents** (Some highlights are itemized)

**Domestic** Various rate combinations shown; highlights include early extra indemnity (1904), overprinted *WAR TAX* used in period to pay registration, and massive duovigintuple rate.

*Miscellaneous domestic* Use of precancelled stamps on registered mail (not permitted according to regulations); registered mail *dropped* in the mailbox; drop letters; fancier registration date- and handstamps.

*Later extra indemnity on registered letters* Introduced 1924 and not popular. Includes two examples of 30¢ charge, the rarest.

*COD* mail sent first, second, or third class was automatically registered. Survival of such items is problematic. Third class (1927), returned to sender 1935.

**International (surface)** Illustrating the various rate combinations (including *U P U*, Empire, and preferred rates) and periods to many different destinations; to Belgium (August 1914); septodectuple rate to Germany (1927); turned (reused) wrapper to Switzerland 1933; returned from Tashkent; New Zealand paquebot to the Queen; to Boer *P O W*.

**International (airmail)** Various rate combinations to many destinations; to Oslo via US (1928); very heavy air rates to each of Belgium and Panama (1930); to Grahamland—Operation Tabarin (1944); registration *cancelled* to Harbin (1946).

**Postage due registered** Registered mail either short paid or subject to additional charges after mailing (domestic and international). Very difficult to find, and often due to letter dropped in the mail box rather than taken to counter.

**Complimentary & compulsory registration** Registration implemented after letter arrives in post office on detection of valuables, either free or charged. Very often difficult to decide if compulsory registration occurs. Examples during 1916 and 1917 civil censorship; compulsory registration retracted (1933).

**Registered wrecks** Recovered from *Kingstonian* (torpedoed 1918), *Centurion* (airplane crash 1939), and *Eros* (torpedoed 1942).

**Money packets** Special service (at higher postal rate) for registered letters containing material worth more than \$100. Gold brick (twenty \$1 Parliaments on tag, 1931), to *U S* (1935), to *U K* (1947) (foreign destinations *very* unusual).

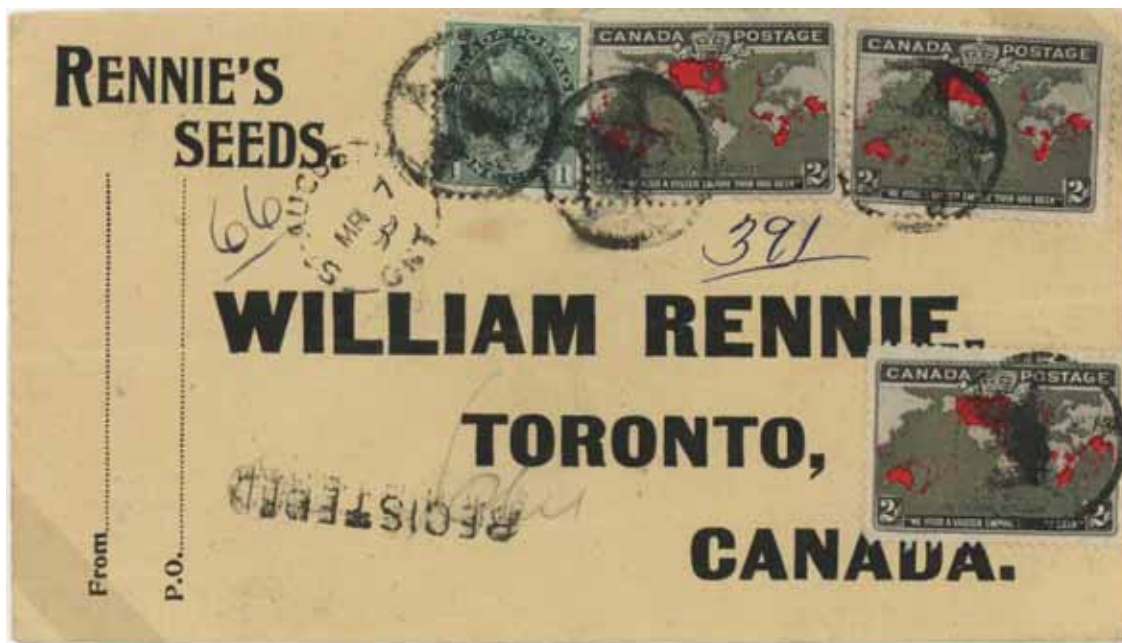
**Free registered** Typically to or from federal government offices with at least part of the postage free; not easily found. Free franks by OD Skelton (1938) and NA Robertson (1942), to *U S* (1919), forwarded (at no extra charge) to *U K* (1916).

**Returned from DLO** Covering envelopes (enclosing returned dead letters) sent registered, including one with compulsory registration at the *D L O*.

## Domestic registration, 1899 on

Maple leaves, numerals, Edwards, and tercentenaries

Domestic letter rate, 2¢ per half ounce (to 1915); registration 5¢ (to 1920).



St Augustine (Ont)—Toronto, March 1899. Registration 5¢ plus 2¢ letter rate.



Toronto—passenger aboard a ship, Montreal, 1899. Rated as above



Heavier



*St John's (Que)–Napierville, sextuple, 1903. Registration 5¢ plus sextuple domestic letter rate (2¢). Trimmed at left.*

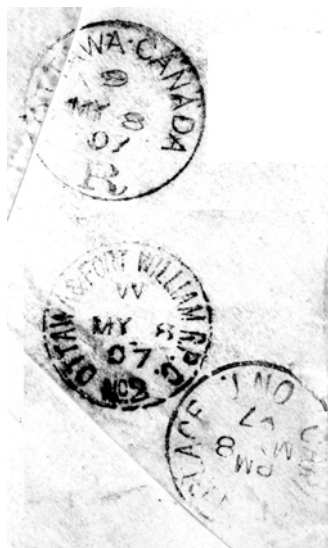


*Montreal–Napierville, triple, 1903. Registration 5¢ plus triple 2¢.*

Large



Ottawa—Carleton Place, 1907. Registration 5¢ and double 2¢ domestic letter rate. Huge R (also used at Toronto and Winnipeg), and Ottawa R cds.



Yukon territory

*Dominion (Yukon)—Dawson, triple, 1907. Registration 5¢, and 3 × 2¢ domestic letter rate.*





Re-used



Ontario House of Assembly (Toronto)–Kinmount (Ont), remailed to Tory Hill, 1909. Registration 5¢ plus double 2¢ domestic letter rate; then remailed from Kinmount with the same amount in postage. Original postmarks were struck through, front and back.

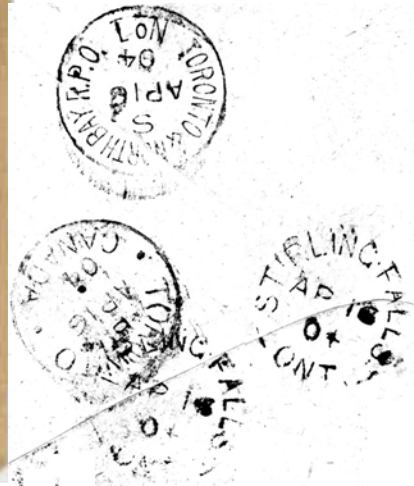




## Insurance (extra indemnity)

Canada introduced an extra indemnity option on registered letters (called *insurance*), 15 March 1904. The fees (in addition to all other postage, such as registration) were 3¢ (up to \$10), 4¢ (to \$15), 5¢ (to \$20), and 6¢ (to \$25). It appears to have been abandoned by 1910. About 20 insured covers are known, mostly in 1904.

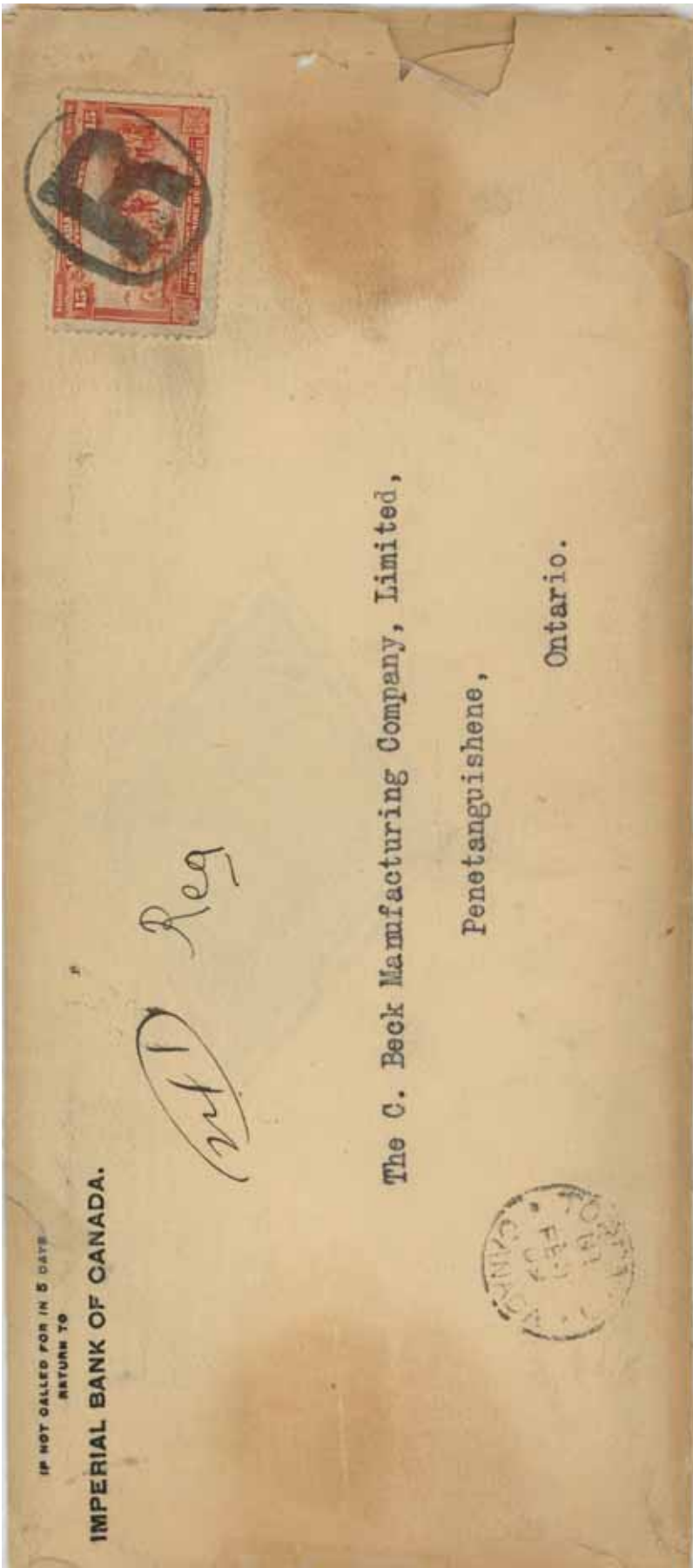
Extra indemnity was re-introduced in 1924.



Stirling Falls (Ont)—Toronto, 16 April 1904. letter rate 2¢, registration 5¢, and indemnity up to \$15, 4¢.

*\$15-00 fifteen Dollars*

Multiple



Toronto–Penetanguishene, quintuple, 1909. Registration 5¢, and 5 × 2¢ domestic letter rate. Financial institutions typically bought large stocks of postage, and used them up over many years.



Octuple



Octuple rate, Port Arthur (ON)—Toronto, 1911. Rated 5¢ registration plus 8 × 2¢ domestic. Oval Port Arthur registration handstamp. House of Assembly duplex on reverse.





## With special delivery

Special delivery was introduced 1 July 1898 in a number of cities; it was later expanded. The rate was 10¢ until 1931.



Winnipeg–Toronto, special delivery, 1910. Rated 5¢ registration, 2¢ domestic, and 10¢ registration.





## War tax introduced

On 15 April 1915, a flat 1¢ was added to all first class domestic mail. On 12 January 1915, diagonally overprinted 5¢, 20¢, & 50¢ Admirals were issued, intended for fiscal use only; on 16 April, their use postally was authorized, and subsequently revoked 30 December.

However, use of a War Tax fiscal (as on the bottom cover) was *never* authorized. However, at a small office where the postmaster likely spoke only French (the stamp was English only), it was accepted.



*Nipigon to Indian agent at Port Arthur (ON), with diagonally overprinted WAR TAX, in period, 14 May 1915. Rated 5¢ registration and 2¢ domestic + 1¢ war tax (overpaid 1¢, confusion likely caused by 2¢ War Tax stamp). Oval Nipigon registration handstamp.*



*Doreil (QC)–Eatons (Toronto), with War Tax fiscal, 1917. Rated as above, but improper use. Back is printed in two colours.*

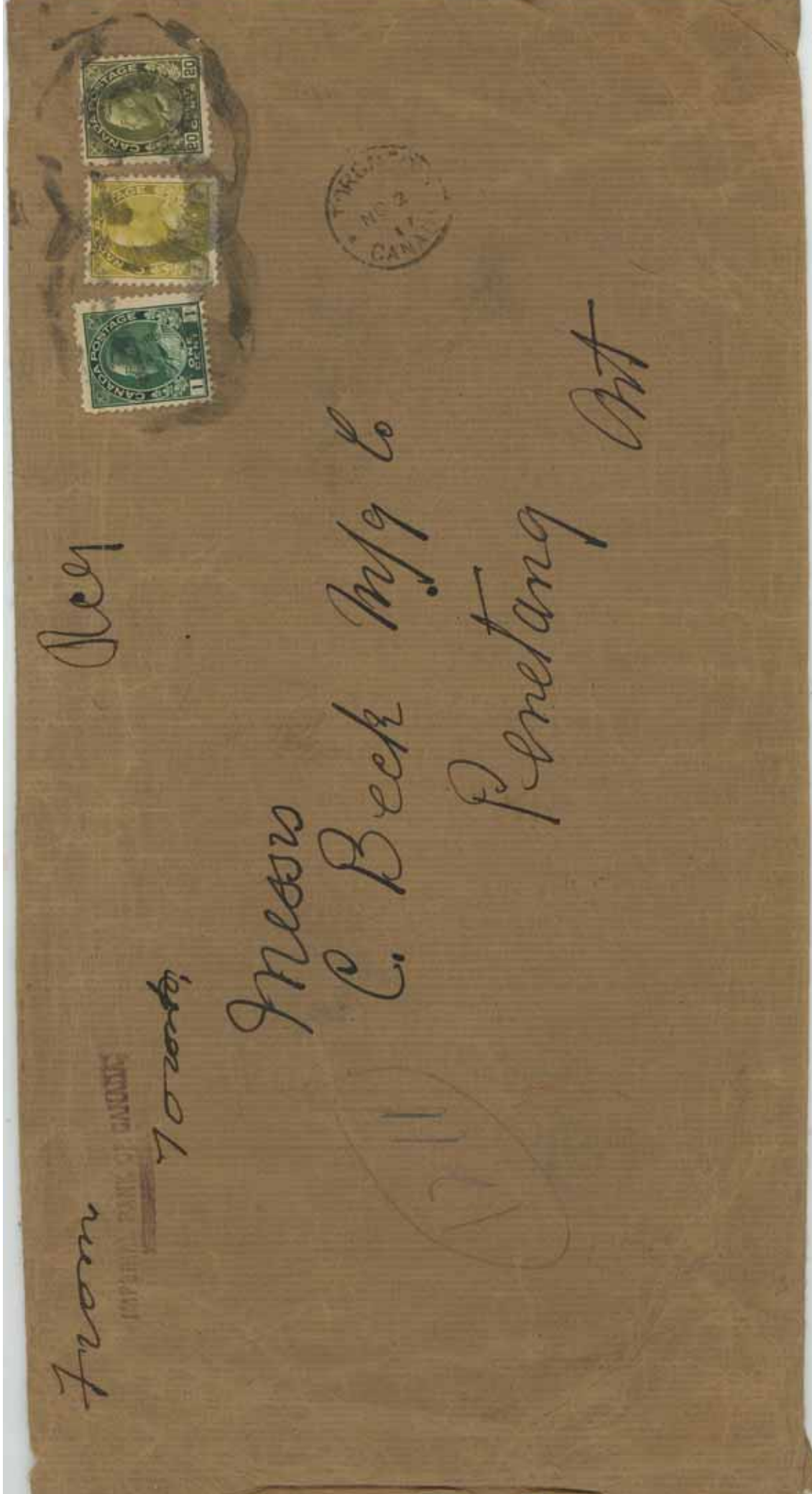


Heavy



*Tridectuple, Toronto—Penetang, 1918. Rated 5¢ registration, 13 × 2¢ per ounce, and 1¢ war tax.*





Heavy

Unidectuple (11 ×), Toronto—  
Penetanguishene (Penetang),  
1917. Rated 5¢ registra-  
tion, 11 × 2¢ per ounce,  
and 1¢ war tax.



Seal of Imperial Bank of  
Canada.





## Registration fee increases

On 15 July 1920, registration increased to 10¢, with default indemnity up to \$25. Extra indemnity did not become available until 1924.

*Duovigintuple* (22 ×) rate, 1922. Rated 10¢ registration, 22 × 2¢ per ounce, and 1¢ war tax.

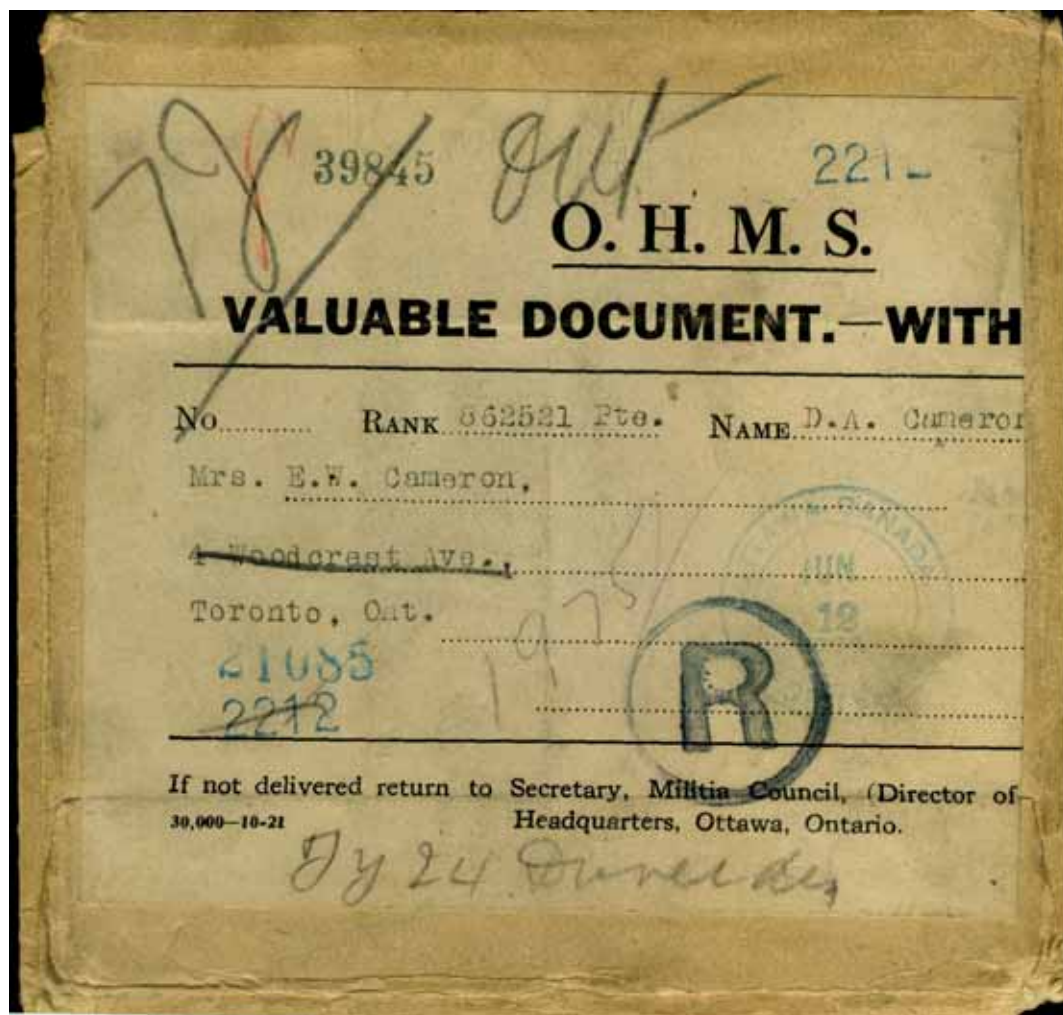
Secretary having fun, using some stamps issued a decade earlier (typical of banks and stock brokers, as Wood-Gundy was).



Seldom-seen Toronto Term'l St'n A duplex enclosing R; for registered mail.

## Registered with precancelled stamps

Use of precancelled stamps was not permitted on registered mail; however, the post office seems to have turned a blind eye to the mailing of decorations and medals to WW I veterans and their survivors.



Ottawa—Toronto, forwarded, fourteen times rate, 1922. Rated 10¢ registration, 14 × 2¢ per ounce, and 1¢ war tax. Standard mailing of medals and decorations (cover is intact; it originally contained a box). Most others I have seen are addressed to the soldier himself, but this is addressed to his wife or mother—possibly he had died in the war.

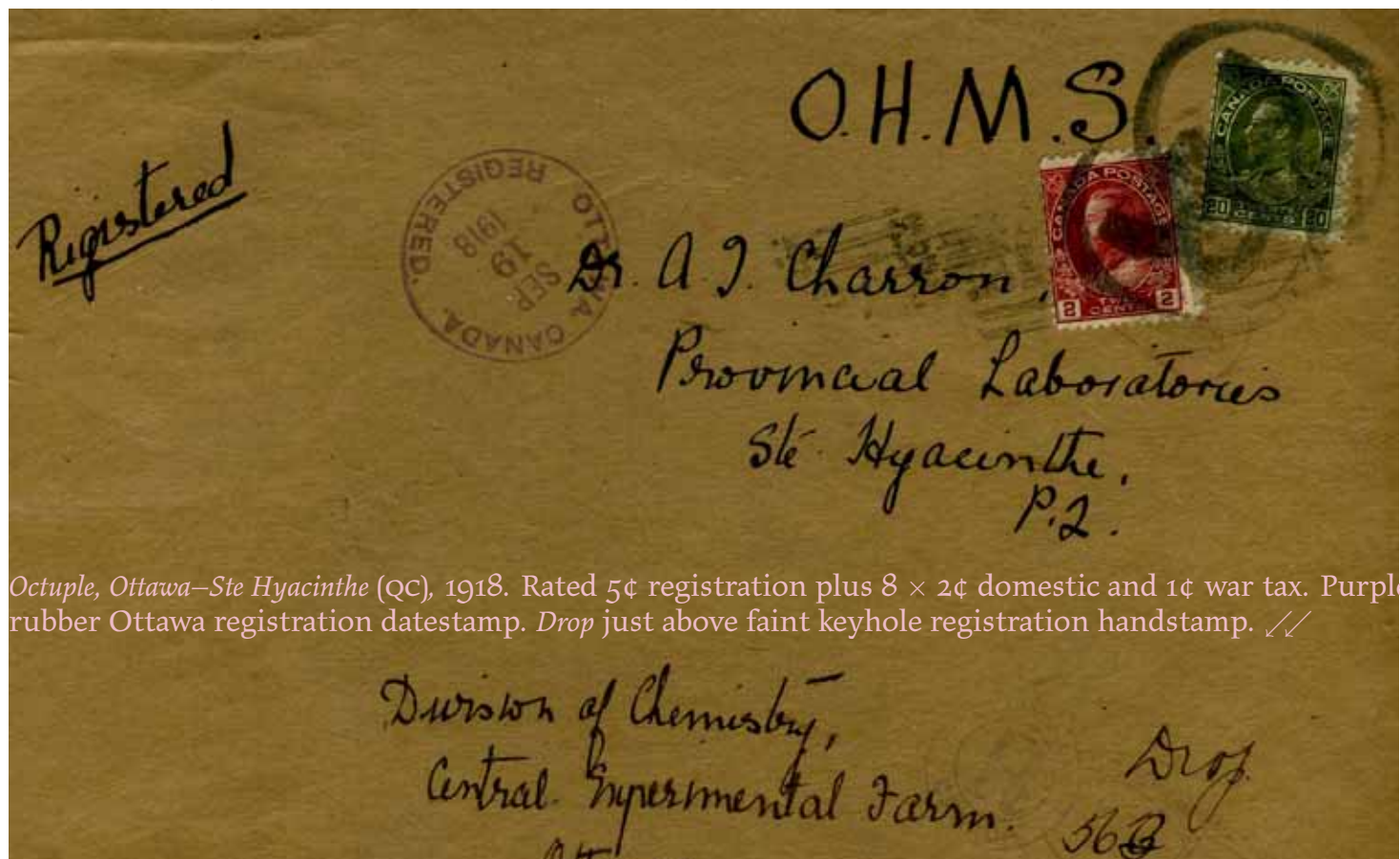


Inverted precancels on all but the 20¢; this is quite common.

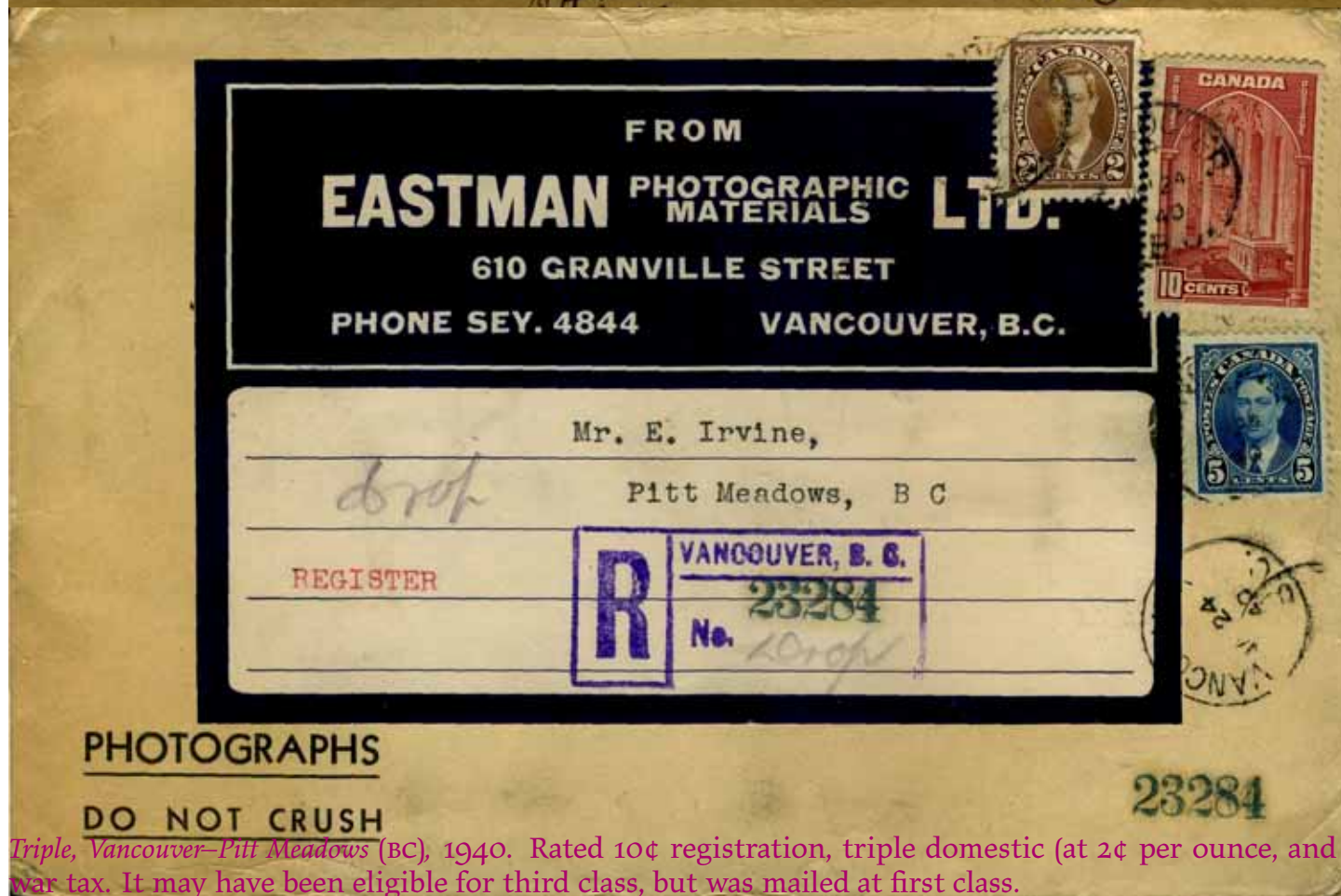


## Dropped in the mail box

Ms *Drop* refers to a letter intended to be registered, but dropped in a mail box. If properly prepaid, it would be registered by the post office with no extra charge. (In U K, marked *posted out of course* and charged.)



Octuple, Ottawa–Ste Hyacinthe (QC), 1918. Rated 5¢ registration plus  $8 \times 2\text{¢}$  domestic and 1¢ war tax. Purple rubber Ottawa registration datestamp. *Drop* just above faint keyhole registration handstamp. ✓✓



Triple, Vancouver–Pitt Meadows (BC), 1940. Rated 10¢ registration, triple domestic (at 2¢ per ounce, and 1¢ war tax. It may have been eligible for third class, but was mailed at first class.



## War tax removed

From 1 July 1926 to 30 June 1931, the war tax was not applied, and domestic first class was 2¢ per ounce.



Nonatuple, Bashaw (AB)–Estevan (SK), 1928. Rated 10¢ registration and  $9 \times 2\text{¢}$  per ounce.

## Late use of stamps

Financial institutions tended to buy large quantities of stamps all at once, and then gradually use them, often over decades. This results in out-of-period uses on commercial mail.

*Toronto–Winnipeg, septuple, 1927. 24¢ made up from 7 × 2¢ domestic letter rate and 10¢ registration.*

A complete row from a pane of 2¢ imperforate Edwards (issued 1903), having right and left selvages.

**THE GREAT WEST PERMANENT LOAN COMPANY**

**P** 181  
Toronto, Ont.  
356 MAIN STREET  
WINNIPEG, MAN.



Heavy

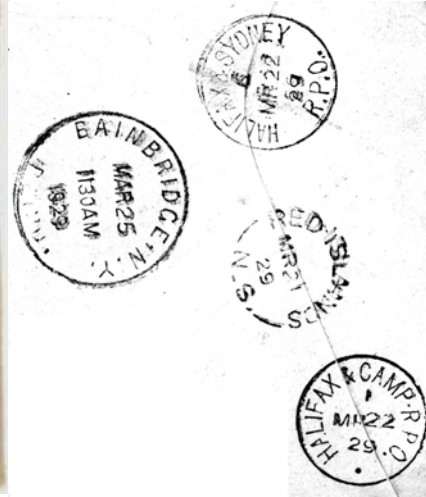


*Duodectuple, Emo (ON)—Washington, 1928. Envelope attached to larger package (no backstamps and paper residue on reverse). Rated 10¢ registration and 12 ounces, 12 × 2¢.*



## Overlapping stamps

Explicitly not permitted, but at a small office, anything goes.



Red Islands (N S) to Bainbridge (NY), 1929. Rated 10¢ registration and 2¢ domestic letter. .

## Domestic airmail

From 23 October 1931 to 31 March 1943, domestic airmail was 6¢ for the first ounce, and 5¢ for each additional.

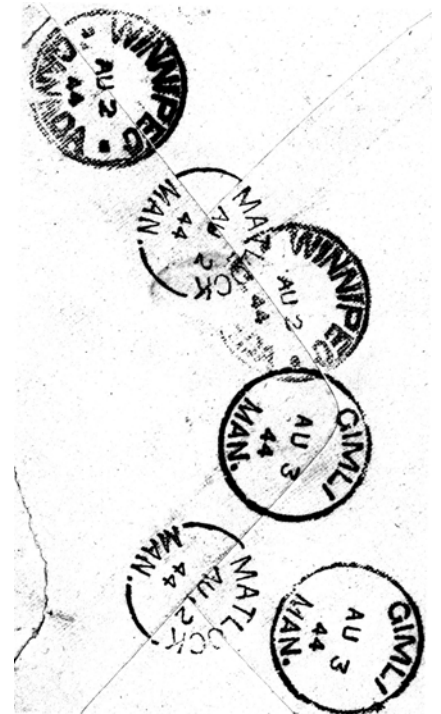


Quintuple rate airmail, Ottawa–Vancouver, 1938. Registration was free from this office (as evidenced by other covers); the postage pays only airmail, 6¢ + 4 × 5¢. Stamps perforated OHMS. Very likely contained a passport, which had to be rushed (and it arrived the day after mailing!).

OD Skelton became a well-known bureaucrat.

## Matlock

One of my wife's favourite TV shows.



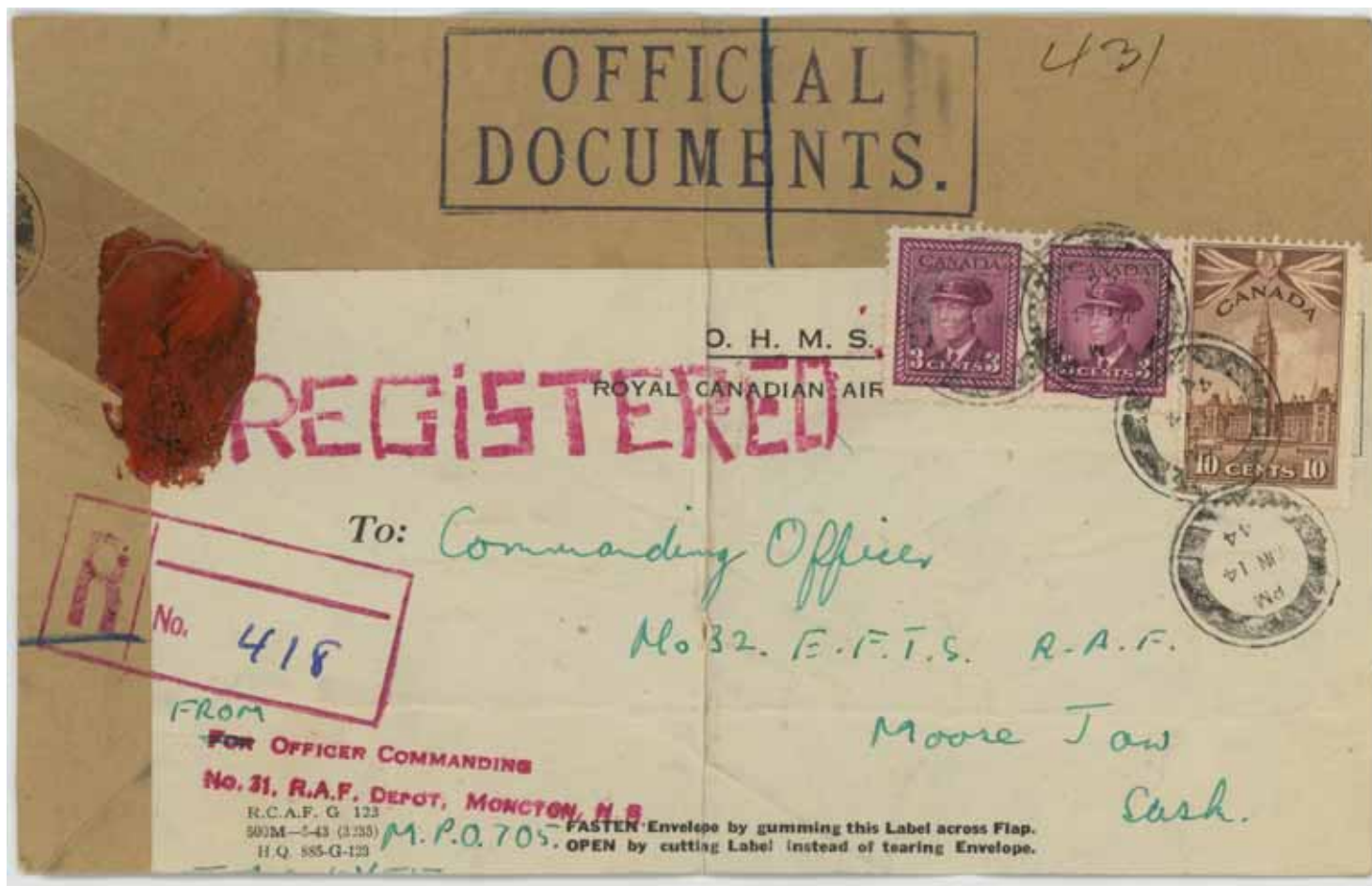
*Matlock–Gimli (Manitoba), 1944. 10¢ registration plus 4¢ domestic letter rate.*

Matlock is a resort community on Lake Winnipeg with a small permanent population.

Gimli (settled by Icelandic immigrants beginning in 1875) is most famous for the *Gimli glider*: an Air Canada Boeing 767 ran out of fuel over southern Manitoba and managed to glide to a safe landing at the Gimli Motorsport Park (1983).



Official



R C A F (R A F), Moncton—Moose Jaw (Sask), 1944. The (British) R A F apparently had depots within R C A F camps. Not a proper rate: 10¢ registration but 3¢ per ounce domestic letter rate, or 7¢ first ounce by air.

Pointless whiteout registration handstamp and blackout dater. The strange REGISTERED handstamp is known on several covers.

## Odd use of stamps



Montreal–Tampa (FL), 1950. Rated 10¢ registration and 4¢ domestic/U.S. Special delivery stamps could be used to pay other postal fees, in this case, registration. The 2¢ stamps were issued in 1927, so this is probably philatelic.

## Registered drop letters

As opposed to letters which were *dropped* (in the mailbox), drop letters were those for which destination and origin offices were the same (later, in the same town or city). From large offices, registered drop letters are *not* scarce. Rates were 1¢ per ounce to 1915, when the flat 1¢ war tax was added, and in 1943, the war tax changed to a flat 2¢.



Drop letter from Grand Forks (B.C.), returned to sender, 1903. Rated 5¢ registration and 1¢ drop letter rate. Distinctive registration handstamp.



Wheatley (Ont), 1905. Rated 5¢ registration and 1¢ drop letter rate.



## Drop letters



Drop letter from Woodstock (Ont), 1914. Rated 5¢ registration and 1¢ drop letter fee.



Drop letter from Hamilton, 1919. Rated 5¢ registration, 1¢ drop letter, and 1¢ war tax.



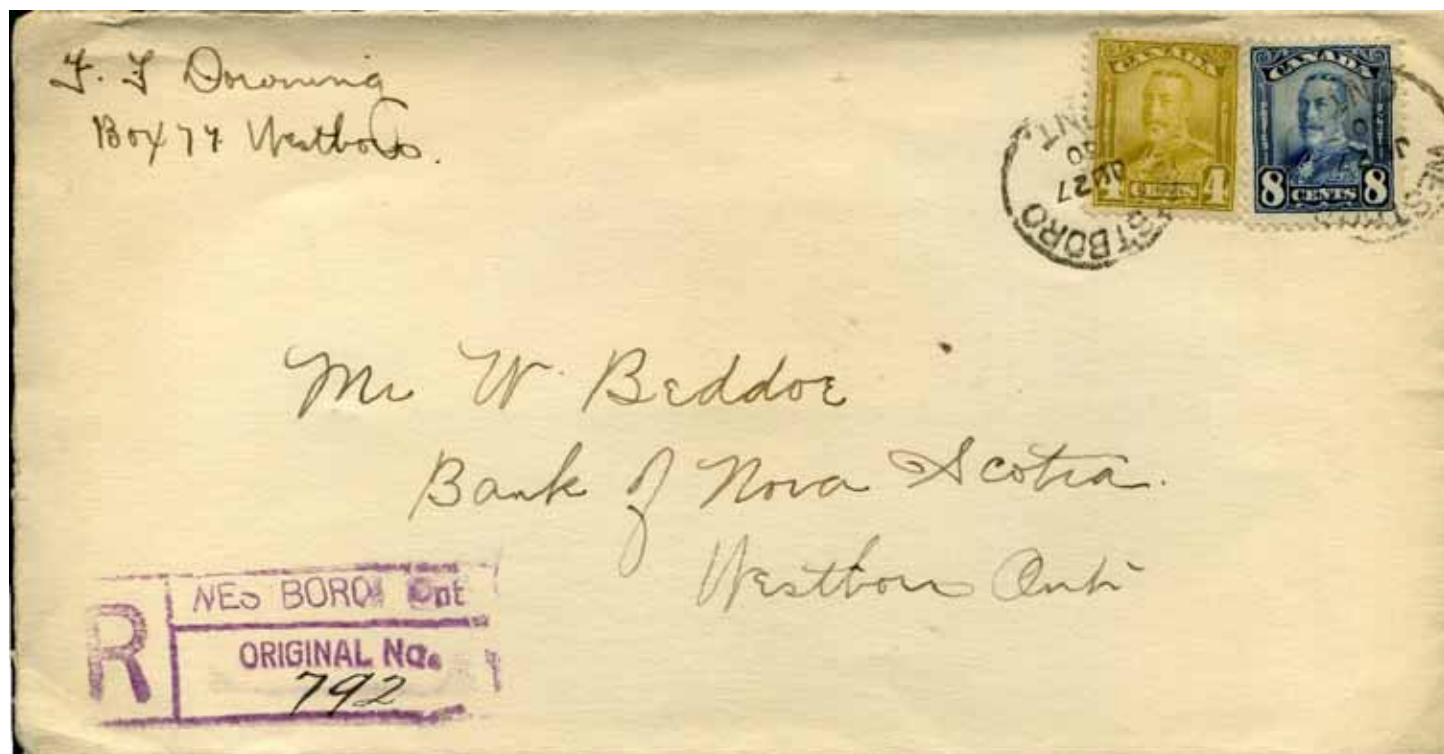
## Multiple drop

From 1928–1931, single drop letters were charged the same as domestic; however, since each additional ounce cost 1¢ as opposed to 2¢, multiple drop letters were cheaper than their domestic counterparts.

*Multiple rate registered drop letters, Winnipeg, 1929. Rated 10¢ registration plus triple (2¢ + 2 × 1¢) and quadruple (2¢ + 3 × 1¢).*



Drop letters, smaller towns



Drop letter from Westboro (ON), 1930. Rated 10¢ registration, 2¢ drop letter rate (first ounce).



Drop letter from Peterborough (ON), 1933. Rated as above.



## Fancier registered datestamps and handstamps

Some towns used oval registered datestamps, and these come in various shapes, sometimes cogged or doubled; double circles were also used infrequently. These were largely left over from the early twentieth century, but persisted into the 1960s. A few offices used fancy registration handstamps that were either simply an R, or more elaborate ones allowing space for the registration number.



Sussex (NB), small double oval, 1913. Rated 5¢ registration and 2¢ domestic.



Truro (NS), elongated double oval, 1913. Rated 5¢ registration and triple 2¢ domestic, attached to a larger parcel. An odd shape.



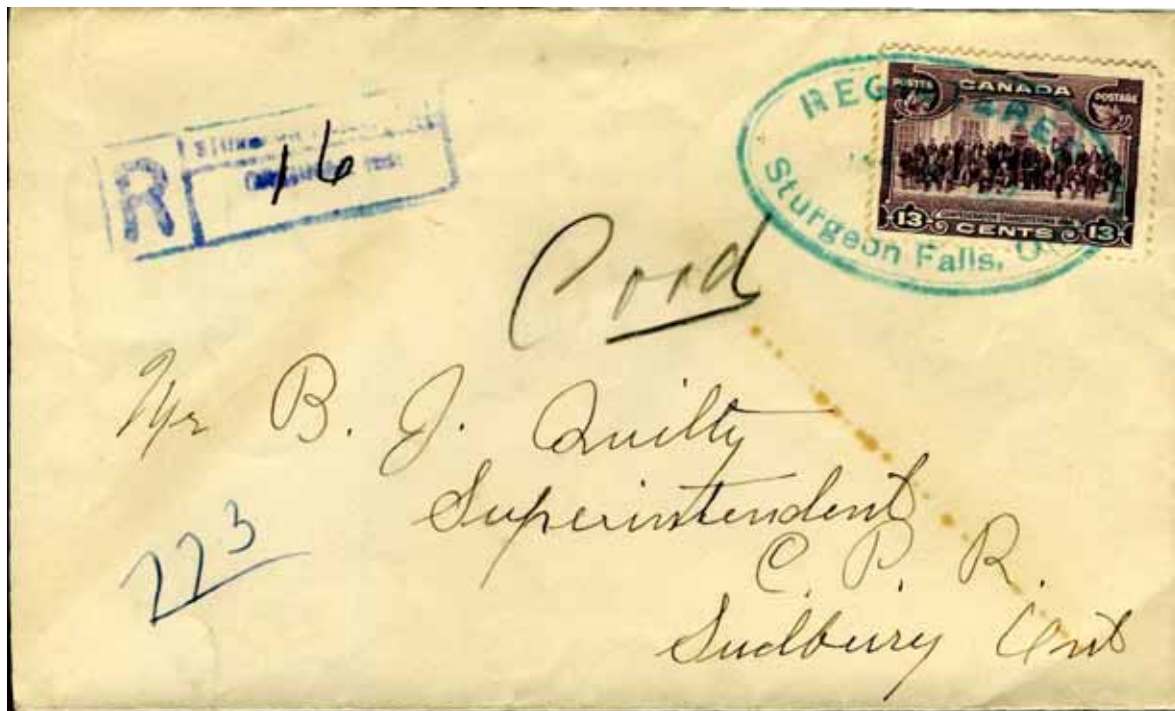
Bothwell (ON), 1940. Rated 10¢ registration and 3¢ domestic.

Different ovals from the same town

Size of lettering in REGISTERED differs.



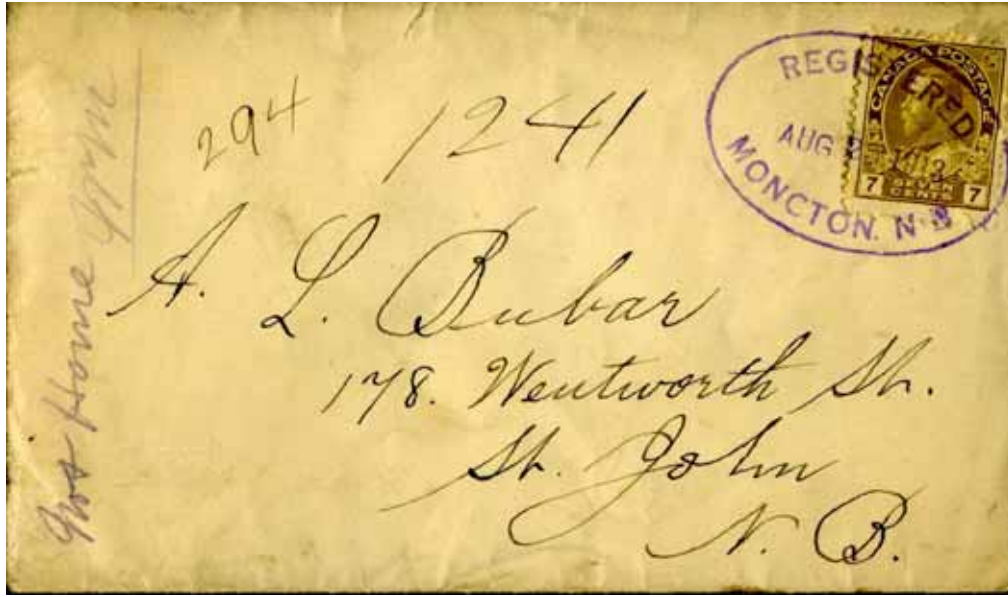
Sturgeon Falls (ON)—Sudbury, 1927. Rated 10¢ registration and 2¢ domestic.



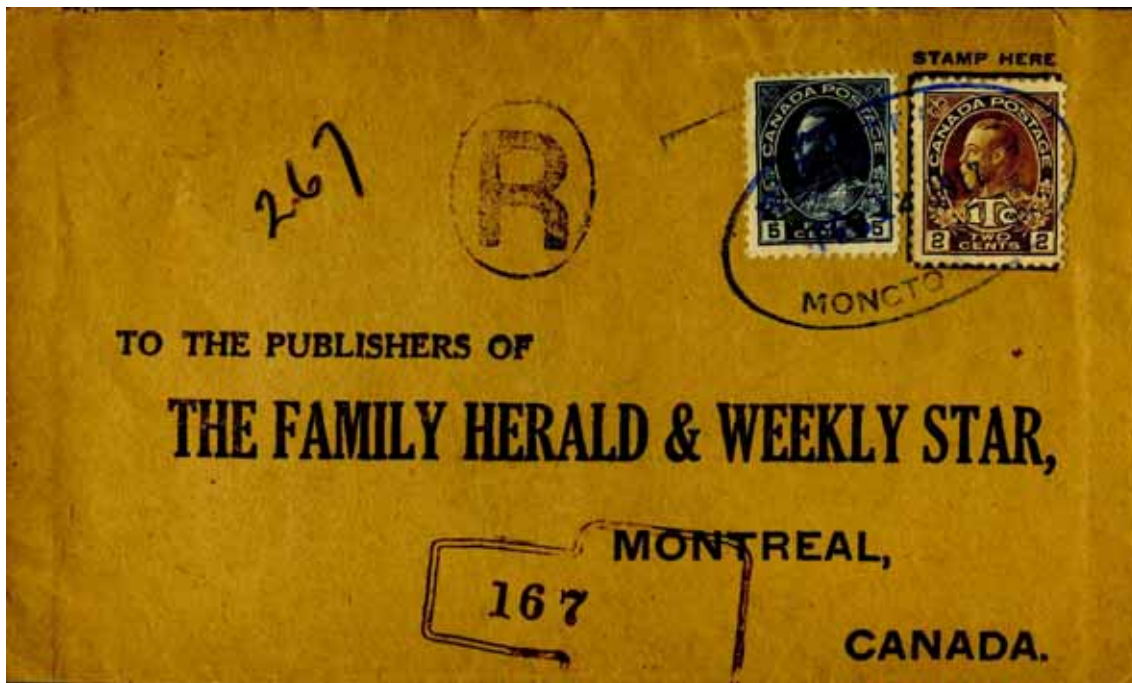
Sturgeon Falls—Sudbury, 1937. Rated 10¢ registration and 3¢ domestic.



## Ovals



Moncton—Saint John (NB), 1913. Postage of 5¢ registration plus 2¢ domestic.



Moncton—Montreal, 1917. Postage as above but with 1¢ war tax (imposed 1915) in addition. Oval Moncton registration handstamp, and experimental Montreal registration handstamp enclosing number.



## Fancy registration markings

A few offices used odd-shaped registration handstamps, but these declined in number in the mid-1910s



*Regina–Zealandia (Sask), 1912.* Rated 5¢ registration and 2¢ domestic, paid by single 7¢ Admiral (and a piece of another one). Very unusual eye-shaped large registration Zealandia datestamp, and oval Regina. Handstamped NOT CALLED FOR and RETURN TO →.



Prince Albert cogged oval, returned from Arborfield (SK), 1915. Rated 5¢ registration & 2¢ domestic. Arborfield and New Osgood (SK) broken circles on reverse.



House of Assembly (Toronto) oval, 1918. Rated 5¢ reg'n, 2¢ domestic, and 1¢ war tax, paid with coils. House of Assembly machine; H of A duplex on reverse.



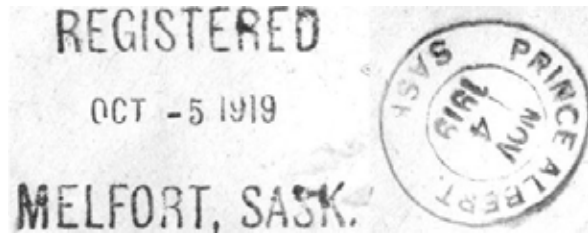
## Straightline registered datestamp

Only known from a handful of offices.



Prince Albert–Melfort (SK), returned to sender 1919. Also with two *different* Prince Albert double circle rubber hammers (indicating dates of despatch and return a month later). Rated 5¢ registration, 2¢ domestic, and 1¢ war tax.

Two strikes (purple and red) of the Dominion Lands Office dater, *not* a post office device.



Melfort straightline is in turquoise; double circle is in redder shade than on the front.





Experimental registered handstamps

Known from a few cities.

Paris (Ont)–Saint John, 1918.  
Odd-shaped registration rectangle (similar type used at Halifax).

Rated 5¢ registration, 2¢ domestic, & 1¢ war tax.



Danville (Que)–Montreal, 1919.  
Rectangular hs enclosing registration number without office name, used for several years in Montreal.

Double circle Danville cancel enclosing separate R hs.

Rated as above



Toronto–Ottawa, returned to sender, 1920.  
Big R attached to small rectangle enclosing number.

Rubber double circle Toronto reg'd datestamp.







Odd registered handstamps enclosing town name & number

West Montrose (ON)—St. Jacobs (ON), 1916. Tiny **St-J** at bottom. Five examples are known.

Rated 5¢ registration, 2¢ domestic, & 1¢ war tax.



Birtle (MB)—Hamilton, 1920. Small turquoise oval.

Rated 10¢ registration, 2¢ domestic, and 1¢ war tax.



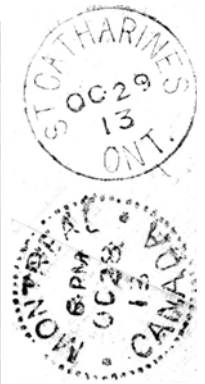
Manuscript rectangle, Cathcart (ON) to Peterborough, 1928. Imitating standard rectangle enclosing reg'n number.

Rated 10¢ registration and 2¢ domestic (1928–31).





## Odd registered handstamps



Montreal–St Catharines, 1913. 1¢ overpayment of registration (5¢) and domestic letter rate 2¢. Rubber Montreal dated registration handstamp (false colour):



Outlook (SK)–Winnipeg, 1914. Registration (5¢) and domestic letter rate 2¢. Turquoise Outlook registration handstamp and duplicated advisory mark.





## Registered meter



*Victoria–Vancouver, January 1945. Postage of 14¢, made up of 4¢ letter rate and 10¢ registration. Useless whiteout registration handstamp (Victoria) on front and blackout daters on reverse (Victoria and Vancouver; the top one is probably from Vancouver, the bottom two from Victoria).*



# Extra indemnity

On 1 August 1924, extra indemnity became available, at 20¢ for up to \$50 indemnity, 30¢ up to \$75, and 40¢ up to \$100; these rates stayed in effect until 1951. It was not allowed to note the value of the enclosures on covers, and thus in some cases, we cannot be absolutely sure that extra indemnity applied.

20¢ rate (to \$50)



Montreal–Toronto, 1930. Rated 20¢ registration, 2¢ domestic (1928–1931).



Dundas–Warton (Ont), 1930. Rated 20¢ registration and 2¢ domestic (1928–1931).

20¢ rate (to \$50)



Wasaga Beach (ON)—Toronto, 1934. Rated 20¢ registration, 3¢ domestic.



Codette (SK)—Vancouver, 1936. Rated 20¢ registration and 3¢ first ounce domestic (1931–43).



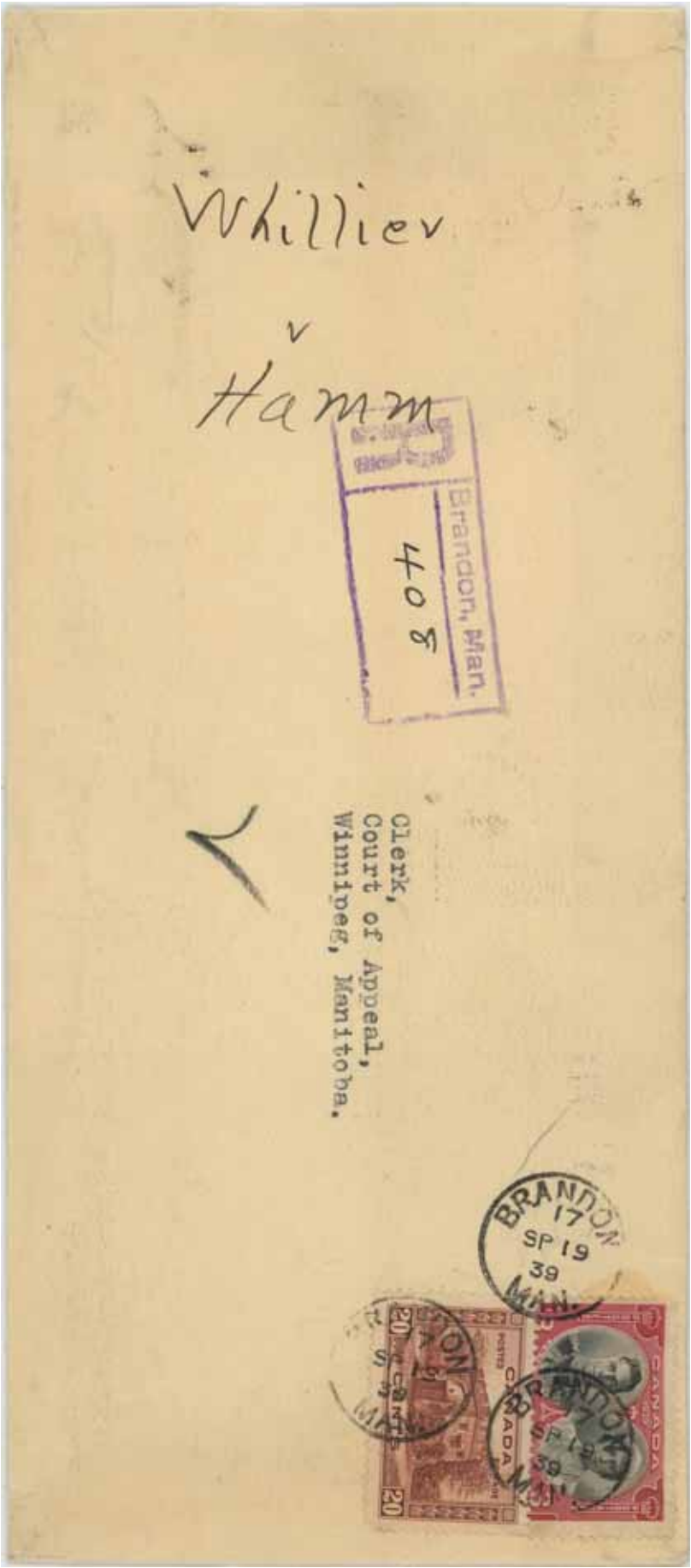
20¢ rate (to \$50)



Galt-Kitchener, 1936. Quadruple domestic, 3¢ + (3 × 2)¢, plus 20¢ registration.



20¢ rate (indemnity to \$50)



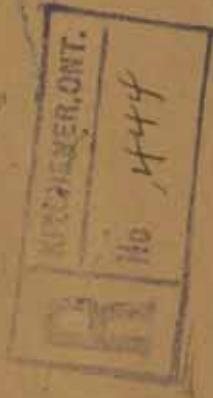
Brandon—Winnipeg, 1939. Single domestic, 3¢, plus 20¢ registration (very unlikely to be sextuple rate, 3¢ + (5 × 2¢), as the envelope is not stressed at all).



W. R. BRICKER & COMPANY  
47 KING ST. WEST  
KITCHENER, ONTARIO

Mrs. V. P. Wiegand,  
26 Roy Street,  
KITCHENER, Ontario.

REGISTERED



20¢ rate (indemnity to \$50)

*Kitchener sextuple drop letter, 1946.* Drop letter rate was 3¢ for the first ounce (includes war tax) and 1¢ for each additional, leaving 20¢.

Money packet is possible: fees were 17¢ for the first ounce (including registration) and 5¢ for each additional, triple rate with 1¢ overpayment.

Ordinary registration (10¢) would have required the letter to weigh 16 ounces, which is impossible.



30¢ rate (to \$75)

The most difficult to find of the extra indemnity rates.



Jaffray-Cranbrook (BC), 1931. Either single domestic rate (2¢) plus 30¢ registration or sextuple domestic and 20¢ registration; the latter is very unlikely, as six ounces would result in far more wear on the cover than there is.



Ottawa-Kingston, with special delivery, 1949. Rated 30¢ registration, 10¢ special delivery, and 4¢ domestic (from 1943).

40¢ rate (to \$100)



Cloverleaf (MB)—Winnipeg, 1929. Rated 40¢ registration, 2¢ domestic letter.



Wilmer (BC)—Vancouver, 1943. Rated 4¢ domestic letter rate and 40¢ registration. 30¢ registration would require six ounces, but the envelope is not stressed. Vancouver blackout dater.



40¢ rate (to \$100)



*Ottawa—Vancouver, special delivery, stationery reuse, August 1945. Rated 10¢ special delivery, 40¢ registration, and 7¢ domestic airmail. Less likely is 30¢ registration, triple airmail (17¢).*



*Toronto drop letter, 1948. Rated 40¢ registration and 3¢ drop letter fee.*



## Rate question



Toronto–Peterboro, 1940. Domestic letter rate was 3¢ first ounce and 2¢ each additional. Thus we have the following three possibilities for this letter from a bank:

- (a) default registration and 13 ounces
- (b) 20¢ registration and 8 ounces
- (c) 30¢ registration and 3 ounces

This is a paper envelope, so it would be almost impossible to stuff 8 ounces (225 g) into it without showing considerable wear.

So in all likelihood, this was 30¢ registration, (c).

Another example where a bank used stamps from more than a decade earlier (all three).

## Cash on delivery (COD)

Privately-run COD services were available (through transportation companies) in the early twentieth century, but the post office did not institute it until 1922. Registration was *compulsory* (and was included in the fee) on non-parcel post COD items. COD was only available domestically.

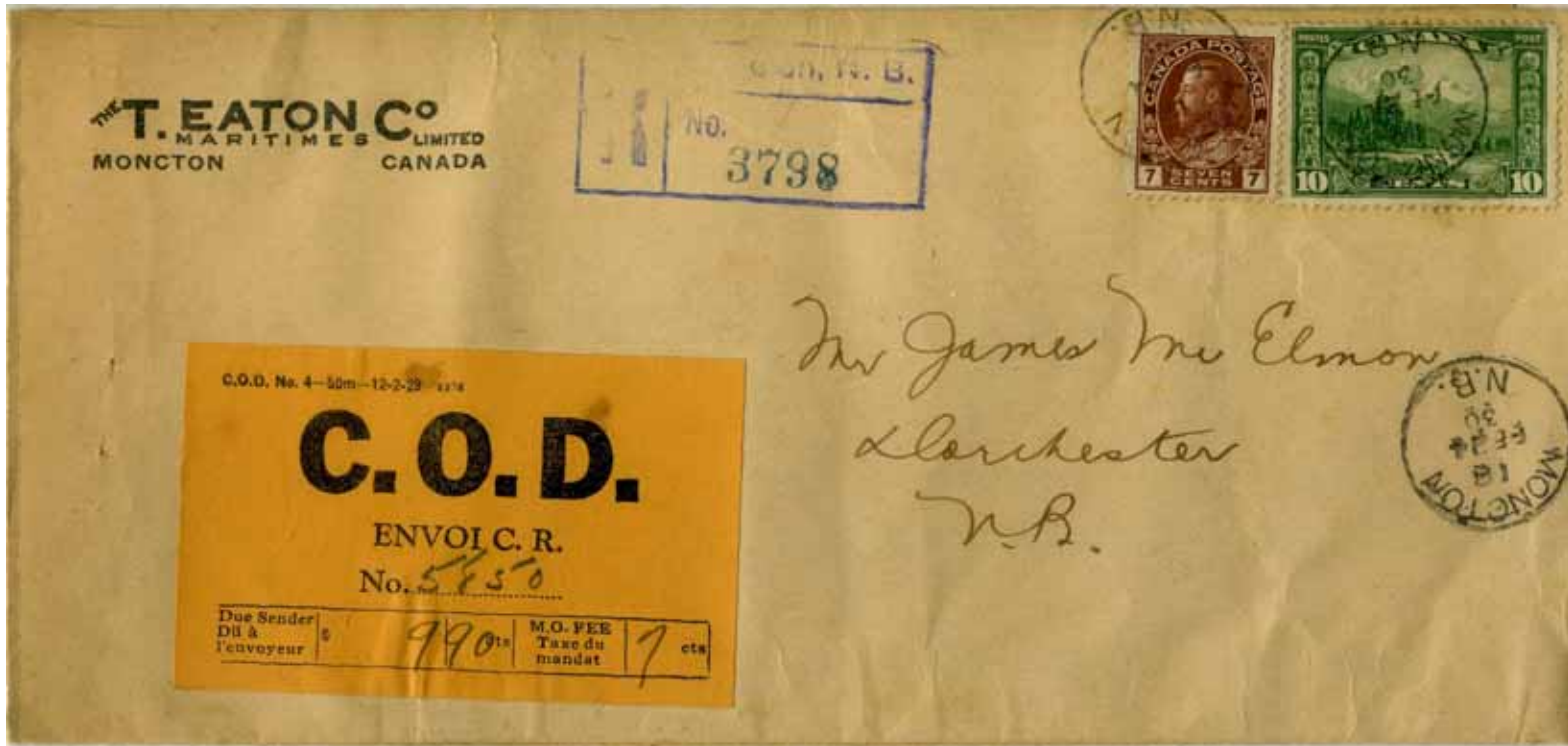
From 1 October 1922–17 October 1940, COD fees were 15¢ (up to \$50 value) and 30¢ (up to \$100 value). In addition, the recipient paid the money order fee for the value of the item. From 18 November 1940–1964, the fees were 10¢, 15¢, 30¢ for values \$2, \$50, \$100 respectively.



COD, with compulsory registration, third class, Kingston–Toronto, 1927. Rated 10¢ registration, 5¢ COD, and almost certainly double third class (at 1¢ per four ounces). Likely contained photographs. Early yellow rectangular sticker includes amount due, made up of \$1.06 for the item and 5¢ to pay for the money order to be sent (by unregistered mail!) to the sender.



COD including registration



Toronto–Dorchester (NB), 1930. Rated 15¢ C O D fee and 2¢ domestic. Orange rectangular sticker. Recipient charged \$9.90 for the Eatons item and 7¢ for the money order.



Saskatoon–Zelma (SK), 1933. Rated 15¢ C O D fee and 3¢ domestic. Older style rectangular sticker. Recipient charged \$4.58 for the item and 10¢ for the money order.



COD returned to sender



Winnipeg—Crescent Valley (B.C.), returned to sender, 1935. Rated 15¢ C O D fee and 3¢ domestic. Now-standard triangular label, placed over old-fashioned (mid-late 1920s) C O D handstamp. Recipient would have been charged 68¢ for the item(!) and 8¢ for the money order.



Departed Winnipeg 19 March, next day on CAL & VAN RPO, next day MED HAT & NEL RPO, same day via another RPO, arriving in Nelson on the 22nd. It took a further week to arrive at Crescent Valley (broken circle at top), and it stayed there until 1 June (rubber circle at right), arriving back in Winnipeg in just two days.

COD



Toronto–Niagara Falls, 1950. Rated 15¢ C O D and 4¢ domestic letter. Recipient had to pay \$2.15 for the item and 9¢ money order fee. 4¢ stamp is perforated L A (Legislative Assembly; old name of Ontario Provincial Parliament).



## Remitting COD payments from non-accounting offices

Non-accounting post offices were not permitted to issue money orders of value exceeding \$15. So if a C O D payment collected by the clerk or postman exceeded that, the cash would have to be sent to a nearby accounting office in a registered cover, where the money order would be issued and mailed to the sender (in a non-registered envelope).

Maycroft AB was non-accounting, so used this form envelope (issued for this purpose) to send the payment to Kelowna. These envelopes were intended to be stored at the receiving office for up to two years, and then destroyed. As a result, very few have been seen.

**R**

**REGISTERED.**

MAYGROFT, ALTA.  
ORIGINAL NO. 2907

The Postmaster  
At Meloune B.C.

Province \_\_\_\_\_  
District Impression of \_\_\_\_\_

Office Date Stamp Here \_\_\_\_\_

ON HIS MAJESTY'S SERVICE.

THIS ENVELOPE TO BE USED ONLY FOR REMITTING MONEY FOR C. O. D. REMITTANCE

45. 400,000 2-10-47

*Maycroft* (AB)–*Kelowna* (BC), 1948. No postage, as this was post office to post office mail.



## International surface (non-Empire)

The U P U letter rate was 5¢ per half ounce, beginning 1 January 1899. On 1 October 1907, it became 5¢ for the first ounce, and 3¢ for each additional. This lasted until 30 September 1921. There were several more changes in U P U letter rates. Registration was increased from 5¢ to 10¢ in July 1920, and remained so until 1951.

Airmail rates were far more complicated and are treated separately.



Montreal–Dris-en-Rattier (Isère, France), 1899. Registration 5¢ plus double (per half ounce) U P U letter rate. Unusual use of roller cancel on registered mail.



Ottawa–Sofia (Bulgaria), 1901. Registration 5¢ plus U P U letter rate 5¢.

## International



Rimouski (Que)–Lima (Peru), 1899. Registration and U P U letter rates, each 5¢.  
QUE & CAMP MS squared circle R P O and Montreal precursor on reverse.



Victoria–Valparaíso (Chile), 1904. Rated as above.





## Letter card to Switzerland



Montreal–Zürich, letter card, 1904. Registration and U P U letter rates, each 5¢; overpaid by 2¢ as letter card fee was only 3¢ to U P U destinations. Personal letter to sender's mother.

Montreal R-1 roller.



## International



Windsor (Ont)–Mayence (Germany), 1903. Franking is incomprehensible, unless overpaid by 2¢.



Yarmouth (NS)–Port au Prince (Haiti), 1904. 13¢ postage?? Should have been 10 or 15.



To Sweden



Toronto–Stockholm, 1899. Registration and U P U letter rates, each 5¢.

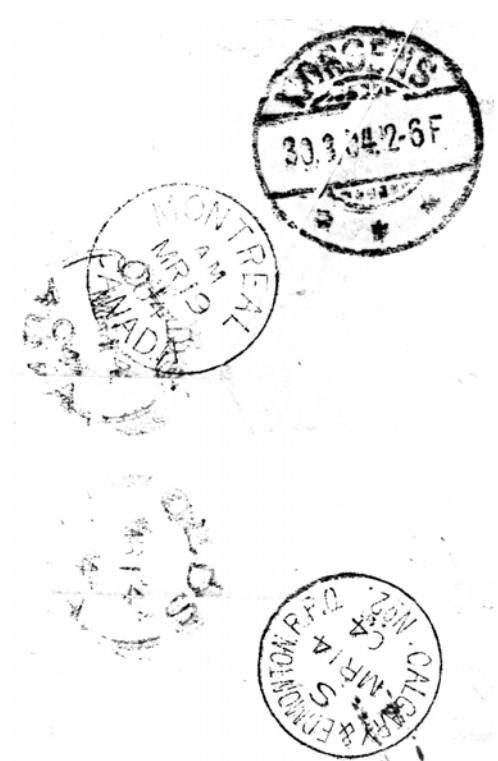


Registered tourist postcard, Niagara Falls–Malmo, 1904. U P U postcard rate 2¢.

Printed matter to Denmark



Olds (Alta)—Horsens (Denmark), printed matter, 1904. Unsealed. Rated 5¢ registration and double 1¢ per two ounces U P U printed matter rate.

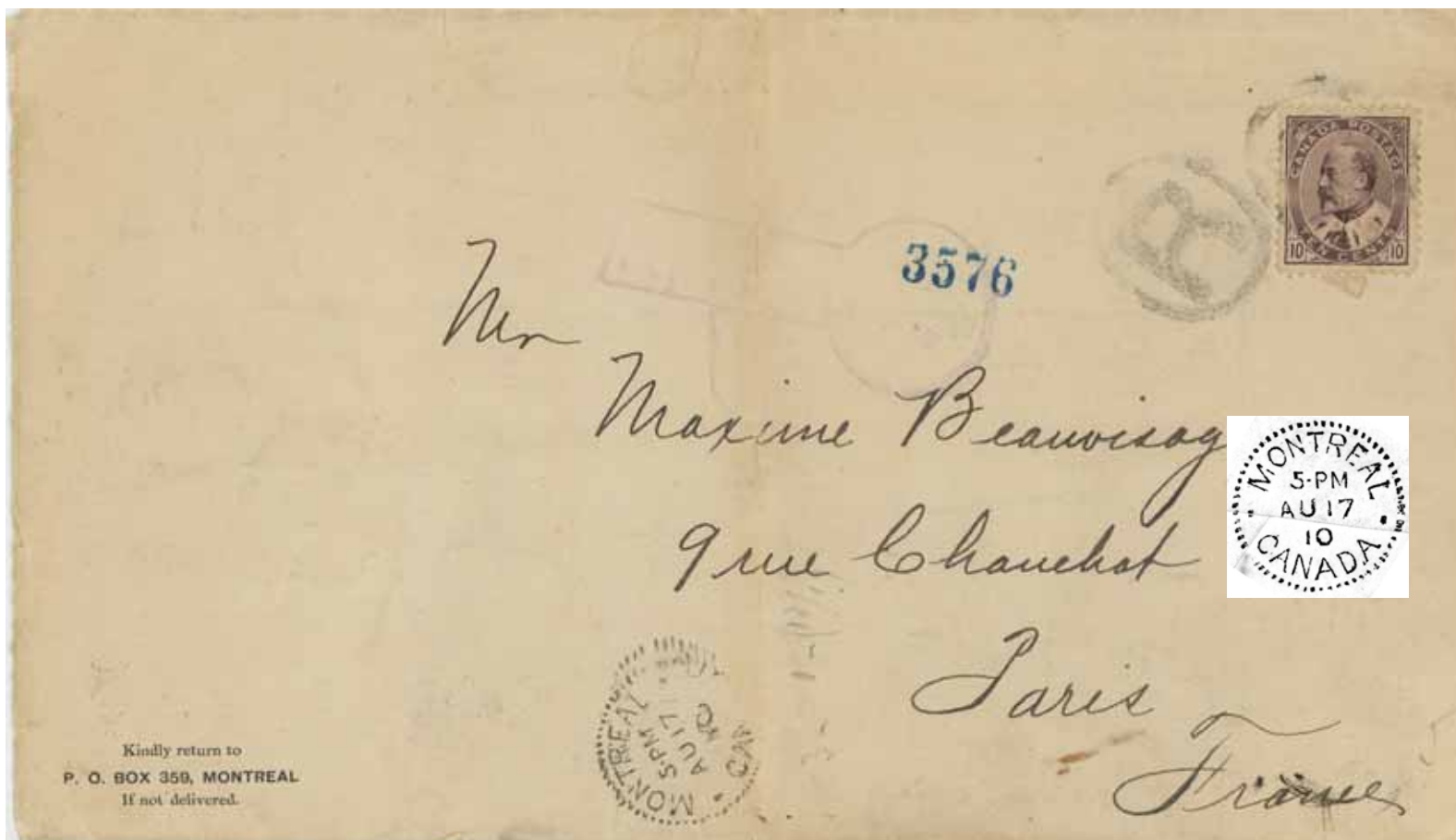




To France



Letellier (MB)–Paris, 1908. Originally franked 7¢, which is 3¢ short, but apparently accepted at the small Manitoba office. When it reached Montreal (based on the **ORIGINAL NUMBER** registration device), a 5¢ stamp was applied (resulting in 2¢ overpayment) and cancelled with the oval R.



Montreal–Paris, 1910. Registration and first U P U letter rate, each 5¢.

## International



Revelstoke (BC)—Chaux-de-Fonds (Switzerland), 1905. Registration and first U P U letter rate, each 5¢.

To Japan



Winnipeg-Yokohama, returned to sender 1909. Rated 5¢ registration, 5¢ U P U letter; plausibly, initially 7¢ postage applied (for a domestic registered letter), and couldn't be bothered adding 3¢ (requiring two stamps), so added just a single 5¢, resulting in a 2¢ overpayment.





To Italy



Sarnia (Ont)–Rome, 1906. 5¢ registration and 5¢ U P U letter rate.



Nanaimo–Udine (Italy), 1910. Rated as above

To Germany



Calgary to Berlin, forwarded to US, returned to sender, officially sealed in US, 1908. Rated 5¢ registration and 5¢ per half ounce, overpaying by 1¢.

To Germany



Kelowna (BC)–Wiesbaden (Germany), triple, 14 March 1914. Registration 5¢ and triple U P U letter rate (5¢ first ounce, 3¢ each additional).



## To Finland and Italy



*Sointula (BC)–Helsinki, 1912.* 5¢ registration and 5¢ U P U letter rate. Via Vancouver and Montreal (latter where the experimental registered hammer—the upper one at left—was applied).

Sointula was a Finnish-speaking Utopian community; its decline had already begun by this time, and was accelerated by w w i.



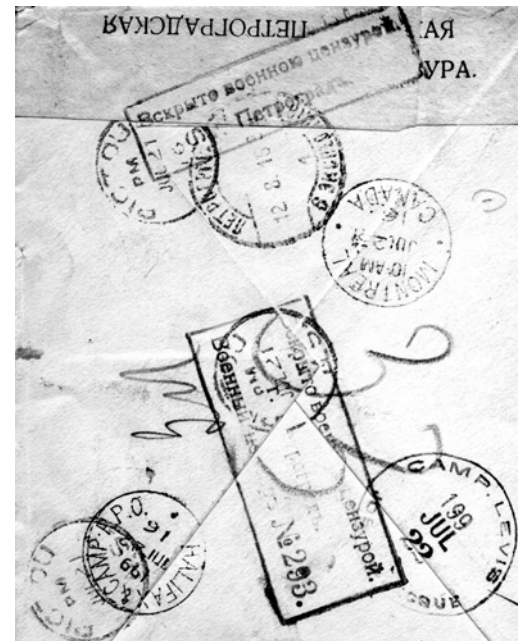
*Crysler (ON) to the Pope, Rome, 1915. Rated 5¢ registration and 5¢ U P U rate. Ms Donnez à la personne même (deliver to him personally). Experimental Montreal registration box.*



## World War I



To Belgium early in the War, returned to sender, 11 August 1914. Rated 5¢ registration & 5¢ UPU rate. Germany invaded Belgium 4 August 1914. Stamped **Inaccessible—retour** in UK.



Pictou (NS)—Petrograd (formerly St Petersburg), 1916. Rated as above. Via two RPOs to Montreal (experimental registration device). Address has been transliterated into Cyrillic. Military censorship in Petrograd.



## To Switzerland



Osgoode Station (Ont)–Switzerland, shortpaid, French military censorship, 1915. Registration 5¢ and U P U letter rate 5¢, underpaid 3¢. Via [U.S. SEA POST](#).



St Hyacinthe (Que)–Switzerland, 1915. French military censorship. Correctly franked.



## WW I to Switzerland



*Hébertville (Que)–Switzerland, 1917. French military censorship. Correctly franked.*

# WW I to Netherlands



Montreal–Utrecht, 1916. Either overpaid by 2¢ with a 2¢ stamp, or underpaid 1¢ (registration 5¢; U P U letter rate 5¢ for first weight and 3¢ for each subsequent one). Registration number handstamp, style used only at Montreal.



WW I to Denmark



Montreal–Copenhagen, 1916–17.

Registration 5¢, U P U letter rate 5¢.



## Post-World War I, to 1920

The war ended officially on 11 November 1918



Montreal–Azores, December 1918. Postage, 5¢ registration and 5¢ UPU rate.



Slightly out of date.



St Roch de Québec–Libya, 1919. Rated as above.



Vancouver–Rome, 1919. Rated as above.





## Post-War to 1920, South America

South American destinations are unusual from Canada in this period.



Ste Hyacinthe—Chile, returned to sender, 1912. Rated 5¢ registration and 5¢ U.P.U. rate. Two experimental registration markings, one for outgoing, the other for incoming. On reverse, double oval Montreal Dead Letter Office double oval.



Vancouver—Uruguay, 1919. Rated as above. Montevideo registration etiquette on reverse.



Registry fee increases from 5¢ to 10¢

Effective 15 July 1920



Montreal–Czechoslovakia, 1920. Rated 10¢ registration and 5¢ U.P.U. Stamps killed with keyhole handstamp.



Québec–Turkey, and returned to sender, February 1921. Rated as above. Obviously insufficient address! Via London, Port Said (Egypt), Alexandria, Istanbul, and a town near Galata (a suburb of Istanbul).



Multiple rate



Danish consulate in Montreal to Copenhagen, quadruple, 23 March 1921.

Rated 10¢ registration plus U P U letter rate, 5¢ first ounce and 3¢ each additional.



Effective 21 October 1921–30 September 1925



Registered  NORTH EDMONTON,  
ALBERTA  
ORIGINAL No.  
593

Herr Wilh Jacob  
Handelschreibat  
11 Reuthingen i. Wg.  
Germany. Marks 9.

998



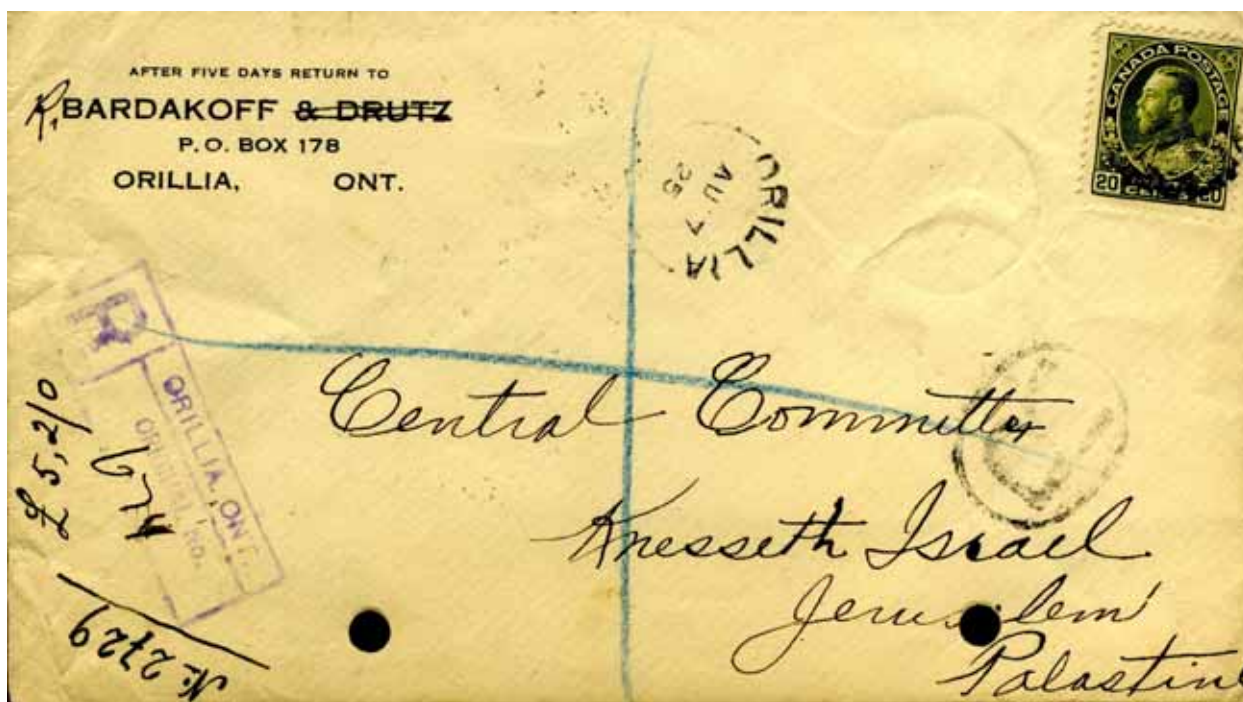
*Single rate, North Edmonton—Reutlingen (Württemberg, Germany), 1923. 10¢ registration and U P U 10¢ first ounce.*



1921-25 rate



Saskatoon-Göteborg (Sweden), December 1923. Each of registration and first weight U P U, 10¢.



Orillia-Jerusalem (Palestine), 1925. Rated as above.

Additional weights per 5¢



*Double rate, Winnipeg—Vienna, 1922. Rated 10¢ registration, and U P U 10¢ first ounce & 5¢ second. Winnipeg experimental registration marking.*



UPU & registration fees 10¢ (1922–25)



Montreal–Wohlen (Switzerland), 1922. Rated 10¢ registration and 10¢ first ounce U P U letter. Big R Montreal roller cancel.



Lachine (Que)–Bohemia (CSR), 1922. Rated as above.

UPU & registration fees 10¢ (1922–25)



Palmer Rapids (ON)—Graslitz (Kraslice, in Czechoslovakia), 1922. Rated 10¢ registration and 10¢ first ounce U P U ; extra 3¢ might be an underpayment of 5¢ per additional ounce.



Orillia (ON)—Zagreb (Yugoslavia), 1923. Rated 10¢ registration and 10¢ first ounce U P U .



## To Mesopotamia and Germany



Single rate, New Westminster (BC)–Baghdad (Mesopotamia, now Iraq), 1924. Rated 10¢ registration and U P U 10¢ first ounce.



Montreal–Höhscheid-Solingen (Germany), 1925. The date on the the one postmark is mostly illegible, but the imperforate 3¢ admiral was issued in 1924. Registration 10¢, and triple U P U letter rate at 10¢ for the first ounce and 5¢ for each additional, overpaid 1¢.

UPU rate decreases from 5¢ per ounce + 5¢, to 4¢ per ounce + 4¢  
Effective 1 October 1925–30 June 1930.



Atikokan (ON)–Helsinki (Finland), 1927. Rated 10¢ registration and 8¢ first ounce U P U.



Triple, Montreal–Bialystok (Poland), 1926. Rated 10¢ registration, 8¢ first ounce plus 4¢ for each of two additional ounces.



Septodectuple (17 ounces)

Very large envelope, Montreal–Berlin, 1927. Rated 10¢ registration, 8¢ first ounce plus 16 × 4¢. Repaired and resealed in Germany.

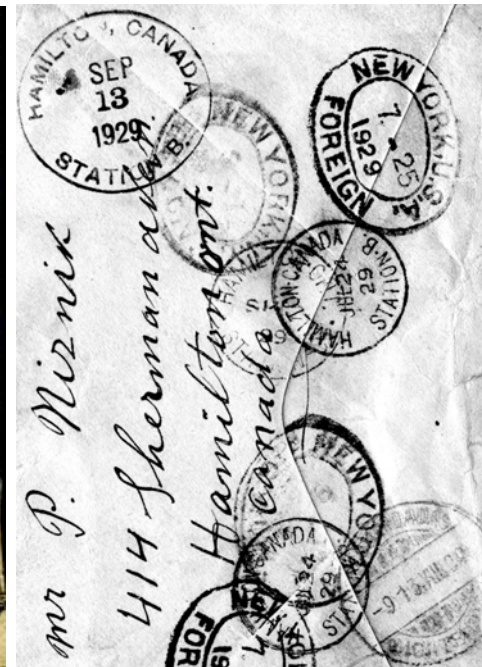




## To Argentina and Palestine



Hamilton–Argentina, unclaimed and returned to sender, 1929. Rated 10¢ registration and 8¢ first ounce UPU. Insufficient address (according to the notation at top).



Port Colborne (ON)–Jerusalem, 1927. Rated 10¢ registration and 8¢ first ounce UPU.



## Danzig and Poland

Danzig (now Gdansk, Poland) was a free city after World War I, under the influence of Germany & Poland.



Montreal–Danzig, 1930. Rated 10¢ registration and 8¢ first ounce U P U.



Ottawa–Wilejka, dead, returned to sender, 1929. Rated as above. Originally stamped in Ottawa, **NO SUCH POST OFFICE IN PROVINCE NAMED** (!). Ms *décédé* (dead) on reverse. DLO rectangle datestamp on reverse. Ottawa suboffice number 2 MOTO, seldom seen on registered matter.



Just before rate change



Montreal–Wachwitz (a suburb of Dresden), 5 June 1930. Double rate (8¢ first ounce, 4¢ each additional) plus 10¢ registration.



Peter Street (Toronto)–Canton, 6 June 1930. Single rate.



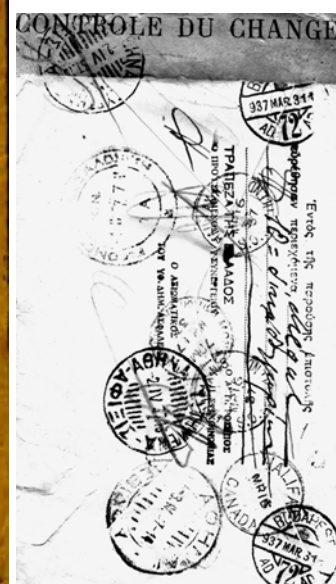
UPU rate drops from 4¢ per ounce + 4¢ to 3¢ per ounce + 2¢  
Effective 1 July 1930–1 April 1954.



Montreal–Vaduz (Liechtenstein), 1934. Rated 10¢ registration and 5¢ first ounce.



Halifax–Athens, Greek currency control, 1935. Rated as above.



To Japan



Vancouver-Shigaken, 1933. Postage of 10¢ registration and 5¢ U P U letter rate. Sealed with red ribbon.





Turned, registered both ways



Large wrapper, Switzerland-Canada, and reverse, 1933. Initially mailed from Switzerland late July, turned inside out and mailed back in early August. Rated (Switzerland) 2,60 SFr, made up of 30 centimes registration and 11 rates (20 gram units) at 30 ctm for the first, and 20 ctm each for the rest.

Rated (Canada) 10¢ registration and quadruple (four ounces, 113 g) U P U at 5¢ for the first, and 3¢ for each additional, overpaid 1¢. On the return trip, it weighed about half as much as on the original.





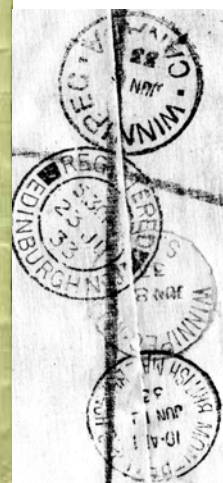


To Sweden, Iceland, and Finland

Golden (BC)—Sweden, 1936. Rated 10¢ registration and 5¢ first ounce.



Winnipeg—Iceland, 1933. Rated as above. Via Montreal and Edinburgh. Large script character resembling a P is the Icelandic letter thorn, pronounced soft th. ↓↓ Eth is also there.



Arpin (ON)—Helsinki, 1939. Rated as above. Norembega MOOD.





## To Java and Portuguese East Africa

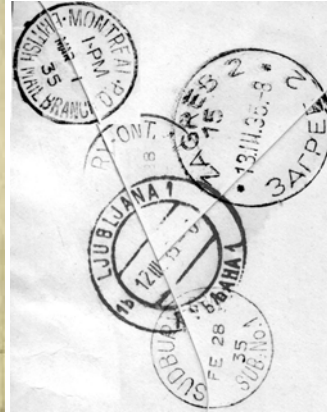


Trail (BC)–Java, 1937. Rated 10¢ registration and 5¢ first ounce.



Empire air rate not applicable, Vancouver–Beira (Portuguese East Africa), 1938. Rated 10¢ registration and initially 6¢ Empire air mail rate; however, destination was not in the British Empire, and postage paid was much less than air by regular routes. So the letter was sent by surface, at the 5¢ U P U rate, overpaid 1¢.

To Yugoslavia and Romania



Sudbury (ON)—Zagreb (Yugoslavia), 1935. Rated 10¢ registration and 5¢ first ounce.



Montreal—Bucovina (Romania), 1936. Rated as above



To Turkey



Montreal–Istanbul, 1937. Rated 10¢ registration and 5¢ first ounce. Via Budapest.



## Wartime and beyond

Not transmissible, wrong postage, Toronto-France, 17 April 1940. Rated 10¢ reg'n and 5¢ first ounce, shortpaid 2¢, a moot point, since France was being invaded. Never made it beyond Toronto. Passed for Export handstamp.



Double, Freeland (ON)-Istanbul, 1944. Rated 10¢ registration and double UPU rate at 5¢ for the first ounce and 3¢ for the second. Canadian censor tape.



Sydney (NS)-Brazil, 1946. Rated 10¢ registration and 5¢ UPU rate.



Returned from Tashkent



Ottawa—Tashkent, returned to sender, shortpaid, 14 June 1944—12 May 1945 (333 days transit). Required 10¢ registration plus 5¢ U P U letter rate; underpaid 2¢. Triple censorship.



Canadian censor. British censor and blue crayon cross (indicates registration in U K). Reached Tashkent 30 October. Soviet censor (November), French language return/insufficient address handstamp, and note applied to front, (from) Canada; address can't be found, 15 December 1944. Arrived New York 8 May 1945 and Ottawa DLO 12 May.

# Post-War



Kitchener (Ont)–Göteborg (Sweden), August 1945. Registration 10¢ and U P U letter rate 5¢.



Saskatoon–Rio, 1946. Registration 10¢, plus double (4¢ first ounce, 2¢ each additional) P U A S rate.



## Dropped in the mail box; foreign destinations

Recall that *drop* means in this context means a letter intended to be registered, but dropped in the mail box instead of taking it to the post office. In U K and some other jurisdictions this would be considered *posted out of course*, and charged an additional amount.



Val Marie (Sask)—Finistère (France), 1919. Rated 5¢ registration plus 5¢ U P U. Ms *drop* (indelible pencil) to the left of purple registration handstamp. Probably registered at Winnipeg.



Midway (BC)—Porjus (Sweden), 1947. Rated 10¢ registration and double air to Europe (at 15¢ per quarter ounce). Ms *drop* below registration handstamp. Registered at Vancouver.

To US

Rates to US were the same as domestic and I P P.



Saint John (NB)—Camden (NJ), 30 January 1899. Registration 5¢ plus 2¢ letter rate to US, overpaying by 1¢. The 8¢ numeral was issued September 1898 to pay the combined registration plus domestic/US single rate; when the latter dropped to 2¢ from 3¢, the 8¢ stamp was not nearly as useful, so, as here, was used to overpay the combined postage.



St James Park (Ont)—New York, 21 March 1899. Registration 5¢ plus 2¢ letter rate to US. (The rightmost stamp is the aniline shade.)



To US



Dawson (Yukon)—Ballard (WA), 1901.

Via Skagway. Late in gold rush period, from a miner to his wife enclosing money.

Rated 5¢ registration and 2¢ to U.S.

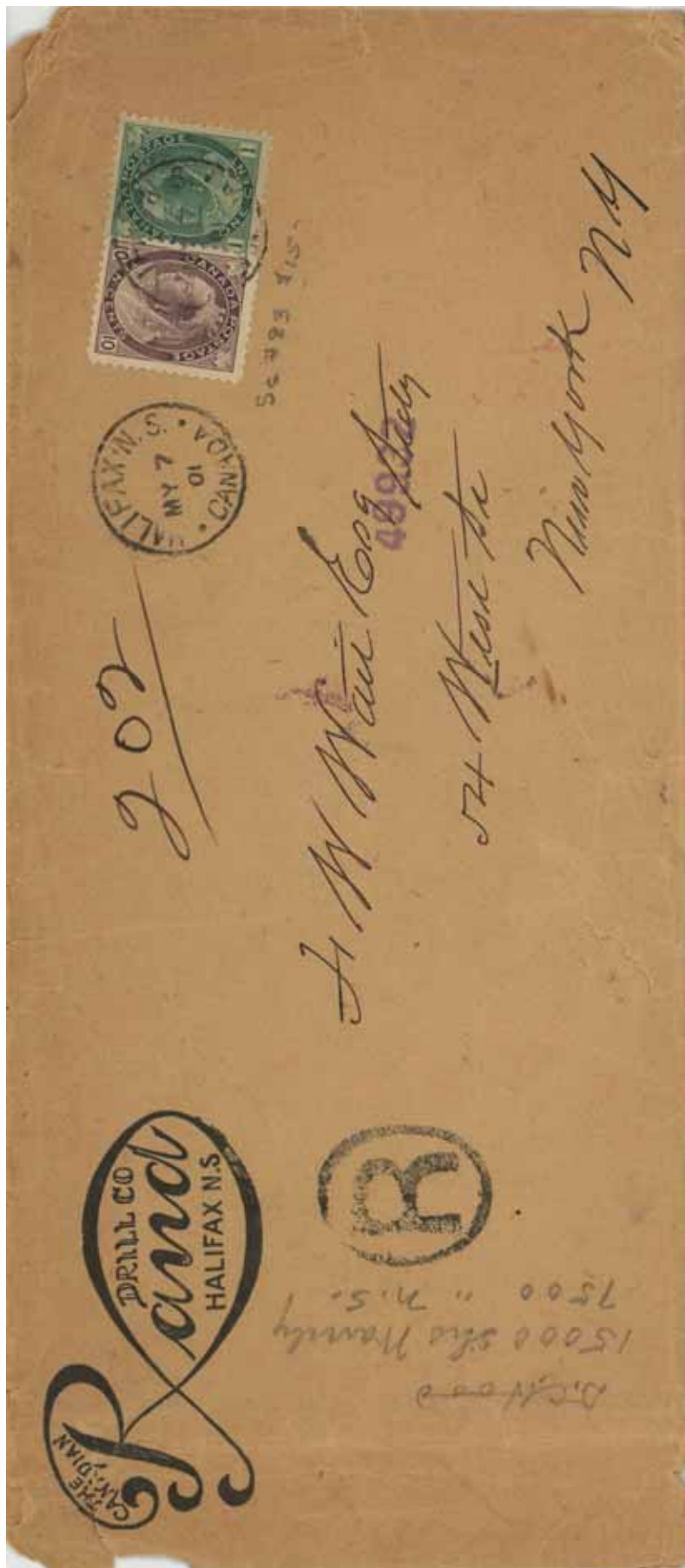


Sapperton (B C)—Newcastle (IN), 1908. Rated as above.



Canadian National Exhibition (Toronto)—Utica (NY), 1908. Rated as above.

# Multiples to US



Halifax to New York, triple, 1901. Rated 5¢ registration plus  $3 \times 2\text{¢}$ .



Montreal to Warsaw (NY), quadruple, 1903. Rated 5¢ registration plus  $4 \times 2\text{¢}$ .



SI NON RÉCLAMEZ SOUS 5 JOURS RETOURNEZ À  
LARUE, TRUDEL & PICHER  
COMPTABLES - SYNDICS  
ACCOUNTANTS - TRUSTEES  
EDIFICE "INSURANCE EXCHANGE"  
276 QUÉBEC, RUE ST-JACQUES  
MONTREAL

29<sup>th</sup>

REGISTERED 371460-371466

Mr. John J. Bradley,  
New York, N.Y.-

471 Park Ave

SEP 29 1930

Please forward new address.

After several attempts, the letter was determined to be undeliverable; at this point, the US 2¢ may have been added (ostensibly to pay the rate to Canada, although this was unnecessary).



## To Canal Zone

Rates to U S and its possessions were the same as domestic Canadian.



*Montreal–Balboa, 1923.* Double rate (3¢ first ounce, 2¢ each additional) plus 10¢ registration. All stamps are perforated c p r.



# Empire rates

To many entities in the British Empire, from 25 December 1898, the rate was 2¢ per half ounce by the Imperial Penny Post (I P P) scheme; however, this did not include Australia and some others. By 1907, it was practically universal within the Empire. On 1 October 1907, the I P P rate became 2¢ per ounce.



Esquimault (BC)–Lee on Solent (Hampshire, U K), March 1899. Registration 5¢ plus double 2¢ per half ounce.



Toronto–Dorking (U K), May 1899. Registration 5¢ plus 2¢ per half ounce, overpaid 1¢.

To South Africa



*Minnedosa (MB)–Newcastle (Natal, South Africa), 1899. Registration 5¢, I P P 2¢.*

This is what comes of not carefully examining expensive items before purchase. This is mail from a stamp dealer, so I should never have bought it.

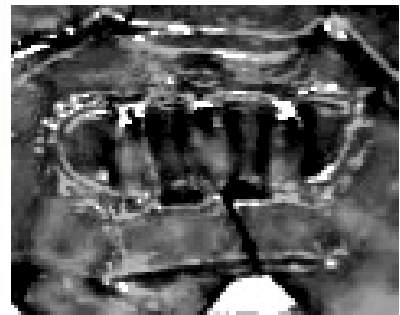
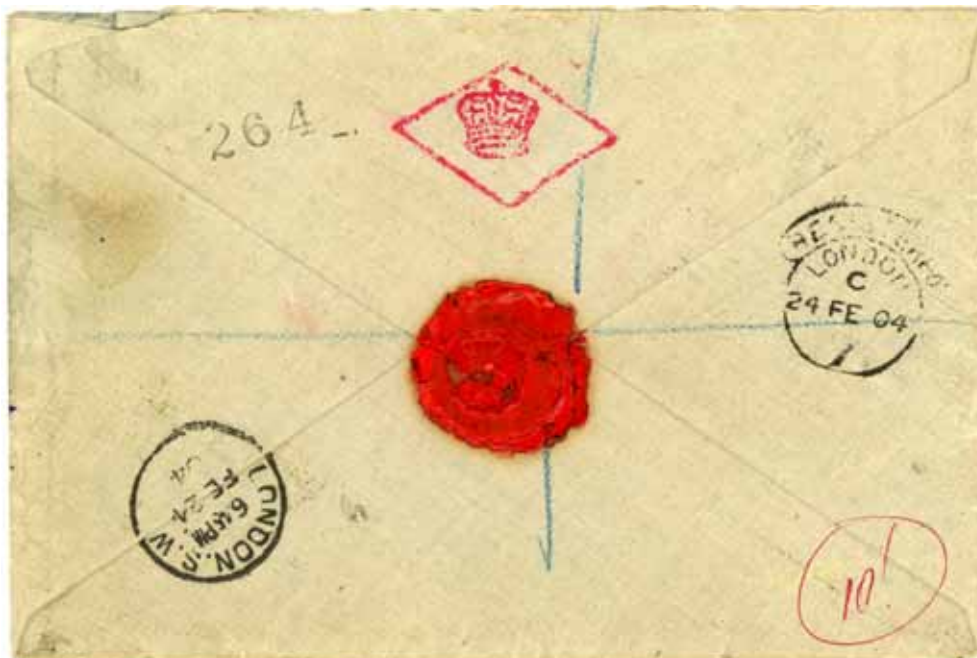


## Paquebot



New Zealand paquebot—HM the Queen (Alexandra), Buckingham Palace, 1904. Mailed on board ship; 12¢ could be made up as 5¢ registration and triple 1 P P (at 2¢ per half ounce) with 1¢ overpayment (perhaps due to a shortage of stamps).

The **PACKET BOAT** handstamp is Hoskings fig 714, used on ships departing Auckland, 1896–1911.



Wax seal shows a tiny crown (about half a centimetre tall), possibly with initials T I or H I.

Here is a 1996 opinion (in correspondence) of Charles Goodwyn, then Keeper of the Queen's Collection:

I suspect the letter was posted or bound out of New Zealand mail boats between New Zealand and Vancouver. This type of Packet Boat handstamp with the serif letter was used inbound on the *Sonoma* 16 January 1904; there were three boats and three different types of Packet Boat [handstamps] . . . .

It would be normal for such ships to carry stamps of both NZ and Canada. Packet Boat is struck over the stamps, indicating the stamps were added at sea . . . .

I am not aware of the [red lozenge with] crown rubber stamp being a receiving mark at the Palace. I doubt that a member of the Royal Family would have travelled on a mail boat. The sender was more likely to have been a minor royal or a titled friend of the Queen.

To Bahamas



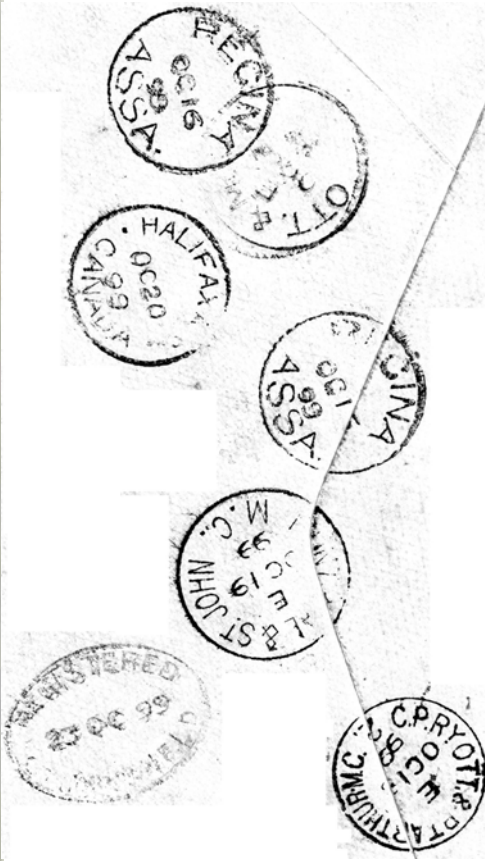
Regina–Nassau (Bahamas), 1913. Registration 5¢ plus 2¢ per ounce. Seal of the province of Saskatchewan on reverse.



To Newfoundland



Regina-St John's, 1899. Rated 5¢ registration and double 2¢ Empire rate, overpaid 1¢.  
From Dominion Government Immigration Office.



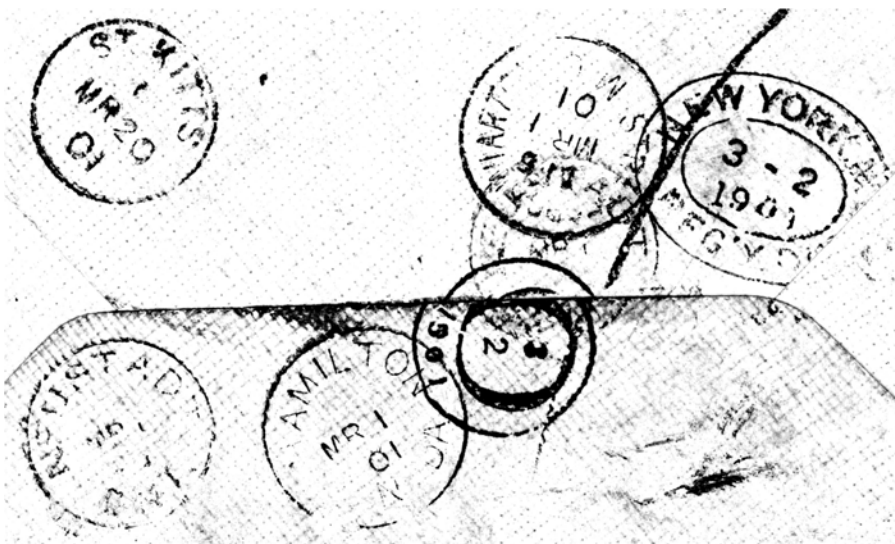
## British Virgin Islands

(British) Virgin Islands joined the I P P at its beginning (25 December 1898).



Neustadt (Ont)–Tortola (Virgin Islands), 1901. Relatively high value Jubilees were often kept for years until needed. Registration was 5¢. If the postmaster had been aware that Virgin Islands adhered to the I P P, then the postage paid represents 11½ ounces; although this is a cloth envelope, it is doubtful it could have carried that weight.

It seems more likely that the postmaster erroneously charged the U P U rate (5¢ per half ounce), so this would have weighed two ounces (quadruple).





## Prisoner of War mail to Bermuda

Only known cover from Canada to a Boer prisoner of war in Bermuda. Six loads of Boer POWs arrived in Bermuda 28 June 1901–16 January 1902. Of these 4500 men, 800 were sent to Tucker's Island. A peace treaty was enacted in May 1902, and most soldiers had returned home by August.

Registered mail to POWs has very low likelihood of survival. In addition, registered letters to Bermuda are almost nonexistent in this period.



Halifax–Tucker's Island, 11 March 1902. Double 1 P P (2¢ per half ounce) and registration (5¢). The large oval Halifax registration cancel is neither common nor scarce. Faint Hamilton (Bermuda) double circle on reverse. Stationery of the *Union Castle* line (which did not travel to Halifax); this could have been picked up anywhere.

Mail to Boer War prisoners was invariably censored; however, this shows no signs of having been examined by British authorities.

## Empire rates

Hong Kong was one of the original adherents to the I P P scheme.



New Glasgow (NS)–Hong Kong, forwarded to Manila (Philippines), 1900. Double I P P letter rate plus 5¢ registration; there was no additional postage on forwarding because the rate to U S and possessions was the same as that of I P P. Faint Hong Kong circle on reverse.



Vancouver–Hong Kong, 1904. Double I P P letter rate plus 5¢ registration. Via San Francisco.

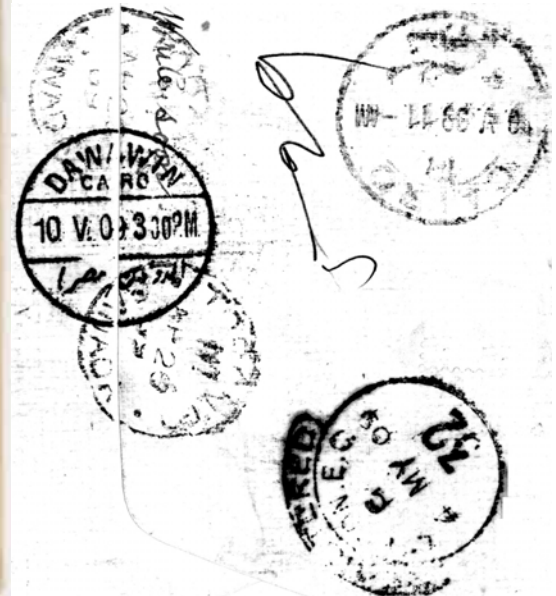


## Empire rates (?)

Rhodesia did not join the I P P until 1908—so the 1906 cover is underpaid and not caught. On the other hand, Egypt was given preferential status in 1907, so letter mail mail could be sent there at 2¢ per ounce (the same as I P P); however, the clerk and the sender seemed to be unaware of this, and it was charged the full U P U rate. These rating errors occurred at post offices in Canada's two largest cities.



St Catherines Street (Montreal)—Bulawayo (Rhodesia), underpaid and not caught, 1906. Should have been charged 5¢ per half ounce, as Rhodesia did not adhere to the I P P at the time.



Toronto—Cairo, overpaid, 1909. Paid U P U letter rate, despite mail to Egypt being eligible for the I P P rate (2¢ per ounce). Presumably, the clerk was unaware of the rate to Egypt, which changed in October 1907.

## Empire rates (?)

New Zealand had did not join the I P P scheme until 1 January 1901, so this was underpaid and not caught.



Montreal–Thames (New Zealand, via Vancouver & San Francisco), 1900. Registration and U P U letter rates, each 5¢; but instead I P P rate was incorrectly charged.

Montreal precursor on reverse.



## Empire rate to Rodriguez

The island of Rodriguez was a Mauritian dependency. One of the most obscure destinations possible from Canada.



Ottawa—Rodriguez, 1903 [front]. Registration 5¢ and 2¢ 1 P P.

## Empire rates

Australian states adhered to IPP in 1905



Vancouver–Hobart (Tasmania), 1906. 2¢ per half ounce and 5¢ registration.



Montreal–Ballarat (Victoria), 1907. Triple IPP rate (2¢ per half ounce) and registration. Via Chicago, San Francisco, and Melbourne.



1428  
1643

5

7

7

Mrs. Charles E. Levey,  
126 Bedford Court Mansions,  
Bedford Square,  
London, W.C. ENGLAND.

E. F. W.

DE 11

RETURN IN FIVE DAYS TO  
P. O. BOX 203  
SUDBURY - ONT.

582

5 CANADA POSTAGE  
FIVE CENTS  
1 CANADA POSTAGE  
ONE CENT  
1 CANADA POSTAGE  
ONE CENT  
1 CANADA POSTAGE  
ONE CENT

REGISTERED  
NOV 8 - 1916  
JOSEPH POWELL

Messrs. Newberry & Co.,  
8 Gervill Rd.,  
London,  
England.

Undelivered for reason stated.  
To be returned to sender  
at the address shown on cover.  
Returned from  
Letter Section, London.

SEP 30 1916  
SUDBURY, ONT.

*Sudbury (ON)—London, returned to sender, 1916. Rated 5¢ registration and 2¢ Empire rate. Indelible pencil ms gone away on reverse and one of many standard U K Undelivered for reason stated handstamps. Experimental Montreal registration box (at bottom). Sudbury and British RET LR SECTION registration ovals.*

To UK



Saskatoon—Haddiscoe (Norfolk), 1914. Rated 5¢ registration and double Empire (= domestic) rate, 2 × 2¢.



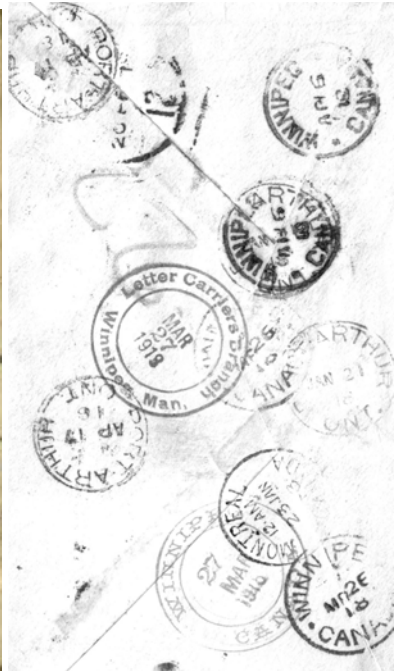


Wartime; to Australia



Victoria–Sydney (Australia), November 1914. Overpaid 1¢ (with a 1¢ stamp, or underpaid 1¢ double rate). Unusual (for registered matter) roller cancel. Australian censorship, relatively early in the war.

Empire rate for first class mail was 2¢ per ounce plus 1¢ war tax, 15 April 1915–30 September 1921; this agreed with the domestic rate.

[illegible]

*Indian Office, Port Arthur (Ont)—to various places, eventually to Winnipeg, returned to sender, 1918. Rated as above. Via Montreal and London, then to Winnipeg, Port Arthur, to Winnipeg again, and back to Port Arthur.*



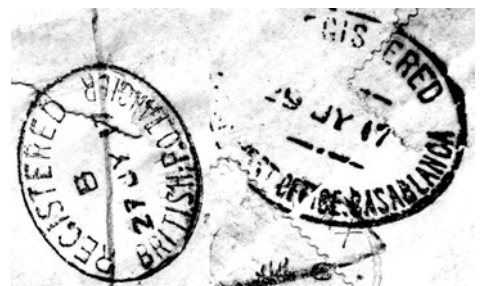
## World War I, Empire rate to Africa



Montreal–Glencoe Junction (Natal), 1916.  
Rated 5¢ registration and double Empire  
(= domestic) rate,  $2 \times 2¢ + 1¢$  war tax.



To Casablanca (Morocco) via BPO Tangier and  
BPO Casablanca, 1917. Rated 5¢ registration and  
single Empire; eligible for the latter because of  
the British Post Office in Casablanca. Experi-  
mental Halifax registration handstamp. ↓↓





## Empire printed matter

Registered printed matter has a low survival rate.



*House of Assembly (Toronto)–  
Dublin, fourteen times rate, May  
1921. Rated 10¢ registra-  
tion and fourteen times Em-  
pire printed matter, 14 ×  
1¢ per two ounces (28 ounces).  
Despite Book post endorse-  
ment, treated as printed mat-  
ter (third class).*

Oval (provincial) House of  
Assembly registered dater.



Empire rate increases to 3¢ per ounce + 1¢

Effective 1 October 1921–30 June 1926



London–Hong Kong, 1925. Rated 10¢ registration and 4¢ first ounce Empire.



Yorkton (SK)–Georgetown (British Guiana), March 1926. Rated as above.

Empire rate decreases to 3¢ per ounce

Effective 1 July 1926–24 December 1928.



New Westminster (BC)–Birchircara (Malta), August 1926. Rated 10¢ registration and 3¢ Empire.



Windsor–Hong Kong, 18 December 1928. Rated as above.



Empire rate, 1926-1928



Vancouver-Hong Kong, 1926.

To Newfoundland



New Glasgow (N S)—St John's, 1927. 10¢ registration and apparently 3¢ Empire rate, overpaid 1¢.





Empire rate drops to 2¢ per ounce

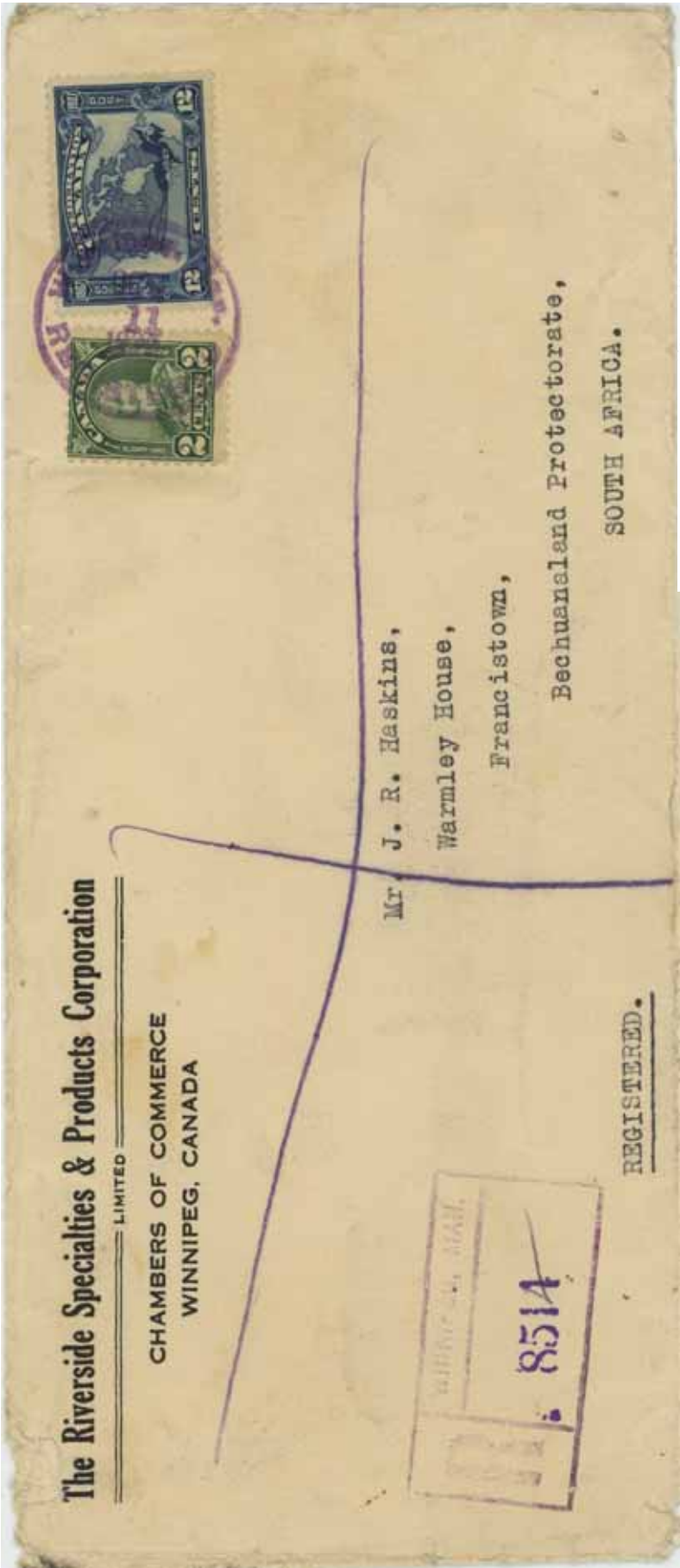
25 December 1928–30 June 1931.



Laverlochère (Que)–Nassau (Bahamas), forwarded to Downington (PA), 1937. Rated 10¢ registration and 2¢ Empire. No additional charge for forwarding, since the rate to the U S was the same.



To Bechuanaland Protectorate



Winnipeg-Francistown, 1930. Rated 10¢ registration and double Empire 2 × 2¢.





Empire rate changes to 2¢ per ounce plus 1¢  
Effective 1 July 1931–31 March 1943.



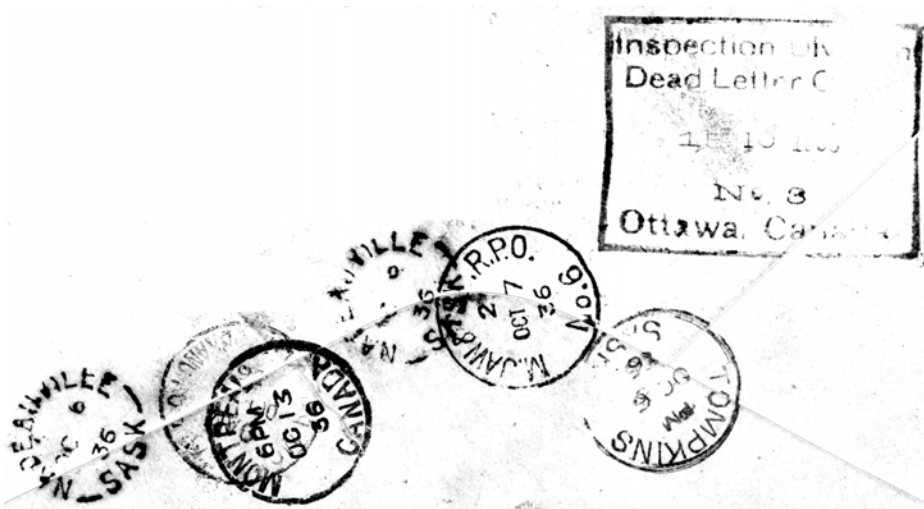
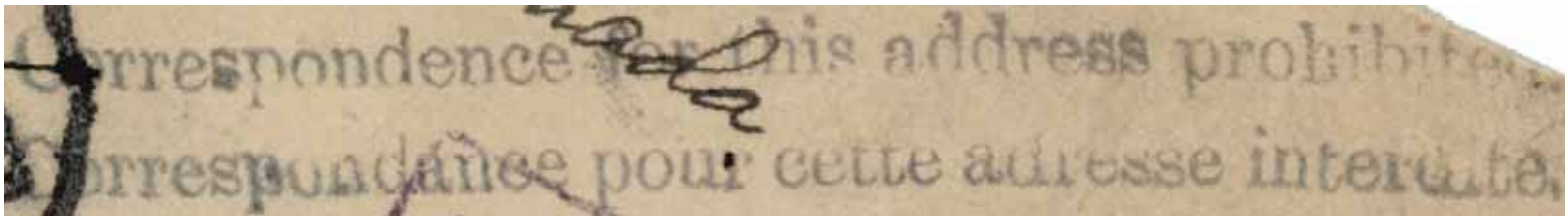
Waterloo (ON)—Baghdad (Iraq), 1937. Rated 10¢ registration and 3¢ Empire.

Mail to this address prohibited



Nadeauville (Sask)—Hamilton (Bermuda), mail prohibited, 1936. Rated 10¢ registration and 3¢ Empire (with overlapping stamps, which was frowned on). Intercepted before it could leave Canada, sent to Ottawa DLO, and returned to sender. The sender used overlapped stamps, which was contrary to regulations.

Monthly postal guide supplements list addresses, both foreign and domestic, to which mail was prohibited. This was likely due to illegal activities. Two strikes of the bilingual handstamp ↓↓





From  
 J. C. M. Kimmey  
 9 Post Office  
 Saint John West  
 N.B.

5 CANADA 5  
 UNIVERSAL LITHOGRAPH PORTLAND  
 OTTAWA 1912

5 CANADA 5  
 UNIVERSAL LITHOGRAPH PORTLAND  
 OTTAWA 1912

CANADA  
 3 CENTS 3

George James  
 P. O. Box 2048  
 St. John's  
 Nfld.

ST. JOHN, N. B.  
 ST. JOHN WEST  
 487

10

*St John West (Saint John, NB)—St John's (Newfoundland)*, 1933. Rated 10¢ registration and 3¢ Empire. Right registration handstamp applied at North Sydney (Cape Breton, NS).

To New Zealand



Montreal–Timaru (New Zealand), 1932. Rated 10¢ registration and 3¢ Empire.



Cranberry Portage (MB; never heard of this place)–Masterton (NZ), via The Pas, 1936. Rated as above.

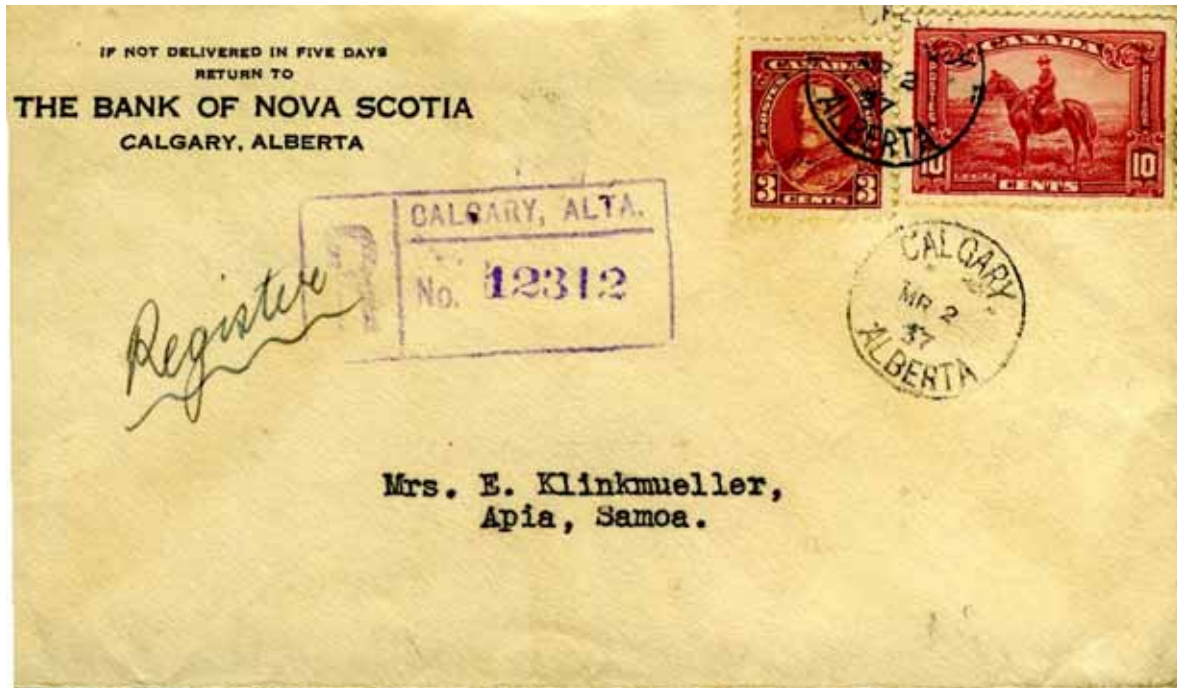


[illegible]

Kew Matches  
 391 Thames Highway  
 Oamaru  
 New Zealand

*Hamilton (Ont)–Oamaru, 1940. Rated as above.*

## To Samoa and New Hebrides



Calgary–Apia (Samoa), 1937. Rated 10¢ registration and 3¢ Empire.



Montreal–Port Villa (New Hebrides), 1936. New Hebrides had a condominium government—it was a joint colony of UK and France, and eligible for Empire rates. Rated 10¢ registration plus quadruple Empire rate, 1¢ overpaid. Via Sydney (Australia).

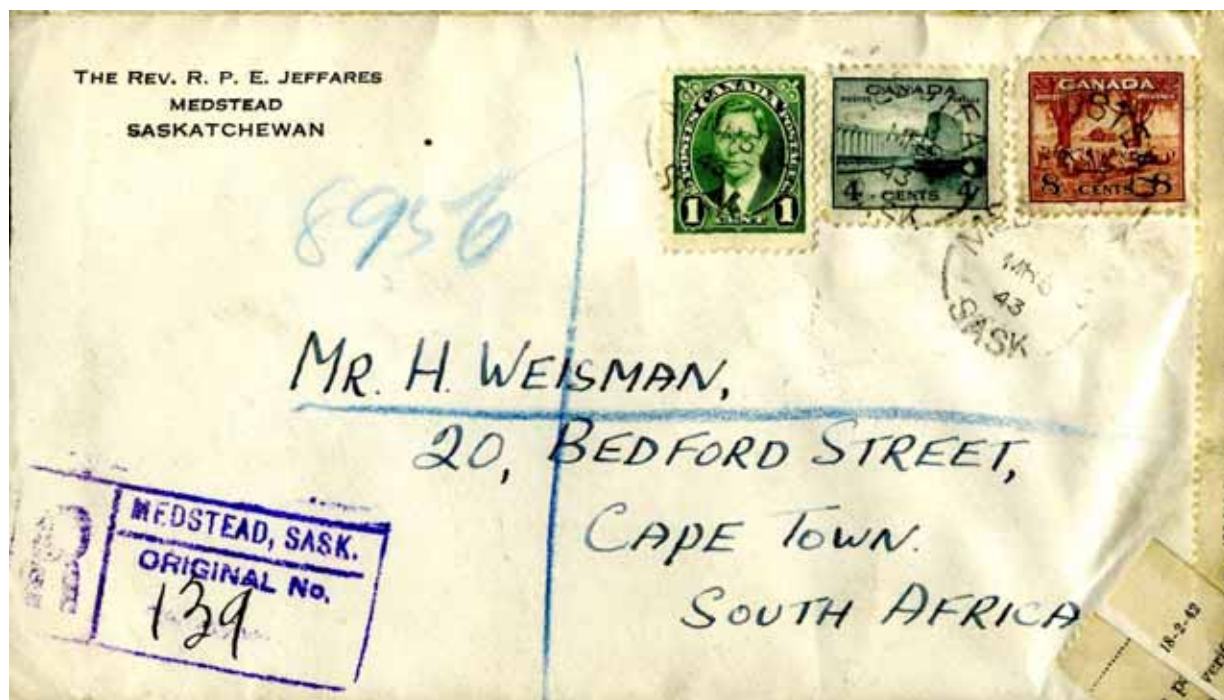




To Sierra Leone and South Africa



Toronto–Makani (Sierra Leone), forwarded to Culver (IND), then Marion (IND), 1942. Rated 10¢ registration and 3¢ Empire. No additional charge for forwarding to the U.S., as the rate there was no higher. Backstamped Makane and oval Sierra Leone registration datestamp. Canadian F E C B and British censor tapes.



Medstead (Sask)–Cape Town, 1943. Rated as above. F E C B tape.



EXAMINER 7248



Empire rate increases to 2¢ per ounce + 2¢  
Effective 1 April 1943–1951.

Montreal–Gold Coast, 1944.  
Rated 10¢ reg'n and 4¢. British censor tape.



Toronto–Melbourne, 1944. Rated as above. Australian censor tape over F E C B tape.



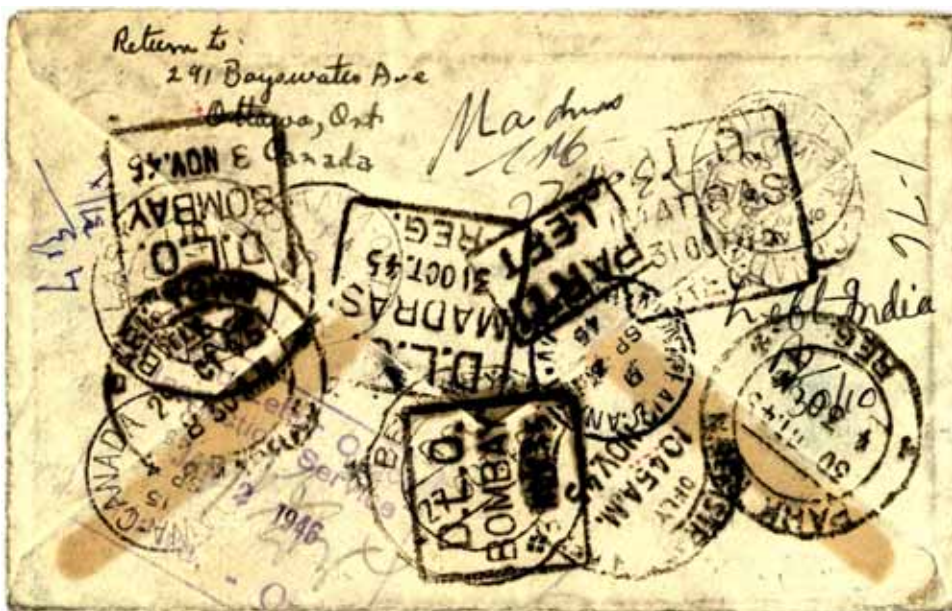
Toronto–New Zealand, 1945.  
Rated as above. No censor tape (but passed for export), no NZ backstamps.



Returned from India



The Glebe (Ottawa)–Madras, forwarded, returned to sender, 4 September 1945–2 January 1946. 10¢ registration and 4¢ Empire rate. Ms [Passed for Export](#)



Sender lived on Bayswater Avenue, which is about four kilometers from the Glebe post office (open 1922–59; located around 500 Bank Street). The sender may have been on his way to work, or returning from work, downtown, presumably a civil servant.

To Nigeria



Winnipeg–Lagos, returned to sender, overpaid, 14 October 1947–23 February 1948. paid U P U rate (5¢) but was eligible for the 4¢ Empire rate. 10¢ registration. Standard letter to a Nigerian prince!

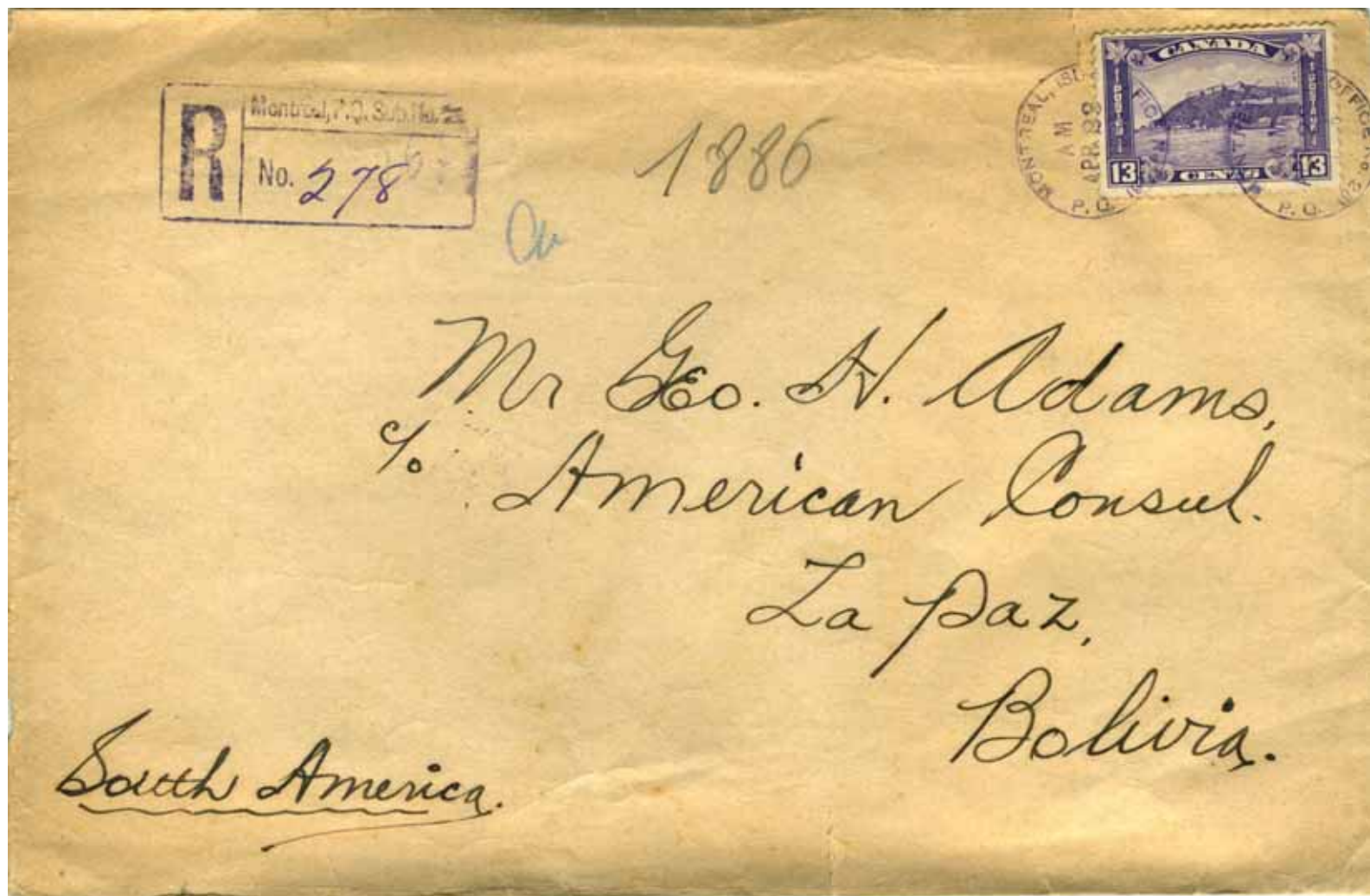


## Preferred rates

To some countries (within the P U A S), mostly in South America, domestic rates applied. Such rates began in 1925.



Guelph (ON)–Argentina, 1930. 10¢ registration & 2¢ P U A S = domestic rate (26 July 1926–30 June 1931).

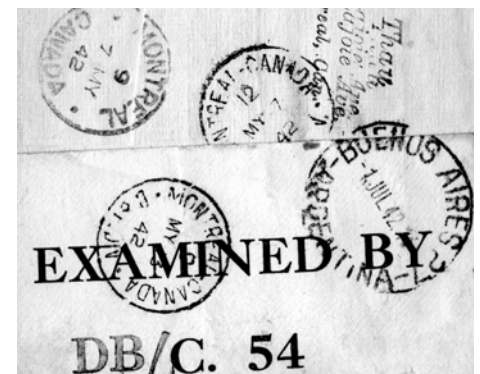


Montreal–La Paz (Bolivia), 1935. Rated 10¢ reg'n & 3¢ P U A S = domestic rate (1 July 1931–30 April 1943).

## Preferred rates (1931–43)



*Double rate, Weedon (QC)–Chile, 1940. Rated 10¢ registration & 5¢ double P U A S = domestic rate (2¢ per ounce + 1¢). F E C B sticker on reverse.*



*Montreal–Buenos Aires, 1942. Rated 10¢ reg'n & 3¢ P U A S = domestic rate. Canadian censor tape. Bilingual turquoise PASSED FOR EXPORT handstamp applied at Montreal GPO.*

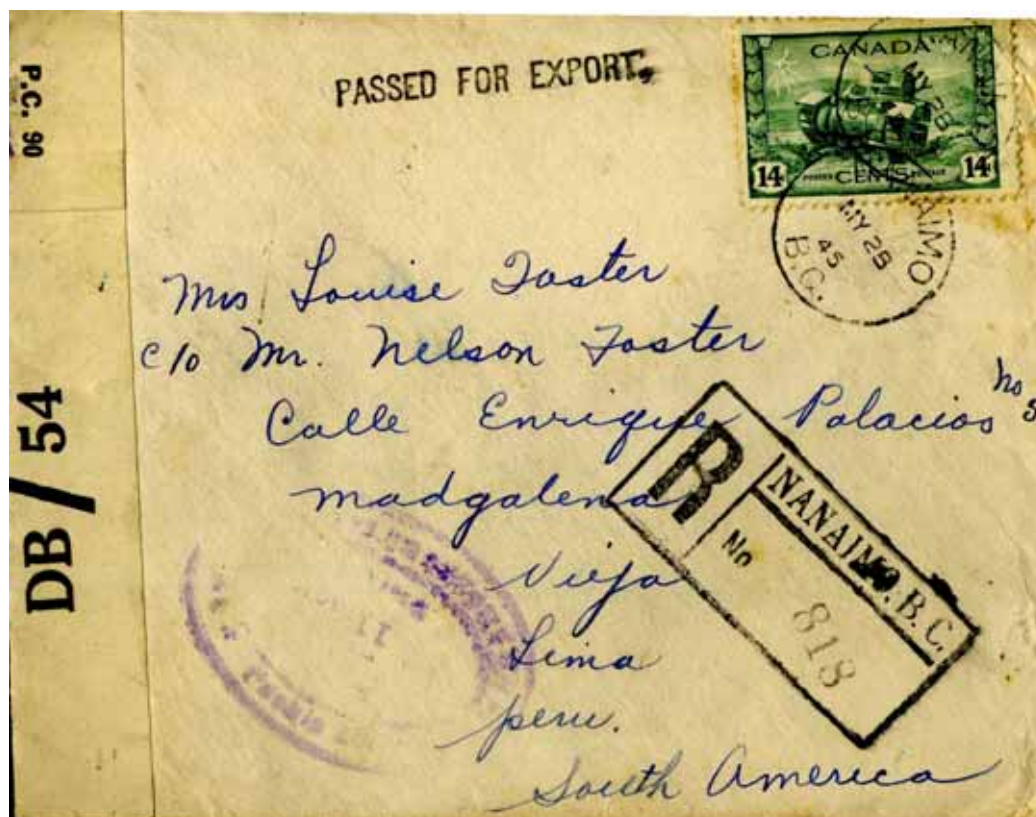


## Preferred rates

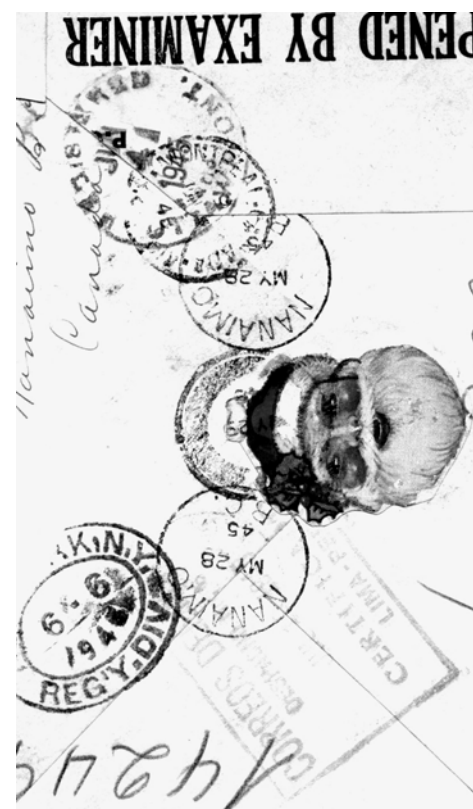
Domestic rate, 2¢ per ounce + 2¢, 1 April 1943–1951.



Toronto–Guayaquil (Ecuador), returned to sender 1944. Rated 10¢ registration & 4¢ P U A S = domestic rate. Canadian censor on reverse.



Nanaimo (BC)–Lima (Peru), 1945. Rated as above. Canadian censor tape.





## Registered post cards

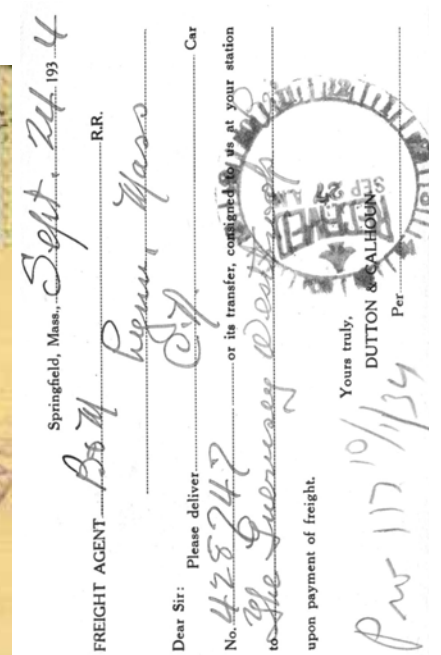
Commercial registered post cards are very seldom seen from Canada. International post cards charged 2¢ in both time periods.



Trois Rivières–The Hague, 1918. Rated 5¢ registration & 2¢ post card. Typical exchange card.



Sayabec Station (QC)–U S, 1934. Rated 10¢ registration and 2¢ post card. Commercial registered post card.







## International airmail

Canada established its own airmail rates and services in March 1930. Prior to that, experimental service (below) was sometimes available, as was airmail through the US, requiring US postage (only possible 1 January–7 August 1928).

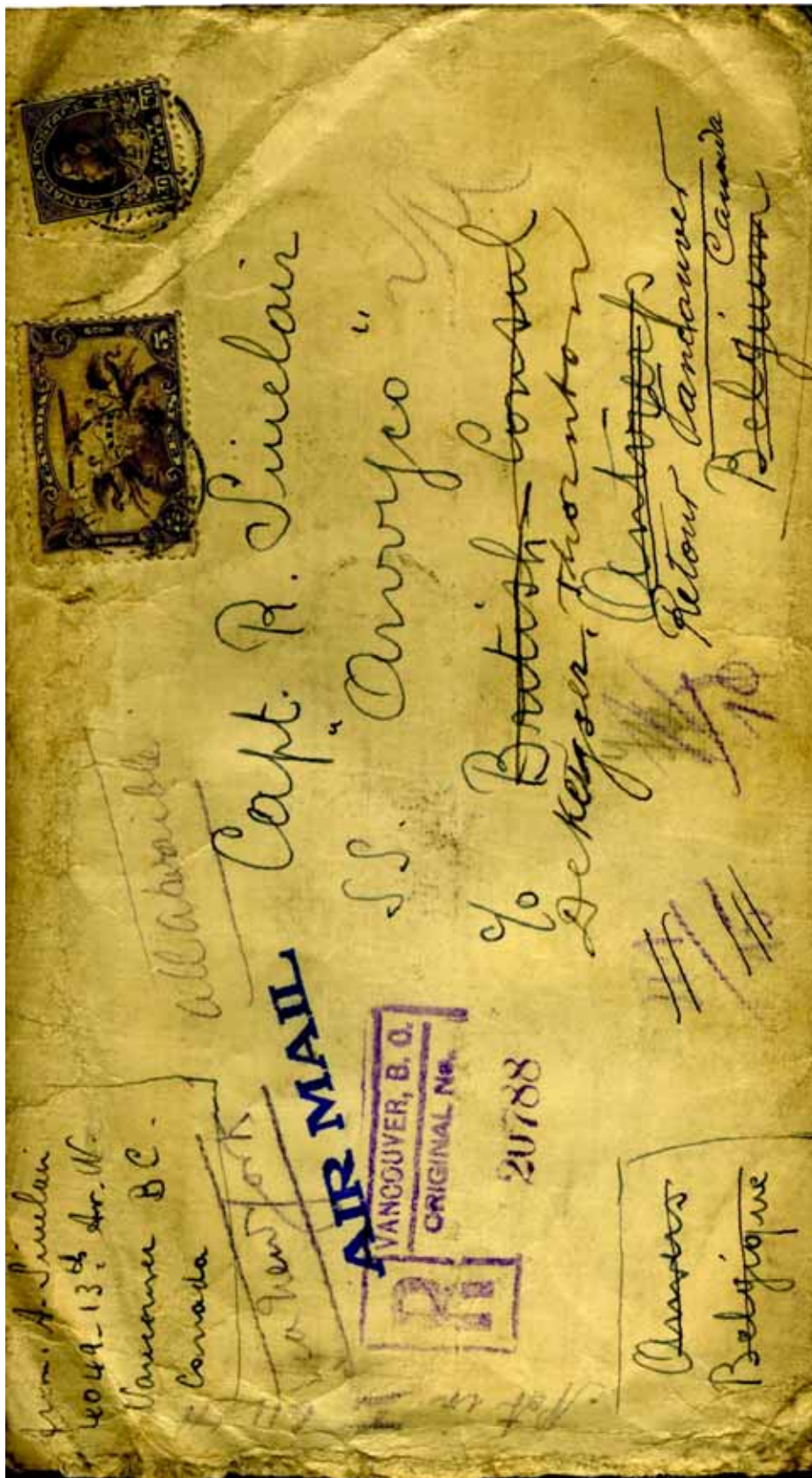
*Vancouver–Seattle–New York–Oslo*, 21 March 1928. Only the Seattle–New York leg was by air. Rated 10¢ reg'n and 8¢ U P U plus 10¢ US airmail (per half ounce; in effect February 1927–August 1928).



*U K–Brantford (ON)*, May 1928. Rated 3d registration and double Empire at 1d per ounce. *THIS MAIL WAS CARRIED BY POSTAL AIRPLANE TO TORONTO* applied on first regularly scheduled Rimouski–Toronto flight (5 June). Perfin. Blue Brantford Customs handstamp on reverse. ↓↓









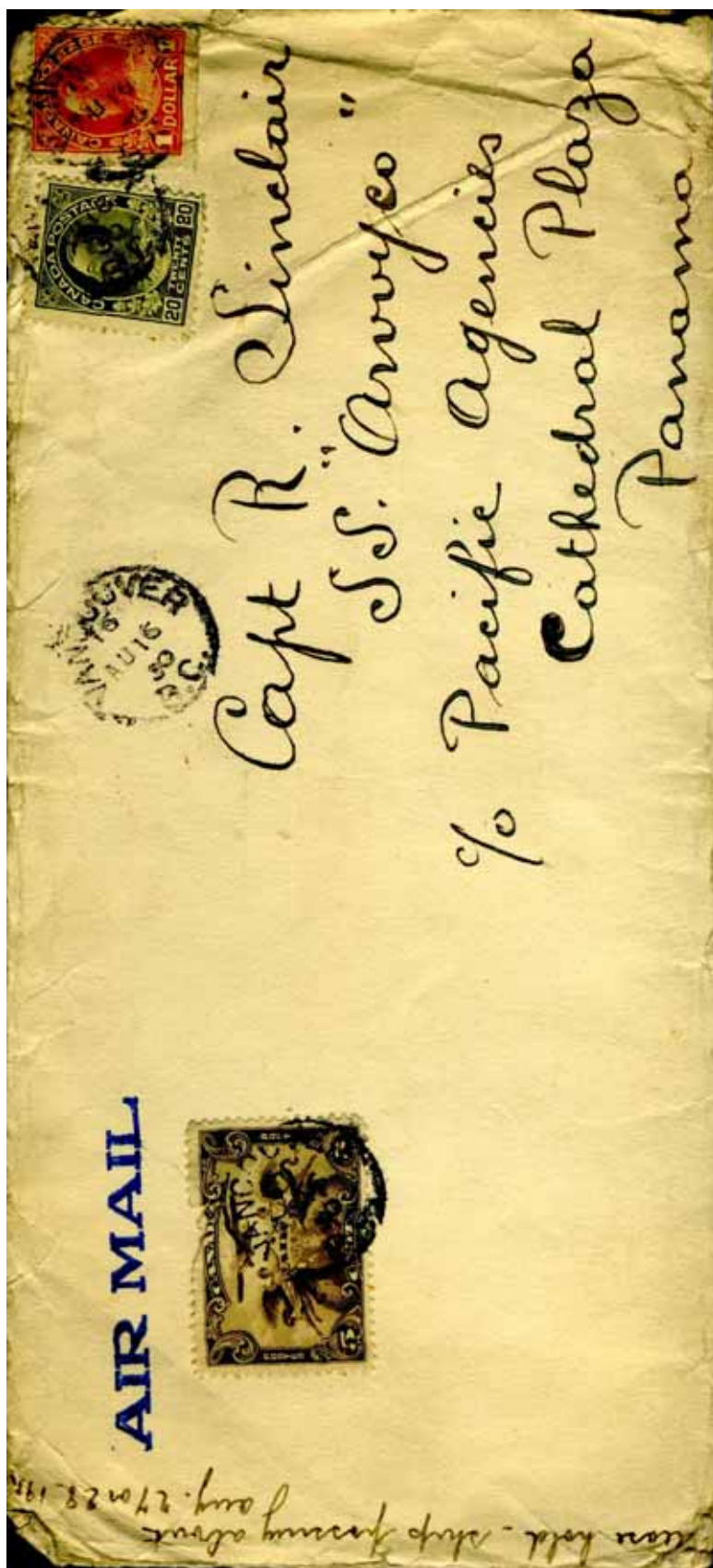
## Airmail to US

24 August 1928–30 June 1931, air to U S was 5¢ for first ounce and 10¢ for each additional (and required Canadian stamps, for the first time).



Overpaid, Warman (Sask)–Lorimer (IA), forwarded, 1930. Originally franked 10¢ (registration) plus 2¢ (surface to U S); on realizing the air rate was 5¢, the sender or the clerk applied an airmail stamp (5¢), resulting in a 2¢ overpayment.





## Airmail to Panama (1930)

Airmail rate to Panama nowhere listed in this period; likely treated as U.S. air, hence 5¢ for first half ounce, 10¢ for each additional. There are no backstamps, indicating that this envelope was attached to a larger package.

*Duodectuple rate, Vancouver to ship in Panama, 1930. Rated 10¢ reg'n and  $12 \times 10¢ - 5¢$  for air through the U.S. The envelope could not hold six ounces, but was attached to a larger parcel.*

Addressed to same ship's captain as seen earlier.



## Air to Germany (1930)



*Winnipeg-Berlin, returned to sender, 1930.*

Rated 10¢ reg'n and 15¢ single air to Europe.  
German 8 Pf stamp applied on reverse, cancelled  
in Berlin (might pay *poste restante* fee). According  
to the ms on reverse (written by a German of-  
ficial), returned by air via New York.



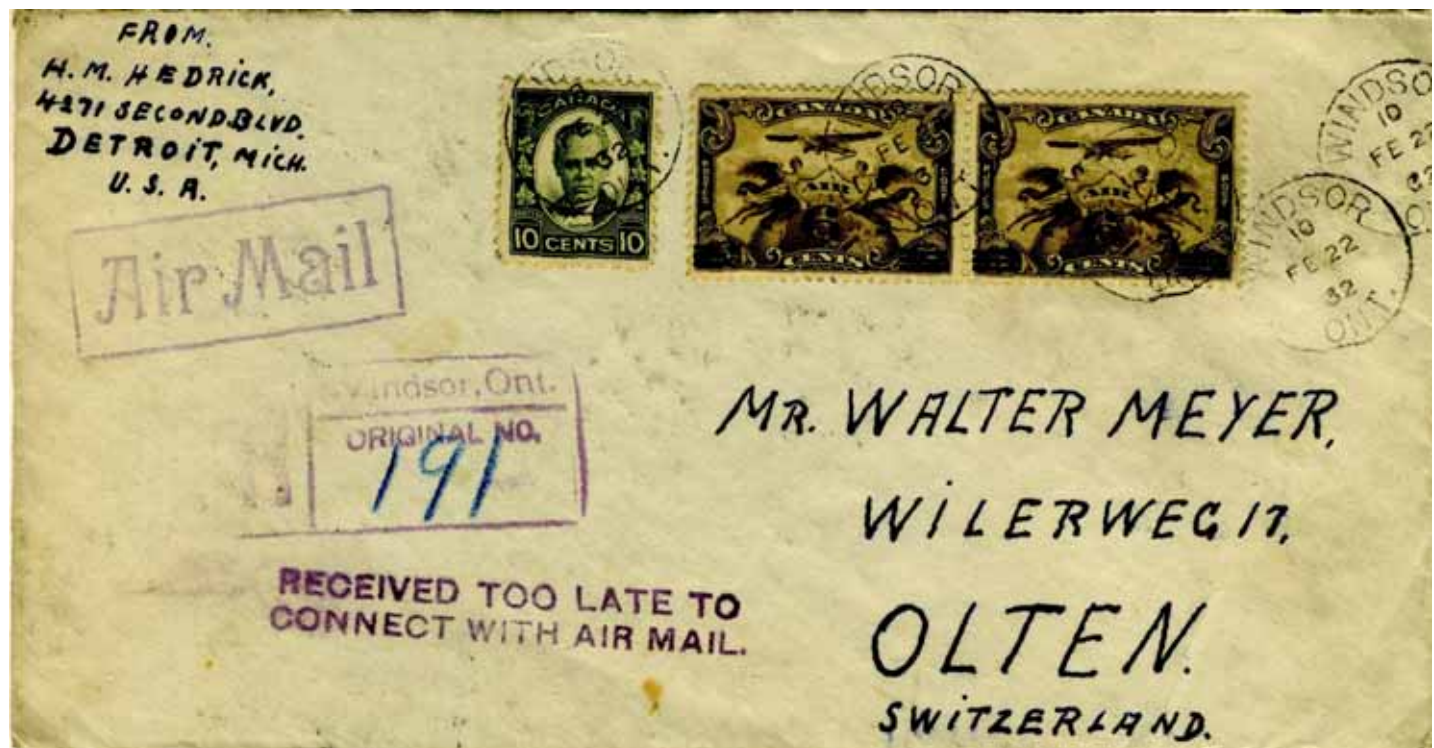


Via air (within North America) to Europe reduced to 10¢ per ounce.

Except to U.K. Rate in effect 2 February 1931–24 June 1939.



Winnipeg–Plzeň (Czechoslovakia), March 1931. Rated 10¢ registration and 10¢ air to Europe. Via New York and Prague.



Windsor–Olten (Switzerland), too late, 1932. Rated as above, but overpaid by 2¢ using overprinted airmail stamps. Received too late for air mail service, and sent by surface to New York. Return address is Detroit.



## Airmail (within North America) to Europe

Airmail within North America followed by surface to Europe was charged 10¢ per half ounce, beginning 1 July 1931 until the advent of transatlantic airmail, 24 June 1939.



Montreal–Potsdam (Germany), 1934. Rated 10¢ for each of registration and air within North America to Europe. Via New York.



Montreal–Prague, 1936. Rated as above.



Airmail, not to Europe



Regina (SK)—Canal Zone, forwarded to Esquimaux via California, Vancouver, and Victoria, 1935. Rated 10¢ registration and 15¢ air to Central America (in effect 2 February 1931–June 1934). Addressed to lieutenant aboard H M C S *Skeena*. Large oval receiver of District Intelligence Officer, applied at Esquimaux.



Vernon (BC)—Calcutta, 1936. Rated 10¢ registration and 25¢ air to Asia (in effect from 1 July 1935).



## Air only within North America, during the War

Prior to transatlantic airmail becoming available (1939), the rate to most parts of Europe by airmail within North America and surface to destination was 10¢ per half ounce. This appears to have continued into the war. But the top cover seems to have been underpaid.



Atlin (BC)–Cape Town (South Africa), 1941. Rated 10¢ registration and 6¢ airmail, to New York followed by surface to destination; this is probably an error for 10¢ (and based on the Empire airmail scheme which terminated when war broke out). Detoured to Whitehorse, then Vancouver.



Saskatoon–Dundee (Scotland), 1942. Rated 10¢ registration and 10¢ airmail, to New York followed by surface to destination.



## China Clipper service

Airmail to San Francisco, then air to Hawaii, Philippines, Hong Kong, and China. Service to China began 1935; all China clipper service terminated 7 December 1941. Rates depended on destination (e.g., 90¢ to Hong Kong, China, and from there to India).



Vancouver-Tokyo via clipper to Philippines, 1936. Rated 10¢ registration, 75¢ clipper to Philippines, and 5¢ charge for carriage to Japan (one of the few secondary destinations requiring an additional fee). Manila datestamp on reverse reads REGISTERED FOREIGN MAIL SECTION.



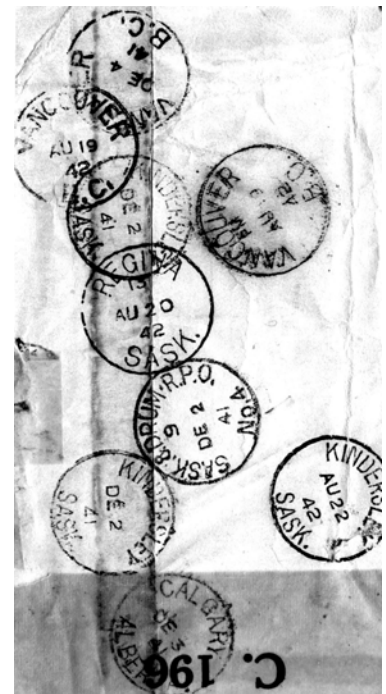
Oshawa-Kwong Tung (China), 1937. Rated 10¢ registration, 90¢ clipper to Hong Kong, and no additional fee to Chinese interior. Via Canton. From the ubiquitous Chinese restaurant.



## China clipper



Toronto–Calcutta via clipper to Hong Kong, drop, 1941. Rated 10¢ registration, 90¢ clipper. Ms *Drop* refers to being dropped in the mailbox—the postage was correct for registration. Registered first in Vancouver, not Toronto. Double censored in Canada (two tapes), and at least once in India.



China clipper service disrupted by attack on Pearl Harbor, service suspended, 2 December 1941. Rated 10¢ registration, 90¢ clipper to Hong Kong. Made it to Vancouver on 4 December, censored, then Pearl Harbor took place (7 December); cover held until returned to sender 22 August 1942. From the standard Chinese restaurant in small town Canada (Kindersley, Sask.).



China clipper



Vancouver-Chungking, triple, 10 November 1941. Via Hong Kong.  
Postage \$2.80: 3 × 90¢ plus 10¢ registration.  
Handstamp NOT OPENED BY CENSOR





Airmail to Asia post-Pearl Harbor



To China, 75¢ per quarter ounce via Miami, Africa, and by CNAC from Calcutta; April 1942–December 1945.

Vancouver–Chungking, 3 March 1945.  
Postage \$10.60: 14 × 75¢ plus 10¢ registration.  
Pointless use of black-out and whiteout postmarks (registered mail requires return address).  
Canadian censor.





## All-up Empire rate introduced

Empire airmail rate of 6¢ per half ounce to many places in the British Empire introduced 23 February 1938; extended to Hong Kong, Australia, and New Zealand 1 April 1939. Service terminated with the outbreak of World War II, September 1939. The top cover shows how much the rate could be before this was introduced.



Pre-all-up service, Vancouver–Gisborne (New Zealand), 1937. Rated 10¢ registration and 25¢ air by British carrier to New Zealand (oddly, the rate to Australia at this time was 35¢, and this passed through Sydney). Via New York, Vancouver, Singapore, and Sydney.



Farnham (QC)–Maharembey (Egypt), November 1938. Rated 10¢ registration and 6¢ Empire air rate. Contrary to Empire rate regulations, there is an endorsement *Air mail*.





## Transatlantic air

Service began May 1939, via U.S., at 30¢ per half ounce all-inclusive; continued until late 1946. Transatlantic service to Asia (via U.K.) was included.

Toronto–Gibraltar, August 1939.

Rated 10¢ reg'n, 30¢ transatlantic. Via New York & Lisbon.



Service suspended as a result of Pearl Harbor, Flaxcombe (SK)–Hong Mee (China), late November 1941.

Rated as above. Censored in Vancouver. Via Saskatoon, Vancouver, DLO Ottawa; ret'd to sender late January 1942.

From the only Chinese restaurant in town.



Triple rate, Toronto to Jerusalem, September 1945. Rated 10¢ reg'n & 3 × 30¢. Censored in U.K. Via Montreal, Miami (!), New York, . . .





To UK



Saskatoon–Dundee, 1940. Rated 10¢ registration and double 30¢ per half ounce transatlantic air (10¢ stamp on reverse), with redundant imprinted 3¢.



REGISTERED MAIL

BY AIR MAIL--PAR AVION

Messrs. Sofoclis Michaelides & Sons,  
P. O. Box 63,  
Larnaca, CYPRUS.

10 CENTS 10  
10 CENTS 10  
20 CENTS 20  
50 CENTS 50  
1 DOLLAR 1

PAR AVION  
29490  
PLACE LAUREN  
MONTREAL

31 / M

DB / 14

205

RETURN TO  
EWART, SCOTT, KELLEY, SCOTT & HOWARD  
OTTAWA

AIR MAIL  
REGISTERED.

BY AIR MAIL  
PAR AVION

OTAWA, ONT.  
STATION B.

208

Canada  
1 DOLLAR

OTTAWA, ONT.  
FEB 17 1945  
PM

Modèle n.º 214  
INCONNU  
DESCONHECIDO

59/11/8

João Antonio de Cunha Ferreira,  
Rua da Conceição, 170  
Lisboa, Portugal.

RECEIVED  
LISBOA, PORTUGAL  
FEB 17 1945

TO  
RETURN TO  
REGISTERED

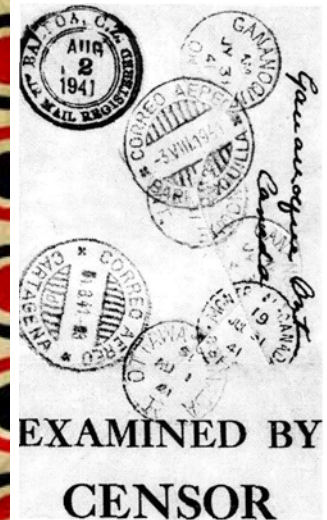
FOR EXPORT

*Triple, Ottawa-Lisbon, 1945.* Rated 10¢ reg'n & 3 × 30¢. Unknown and returned to sender.



## Air to South America

Effective ca 1937–1945, air service all the way was available to the northern part of South America (including Colombia, Ecuador, Venezuela, the Guianas) at 25¢ per quarter ounce, and to the southern part (including Argentina, Bolivia, Brazil, Chile, Paraguay, Uruguay) at 35¢ per quarter ounce.



Gananoque (ON)–Cartagena (Colombia), 1941. Rated 10¢ registration and 25¢ air. Canadian censor, and passed for export handstamp.



Double, Arvida (QC)–Georgetown (British Guiana), 1943. Rated 10¢ registration and 2 × 25¢ air. Canadian censor tape.



## Air to southern South America



Quintuple rate, Montreal–Buenos Aires, 1943. Rated 10¢ registration and 5 × 35¢ per quarter ounce by air. Canadian censor tape and bilingual passed for export handstamp.



Toronto–Cochabamba (Bolivia), 1944. Rated 10¢ registration and 35¢ air. Canadian censor and manuscript passed for export.



## Air to southern South America



*Toronto–Quito, 1944. Rated 10¢ registration and 35¢ per quarter ounce by air. Canadian censor tape and PASSED FOR EXPORT handstamp. English language cinderella for freedom for Czechoslovakia.*



## Air to Central America and Cuba

Effective ca 1940, the airmail rate to most places (including Mexico) was 10¢ per quarter ounce; this included British Guiana.



DB/C. 45



Double rate, Vancouver–Mexico, 1943. Rated 10¢ registration and  $2 \times 10$ ¢ air. Canadian censor.



DB/ C. 264



Vancouver–Cuba, 1942. Rated 10¢ registration and 10¢ air. Canadian censor.



## Air to Central America, West Indies, British Guiana



Double, Toronto–Aruba (Dutch West Indies), 1940. 10¢ registration and  $2 \times 10\text{¢}$  per quarter ounce by air.



Triple, Edmonton–Georgetown (British Guiana), 1944. Rated 10¢ registration and  $3 \times 10\text{¢}$  per quarter ounce by air.

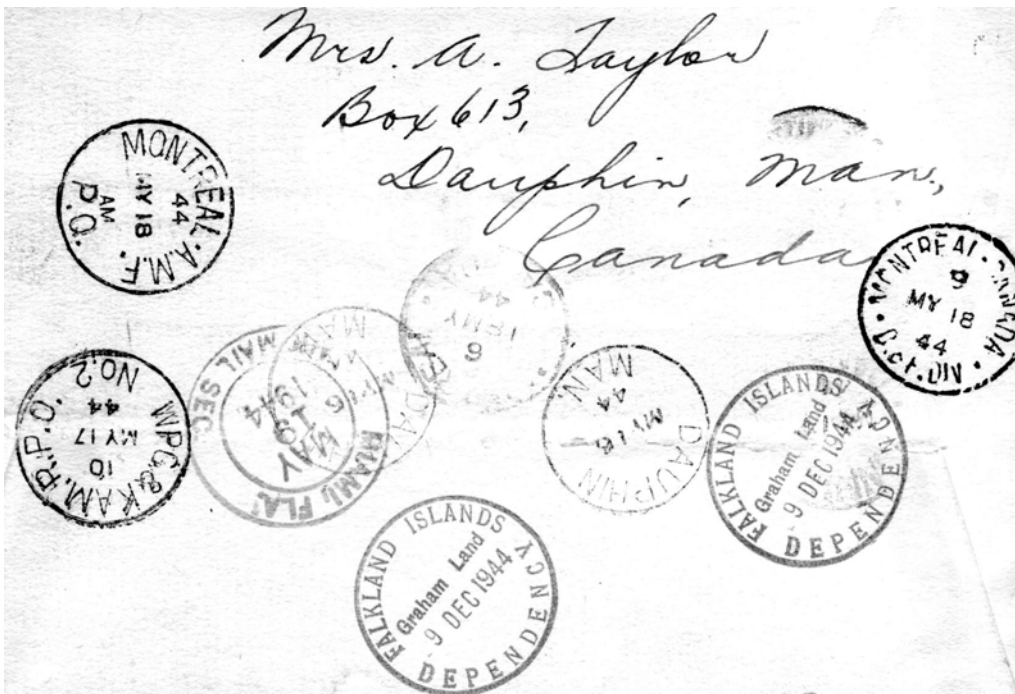


## To Grahamland (Antarctica), Operation Tabarin

*Operation Tabarin* (British Bransfield Expedition, 1943–1945) was a top secret British deployment in Port Lockeroy, to monitor for German submarines, and to establish British claims in the area. The addressee was commanding officer for a short period.



*Dauphin (MB)–Grahamland, 1944.* Rated 10¢ registration and 7¢ by air to New York only. No censor. Via Montreal, Miami, and the Falklands. Sent by the addressee's wife, and probably the only non-philatelic cover from Canada to this destination. Almost seven months transit time.



## Air to Africa

Effective January 1942, via Miami, Lagos, Khartoum; 75¢ per quarter ounce.



Saskatoon–Port Louis (Mauritius), 1944. Rated 10¢ registration and 75¢ air. No censor, but passed for export handstamp. From Khartoum to Durban, then local carrier to Mauritius.



Interesting cogged oval Saskatoon Air Port handstamp.



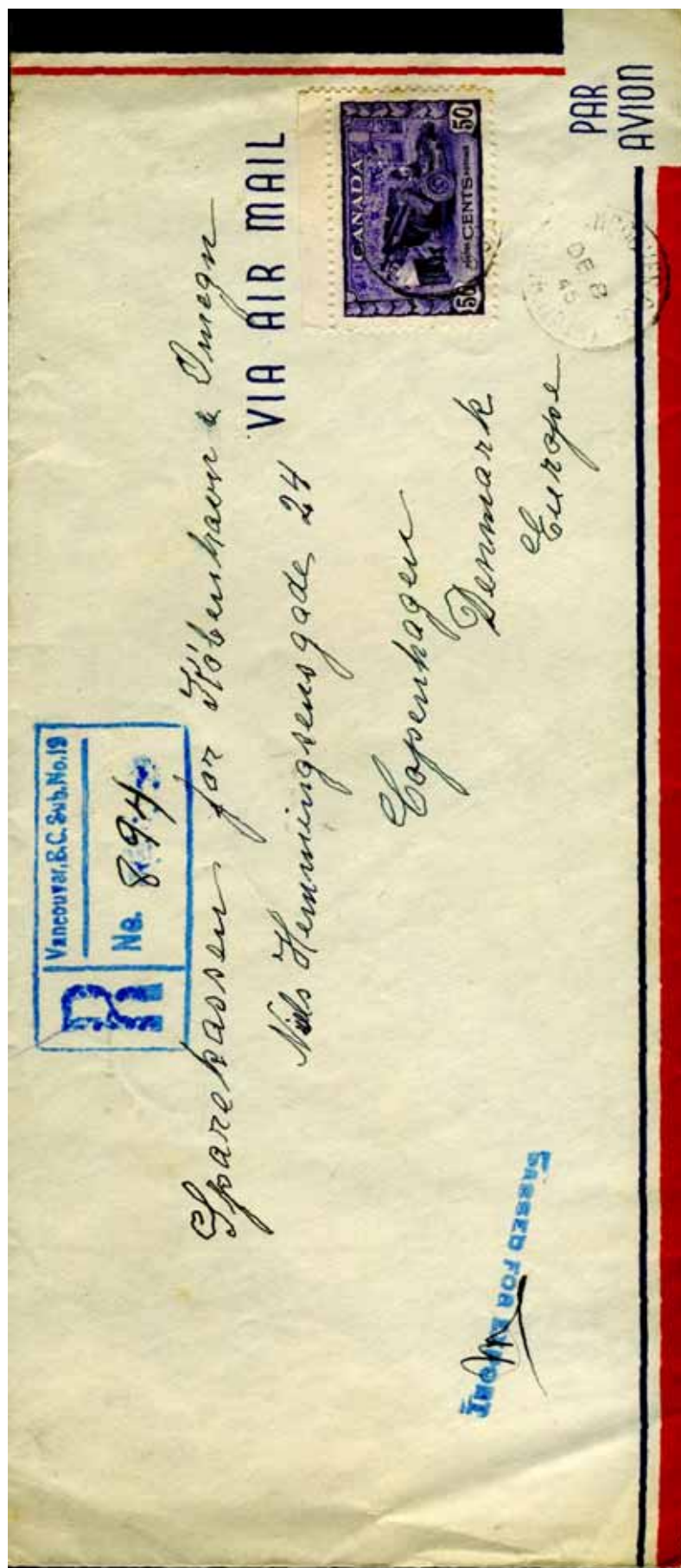
## US sailor in Halifax



*Halifax-Kansas, missent and forwarded, 9 March 1942. Rated 10¢ registration and 3¢ to U.S. F E C B (currency control), but no censorship.*

## Post-War air

Airmail rates varied tremendously in time and destination shortly after the end of hostilities.



Vancouver–Copenhagen, December 1945. Rated 10¢ reg'n and 40¢ per half ounce airmail to Denmark, in effect August 1945–May 1946. This special rate did not apply to other European countries (e.g., to France and Switzerland, 30¢).



Toronto–Sliema (Malta), 21 June 1946. Rated 10¢ reg'n and 30¢ per half ounce airmail to Malta, in effect June–October 1946. ↓↓







## Post-War air

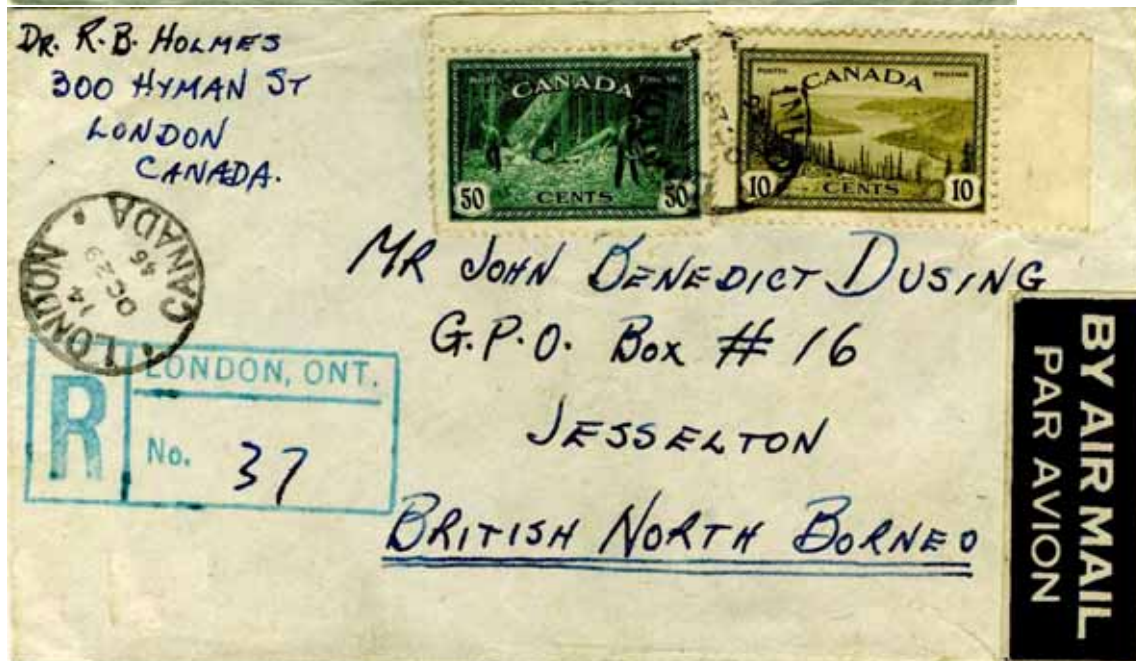
Showing some short term rates

Windsor–Sanicolaul (Romania), July 1945. Rated 10¢ reg'n & 30¢ per half ounce airmail to Romania, in effect from August 1943 to ca 1947.



Double, Toronto–Villarrica (Paraguay), 15 October 1946. Rated 10¢ reg'n & 20¢ per half ounce airmail to southern South America; in effect September 1945–November 1946.

↓ London–Jesselton (North Borneo), 29 October 1946. Rated 10¢ reg'n & 50¢ per half ounce airmail to Oceania, in effect July–November 1946. Via Montreal & Singapore.





Short-term post-War air



Montreal–Buenos Aires, returned to sender, 17 July 1946. Rated 10¢ registration and 20¢ per quarter ounce, in effect 1 September 1945–31 October 1946.





## Short-term post-War air

To Hungary and Czechoslovakia; literature says airmail was 60¢ per quarter ounce over the period January–May 1946. But these covers show 30¢ or 40¢ airmail postage.



Regina–Budapest, 5 March 1946. Rated 10¢ registration and apparently 30¢ per quarter ounce.

Ms crayon *B* indicates Hungarian censorship.



Toronto–Prague, 16 April 1946. Rated 10¢ registration and apparently 30¢ per quarter ounce.



New Carlisle West (Que)–Cvikov (Czechoslovakia), 17 April 1946 (the next day!). Rated 10¢ registration and apparently 40¢ per quarter ounce.





## Airmail to Czechoslovakia

30¢ per quarter ounce, apparently May–November 1946.



Chatham (Ont)–Fryvalov, 17 May 1946. Rated 10¢ registration and 30¢ per quarter ounce airmail.

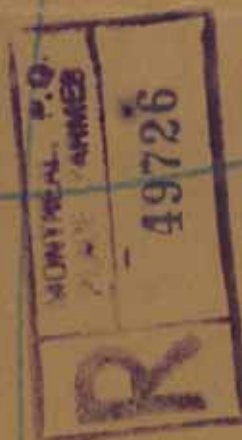




S. MATTHEWS  
770 HARTLAND AVE.  
MONTREAL, OUTREMONT, QUE.  
CANADA.

BY AIR MAIL  
PAR AVION

Mr. S. Koslovsky,  
Post Office Box 211,  
Kitwe, NORTHERN RHODESIA.  
AFRICA.



38 times air rate, Montreal-Kitwe (N Rhodesia), 21 November 1946.  
Air rate to Africa, 25¢ per quarter ounce, beginning 1 November 1946:  $38 \times 25¢ = \$9.50$ . 10¢ registration fee.



BY AIR MAIL  
PAR AVION





## End-of-war problems

No service at all to Bulgaria, and much more improbable, registration not available to Manchuria.



Not yet transmissible, NPO 1117 (Naval Headquarters, Vancouver)–Kazanlik (Bulgaria), May 1945. Rated 10¢ registration and 5¢ UPU (surface). Did not make it out of the country.

An ally of the Nazis, Bulgaria was reconquered by the Red Army in September 1944. Manuscript reads, *not transmissible/no postal service to Bulgaria as yet*

Turquoise Canadian naval censor.



Registration cancelled, Vancouver–Harbin (Manchuria), 14 January 1946. Rated 10¢ registration and 2 × 60¢ double airmail to unoccupied China and Manchuria (rate initiated 1 January 1946).

Registration was not available in Manchuria, and was therefore cancelled. As there no backstamps except at Vancouver, it is difficult tell whether it was sent out of the country.



## Post-War rates

Airmail to all parts of Europe became 15¢ per half-ounce on 1 November 1946



Toronto–Zürich, sextuple, 1947. Rated 10¢ registration and 6 × 15¢ (1½ ounces).

To UK, with special delivery



*Tridectuple* ( $13 \times$ ) rate, 1948. Total postage \$2.15: 10¢ registration, 10¢ special delivery [17¢ stamps were intended to pay special delivery plus domestic airmail, but could be used to pay any part of postage], and  $13 \times 15\text{¢}$  per quarter ounce airmail.

Officially sealed in U.K.





## Post-War rates

Airmail to Africa and Asia was 25¢ per quarter ounce 1 November 1946–1 April 1951. But this cover suggests the rate was 30¢ per quarter ounce.



Langley Prairie (BC)–Awali (Bahrein), quadruple or triple?, 15 March 1951. Literature gives 25¢ per quarter ounce (by air to each of Africa and Asia), but with 10¢ registration, this appears to have been rated  $3 \times 30¢$  ( $\frac{3}{4}$  ounce).

Ms *passed for export*

# Postage due registered

Regulations required full payment of postage on registered matter, and short paid letters could not be accepted for registration. Sometimes, due to clerical error, they were. Prior to 1935, double deficiency was charged on short paid registered matter, changing to single deficiency.

However, registered matter could be postage due for a variety of other reasons: forwarding to a destination requiring more postage, weight remeasured and found to be more than initially thought; for international mail, some services such as *poste restante*, customs handling fees, or *posted out of course* (in some jurisdictions) required additional payment. In addition, there was compulsory registration, but this is in a separate section with complimentary registration.

## Domestic postage due

Short paid as a result of weight; it is possible that these were *dropped* in the mail box.



Triple, short paid 3¢, Montreal–Fredericton, 1914. Rated 5¢ registration and 3 × 2¢ per ounce first class, double deficiency. Montreal experimental registration marking; dues tied by straightline **FREDERICTON, N.B.**



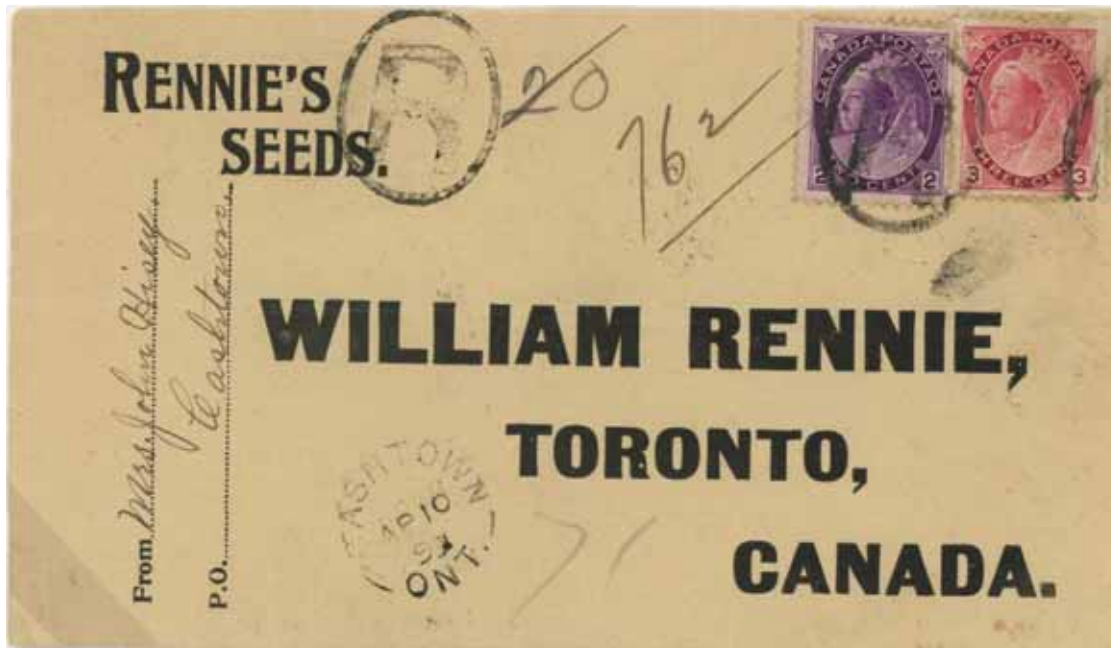
Double, short paid 2¢, Rang St Achille (QC)–Cookshire, 1925. Rated 5¢ reg'n and 2 × 2¢ plus 1¢ war tax, double deficiency.

(Upside down) keyhole hs filled in with all three subsequent registration numbers—an almost unique example!



## Domestic postage due

Short paid registered letters were not *supposed* to be accepted; however, if they did make it into the mail stream, double deficiency was *supposed* to be charged, until 1935 (when it became single deficiency on registered letters).



Short paid 2¢, not caught, Ashtown–Toronto, 1899. Should have had 5¢ registration and 2¢ first class.



Use of US stamps, short paid 12¢, Little Cascapedia (NS)–Wolfville, 1909. Ms Due 12¢ (double deficiency), indicated by postage due stamps (issued 1906).

Thick boundary mourning cover.



MASSEY-HARRIS CO. LTD.  
FARM IMPLEMENTS  
• TORONTO CANADA •

Mr. M. B. Cosby.  
Smithville  
Ont

2066

4294

MASSEY-HARRIS CO. LTD.  
FARM IMPLEMENTS  
HEAD OFFICES, TORONTO, CANADA.  
WORKS AT TORONTO, BRANTFORD & WOODSTOCK

ADDRESS ALL COMMUNICATIONS TO THE BRANCH OFFICE

OFFICE OF ONTARIO BRANCH

Toronto, August 16/1917.

Mr. M. B. Cosby,  
Smithville, Ont.

Dear Sir:

We return you herewith note of W. D. Chavalier, given for a #2 Scuffler, due December 1917, \$18.50.

We regret oversight on our part in previously returning this note for your endorsement. We find, however, the trouble is that the note is not drawn up properly. In the body of the note you made it out for \$18.00, whereas, the figures call for \$18.50. Please have this corrected after which return the note to us and we will see that it is placed to the credit of your account.

Yours truly,  
MASSEY-HARRIS CO., LTD.  
By *W. J. McLean*

WJMcL/B.  
REGISTER







## Domestic postage due on business reply envelopes

Postage due stamps were often applied for the return fee (and possibly for other covers coming in at the same time); this was always single deficiency.



Sundown (MB)–Winnipeg, 1932. Rated 10¢ registration and single domestic 3¢ (1931–43); charged 4¢ postage due, the additional 1¢ likely for another item received at the same time.



Vimy (AB)–Edmonton, 1939. Rated 10¢ registration and single domestic 4¢; charged 4¢ postage due.



## Postage due



Winnipeg–London, forwarded to Waterloo, 1937. Registration 10¢ and domestic at 3¢ for the first ounce, and 2¢ for each additional; it is impossible to explain the 22¢ or 30¢ (single deficiency on registered letters) postage.

### Possible explanations

- quadruple money packet (15¢ first ounce including registration and 5¢ each additional)
- combined postage due with other letters
- registration with extra indemnity up to \$50 (20¢) and quadruple domestic letter rate, overcharged 1¢

Since 1¢ postage due stamps were in common use and overpayment in postage due stamps is highly unlikely, the third possibility is extremely unlikely, and since 22¢ or more would require at least six ounces, the second is very unlikely. This leaves the first, which is at least plausible.

Postage due



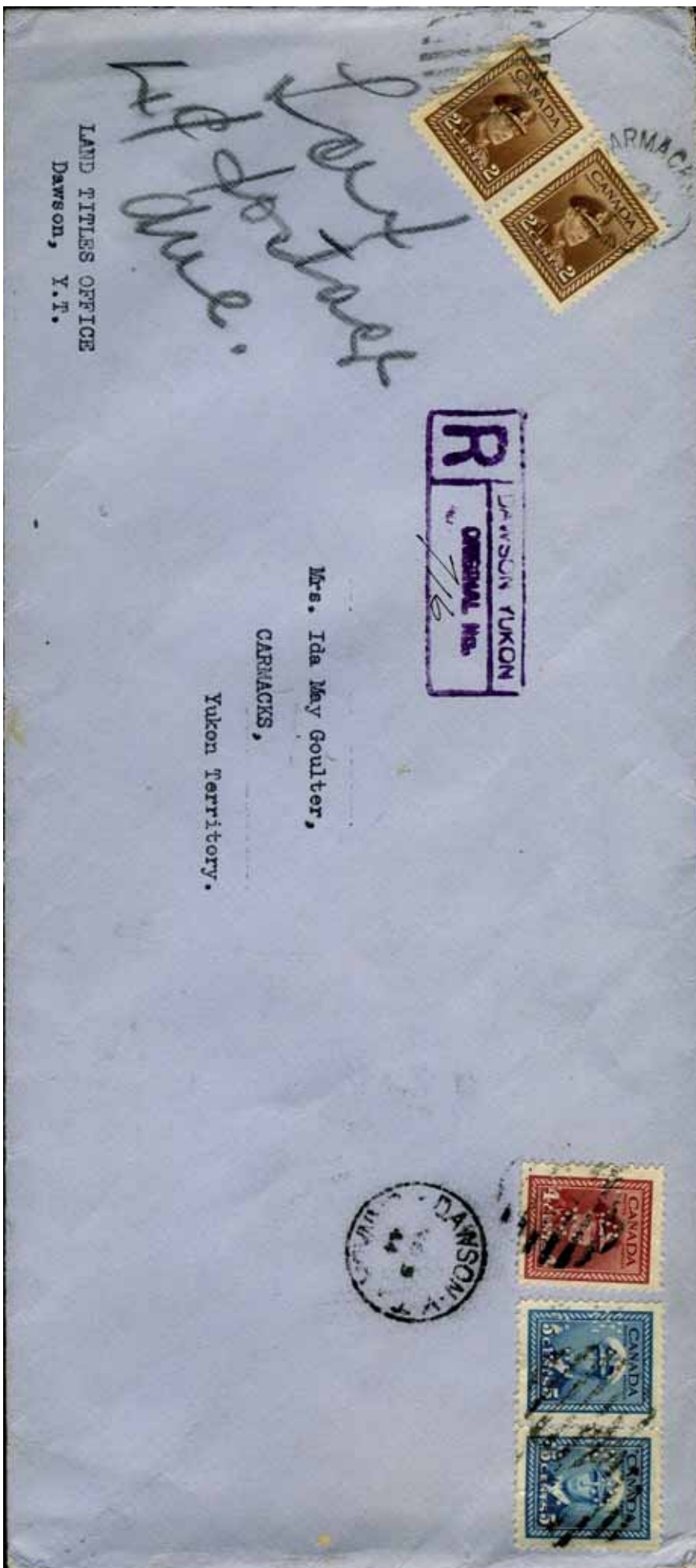
Missing reg'n fee, returned to sender for additional postage, Jaffray (BC)–Cranbrook, 1930. Rated 10¢ registration & 2¢ domestic. Subsequently refused and returned.



No postage at all, Nanaimo–Kelowna, 1947. Rated 10¢ registration & 4¢ domestic single.



Domestic postage due,  
no postage due stamps



*Triple, paid as single, 4¢ due, Dawson—Carmacks (YT), 1944.*

*Rated 10¢ registration, triple 2¢ plus 2¢ war tax, short paid 4¢, single deficiency.*

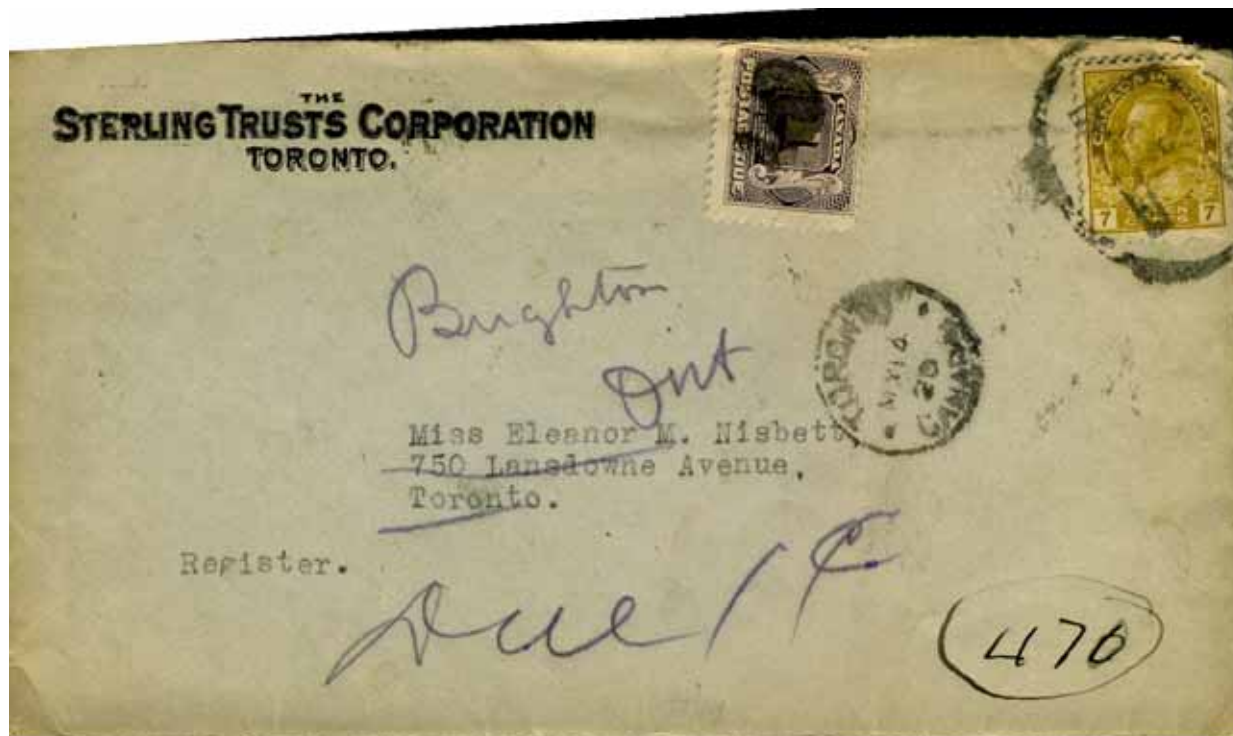
*OHMS-perfined stamps.*



Postage due as a result of forwarding to a destination requiring more postage

Forwarding itself did not result in postage due charges, unless the new destination required more postage than the original, in which case single difference was charged.

The two below are drop letters *forwarded* out-of-town during periods in which first class cost 1¢ more, hence were charged this amount.



Toronto–Toronto–Brighton (ON), May 1920. Rated 5¢ registration and 2¢ drop, forwarded out-of-town, thus requiring 3¢ for first class, charged the difference.



Sarnia–Sarnia–Toronto–?, returned to sender, 1943. Rated 10¢ registration and 2¢ drop, out-of-town required 3¢, charged the difference. Carrier endorsements and four RPOs (including Halifax & Campbellton).



## Postage due resulting from forwarding



Swift Current–Swift Current–Winnipeg, 1947. Rated 10¢ registration and 3¢ drop, out-of-town required 4¢, charged the difference.

## Forwarding internationally

The same rule applied: the difference between the postage applied and the postage to the final destination was charged (single deficiency).



Victoria drop letter forwarded to Seattle, returned to sender for additional postage, 1916. Rated 5¢ registration and 2¢ drop, postage to US was 3¢. Eventually returned to sender



Toronto–Montreal, forwarded to UK, 1937. Rated 10¢ registration and 3¢ domestic, actually short paid, forwarded to UK, to which the postage was also 3¢, single deficiency postage due to be collected from addressee, marked as 5 centimes, equivalent to 1¢ or half-penny.



## International postage due

Can occur as a result of miscalculation of early air mail rates, or of additional services applied in the destination country.



Double, to Costa Rica, short paid 5¢, 1930. Rated 10¢ registration, air mail (within US only) at 10¢ for the first ounce and 5¢ for the second, plus double 2¢ per ounce preferred rate, double deficiency. Backstamped St Paul (MN), Jacksonville, Cristobal (CZ), and San José.



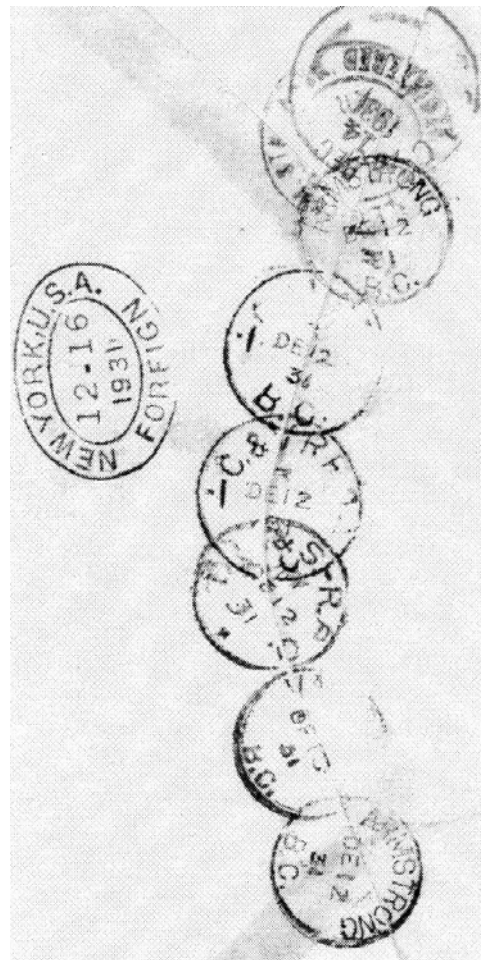
To Southern Nigeria, not part of Empire airmail scheme, & amount due miscalculated, 1939. Rated 10¢ registration plus double 6¢ per half ounce Empire airmail rate—but Southern Nigeria was not served by a British carrier, so the 25¢ per half ounce rate applied. Short payment was thus  $50 - 12¢ = 38¢$ , which was mistakenly calculated as 17¢, or 85 centimes (single deficiency after 1935 on registered matter). Forwarded from Calabar to Victoria (at no extra charge), postmarked VICTORIA-CAMEROUNS / UNDER BRITISH MANDATE.



## International postage due (airmail)



To Ireland, by air through US, 3¢ short paid, December 1931. Rated 10¢ registration, 10¢ by air to New York, and 3¢ surface to Ireland (this rate combination initiated July 1931), short paid 3¢ (T/10 in centimes), inexplicably not doubled.







## International postage due

To Southern Rhodesia, wrongly charged, May 1945. Rated 10¢ reg'n, 4¢ Empire rate; 10¢ (single) due, likely as a result of incorrectly not recognizing special delivery stamp as payment for registration.



To Denmark, 1947. Rated 10¢ reg'n, 15¢ air to Europe; thus 9¢ short paid, converted to 56 centimes (after doubling?).



To France, 1947. Rated 10¢ reg'n, 15¢ air to Europe; 10¢ short paid, converted to 30 centimes.



## International postage due

In U K and some other countries, *forwarded* registered mail or registered mail dropped in the mail box was marked *Posted out of course* (P O O C) and charged postage due.



Partially airmail to U K, forwarded, May 1937.  
Rated 10¢ reg'n, 6¢ by air to New York, followed  
by surface to London, forwarded within Lon-  
don, and charged 3 d for P O O C.

Posted out of course  
W.S.

To U K, forwarded, charged 3 d, 1946. ↓↓  
Rated 10¢ reg'n, 4¢ surface Empire rate to Hull,  
forwarded to Liverpool, and charged 3 d for P O O C.





## International postage due

Many countries charged for *poste restante* service (known in Canada as *general delivery*).



Airmail, Montreal–Lodz (Poland), *poste restante*, 1946. Rated 10¢ registration and 15¢ air to Europe; charged 2 Zloty *poste restante* fee in Lodz.

[illegible]

Rated 15¢ registration, 6¢ per ounce by air to Canada, and 20¢ special delivery internationally. Postage paid was 25¢, which is 16¢ short paid (presumably a clerical error). The Canadian clerk would not know this.

However, the U.S. clerk had stamped FEE PAID 10 CENTS, rather than 20¢, for special delivery, which the Canadian clerk recognized as underpaid. Finally, ostensibly short paid registered mail was charged single deficiency.

Or any, that's my take on this. At least, some of the postage due stamps are tied.

There is another feature. On 1 March 1939, the Canadian special delivery fee to U S dropped to 10¢; normally, these were reciprocal, but apparently not in this case.





# Complimentary and compulsory registration

*Complimentary* registration occurs when an item, not sent registered, is suspected to contain something of value, and registered by the post office at no charge. This may occur (ww 1) as a result of a censor opening the envelope; it *may* also arise if a cover is damaged, and consequently its contents open to view.

*Compulsory* registration arises for the same reason, except that the registration fee is charged (to the recipient). It is often extremely difficult to decide whether compulsory registration took place, or whether an item intended by the sender to be registered—but without payment of the registration fee—was mistakenly registered by the accepting post office.

## World War I censorship

During the brief periods of civil censorship in Canada during ww 1 (8–19 April 1916 and 1–6 April 1917), letters containing items of value were registered by the censorship authorities, without charge.



*Complimentary registration, Victoria–Seattle, 12 April 1916. Rated 2¢ first class & 1¢ war tax; registered two days later, at no extra charge. Not listed in Steinhart, who recorded nine such examples during this censorship period.*

# CENSORED.





Complimentary registration during 1917 civil censorship

None of these is listed in Steinhart, who recorded four in this period (1–6 April).

Victoriaville–Philadelphia, 2 April 1917. [front] Rated 2¢ first class & 1¢ war tax; registered same day at Sherbrooke (ms *Reg for safety* cancelled by Sherbrooke double circle—reserved for special occasions). Experimental Montreal reg'n handstamp.



Victoria–New York, 2 April 1917. Rated as above; registered next day at no extra charge.

Censor label reads No. 15 – VA.



Toronto–Utica, stamp added by censor, 5 April 1917. Rated as above, except (as occurs with the other known Toronto example), 5¢ registration fee paid with stamp added—over the flag cancel—by post office or censor).

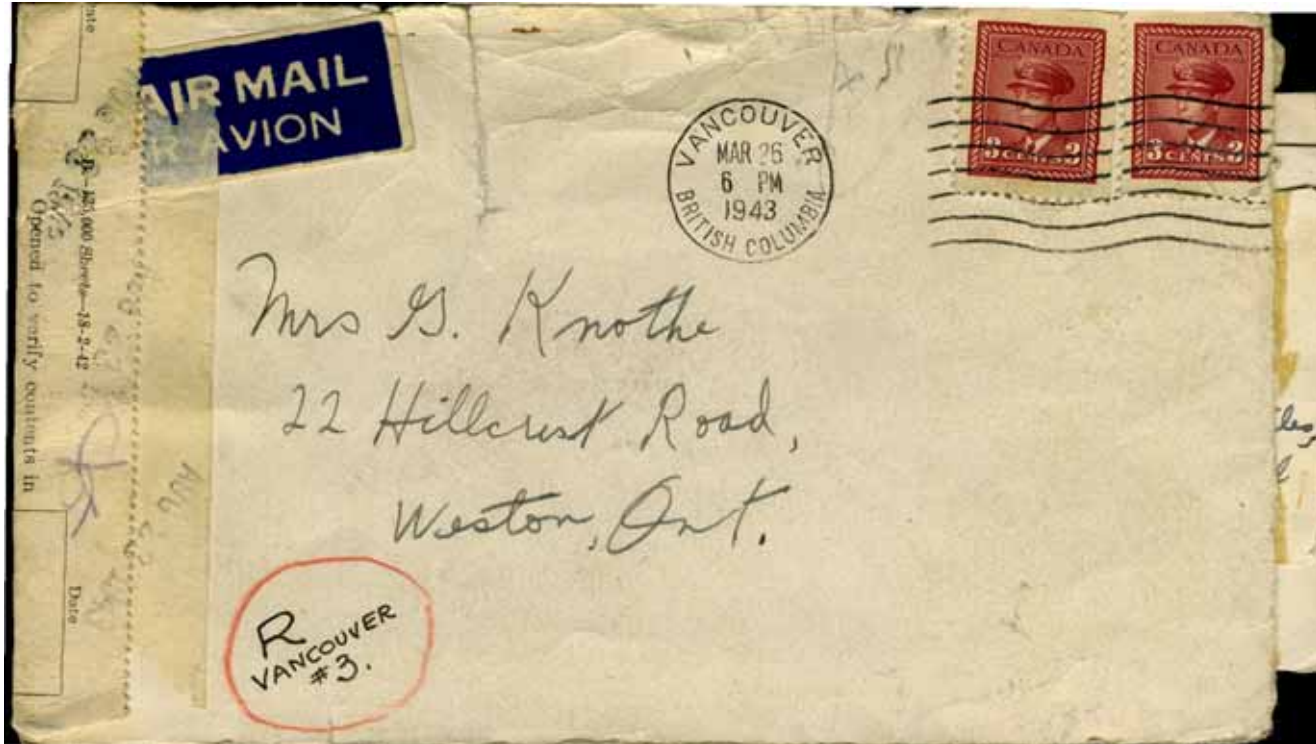
Censor label reads No. 24 – TO. and TO 357.



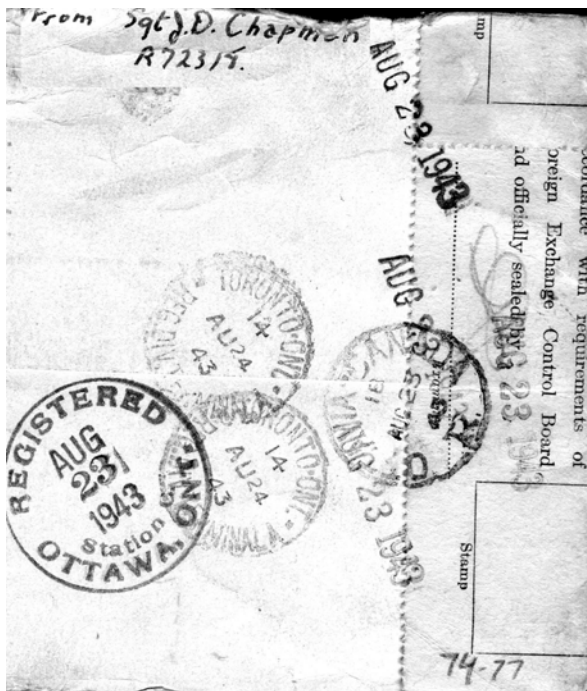
## Complimentary registration, World War II

Heavily censored contents (pieces cut out). Sent by RCAF sergeant stationed at Dutch Harbor, Alaska, carried to APO 945 (Seattle), and apparently mailed there. Censored, likely at Vancouver (tape is under the FECB tape), where it was registered, and then sent to Ottawa where it was checked again, this time by the Foreign Exchange Control Board.

The Aleutian campaign began June 1942 with the Japanese bombing of Dutch Harbor, ending August 1943, when a joint Canadian-U.S. force arrived to find that the Japanese had abandoned the occupied areas. This was also the first deployment of the *Devil's Brigade*—afterwards sent to Europe—which was the first special services force for each of Canada and the U.S. It is possible that the letter writer belonged to the Devil's Brigade.



Dutch Harbor (Unalaska, Alaska)—Weston (ON), via Seattle & Vancouver, March–August 1943. Rated 6¢ domestic airmail. Held somewhere in Canada from March to August.



## Compulsory registration

Often very difficult to decide if compulsory registration has taken place.



Toronto–England, 1932. Rated 5¢, paying the UPU rate, rather than the 3¢ Empire rate (2¢ overpayment credited to postage due). Registered at *Montreal* (not at the office of origin, Toronto), charged 80 centimes, double 10¢ – 2¢ (16¢). Blue cross applied in UK.



20¢

Covered by post office sticker. Indicates originally charged 20¢ postage, double deficiency for registration; the addressee thereupon *refused* the letter. On return to post office, charge covered and *refused* struck through (backstamps confirm this story).

Likely contained money.

Alexandria (ON)–Toronto, *refused and accepted, postage due retracted*, 1933. Rated 3¢ domestic. Alexandria PM registered the item, endorsing it *Drop Letter/ Placed under Registration by PM*. Use of *Drop letter* is incorrect, as this applied only when the sender indicated it was to be registered and applied the correct postage, but dropped it in a mail box.



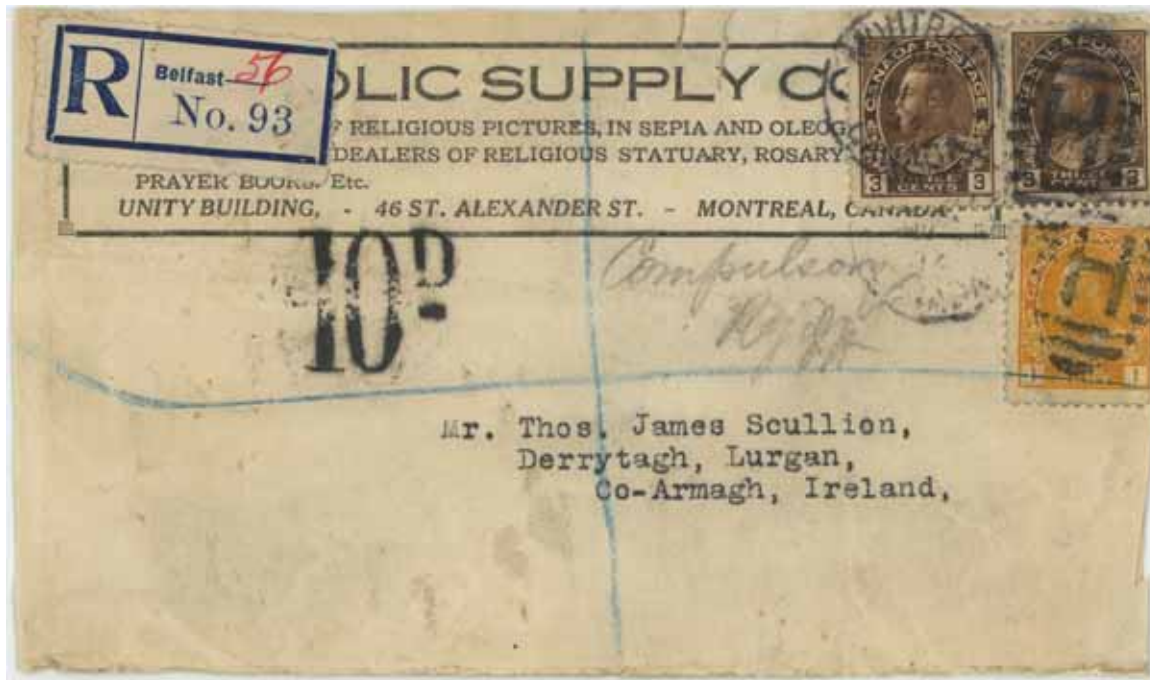
## Probable compulsory registration



Bloomfield (ON)—St Catharines, 1932. Domestic rate prepaid and charged 20¢ double deficiency for registration. Likely an example of compulsory registration.

## Compulsory registration abroad

Helpfully, this cover has an ms *Compulsory* on the front, and the corresponding label on reverse.



Montreal–County Armagh (Ireland), 1924. Originally 7¢ triple Empire rate (3¢ first ounce, 2¢ each additional). Charged 10 d at Belfast for compulsory registration (default registration fee was 3 d).



Compulsory registration sticker on reverse.

This packet has been registered because *it is believed to contain coin.*



## Compulsory registration (incoming)

During ww II, most covers that were registered by censors were charged for registration—hence compulsorily registered.



St John's (NF)—Oshawa, 1943. Rated 7¢ airmail to Canada, and charged 50 centimes (10¢, single deficiency registration) by Newfoundland censor (tape with Morse V is that of Newfoundland). Oshawa National Revenue handstamp on both sides.





# Registered wreck covers

A very unusual combination



Egypt–Southampton (ON), 26 March 1918. Most likely carried on the British ship *Kingstonian* (Leyland & Co), torpedoed by German sub U-68 on 18 April 1918 in the Mediterranean, en route from Alexandria to Marseilles; towed to Sardinia, it was torpedoed again 29 April and sank. Boxed DAMAGED ... applied in Liverpool. Arrived at destination 8 June 1918.



Adelaide (Australia)–Ingersoll (ON), 6 June 1939. Recovered from Imperial Airways *Centurion*, which had crashed in the Hoogley River, near Calcutta, 12 June. Sent to Liverpool (UK), where it was sealed and (re-) registered. Arrived at destination 28 June 1939, a remarkable performance.

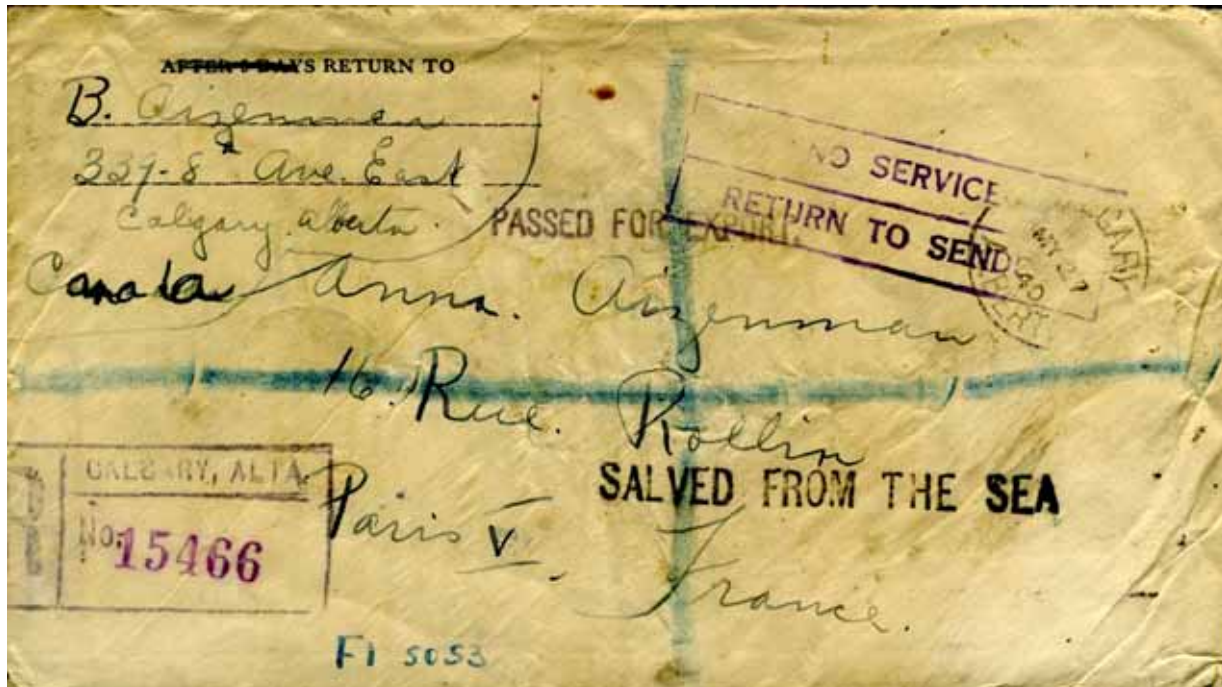
There were no casualties, and most of the mail was recovered.





## Recovered from the *Eros*

The *Eros* was a 5888-ton Canadian vessel coming from Montreal, carrying 200 tons of badly-needed small arms, just after Dunkirk (24 May–4 June 1940). It was heavily damaged (but with no casualties) by the German submarine U-48 on 7 June 1940 off the coast of Ireland near Donegal, and subsequently towed to safety and repaired. Most of the mail was from Canada.



Calgary–Paris, returned after the fall of France, 27 May 1940. SALVED FROM THE SEA and sealing tape on reverse applied at Liverpool. Stamps obviously came off before recovery from the *Eros*.

The Nazi attack on France began in May, continuing through June, with Paris falling on the 14th. In any event, the cover was stamped **NO SERVICE / RETURN TO SENDER** in the UK, and returned to Canada, initially to the Ottawa DLO, and then to sender, in mid-August.



# Money Packets

*Money packets* are packets of bank notes or other items whose value exceeding \$100. From 1 April 1922, money packet service (which involved security) became available, initially at 6¢ for the first ounce, 5¢ for each additional, plus 10¢ registration. There was no indemnity available. It was available domestically, to the US, to the UK, as well as to some other countries (which changed in time) at the same rates. Prior to this date, such packets were sent as first class registered mail (no indemnity), although they may have received extra security.

## Pre-Money Packets

Charged as first class registered



Winnipeg–Melville (SK), 1917. Rated 89¢, made up of 5¢ registration, and 42 ounces domestic rate, which should have been  $42 \times 2¢ + 1¢$  war tax, underpaid 1¢, evidently a miscalculation. No backstamps, as the envelope was attached to a large parcel. Turquoise RPO with clerk's name.



Saint John–Woodstock (NB), 1916. Rated 5¢ reg'n and  $44 \times 2¢ + 1¢$  war tax for 44 ounces. Portion of a canvas envelope.



## Money packet service introduced

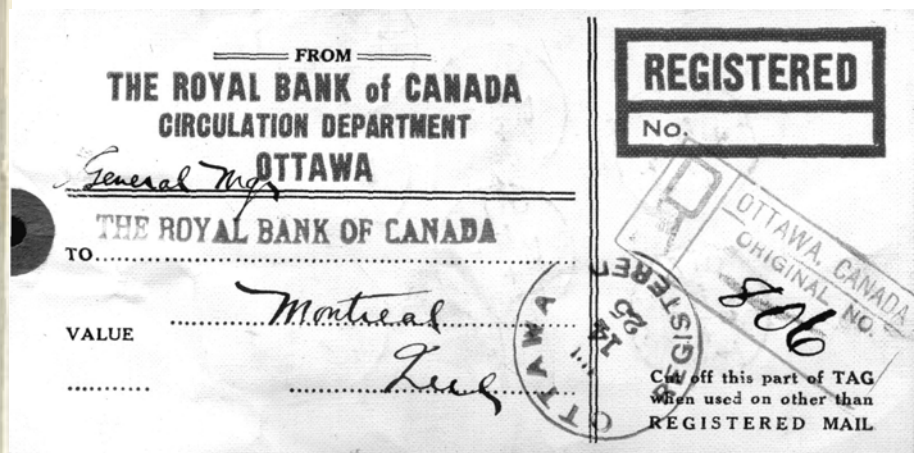
Charged 10¢ registration and 5¢ per ounce + 1¢ war tax; this rate was in effect 1 April 1922–30 June 1926.



Winnipeg–Rainy River (ON), 12 April 1922. Rated \$3.11, made up of 10¢ registration and weight of 60 ounces ( $60 \times 5¢ + 1¢$ ). Possibly the earliest known Canadian money packet.



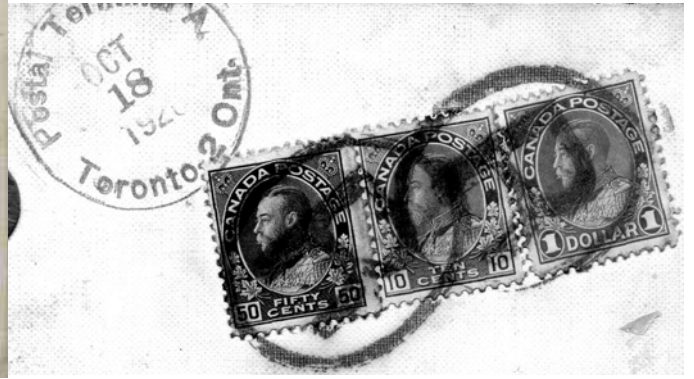
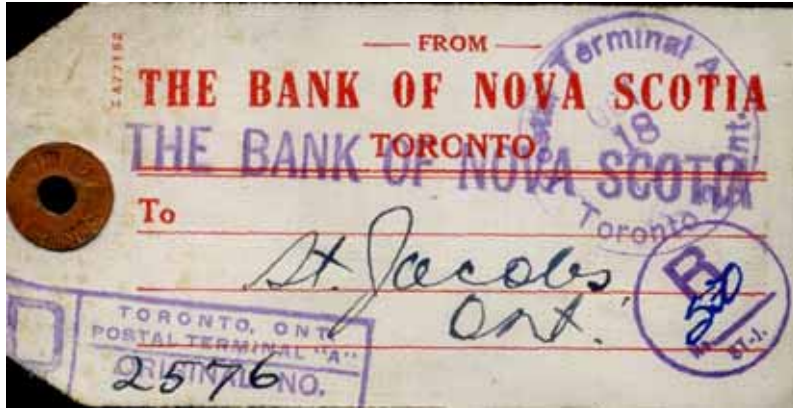
Ottawa–Montreal, 1925. Rated \$5.36, made up of 10¢ registration and weight of 105 ounces ( $105 \times 5¢ + 1¢$ ).





## Money packet rate change

Effective 1 July 1926–31 March 1942, the fee was 10¢ registration plus 5¢ per ounce.



Toronto–St Jacobs (ON), October 1926. Rated \$1.60, made up of 10¢ registration and weight of 30 ounces (30 × 5¢). Fancy St J registration cancel (five examples known).



Barrie–Lions Head (ON), 1932. Rated \$2.10: 10¢ reg'n and weight of 40 ounces (40 × 5¢). Ms Value \$1,000 endorsement violates regulations (value notation not permitted on registered mail). Part of large wrapper.



Montreal–Windsor, 1941. Rated \$3.95, made up of 10¢ registration and weight of 77 ounces (77 × 5¢).





Gold brick, Pioneer Mine (BC)—Vancouver, 1931. Rated \$20.10: 10¢ reg'n and 400 ounces ( $400 \times 5¢$ ) or 25 lb (although gold is usually measured in troy). Heavy cardboard tag.

Bank overpayment with old airmail stamps, Montreal—Finch, 1937. Rated 72¢: 10¢ reg'n and 12 ounces ( $12 \times 5¢$ ), 2¢ overpayment, likely to use up 1932 stamps still on hand. ↓↓





## Further money packet rate change

Effective 1 April 1943–1964, the fee was 10¢ registration plus 5¢ per ounce plus 2¢.



*Toronto–Uxbridge (Ont), 1945.*

Postage \$1.07: 10¢ registration, 2¢, and 19 × 5¢. The \$1 Admiral was last issued 1929 (with at least four other dollar stamps printed in the meantime). Commercial institutions bought large quantities of stamps and seldom-used denominations can be found on their mail decades after issue.



*Montreal–Pont Rouge (QC), 1946.*

Postage 77¢: 10¢ registration, 2¢, and 13 × 5¢. Stamps are perf8 coils.





## Not a money packet

*Not* from a money packet, but shows that caution must be exercised in deciding that the service applies.



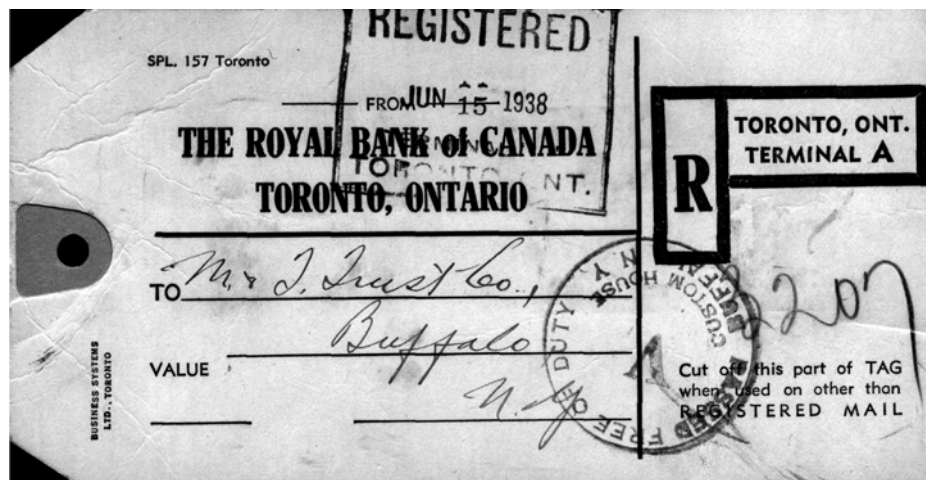
**Not** a money packet, Ottawa—?, August 1946. Montreal B & F DIV (British and foreign division) suggests a foreign destination; the rates suggest air mail to a destination requiring 20¢ per ounce in this period, such as some places in South America (10¢ registration +  $8 \times 20\text{¢}$ ).

## Money packets to foreign destinations

Although money packets were permitted to some foreign destinations, no examples are known other than to U S and U K, and even these are difficult to find. Rates are the same, regardless of destination.



Toronto–Cleveland, 1935. Rated \$8.35, made up of 10¢ registration and weight of 165 ounces ( $165 \times 5¢$ ).



Toronto–Buffalo, 1938. Rated \$3.05, made up of 10¢ registration and weight of 59 ounces ( $59 \times 5¢$ ).



## Probable money packets

Strengthened by the fact that they are addressed to financial institutions. In the second case, there are no backstamps, suggesting it was attached to a larger package.



*Dominion Bank (Montreal)–Wall Street (NY), 1931.* The only rate that fits exactly is two ounce money packet at 5¢ per ounce plus 10¢ registration (in effect 1926–1943).

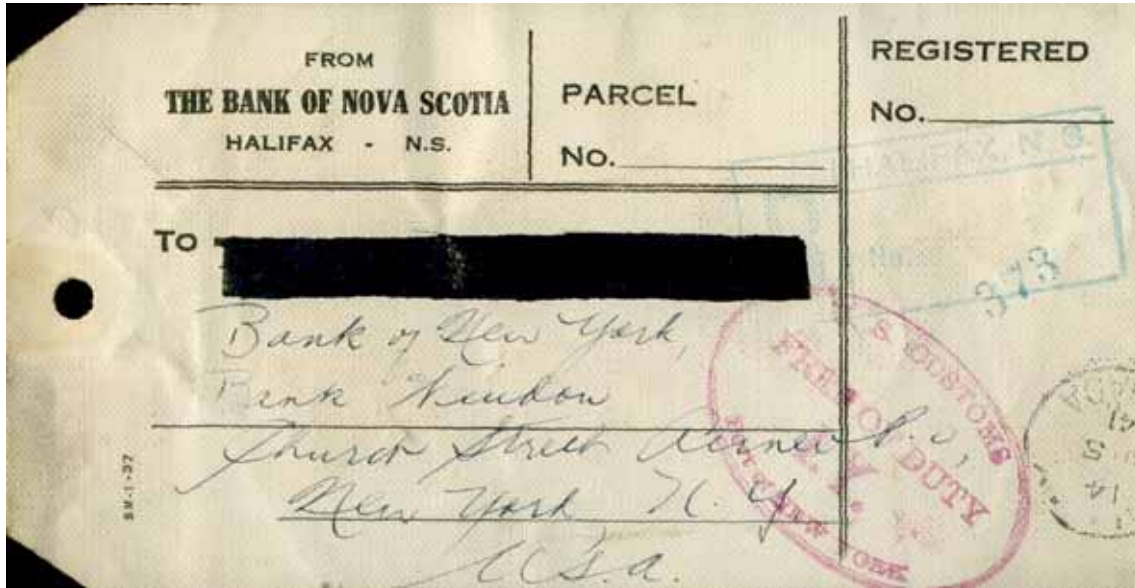
At the time, first class letter rate was 2¢ per ounce plus 1¢; so this would have had to have weighed four ounces (with 1¢ overpayment), which is probably impossible without the envelope being stressed.



*Granby–Société nationale de fiducie (Montreal), 1936.* Ten ounce money packet at 10¢ registration plus 5¢ per ounce. Almost certainly attached to a larger package.

Cannot be extra indemnity: even with the largest fee (40¢), this would require the envelope itself to have carried nine ounces, and be overpaid 1¢, and would have had backstamps.

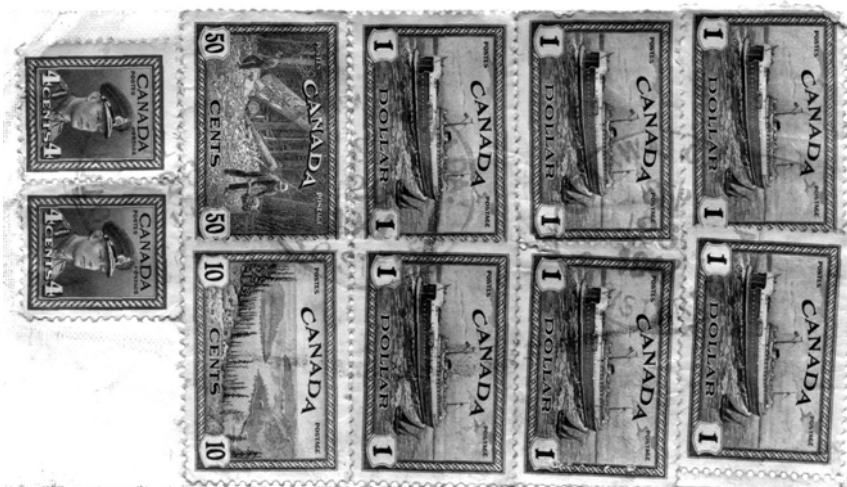
## Money packets to US and UK



Halifax–New York, 1941. Rated 90¢: 10¢ registration and weight of 16 ounces (16 × 5¢).



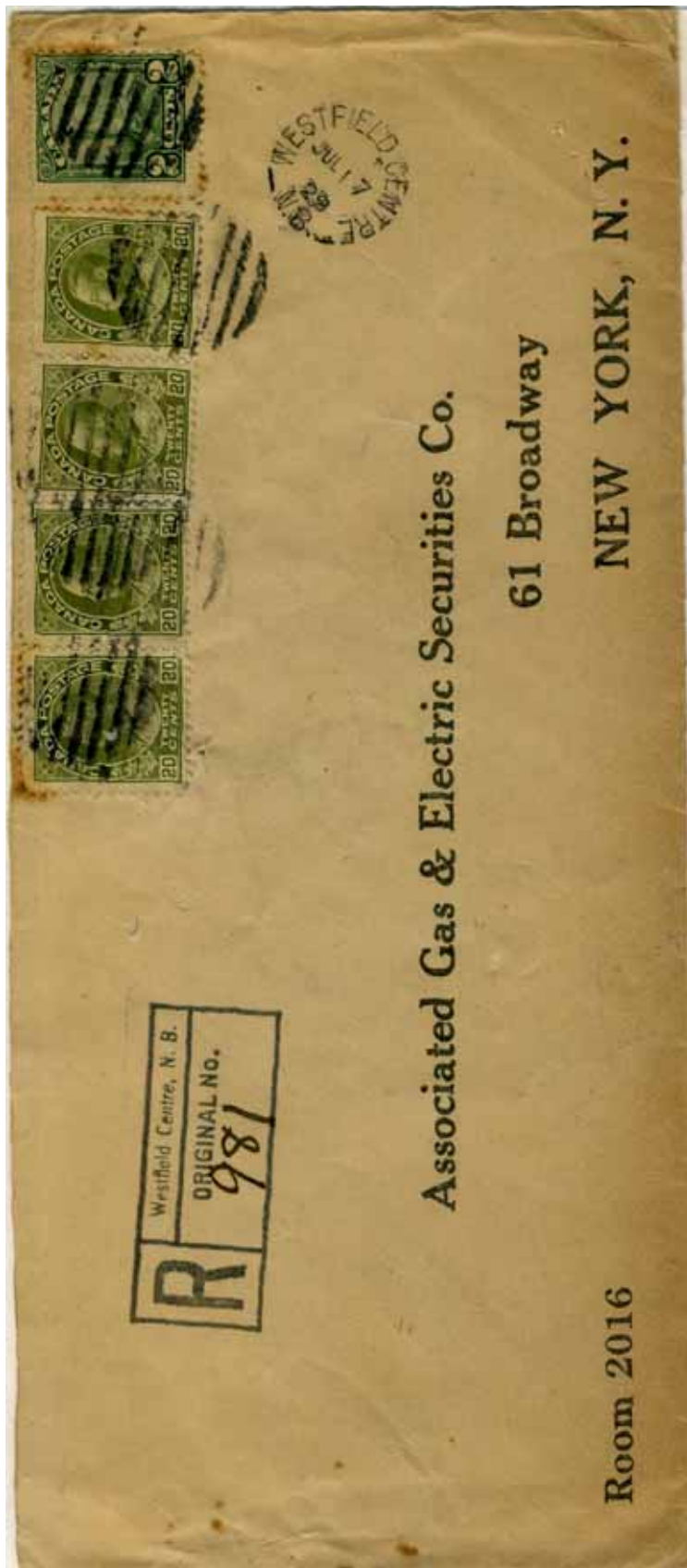
Ottawa–Whitehall (London), 1947. Rated \$6.68: either overpaid by 1¢ or 4¢ stamp missing [no partial cancel]—10¢ reg'n & weight of 131 or 132 ounces (at this time, money packet rate was 2¢+ 5¢ per ounce).





## Mystery money packet rate

This apparent money packet is 2¢ overpaid with a 2¢ stamp. A similarly overfranked (by 2¢ with a 2¢ stamp) money packet is known in 1941. The envelope likely contained securities and thus was eligible for money packet service. Parcel post matter could not be registered, nor could this have been sent first class (36 ounces could not possibly fit in this envelope), not could extra indemnity have applied (not permitted to U S), leaving only money packet as a possibility.



Westfield Centre (NB)—New York, 1929. Rated 82¢: 10¢ registration and weight of 14 ounces ( $14 \times 5¢$ ) with 2¢ apparent overpayment.

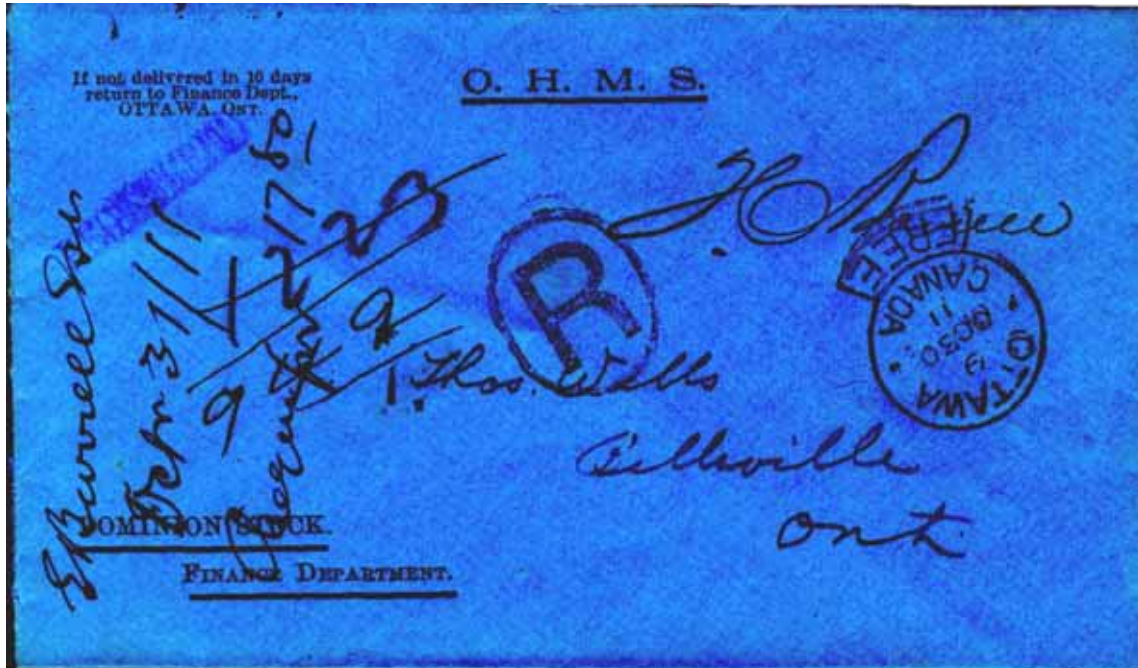
Postmasters at small offices would almost never deal with money packets, so it is possible that a clerical error was made at the office of origin.

Envelope reinforced by sender.



## Free registered mail

Here *free* refers to any portion of the postage, e.g., first class fees might be charged but registration not (or vice versa); this it typically to or from federal government departments. The combination of free registered mail is relatively uncommon domestically. Owing to an 1887 treaty, mail free in Canada would continue free to the U.S., and it is thus possible (but not easy) to find free registered mail to the U.S.



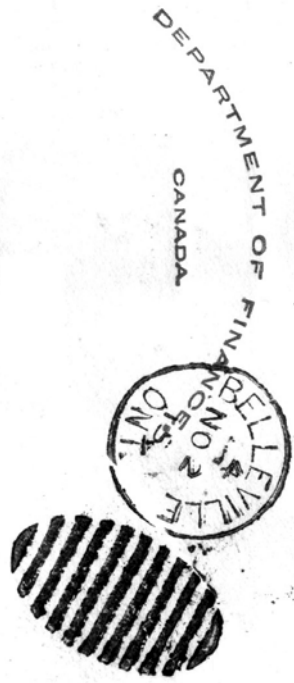
Dominion Stock [bonds], Finance Department, Ottawa–Belleville (ON), 1911. Handstamp franking, and relatively common OTTAWA·FREE datestamp. Purple Belleville registered oval on reverse.



Public Printing and Stationery (later Queen's/King's Printer), Ottawa–St Catharines (ON), 1912. Handstamp franking, and relatively common OTTAWA·FREE datestamp.



Free registered



Department of Finance, Ottawa–Belleville, 1915. Unusual purple double ring R.

Free registered



Department of Marine and Fisheries (Ottawa)–  
Aylesford (N S), 1905.





**REGISTERED**

**THIS ENVELOPE MUST NOT BE FOLDED**

**ON HIS MAJESTY'S SERVICE**

**R. M. COULTER**

**Dy. P.M. Gen'l**



**THE POSTMASTER AT  
COUNTY OF**

*Grimsby Park*



In transit and at office of destination each Postmaster or Railway Mail Clerk must make a clear impression of his Dated Stamp on the line of the edge of the closing (upper) flap—between the two circles.

The instructions on the back are to be carefully read and observed.

47.—130M-30-9-00.

In transit and at office of destination, this envelope must be carefully examined, back, front and edges, by EVERY POST OFFICE OFFICIAL through whose hands it passes, and if it is improperly closed, or in any way damaged, a particular memorandum must be made below, and the case at once reported to the Post Office Inspector by Postmasters and their Assistants, and to the Superintendent Railway Mail Service by Railway Mail Clerks.

ADDRESS ON OTHER SIDE,—Space on this side for REMARKS.



Registered letter package

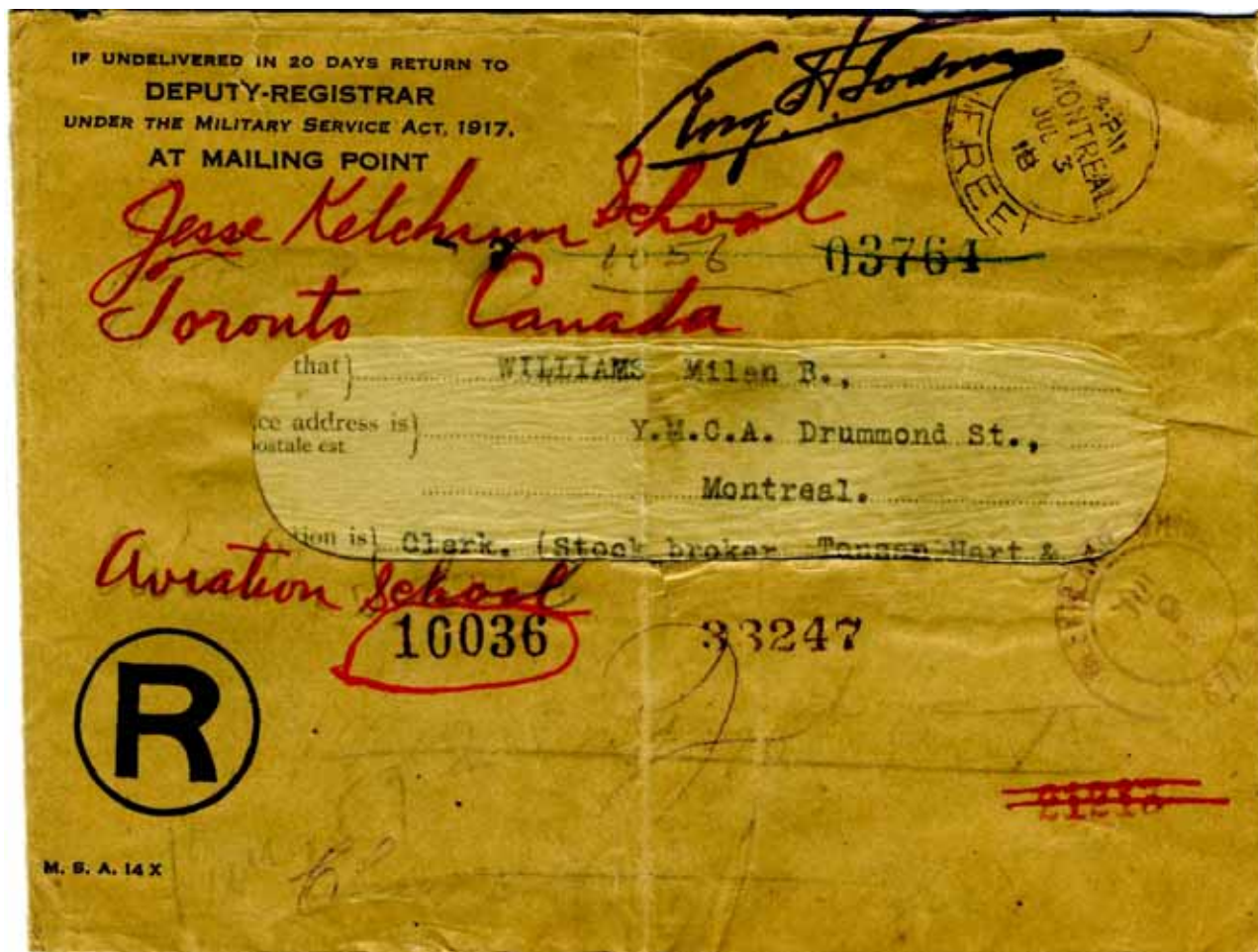
For sending registered letters between post offices. Supposed to be stored for a while, and then destroyed. Few survive.

Toronto (NB)—Grimsby Park, 1911.

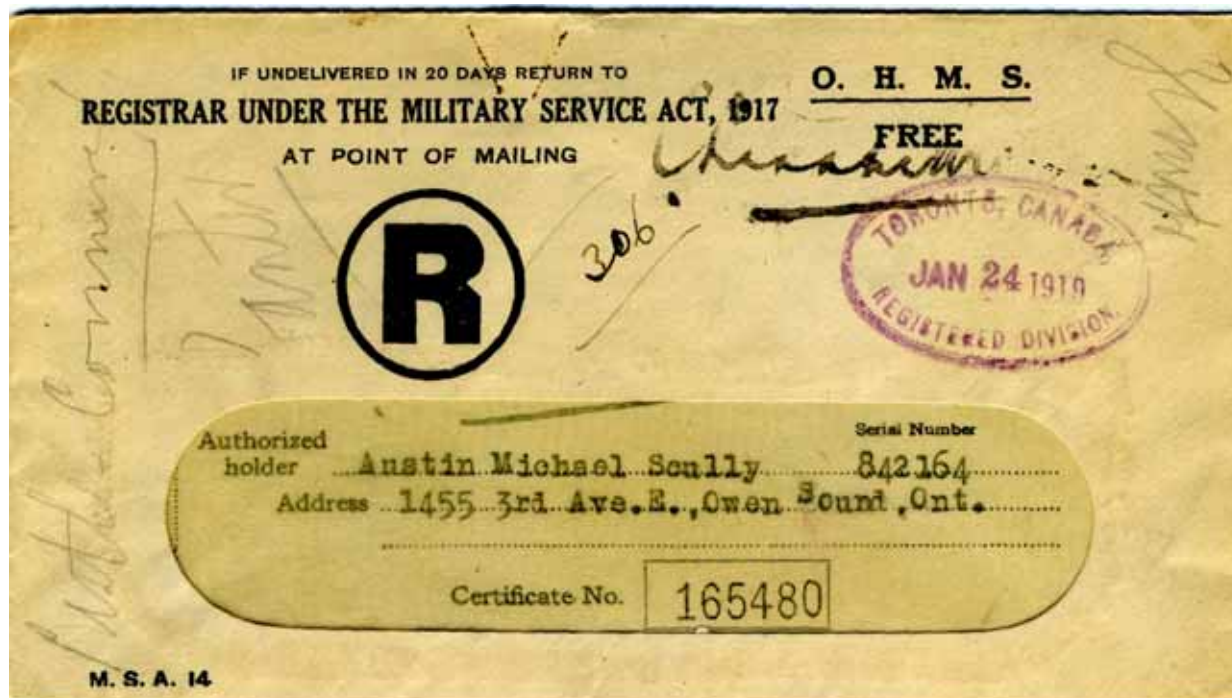


# Certificate for exemption from the draft

Both envelopes contain exemption certificates for the addressees.



Military Service Deputy-Registrar Montreal, forwarded to Toronto via the U.S., 1918. Originally addressed within Montreal, forwarded to Toronto, then Cleveland (faint pencil address at bottom, largely erased), then back to Jesse Ketchum Aviation School, Toronto. Double circle MONTREAL-FREE handstamp is much less frequently seen than its Ottawa counterparts. Interesting tiny Montreal Station H broken circle on reverse.



Military Service Registrar, Toronto-Owen Sound (ON), 1919.



Free registered from House of Commons



Clerk of the Commons, Ottawa–Toronto, 1916. Both HOUSE OF COMMONS & OTTAWA FREE datestamps.

House of Commons Reading Room, franked by Clerk of the House of Commons–Toronto, 1934. →





## Post office savings bank

Bilingual (for use in Quebec) and English envelopes used 1929 & 1930 for sending deposit books to Ottawa for verification. First class postage was free, but 10¢ registration applied, if sender wished it.

S. B. 771-10,000-10-1-20.

### DEPOSITOR'S BOOK FOR ANNUAL EXAMINATION

### LIVRET DU DÉPOSANT POUR EXAMEN ANNUEL.

(The Pass Book is to be enclosed in this envelope, and posted by the Depositor himself.)  
(Le livret doit être inclus dans cette enveloppe et être mis à la poste par le déposant lui-même).

A Depositor must forward his Book once in each year, on the anniversary of the date of its issue, or renewal (but not before that date), to the Postmaster-General, in order that the entries therein may be compared with the Books of the Postmaster-General, and that the interest to the preceding 31st March may be inserted in it.

The Book enclosed in this Envelope will be returned to the Depositor at the Address GIVEN ON THE FRONT PAGE OF THE COVER OF THE BOOK. The Depositor ought, therefore, to see that the Address on the Book is correct.

Chaque déposant doit, une fois l'an, à l'anniversaire du jour où il a fait son premier dépôt ou à celui du renouvellement de son livret (mais pas avant cette date), transmettre son livret au ministre des Postes afin que les inscriptions faites dans ce livret puissent être confrontées avec celles portées dans les livres du ministre des Postes, et que l'intérêt dû au déposant au 31 mars précédent puisse y être inséré.

Le livret inclus dans cette enveloppe sera renvoyé au déposant à l'adresse indiquée sur la première page de la couverture du livret. Le déposant doit donc s'assurer que cette adresse est exacte.

LA MALBONNE, P.Q.



ORIGINAL NO. 657

For Savings Bank Branch.  
Pour la Division de la Caisse d'Épargne.

**THE POSTMASTER GENERAL,**  
**LE MINISTRE DES POSTES,**

**OTTAWA,**

**CANADA.**



**For Savings Bank Division**

**FINANCIAL BRANCH**

**O. H. M. S.**

*[Handwritten signature]*

**THE POSTMASTER GENERAL,**

**OTTAWA,**

**CANADA.**


**1929**

**ORIGINAL NO. 7**

**VANCOUVER, B.C.**

**1929**

**VANCOUVER**



*1929 30*

*VANCOUVER*

S.B. 72-20,000-0-10-28

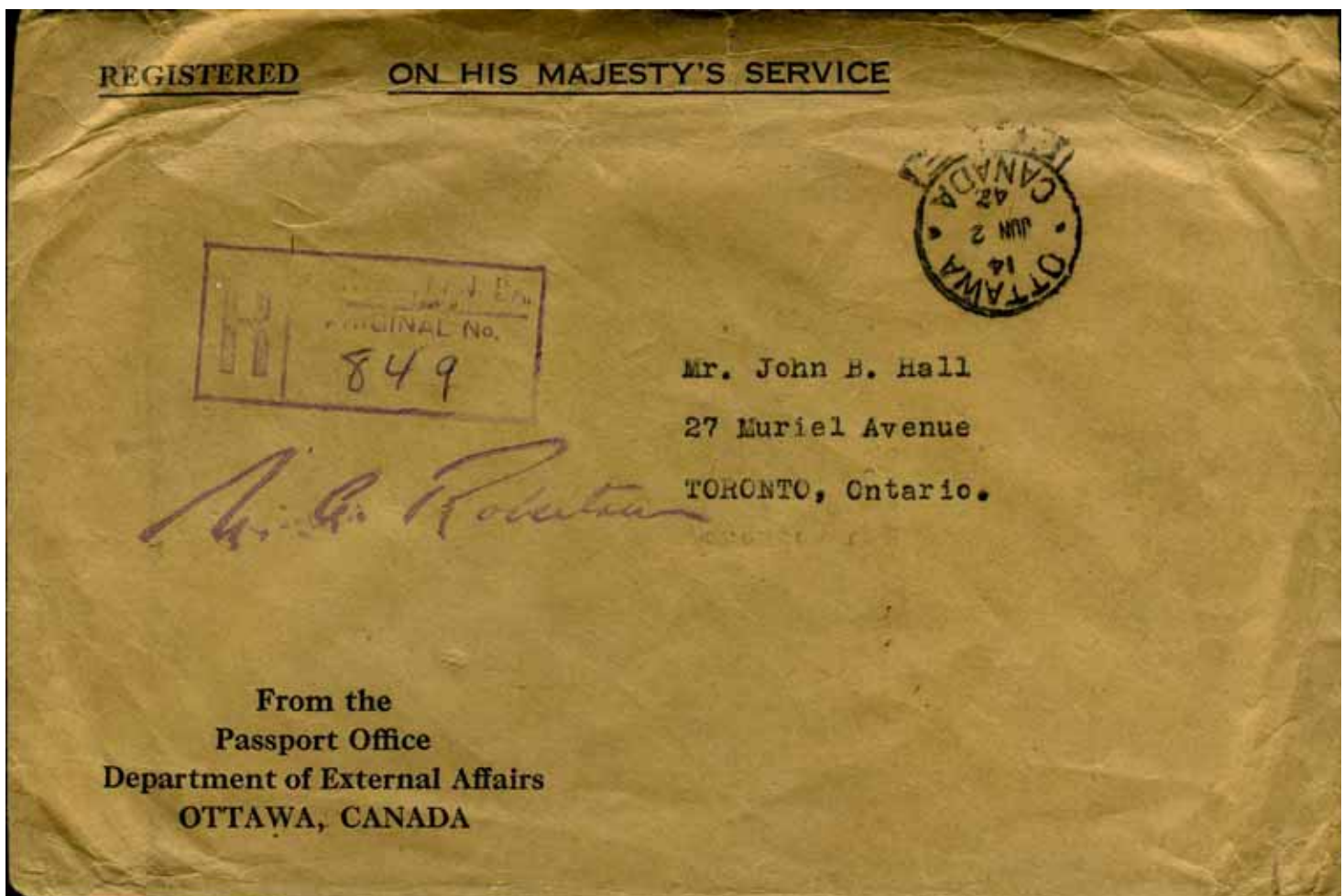
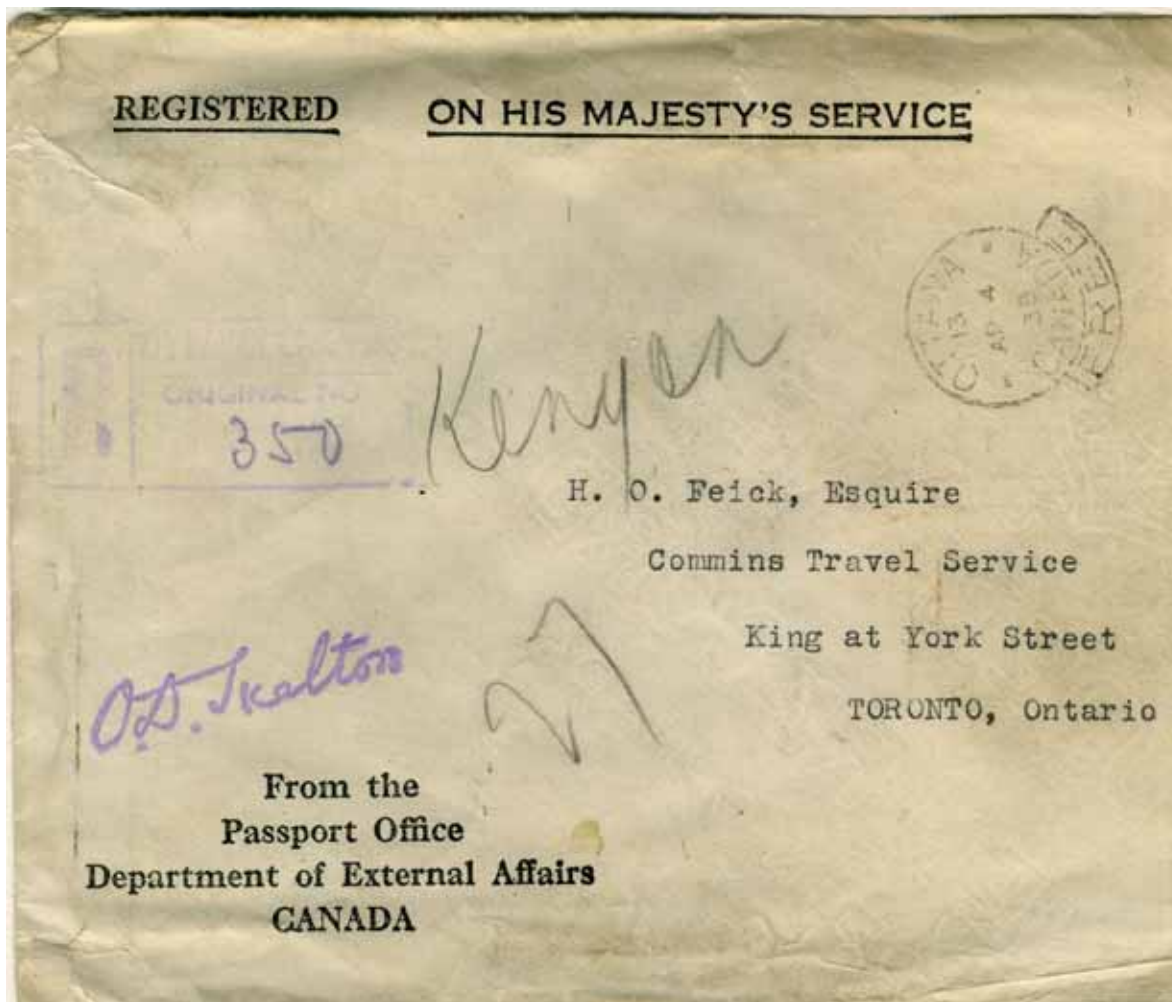


## Passports

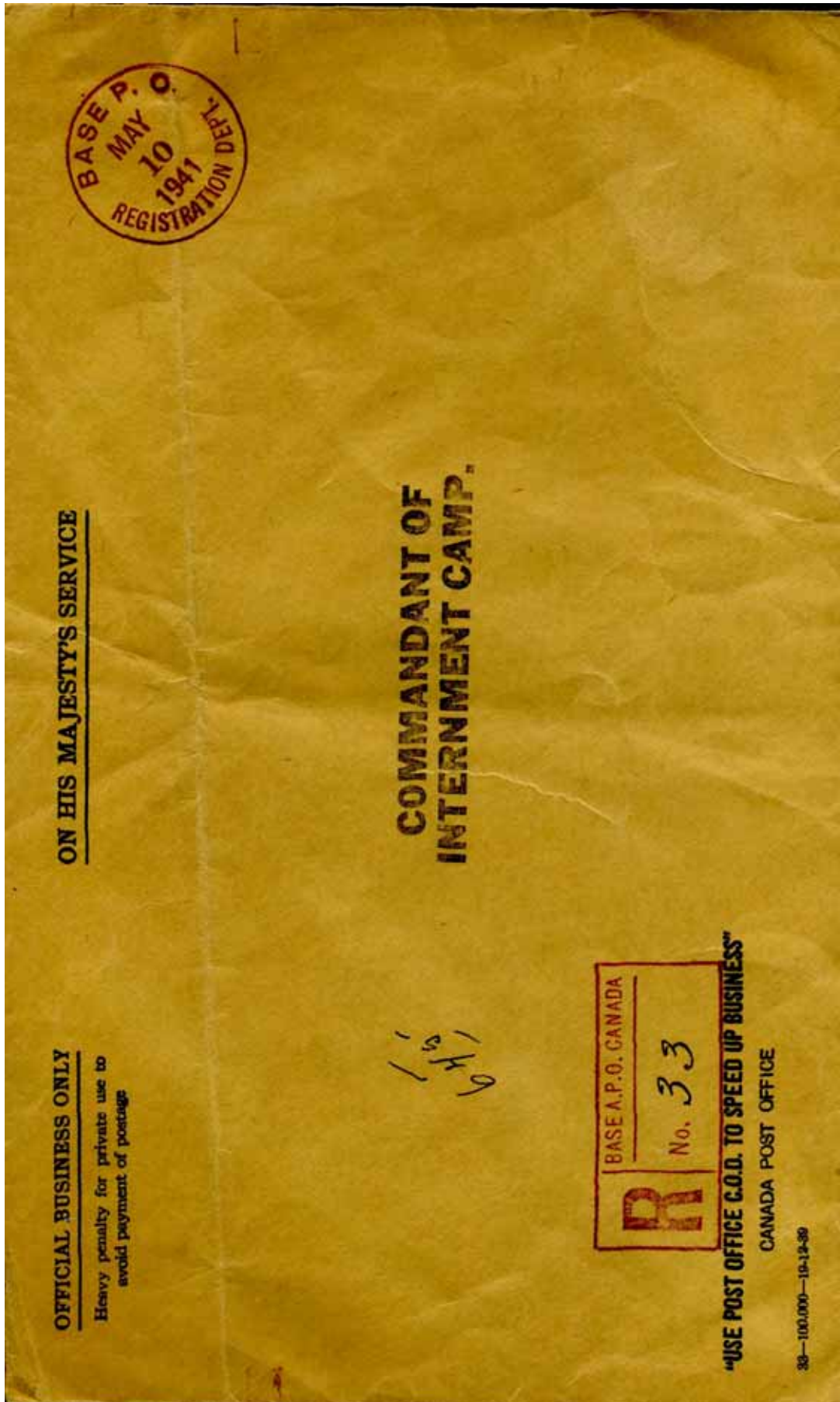
Envelopes for mailing passports (1938 & 1942).

Registered letters franked respectively by *OD Skelton* (1878–1941) Under Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs (1925–41), and his immediate successor, *NA Robertson* (1904–68).

Both were extremely powerful civil servants.



To internment camp



Base Army Post Office, Ottawa—  
Farnham (QC) internment camp,  
May 1941. Known as Camp N,  
the internment camp opened  
in October 1940, and was  
reclassified as a refugee camp  
(for *friendly enemy aliens*) in  
June 1941.

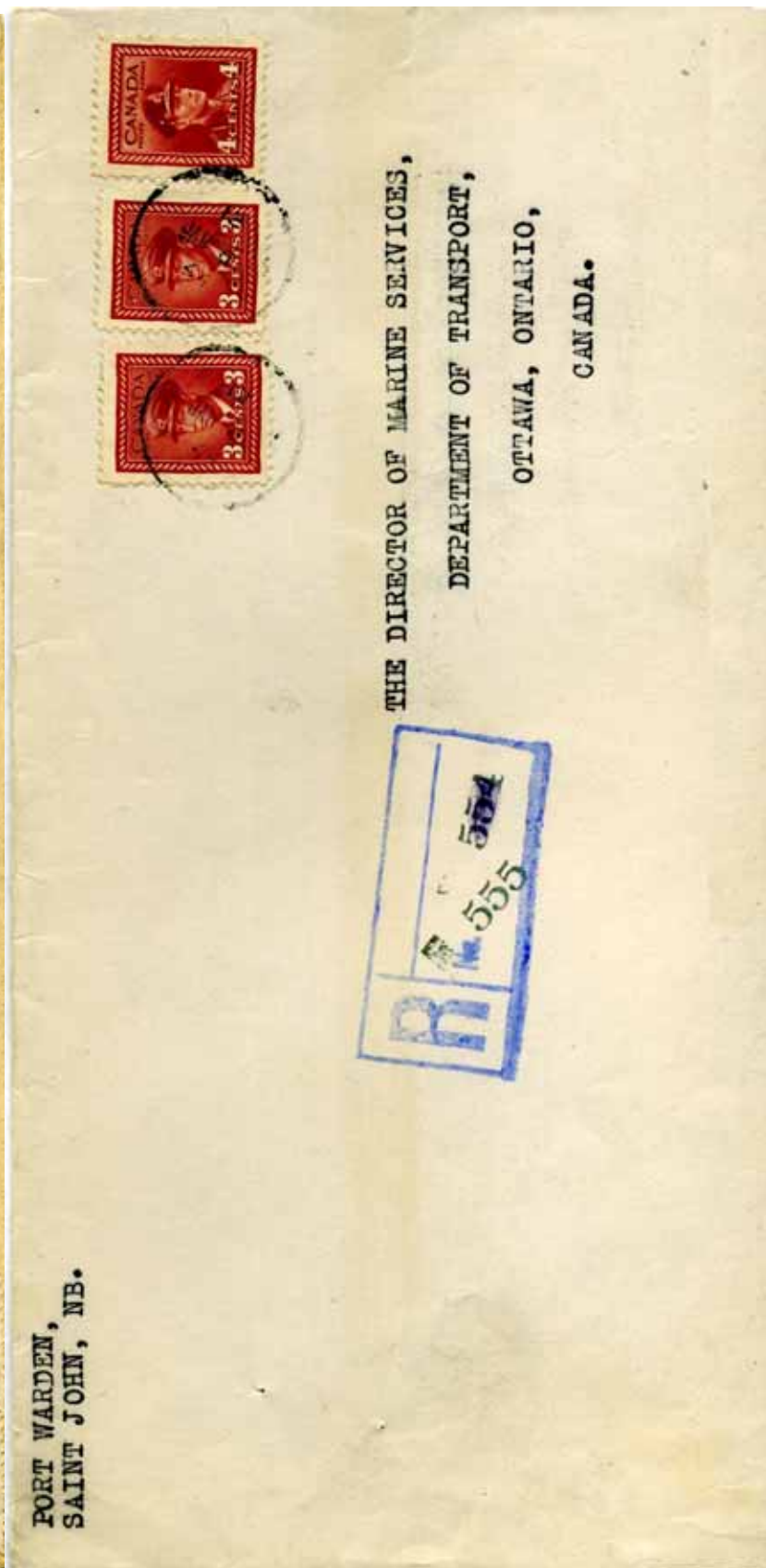




Partially paid free registered



Airmail paid, registration free, Ottawa–Trail (BC), 1943. From a government office (Munitions & Supply). Perfin OHMS.



First class free, registration paid, Saint John–Ottawa, 1944. To a government office (Transport). Whiteout registration rectangle and cds applied at Saint John.

Free registered to the US

From 1887, letters travelling free within Canada could continue free within the US.



Civil Service Commission, Ottawa–Brookline (MA), 1919.



Mining, Industry, and Commerce (M.I.&C.), Ottawa–New York, 1921. Ottawa FREE machine cancel.

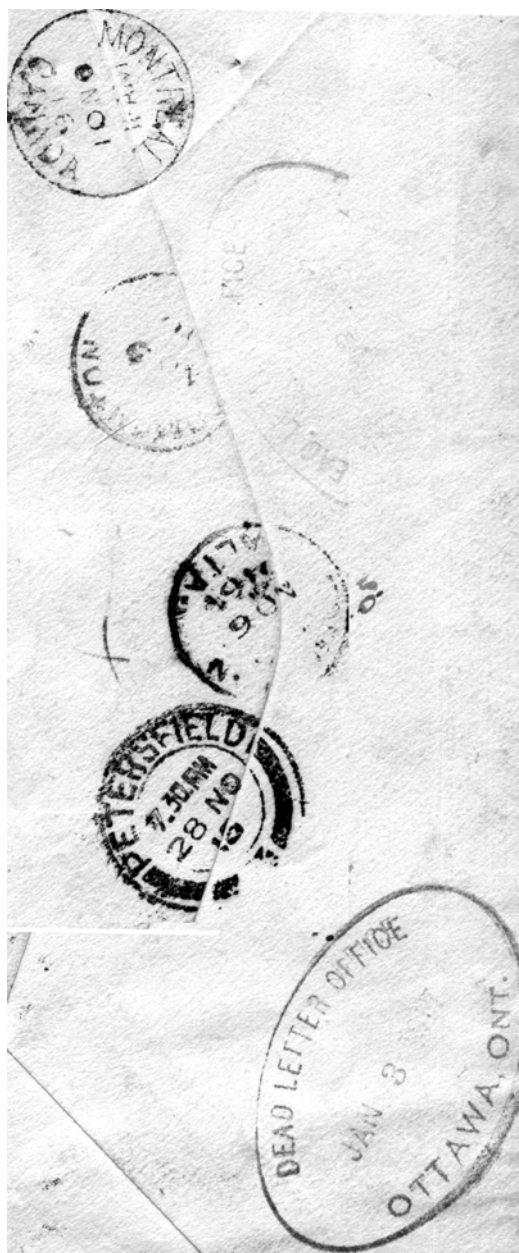


Free registered to UK

Although there is no documentation for extending free mail to Britain (unless from the Post Office Department), forwarded examples exist (normally, the Empire rate was charged).



Department of the Interior, Ottawa—Edmonton—Montreal—  
London (UK)—Ottawa DLO—Department of Interior, 1916—17. Noted as discharged/last address  
Edmonton . . . .



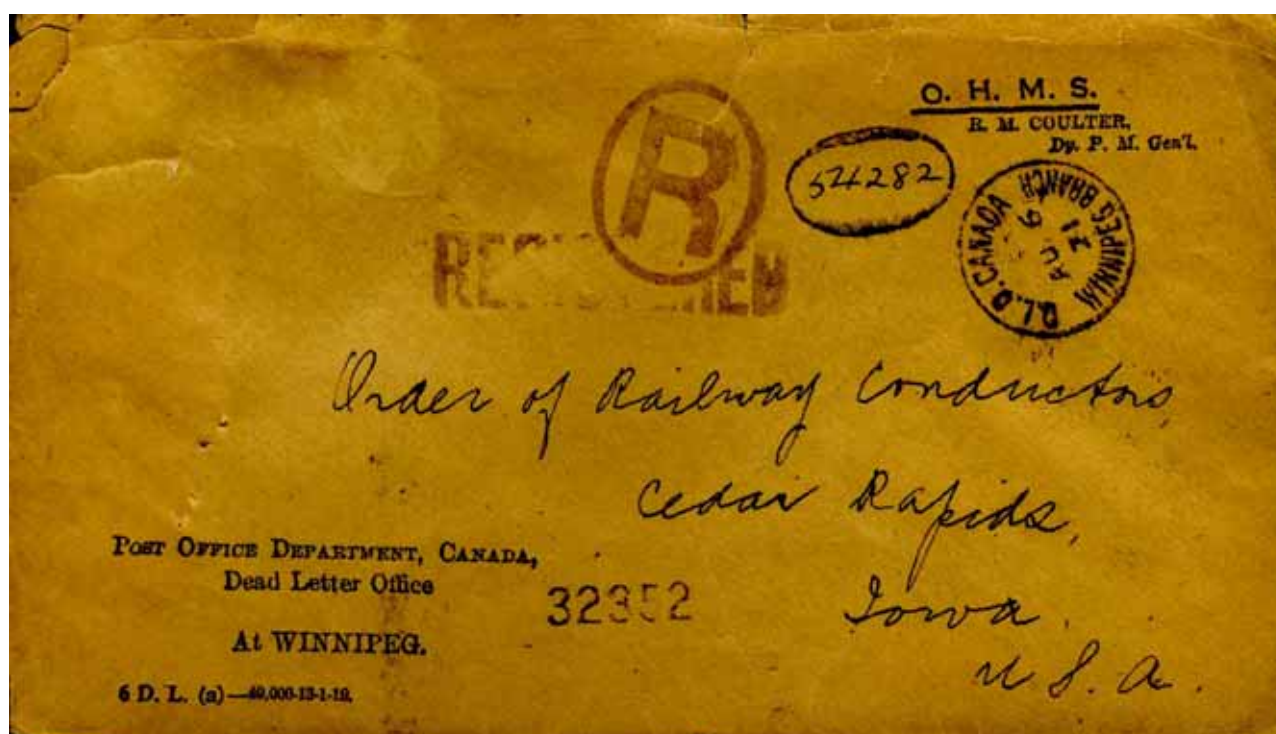


## Returned from the dead letter office (DLO)

If a registered letter could not be delivered and the return address were not visible, then it would be sent to the DLO (usually Ottawa), opened to determine the address, and put in a covering envelope, which was returned as a registered letter. There was a fee for the DLO service (occasionally waived), but there was no additional charge for registration.



DLO (Ottawa)—Chicago—St Petersburg (FL), 1915. Sent registered since the original enclosure was registered. The return service fee (at the time, 2¢), was usually waived on letters returned abroad.

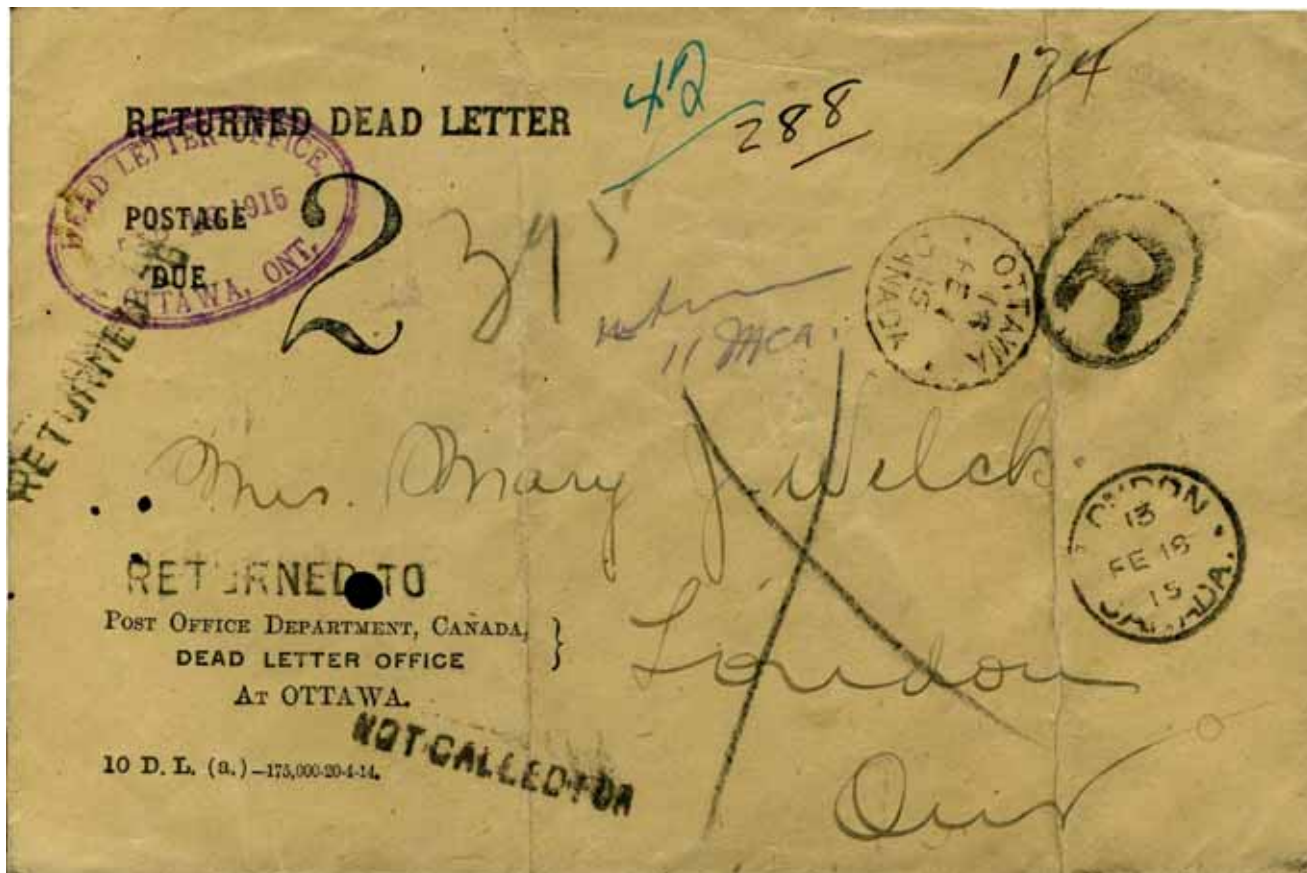


DLO (Winnipeg)—Cedar Rapids (IA), 1921. Contained a registered letter that was undeliverable.



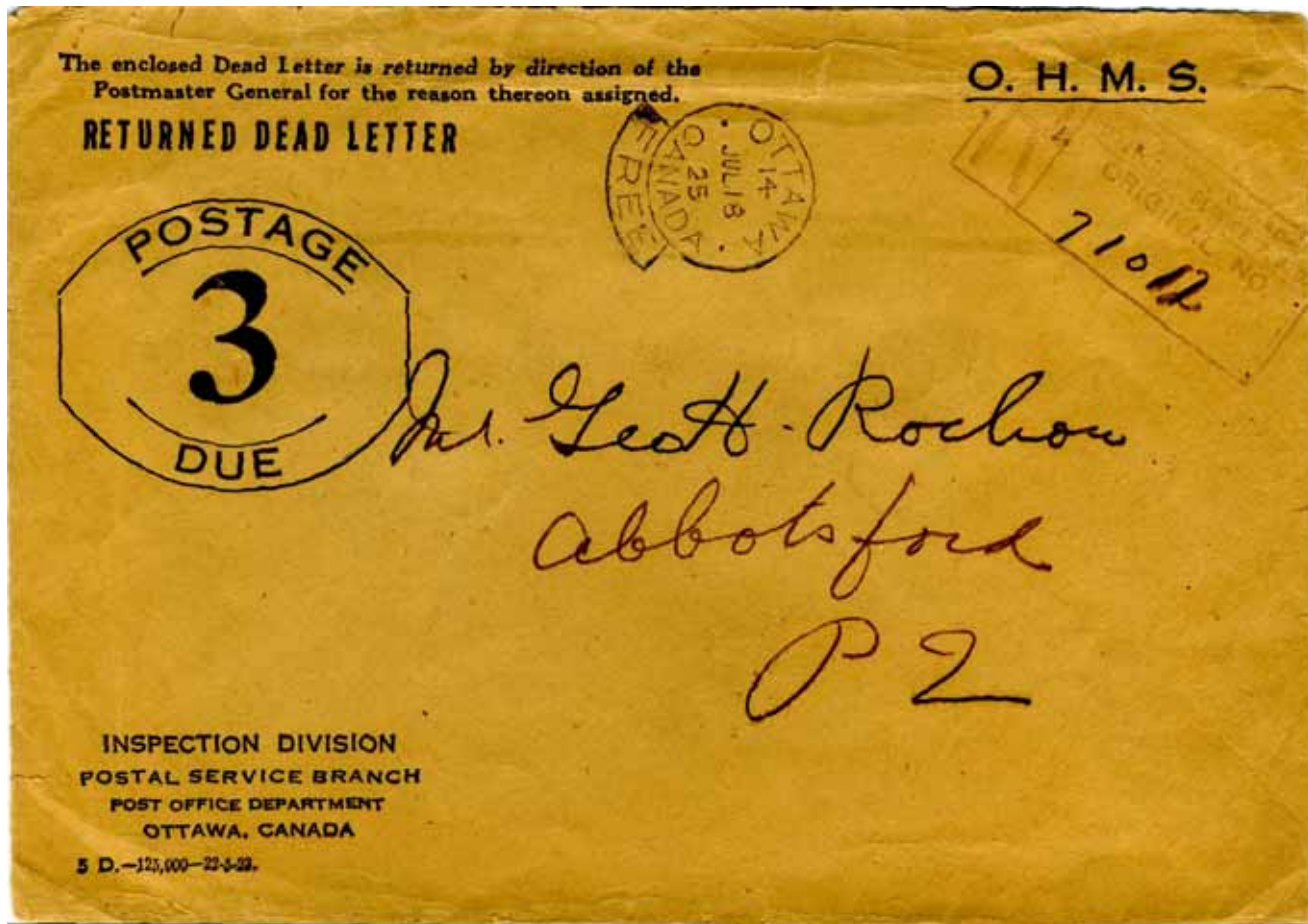
## Returned from the dead letter office (DLO)

The *returned* letter could not be delivered to the original sender, so it was returned (again) to the DLO, and likely stored there for years.



DLO (Ottawa)–London, then back to DLO, 1915. Sent registered since the original was registered. Rated 2¢, the returned letter service fee. The covering envelope with the original registered letter could not be returned to sender (NOT-CALLED-FOR), so it was sent back to the DLO.

# Returned from the DLO

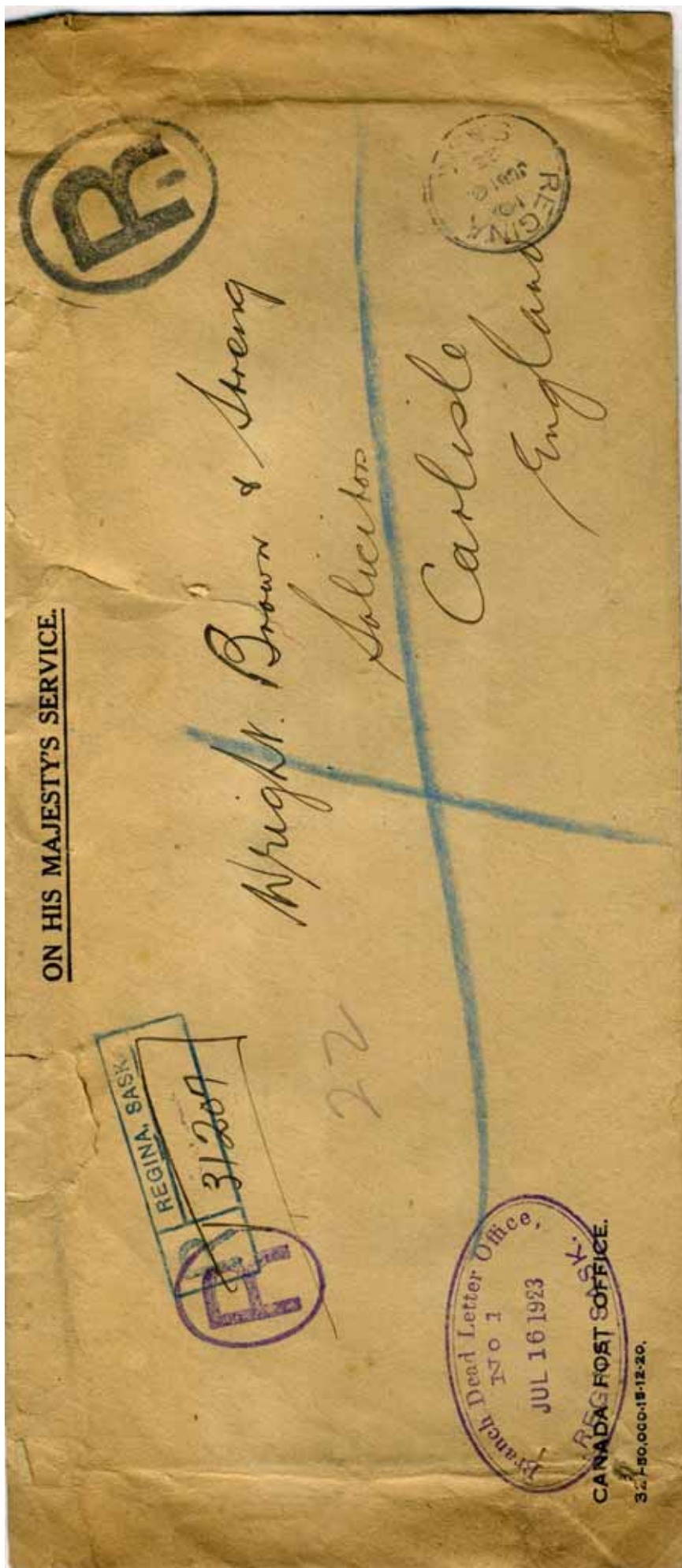


DLO (Ottawa)–  
Abbotsford (QC),  
1925. Contained  
a registered let-  
ter; 3¢ DLO re-  
turn service  
fee, but no ad-  
ditional charge  
for return by  
registered mail.  
The Ottawa FREE  
handstamp of-  
ten appears on  
these cover-  
ing envelopes,  
but does not  
indicate charges  
are waived.



DLO (Vancouver)–  
Bridesville (BC), com-  
pulsory registration,  
1942. The en-  
closed letter was  
not sent regis-  
tered, but on open-  
ing at the DLO  
to find the re-  
turn address, was  
found contain  
valuables; it was  
the registered com-  
pulsorily, and the  
registration fee  
of 10¢ was charged,  
in addition to  
the 3¢ return ser-  
vice fee.





Returned registered letter from UK with enclosed letter

Large covering envelope for returning large registered letter to England; its enclosed registered letter and its enclosure (a cheque) is shown on the next page.

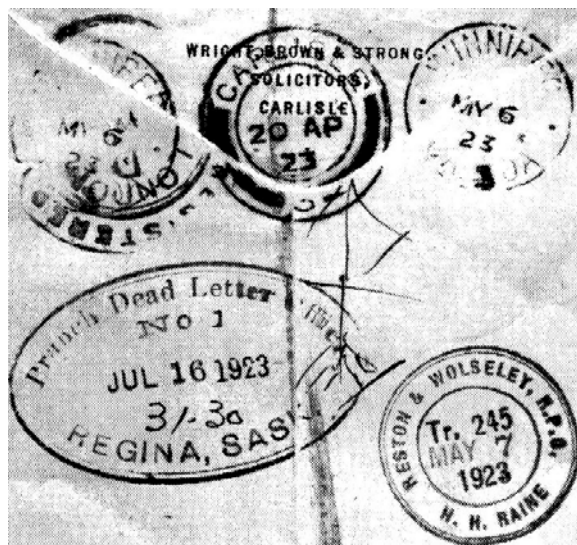
Regina branch DLO—Carlisle, 1923. No DLO returned letter fee—recipient was dead. Sent registered as the original had been. The oval DLO datestamp is Plain #228, second reported strike.



On reverse, Liverpool & Carlisle reg'd ovals, as well as three mostly intact DLO crown seals.

Next page →

Reverse of enclosed registered letter has another strike (same date) of the oval branch DLO dater, and difficult-to-find Reston & Wolseley double circle RPO (in blue) with clerk name at base.





NO 3020

BANK OF LIVERPOOL  
& MARSH'S LIMITED



Established  
1833

Bank of Liverpool & Marsh's Limited.

Dollars 92.<sup>85</sup>

19<sup>th</sup> April 1923

At sight of this Second of Exchange (First of Exchange)  
pay to the order of J. G. Parker <sup>deceased</sup> <sup>Trust</sup> Saskatchewan Mortgage Corporation Ltd.  
Ninety two Dollars, eighty five Cents

Value received.

Bank of Montreal

Regina (Sask.)

Canada.

Endd. all

For Bank of Liverpool & Marsh's Limited,

MANAGER.

W. Whiff

PRO. MANAGER.

Note exceeding one hundred Dollars.



R  
CARLISLE  
No. 533

Dead

Canada

John G. Parker Esq.  
Windthorst Post Office,  
Saskatchewan.

923