

THE 1c GREEN KING GEORGE 1912 ON THIN HARD GREYISH PAPER

By GEORGE R. C. SEARLES

What is the history of this paper variety? We all know the 2c and 5c were issued on thin experimental paper. The 1c was not; neither is this paper anything like the experimental paper.

Nobody over here (England) knows anything about it. During the last four years, several dealers and others have examined a copy and declared it to be a "specialist's" item", but had not seen or heard of it before.

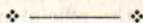
It was during 1938 I bought about 10,000 1c green, hoping to find lots of the "hair-lines across" variety. I did not find one. What I did find was a superb re-entry, middle stamp of a strip of three CANADA POSTAGE; this was illustrated in *Gibbons Stamp Monthly* in May 1942, and of course about thirty copies of this unusual paper. Now for the particulars.

1. All the stamps were postmarked SWIFT CURRENT, SASK. with the exception of three, which were the CABRI, SASK. Postmark, or else the "R" registered.
2. They were from a sheet, as I have one vertical strip of three, a block of four perf. all sides, several pairs the same.
3. All are exactly the same shade.
4. All dated copies are early 1916, January and February, except one late December 1915.
5. Face downward, mixed with the normal paper, they can be picked out with ease.

It appears to me that this sheet, or sheets, slipped in somehow, going to Swift Current, Sa k., and districts.

You have opportunities of comparing this paper with the paper used for Fiscals, etc. Can you solve this riddle? Wartime difficulties have prevented my doing much about it, although I did send to the P. O. Philatelic Branch, Ottawa, who very kindly replied 27/11/46 stating they had no official knowledge or record of the 1c green being issued on this paper.

Fellow student, I anxiously await news. What do you know of this? What can you find out? I shall be most grateful for any information.



LETTER TO THE EDITOR

Editor, *BNA TOPICS*

Dear Sir:

Mr. E. H. Hiscock, #234, of St. John's, Nfld., writes to advise of a correction in our listing of additional T.P.O. cancellations which appeared in the August, 1947, issue of *BNA TOPICS*. He says,

"By the way, scratch #72 from your T.P.O.'s. That's a Purser's date stamp, similar to a Railway Agent's and serves the same purpose, except that Pursers do not *officially* handle mails. All of the Railway Coastal Steamers have a Mail Office on board and the official cancellation could be any of the various T.P.O.'s, depending on the route the steamer happens to be covering at any one time. Occasionally, a Purser will cancel ship's mail covers containing Bills of Lading, etc. with the ship's date stamp, especially if he is pressed for time or the official mail bag is cloed and ready to send ashore. I don't know how the Postal Authorities view this procedure, but would imagine that they turn a 'blind eye'. In any event the amount of mail thus cancelled would be very small, but I can vouch for the fact that mail bearing Type #72 cancellation originates as described. I've seen it done and it is not a T.P.O. marking."

There it is. So, let's change our listing.

Sincerely,

W. S. AND D. C. MEYERSON