

THE CANADIAN TOKEN

A QUARTERLY NEWS-LETTER FOR



COLLECTORS OF CANADIAN TOKENS

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THE ST. LAWRENCE RIVER STEAMBOAT MEDALS

By Barry Uman, C.A.T.C. #73

During the middle 1800's to the early 1900's, entertainment in Montreal was provided in a very limited way as there were no cinemas, organized sports or theater. One of the most favourite means of entertainment was to take a daring ride by steamboat down the St. Lawrence River, through the Lachine Rapids between the City of Lachine and the Indian Reservation of Caughnawaga.

This trip was a thrilling ride, cutting through the choppy waters to avoid being smashed to pieces on the many hazardous rocks. An experienced captain was required to steer his boat to safety amongst these many obstacles.

The pilots on these steamboats were Iroquois Indians from Caughnawaga, who knew these rapids like the back of their hands. For many generations none but the Indians knew how to guide the steamboats through the Lachine Rapids. Some even challenged the rapids by canoeing through this inferno without regard to their own life or their unfortunate passenger.

When the Indian pilot came aboard, dressed in full regalia, it added a dramatic excitement to the voyage. As the steamboat approached Caughnawaga, just before the rapids, a signal would be flashed and immediately an Indian would dart out from the slope in a canoe and board the steamboat. In latter years when the pilots were other than Indian, the same ceremony was duplicated so as not to disappoint the passengers and to reassure them of a safe voyage. After the trip, the Indian would sell souvenir pictures, for that was his only payment.



The first regular passenger service to run down the Lachine Rapids was undertaken by the Richelieu and Ontario Navigation Company, predecessors of the Canada Steamship Lines. When the Prince of Wales, Queen Victoria's heir, came to Montreal in 1860 to open the Victoria Bridge, he was treated to a trip through the Lachine Rapids on the steamboat "Kingston".

One of the strangest excursions took place on the New Years Day, January 1, 1878, due to the lack of snow and ice on the river. The steamboat "Longueuil" with a brass band on her deck, made a special excursion to Boucherville which is located southeast of Montreal on the St. Lawrence River.

As most any Canadian knows, winters in Montreal are long and severe. Almost all rivers are frozen which make any water transportation just about impossible. This mystery can be solved by looking into the weather records of that year or in this case, a recorded adventure on one of these steamboats. Evidently there were a number of years during this period when Montreal experienced some very mild winters and, therefore, the St. Lawrence River never completely froze over.

A few interesting medals were struck to commemorate these excursions along the St. Lawrence River and through the Lachine Rapids. Atwood, Bowman, Breton and Leroux list a number of these medals in their books. There are three main types of medals, all made of pewter, some of bronze and copper, and a lesser amount in silver, lead, tin, etc. Generally in order of value, the pewter are common, the bronze and copper are scarce, and, the silver and other metals are rarest.

There are a number of interesting varieties that exist of these medals. They vary as to thickness, absence of loop, small hole if any, composition of metal, manufacturers name, counterstamps, and there is even one variety in which the medal was struck previously with a different die and later re-struck.

Type I: Obverse; "En Memoire D'Une Excursion Sur Le St.Laurent.
Vapeur Longueuil Montreal Ier. Jan. 1878" (Steamboat)
Reverse; "To Celebrate An Excursion On The St.Lawrence
1st. January 1878"

Round-29mm (Struck in many metals)

1) Having a loop on a thin planchet

2) " no " " " " "

3) " " " " " thick "

4) " a " " " " medium planchet struck on another medal
(Leroux 1500).

Type II Obverse; "Pleasure Trip On The St.Lawrence Per Steamr
Longueuil Capt. G. Duval January 1st 1882 Lymburner
Montreal" (Steamboat)
Reverse; "Compagnie De Navigation De Longueuil Voyage De
Plaisir Ier Janvier 1882 Ovide Dufresne Gerant"

Round-37mm (Struck in many metals)

1) Having a small hole above the steamboat

2) " no " " " " "

often wondered about the word "Estate". It seemed to me a rather unusual name although I was inclined to believe that it was in fact Mr. Evan's given name as I had never heard of a token issued by an estate.

The tokens are made of aluminum and are octagonal in shape. They range from 1¢ through to \$1 and are similar to many of the early general store tokens.

While in Corinth, I met a gentleman named Frank Stimers, who is now the only life time resident of the area. He related to me the history of the area including much information about the Evans store. From him I discovered that the tokens were issued by the estate of Richard Evans, a merchant whose store was still in operation while the estate was clearing.

Although he had never seen the tokens, he mentioned that he had a couple of Bearrs Estate tokens around. These I had never heard of. He dug up a well worn 1¢ and a very nice 25¢ token which I purchased from him. They are made of aluminum and are round. Apparently they were issued in denomination of 1¢ through to \$1 as well. The obverse reads: T. Bearrs Estate/General/Merchants/Corinth, Ont. The reverse has the denominations. I have very little information about Thomas Bearrs, although an early directory lists him as a general merchant and grain buyer. His store was very near that of Mr. Evans.

Mr. Stimers, The Elgin County Registry Office, and the St. Thomas Public Library supplied me with a history on the Evans Store.

In 1876 or 77, a man named William Moore purchased a lot on Henry St. from the Borbridge farm and built a store on it. The post office was moved into his store and he became postmaster. This position remained with the storekeeper until the office was discontinued on July 7th, 1970.

In 1887 Richard Evans bought the store and became postmaster. He ran the store for about 6 years until his death in 1893. According to the registry records it was in August of 1912 when Robert S. Evans obtained the store from the executors of Richard Evans' estate. In 1914, Robert sold the store to Harrison Fewster who sold it to William Fewster in 1921. He had it until 1946 when Neil McConkey bought it and Mrs. Edna McConkey became postmistress. Her son-in-law bought the store in 1962 and her daughter, Mary Beard, became postmistress. She was to be the last in that office and the store itself closed its doors shortly after the post office was discontinued.

UNUSUAL CANADIAN TOKENS
(Part V of a Series)
By Ken Palmer C.A.T.C. #50

THE RACYCLE TOKEN OF ARTHUR PEQUEGNAT

An interesting token was issued in Berlin, Ont. around 1900 by The Berlin & Racycle Mfg. Co.Ltd. This token appears on McColl's sales list as #805, is of aluminum, round and measures 25 mm. in diameter. The obverse reads "The Berlin Racycle Mfg.Co.Limited/ Redeem/ at the/Racycle/Agency" and the reverse "One coin good for/ 25¢/on one racycle".

Although many tokens have been issued to promote the sales of, or to facilitate the use of most all methods of transportation, it is unusual to find one that was used to discount the price of a bicycle. However, the most interesting story concerns neither the token, nor the racycle, but the man responsible for both, and who is known best of all as Canada's only successful clock maker.

Arthur U. Pequegnat, eldest son of Ulysses and Francois Pequegnat, was born in 1851 in Loverese, Switzerland. He started working in a watch factory at the age of ten and rose to the rank of foreman at sixteen. In 1874 the Pequegnat family decided to emigrate to Canada destined to take up farming in the Muskoka district.

The family, eighteen in all, Father, Mother, fourteen children and two relatives arrived in Toronto on a stormy April day. Since it was not possible for them to journey north, it must have presented a slight problem to the immigration officials, particularly, since none of them spoke any English. However, Francois spoke German so it was decided to transport them to the nearest German speaking community which was Berlin, where they decided to remain.

Arthur returned to his old trade, watchmaking and opened a jewelry store in Mildmay, Ont. Hampered by his lack of knowledge of English, but by hard work and honesty Arthur prospered. He is known to have walked ninety miles to Hamilton to purchase a watch for a customer. He returned to Berlin where he opened a store with his brother Paul.

Arthur was fascinated with bicycles and in his spare time he repaired and assembled them in a shop behind the store. In 1897 when cycling was at its peak he built a three story building at 53-61 Frederick St.E. and began manufacturing racycles. A charter was issued in 1900 to the Berlin & Racycle Mfg.Co.Ltd. A slump came in 1904 so Arthur converted a part of his building into a clock factory, the first and only successful one ever to operate in Canada.

Manufacturing of bicycles was slowly phased out, but the Arthur Pequegnat Clock Co. prospered until about 1941. Arthur died on August 11th, 1927.

References: A short history of the Arthur Pequegnat Clock Co. by Paul Lavoie.

MEMBERS MEET IN CALGARY

A meeting of the members of the Canadian Association of Token Collectors was held in the Spanish Room of the Palliser Hotel, Calgary, starting at 10.00 a.m. with Norman Wells in the chair and Cec Tannahill as Secretary "Pro-Tem". Members present were Honor Prince, L.M. McLennan; Reg Smith; Ron Greene; Frank Harding; Norman Wells, Cec Tannahill; Don Stewart; Ralph Burry; John Starkell; Doug Ferguson; Norm Williams.

A special thanks to Honor Prince for her efforts in obtaining a room and time on the Agenda to have this meeting.

Moved by Don Stewart - that the Annual Meeting be held at the C.N.A. Convention each year and that the Executive inform the Convention Chairman as soon as possible so that time for the meeting will be allocated and placed on the Agenda. Seconded, Frank Harding. Carried.

Moved by Ralph Burry - that a revised list of the membership be published each year, preferably in the April issue so that new members will know who does collect tokens and who are active in the Club. Such list to mention the collecting specialty if Editor has the time and space available. Seconded by Reg Smith. Carried.

Motion of appreciation to Ken Palmer for his efforts with the Canadian Token was put forward by J.D. Ferguson. Seconded by all present.

Motion of appreciation to Geof Bell for his listing of the mavericks as sent in by the members was put forward by Don Stewart. Seconded by all present.

It was felt that if a token is attributed from the maverick list, the person attributing the token should be mentioned, so that if there is any question in this regard this question can be directed to the attributor instead of going to Geof Bell.

A reminder should be placed in the news letter at least once a year that any member knowing of any new token being issued, please notify the Editor along with all the particulars so that this can be recorded.

Moved by Don Stewart - that any article on tokens appearing in the transactions of the C.N.R.S. and not being reprinted in the news letter, be mentioned by the Editor so that a collector in that series can contact Larry Gingras, P.O.Box 15, Richmond, B.C. and obtain the year's edition for \$5.00. Seconded by Norm Williams. Carried.

It was suggested that if at all possible the Executive to have a slide series available for the next annual meeting. Ralph Burry and Norm Williams suggested the Yukon token series which has just

been updated and not seen by many of the members present at this meeting. They will make the slides available if the Executive can arrange enough time on the Agenda to show them..

As many members crowded this meeting into a busy schedule the meeting was adjourned at 11.30 a.m.

CEC TANNAHILL

A few comments on some of the motions put forth may help to clarify the matters discussed.

MOTION: Stewart-Harding, re Annual Meetings.

It is my understanding that in previous years the Convention Chairman, after drawing up a tentative schedule of events, notified each organization of the time scheduled for its meeting. The organization either approved or suggested an alternate time. This procedure was not followed by the Calgary 1975 Chairman. On May 24 1975 I received a letter from the Ottawa 1976 Convention Chairman stating that he had tentatively booked our meeting for July 9, 1976 at 4.00 p.m. I replied, accepting this booking. Official announcements will appear in future issues of the Canadian Token.

MOTION: Burry-Smith, re membership lists.

Whether to publish or not to publish membership lists was briefly discussed at the 1974 meeting in Hamilton. It was decided not to publish lists. The reason being that some members don't want their names and addresses listed for personal reasons, mainly security. Any lists prepared would therefore have to be incomplete. There is an alternate solution and a very easy one. Any member who does not have them, can purchase from the Editor all back issues of The Canadian Token for only \$1.25 each. From these he can prepare his own membership roster.

MOTION: Stewart-Williams, re the reprinting of articles appearing in the C.N.R.S. transactions.

The Editor of The Canadian Token has never copied or reprinted articles from any numismatic publication. All articles, to date, appearing in The Canadian Token have been submitted by their authors to the Editor of The Canadian Token. Some authors submit their articles to several publications at the same time, but most authors of token articles submit them exclusively to this publication because it has the widest circulation to collectors interested in Canadian tokens.

OTHER MATTERS DISCUSSED: It was most generous of Ralph Burry and Norm Williams to offer to present their slide series on the Yukon tokens at next year's Annual Meeting in Ottawa. There will be plenty of time available.

On behalf of Geoff and myself I would like to thank the

members for the motion of appreciation for our humble efforts. Another way that members can express their appreciation is for each to submit to the Editor an original, well researched article for the next issue of The Canadian Token. Even a few lines would be most welcome.

KEN PALMER

MEMBERSHIP REPORT

Entered into Membership:

- #108. Harold Woodsworth (Harding)
1674 Lancaster Cresc.,
Saskatoon, Sask., S7M 3V9
(Tokens and Medals)
- #109 David Gladfelter (Abare)
109 Tyler Dr.,
Willingboro, N.J. 08046 U.S.A.
(Early Canadian)
- #110 Edmund R. Bristow (Palmer)
117 Pinewood Dr.,
Castlegar, B.C., VIN 2M3
(Pre-Confederation Canadian)
- #111 Ralph R. Burry (Palmer)
6306 Commercial Dr.,
Vancouver, B.C. V5P 3P3
(B.C. and Yukon)
- #112 John Starkell (Harding)
1180 Elm St.,
Medicine Hat, Alta.
(Sask. and Alta. Trade Tokens)

A D V E R T I S E M E N T S

FOR SALE:

Price \$2.75 each or trade for tokens I need.

- | | | |
|------------------|---|---------------------------------------|
| Strathroy, Ont. | - | O'Dwyer, 5¢ |
| Tara, Ont. | - | Queen's Hotel, 10¢, 15¢, 25¢, (round) |
| Walkerton, Ont. | - | Goode & McKay, 5¢, 10¢, 25¢, 50¢ |
| Stayner, Ont. | - | McRae, 5¢, 10¢ |
| Otterville, Ont. | - | Smiley, 25¢ |
| Ottawa, Ont. | - | T. Burns, 15¢, 20¢ |
| " " | - | Cambridge Restaurant, 1 meal |
| " " | - | European Wine & Spirit, 5¢, 10¢, 30¢ |
| " " | - | Globe Hotel, 5¢ |
| " " | - | R. Hinton, 10¢, 15¢ (round) |
| " " | - | L. Lemieux, 5¢ |

Write to: J.D.Ferguson, Box 38, Rock Island, Que. JOB 2K0

FOR SALE:

"Medals & Tokens of the Industrial Exhibition of Toronto (now C.N.E.) 1879-1912" by N.E.Wells, 72 pages, illustrated. \$3.50 each, post-paid.

Write to: N.E.Wells, Box 943, Peterborough, Ont.

FOR SALE:

Saskatoon, Sask. - Richmond Bros., Bakers - Good for 1 Loaf of Bread (#5660 R). \$1.50 each, postpaid.

Write to: Frank Harding, Laura, Sask.

FOR SALE:

Charlton 181 A-B - Hudson's Bay - Six pieces including "One White Fox" - uncirculated - \$52.00 the lot.

Write to: J.D.Ferguson, Box 38, Rock Island, Que. JOB 2K0

FOR SALE:

Brockville, Ont.	- Canada Carriage Co. \$1.00-Alum.	\$10.00
Chatham, Ont.	- Park Ave. Car Wash	1.00
Cobourg, Ont.	- Meechs - 5 cts in trade	10.00
Cookstown, Ont.	- Tac Banting - 25¢ - Brass	15.00
" "	- " " - 25¢ - Copper (10 struck)	15.00
Dunnville, Ont.	- H.G.Davis - 75 (McColl #283)	10.00
" "	- Dominion Cannery - Tomatoes	5.00
Elmvale, Ont.	- W.G.Vance - \$1.00 - Copper (12 struck)	15.00
" "	- " " - 50¢ - " (12 ")	15.00
" "	- " " - 50¢ - WM (12 ")	15.00

Write to: Ken Palmer, 10 Wesanford Place, Hamilton, Ont. L8P 1N6

FOR SALE:

Medal, obverse depicting Cartier, Montcalm and Champlain; reverse has native scene, Beaver etc. White Metal, 110 x 80 mm., By Deschiens, Paris - \$85.00

Sterling silver Victoria Diamond Jubilee medal inscribed "London, Ont., John W. Little, Mayor". By Spink & Son - very rare - \$100.00

Write to: L. Macikunas, Box 235, Sta."E", Hamilton, Ont. L8S 4L3

SUPPLEMENT TO VOLUME 4 NO.4 ISSUE NO.14

"THE CANADIAN TOKEN", OCTOBER 1, 1975

UNLISTED TRADE TOKENS OF ONTARIO

(For previous listings refer to issues No.4 - April,1973;
No.6 - October, 1973 & No.9 - July, 1974)

ARMOW

A.J.Campbell/General/Merchant/Armow, Ont.
Good for/1/in merchandise

A-Sc8-21

AYLMER

Christie/& Caron.
Good for/10/in merchandise

A-R-24

BARRIE

Allied Radio Shack/A Tandy/Corporation/Company/T/c/
C.D./Tandy/Chairman/Established in 1920 (profile)
Franchise Company Joint Venture/1000th/
Allied Radio Shack/Store/July 1, 1971

B-R-39-Gilt

(This token was worth a 10% discount on any purchase when
presented at any Radio Shack in U.S.A. or Can.)

BOBCAYGEON

Frank Read/Bobcaygeon, Ont.
Good for/5/cents/in trade

A-R-20

BRAEMAR

R.O.Miller/General/Merchant/Braemar, Ont.
Good for/1¢/in merchandise

A-0c-18

CHATHAM

I am worth/50¢/on light/harness/at/F.Jacques & Sons/Chatham
We make a specialty/of light/harness/and/
turf goods

A-R-24

CLIFFORD

Good for ten cents in Mdse./at/Smith & Sons/Dry Goods/
Store/Clifford./10¢
The Cranston/10¢/J.K.C.Galt,Ont./Trade
due bill

A-R-28

Same but 5¢

A-R-24

Same but 1¢

A-R-22

CORINTH

T. Bearss Estate/General/Merchants/Corinth, Ont.
Good for/25¢/in trade
Good for/1¢/in trade

A-R-28

A-R-18

CREDITON

Faist Bros./General/Merchants/Crediton, Ont.
 Good for/50¢/in merchandise A-Oc-27
 Good for/25¢/in merchandise A-Oc-25
 Good for/10/cents/in merchandise A-Oc-22

DASHWOOD

Tieman & Edighoffer/General/Merchants/Dashwood, Ont.
 Good for/\$1.00/in merchandise A-Oc-35
 Good for/1¢/in merchandise A-Oc-18½

W. Shrumm/General/Merchant/Dashwood, Ont.
 Good for/5¢/in merchandise A-Oc-21

DELHI

D.C.Co./Limited
 Good for/5¢ A-R-20
 Good for/1¢ A-R-20
 Delhi Canning/Co./Corn/Delhi, Ont.
 Delhi Canning/Co./Corn/Delhi, Ont. A-R-25

EXETER

J.A. Stewart/The Great/Bargain/House/Exeter, Ont.
 Good for/1/in merchandise A-Oc-18

FONTHILL

Dominion Cannery/Limited./Branch/50/Fonthill, Ont.
 Tomatoes/1/Pail A-R-25

FORMOSA

Oberle Bros./General/Merchants/Formosa, Ont.
 Good for/\$1.00/in merchandise A-R-34

GRANTON

J.E.Murray/General/Merchant/Granton, Ont.
 Good for/1¢/in trade A-R-19

HAMILTON

Golden Circle/Validated Parking
 (Blank) A-R-16-Gold-C.H.

Ontario Retail Pharmacists Association/39th/Annual
 Convention/Hamilton/June 16-19/1957
 May be redeemed for/Three days of/Business/
 and/entertainment/in/Hamilton/the home of
 hospitality A-R-32-B.H.

LEAMINGTON

The Busy Big Store/Dry Goods,/Carpets,/Millinery./
 S.G.Morse/Leamington, Ont.
 Good for/1.00/in merchandise (c/s"Void") A-R-35

LONDON

Shoe Shine Parlors/398½/Richmond/St./P.Smirlies, Prop.
5 checks for 25¢/Good for/17/Stores/in Canada &/
U.S./Good for Shine & Polish

A-R-29

NORVAL

Peel & Haltons/W.J.Barnhill/General/Merchant/Norval/
Bargain Store
Good for/25/in/Merchandise
Good for/5/in Merchandise

-R-

-R-

ORANGEVILLE

Hill & Co./General Merchants/Orangeville, Ont.
Good for/5¢/in Merchandise

A-0c-21

OTTAWA

T. Gravelle/The Otis/Shaving Parlor/9/St.Nicholas St./
Ottawa

$$\frac{1}{25}$$

B-0c-20

Tandy Leather Company/Good for/25¢/on your next/order/
of Canada Limited

Redeemable for/Merchandise only/on your next/
order at/Tandy, Ottawa

L-R-38-Green

Tandy Leather Company/Good for/10¢/on your next/
order/of Canada Limited

Redeemable for/Merchandise only/on your next/
order at/Tandy Ottawa
Same but "5¢"

L-R-38-Blue

L-R-38-Black

PORT ROBINSON

British Canadian Cannery/5/Limited
Bean/Check

A-R-25

ROSEVILLE

F.A.Macdonald/General/Merchant/Roseville, Ont.
Good for/1¢/in merchandise

A-R-19

SHERKSTON

Thos. Desantis/Supply House/Sherkston, Ont.
Good for/5¢/in merchandise

A-0c-21

THEDFORD

A. Beattie & Co./Importers/Thedford,/Ont.
Good for/1/in merchandise

B-S-16½

TORONTO

Associates/Means/Money/to you (An Eagle)
Credit/No./13748/your credit/is established/
at/Associates

B-R-25½-Gilt

Celebrate our Anniversary/Fran's/Restaurants/Since 1940/
 21 St.Clair Ave.W./2275 Yonge St./30 College St./
 132 Yonge St./Good for 50¢
 Fran's/Good for/50¢/Cash/toward purchase of/
 any dinner or/Plate order A-R-35

Take this/Token to any/Honey Dew/Shop or stand and have/
 a glass of ice cold/Honey Dew/with our/Compliments
 Good for/5¢/Glass of/Honey Dew/(Half Portion) A-R-29

Keg 'N Cleaver/Steak and Lobster/R (3 Kegs)(L.I.)
 The Keg 'N Cleaver Dollar/\$1/good for \$1.
 worth of the Keg 'N Cleaver/Experience/enjoy it/R B-R-38

Kin/Kinsmen/Toronto, 1 Ont. (Gold L.I.)
 (Blank) PL-R-42½-Blue
 (Drink Token - Value 50¢)

Good for/5¢/Willard Hotel
 I.C. Fell & Co. Makers, Toronto A-R-24

ZENDA

A. Fewster/Zenda.
 Good for/\$1.00/in/Merchandise A-R-30
 Good for/50¢/in/Merchandise A-S-26
 Good for/25¢/in/Merchandise A-S-23

ZURICH

John Preeter/General/Merchandise/Zurich, Ont.
 Good for/\$1.00/in Merchandise A-0c-30
 Good for/50/in/Merchandise A-0c-29
 John Preeter/General/Merchandise/Zurich Ont
 Good for/50¢/in/Merchandise A-0c-29

The following contributed the information contained in
 this Supplement: Burry, Ferguson, James, Koslonen,
 MacNab, Palmer, D. Stewart and Weighell.