Transactions

of the

Canadian Numismatic Research Society

ISSN 0045-5202

VOLUME 37 SPRING 2001

Documents Relating to the Proposed 1864 Newfoundland Coinage.

by Wayne Jacobs.

Forward.

As an overview, this particular phase of Newfoundland numismatics has already been adequately treated in "The Currency and Medals of Newfoundland" (Rowe, C.F/ Haxby, J. / and Graham, R.J. - with Irwin, R.W./ Willey, R.C./ Williams, N.W. and McQuade, R.; published 1983). However, as a matter of public record, it is frequently useful that the full text be available. All too often a pertinent sentence (or even word) initially dismissed as unimportant, may later serve to clear up a mystery.

Newfoundland went decimal as per "An Act for the Regulation of the Currency", Newfoundland 26 Vict. Cap.XVIII, passed by the Newfoundland legislature 25th March, 1863.[1] In its provisions, new coinage was mentioned only in paragraphs VII (bronze) and VIII (gold and silver). For conversion purposes, the old "Newfoundland Pound" was to represent $4.00 while the pound sterling - as exemplified by the gold sovereign - was to be $4.80. American and South American "dollars" were to pass for $1.00, their fractions proportionately - a slight under-evaluation. The Act would not come into force until "sanctioned by Her Majesty", and although this was granted in December, 1863, the Act ultimately became law only as of January 1, 1865.

While this became "Decimal Day", "Her Majesty's sanction" was sufficient that with this in hand, the Province moved to have its new coinage struck. That they didn't enter circulation for more than a year later than expected was not Newfoundland's fault; as the following documents show, Newfoundland adhered to all the necessary steps, promptly and completely. We may reasonably assume that it was the proposed gold $2 piece that caused British officialdom certain consternation - as well as holding everything up. Unfortunately, that particular document seems to be among the missing.

However, we do have the following:

Document 1
(H?)W. Hoyles, Newfoundland Attorney-General to Governor Sir Alexander Bannerman.

Attorney-General's

Office,

8th February 1864

"Dear Sir Alexander,

I beg leave to enclose an address from the Executive Council praying that Her Majesty will be pleased to direct that under the provisions of the Currency Act recently confirmed, bronze cents, silver five, - ten cent and twenty cent pieces, and gold two dollar pieces may be struck at the Mint for the use of the Colony.

The quantity required of each coin will be of one cent pieces 240,000, of silver five cent pieces 80,000, of silver ten cent pieces 80,000, of silver twenty cent pieces 100,000 and of gold two dollar pieces 10,000.

---

[1] Rowe/Haxby/Graham. Full text as Appendix II, pp 98-9

The device for these coins would be, I presume, on one side the Queen's Head with the words Victoria Regina 1864 and on the other the words Newfoundland one cent or (as it may be) with either a wreath round the latter words or the figure of a crown or a Newfoundland dog over them as the Master of the Mint may consider most appropriate.

I enclose a letter of credit on the Union Bank of London for the funds necessary for this service to be advanced from time to time as the Master of the Mint may require and the Union Bank will also receive and ship the coin as soon as it is prepared.

We should be very glad if as little delay as possible might be permitted to occur in the manufacture of these coins as some of them are urgently required and in the hope that they will be ready by that time we have thought that the first of July should be the latest date at which the act should be put into operation.

Your Excellency will observe that instead of a gold dollar, a piece to represent two dollars is desired for immediate use the larger coin being for the present preferred in consequence of its having been found in the United States that a gold dollar is rather small for common use and amongst our people, rough fishermen accustomed to handle only large coins, a strong objection to one so small, when of so large a value would be found to exist. I trust that the clause in the section referred to by the Master of the Mint will not prevent our having the two dollar pieces as he is quite correct in supposing that it was introduced as a matter of form (being imitated[2] from the Act) without any feeling of its necessity and in accordance with his advice it will be repealed on the first opportunity.

I have &c
(Sigd) H.W. Hoyles, Atty-Genl"

From the above document, it shows that the British authorities were already having second thoughts concerning the Newfoundland gold coins, their having passed the appropriate Act notwithstanding. Perhaps it rather slipped by during their inattention to the specific details of an otherwise routine matter. But Newfoundland was going to be insistent that Paragraph 8 be honored as the next document shows:

Document 2.
President of Newfoundland Executive Council to British Treasury(?)

"To the Queens Most Excellent Majesty

We the President and Members of Your Majesty's Executive Council of Newfoundland humbly acquaint Your Majesty that by the eighth section of an Act of the Legislature of this Colony passed in 1863 entitled "An Act for the regulation of the currency", it was amongst other matters enacted, that such gold and silver coins representing dollars or multiples or divisions of the dollar, mentioned in the said Act as Your Majesty should direct to be struck for that purpose by such names, and at such rates and amounts as Your Majesty by Your Royal Proclamation should assign, should, subject to the provisions of the said Act, pass current in this Colony, that the said Act was in the month of December last sanctioned and confirmed by Your Majesty

---

[2] **"Intimated"?**

in Council, and that we are desirous of putting the same into operation, - We therefore humbly pray that Your Majesty will be graciously pleased to direct that there be struck at the Royal Mint for the purposes of the said Act the following coins, namely, bronze cents, silver five cent pieces, silver ten cent pieces, silver twenty cent pieces, and gold two-dollar pieces, and that Your Majesty's Royal Proclamation may be issued in this Colony for bringing such coins into circulation therein pursuant to the provisions f the said Act.

(sd.) (Lawce.?) O'Brien, President

St. Johns, Newfoundland
February 1864

Enclosed as a packet was a copy of the following document, establishing the Colony's credit with the Union Bank of London on behalf of the Royal Mint:

Document 3:
Manager, Union Bank of Newfoundland to General Manager, Union Bank of London

"Union Bank of Newfoundland,
St. Johns, 9th Febr., 1864

"W.W. Scringeaner Esq
General Manager
Union Bank of London

Sir,

We beg to establish a Credit of Eleven thousand five hundred pounds sterling in favour of "The Master of the Mint" London, whose Drafts at sight to that extent, you will please honor, and charge the same to account of this Bank.

I am, Sir,
Your obt. Servt.
(signed) Jno. W. Smith, Manager

At nearly the same time, we have the following pertinent dispatch from Sir Alexander Bannerman, Governor of Newfoundland to the Duke of Newcastle (Secretary for the Colonies?)

Document 4:

"Government House,
Newfoundland
10th February, 1864

My Lord Duke,

Referring to my dispatch, No. 5 of the 30th ultimo, acknowledging the receipt of Your Grace's dispatch No. 49 of date the 18th December sending me a confirmation of the Currency Act, along with observations by the Lords of the Treasury relative to that Act, and remarks by the Master of the Mint, - I have now the honor to acquaint Your

Grace that these documents were submitted to the Legislature now in session with the few following observations from me, which I cut from the Gazette :-

The English mail arrived on the evening after the opening of the Session, and brought me the confirmation of an Act to which I had alluded in the earlier part of the day, namely - the Currency Act. The Duke of Newcastle's despatch will be laid before you along with its enclosure, namely, the observations of the Master of Her Majesty's Mint on that Act, recommending the omission of a few words in the latter part of the 8th clause; and this useful suggestion can easily be effected by a short Act repealing them. The Master of the Mint's observations will, I believe, be gratifying to you, and when this Bill comes into operation and one uniform system of keeping accounts is adopted, it must not only be beneficial to the commercial interests but, - to the community at large, - and we shall hear no more in Newfoundland of different denominations of Sterling.

2. In the communication from the Treasury, their Lordships suggest that the recommendation of the master of the Mint may be easily effected by "a future enactment" - and this will be done in the present Session, and, in no way alter nor interfere with any of the other provisions in the Act which has now received Her Majesty's special confirmation.

3. As this Colony has not been yet in a position to avail itself of the services of Crown Agents, as referred to in Your Grace's circular of the 21st December last (to which I shall allude separately) and, as great inconvenience arises from the want of a copper currency &c, the Executive Council, with my full concurrance, have resolved on this occasion to employ the Cashier of the "Union Bank of London", an establishment which has negotiated pecuniary transactions with the Bank here on behalf of the Government - to communicate on the subject of the coinage required, with the Master of the Mint, and with that view I herewith enclose a letter of credit for (£11,500) eleven thousand, five hundred pounds, in favour of the Master of the Mint - to the extent of which his drafts will be paid at sight - as he may require, and when the coins are finished, the Manager of the Union Bank will receive them, and incur the responsibility of shipping, insurance, &c.

4. I shall take the liberty of sending a letter of introduction to Sir Frederic Rogers, in the hope that Your Grace will authorize Sir Frederic to put the Manager in communication with the Master, who will inform him of several devices proposed for the side of the coin obverse to the head of the Queen, but, the Governor and Council are most desirous to leave this matter to the master of the Mint, and, authorize him to adopt such a device as he may consider best.

5. I have now only to apologize for troubling Your Grace, but, as it is most desirable that the Currency Act should soon come into operation, I trust that I shall be excused for soliciting your kind offices on behalf of the Government and people of the Colony, and,

I have, &c
(sd) A. Bannerman, Governor."

It's obvious that thus far, a few documents are among the missing. We don't know, for instance, what "few words" the Lords of the Treasury wished to have eliminated from Clause 8 of the Act - perhaps the word "gold"? If so, there would never have been a two-dollar coin

until another Act had been completely framed, submitted, confirmed and put into action. Was Governor Bannerman just putting off the Duke of Newcastle until such time as the matter was dropped? - after all, the words were *not* eliminated.

Also missing are the observations of the Master of the Mint that would include, presumably, a "ballpark quote" on the proposed coinage as well. It is not in the Royal Mint files, either. So far as price is concerned, it was close: $56,400 Newfoundland in face value (or £11,333. 6s. 8d sterling) for £11,500.

In the matter of allowing the Royal Mint *carte blanche* regarding designs, things did not go quite as well. Using the cheapest possible course, the Mint decided to use New Brunswick designs already in use and alter them to Newfoundland by the simple change of the name. There exists a die (with no pattern known) of an 1864 Newfoundland cent with only the provincial name differentiating it from that of New Brunswick of the same year. The 5-, 10- and 20-cent pieces are all known as Newfoundland bronze proof patterns, in every case identical with the New Brunswick designs except for the obverse name alteration. Even the proposed gold 2-dollar piece came in for its share of easy substitution: being 10-cent in size, there exists a bronze proof pattern of this coin, the obverse altered to read "NEWFOUNDLAND", the reverse having "10 / CENTS" erased and "TWO / DOLLARS" added. Aside from these changes, the design is identical with the 1864 New Brunswick 10-cent piece.

This could not work since New Brunswick and the proposed Newfoundland coins could be too readily confused and interchanged, to the detriment of the latter. New Brunswick, like the rest of Canada, valued the British pound at $4.86 2/3 while Newfoundland settled on $4.80, making the "Newfoundland Dollar" worth some 1.4% more. That, alone, would raise the danger of the new full-bullion-value gold two-dollar coin being acquired for New Brunswick (or Canadian) coin and exported.

Therefore, we find new reverse designs being made up, chiefly by Horace Morehen, who appears to have been something of a free-lance designer attached to the Royal Mint. He made a series of designs in June/July, 1864 and another limited series in very early 1865.[3] It's entirely possible that most of the results of his efforts are within the 1865 Newfoundland pattern series. There could well be one exception - which will be discussed below.

Governor Bannerman's comment "..we shall hear no more in Newfoundland of different denominations of Sterling" bears mention. The contemporary British gold sovereign (£1) was now valued at $4.80 Newfoundland; however, there had been *two* "Newfoundland pounds" in recent times: the "Newfoundland Sterling Pound", worth $4.61 in the new coin as well as the "Newfoundland Pound" which had been valued much the same as the rest of Canada - $4.00 (i.e., 4 Spanish milled dollars, each passing for 5/ local currency). Under the new Act, both of these were to be converted into decimal at the above rates.

The above packet of documents now made their way to Downing Street with the following covering letter:

Document 5.

"Downing Street,

[3] Jacobs, W. "Early Newfoundland Coinage; The Modern Designs, 1864/5" in CNRS Transactions, Vol. 36 (2000), pp 58-62

25th February, 1864

Sir,

With reference to your letter of the 16th of December last, I am directed by the Duke of Newcastle to transmit to you, for the consideration of the Lords Commissioners of the Treasury, a copy of a despatch from the Governor of Newfoundland enclosing an address to the Queen from the Executive Council relating to the new coinage for that Colony, together with a letter of credit in favor of the Master of the Mint on the Union Bank of London, to the extent of £11,500 Sterling.

I am, Sir, Your obedt. Servant
(signed) Thos. F. Elliot

The Right Honble
Frederick Peel M.P."

In accordance with the normal chain of command, this resulted in the following document from the Colonial Office to the Treasury:

Document 6:

"Colonial Office
27 Feby 1864

Dear Mr. Buckland,

With reference to a despatch which we have just sent to the Treasury about a Coinage for Newfoundland, the Manager of the Union Bank of London has offered at the Governor's request to call either at the Treasury or on the Master of the Mint to give any explanations which may be desired. He is of course a man whose time is precious and one should not wish to send him to the wrong place. Could you therefore kindly ascertain for me whether it would be more practically useful that he should attend at the Treasury or at the Mint - if at either?

I daresay he might be able to assist in examining the matter at whichever of the Two Offices may undertake the substantial consideration.

Yours very truly,
(signed) Thos. F. Elliot"

as well as one from the Treasury to the Master of the Mint:

Document 7:

"Treasury
29th Feby / 64

Dear Sir,

Mr. Arbuthnot wishes for a report from you upon the proposed new Coins required for Newfoundland and especially as to the new Gold Coins to represent two Dollars, before giving any directions for preparing dies &c. I enclose a note from Mr Elliot of the Colonial Office submitting an offer of the Manager of the Union Bank to call either at the Treasury or at the Mint to give any explanation required relating to the new Coins.

Mr. Arbuthnot has suggested that you should communicate with him, and I will reply to Mr. Elliot accordingly.

Yours truly,
(signed) E. Buckland

(To) The Master of the Mint"

After the groundwork had progressed so rapidly, everything went into slow motion. According to the Rowe/Haxby/Graham work[4], "The earliest patterns for the new coinage were produced in response to the Mint Master's order of 14 May 1864" which specified that the new coinage was to be that of New Brunswick designs, the substitute of name excepted. The writer has not seen this particular document but the patterns of 1864 noted above bear this out.

Then there is a hole in documentation, the next being invoices for designs by Horace Morehen (18 June and 20 July). Evidently, the decision had been made for Newfoundland to acquire its own unique reverses.

The final document is a plaintive request from Newfoundland to the Mint - months later:

Document 8:

" Saint Johns Nfld: 1st November 1864

My dear Sir

Since my return to this island I have stated to our Council the objections raised by you in reference to our Gold Coinage and we come to the determination to do without the gold, but are very anxious to receive the Silver and Bronze which I hope may have been dispatched before this reaches you as we are much in need of it. Should it not have been forwarded, may I ask you to have it sent as soon as possible.

With my best thanks for your civilities to myself

I remain, my dear Sir,
Yours very truly,
Nichs. Stabb

(to) Thos. Graham Esqr."

---

[4] Rowe/Haxby/Graham, ibid. p.51

According to the Rowe/Haxby/Graham work, this resulted in a spate of orders within the Mint: Nov. 12 - Treasury authorizes the mint master to proceed with the 1864 coinage; Nov. 17 - Mint master Graham specifies altered "New Brunswick" obverses but with new reverses and the date is now to read "1865".

A whole series of 1865 Newfoundland patterns exist but there is an oddity: the bronze cent. In accordance with Newfoundland's first instructions, there exist "patterns" with the obverse reading VICTORIA QUEEN with the reverse very close to that used in 1865 and afterward but with an 1864 date. These are probably not patterns but rather "business strikes minted in quantity but with virtually all melted down before release". The R/H/G work (which incidentally shows the wrong obverse for the NF-6) says that a "large number of dies were prepared as early as May 1864"[5] but the writer entertains doubts on this score. In the first place, the Mint rarely went further than the design/pattern stage on any coinage that had yet to receive final authorization from the Treasury, which in this case was not until November 17. Then we have the Morehen invoices, showing that he was still sketching the pitcherplant reverses June 13, let alone a die having been sunk for them. Chances are good the "business strike" cents (the Charlton NF-6 "patterns") were done after the authorization date, too late for sending that year. There also exist proof "trial strike" cents dated 1864 (NF-18), in every respect like the regular 1865s except for the date; however, these seem to have been produced solely to be included in the 1865 Newfoundland proof sets (which for some reason never used an 1865 cent). In addition is a kind of hybrid (NF-7) which combines the obverse of the New Brunswick (or Nova Scotia) cent with the 1865 reverse as later used on the regular coinage.

Oddly - and to our dismay - the Royal Mint documents jump from the last Morehen invoice (10 January 1865) all the way to 1870[6]! Hopefully, they can someday be accessed.

---

[5] If there *is* evidence of a "large number of dies" having been prepared at this time, they could well be those altered from the New Brunswick into Newfoundland for the various 1864 "New Brunswick "-type patterns. Each would involve the removal of the name from a New Brunswick hub and the sinking of a die from it, at which time NEWFOUNDLAND would be punched in, making it a "master die". In all, this would have been done for four obverses and two reverses.

[6] This particular correspondence is from Royal Mint Records (Mint 13, Folder 75) which, according to its title was *supposed* to include "1865 Apr - 1870 Mar. Accounts of Newfoundland Coinage" but did not. Presumably this information is in another file.

J. Armand Sanfaçon, Laitier of Loretteville, Quebec

by Jean-Luc Giroux

Colour: pale green

When one mentions the name Sanfaçon in west Charlesbourg the first word that comes to mind is that of milkman. At the beginning of the twentieth century Joseph Arthur Sanfaçon owned property of about 28 arpents (approximately 23-1/2 acres) situated in west Charlesbourg, to the south of the present site of the Hydro Quebec station.

Mr. Sanfaçon had a family of a dozen children, nine boys and three girls. I would like to tell you a little about one of the sons, J. Armand Sanfaçon, who was born April 22, 1910 in west Charlesbourg. He attended school until the age of 14, following which he learned the trade of blacksmith. He practised this trade for five years, during which time he earned $5.00 per week. But recognizing that this trade was not sufficiently remunerative he quit and returned to the land as a farmer, working on his father's farm.

In 1929, one of his brothers, Joseph Arthur Jr., became a dairyman and having seen his brother develop in this profession he decided to become a dairyman as well. Thus it was in 1939 that J. Armand Sanfaçon started in the dairy industry, his residence now being at Loretteville. He made his milk deliveries with a horse drawn wagon, with the tools of the day, a measuring cup and four-can carrier, his clientele being in west Charlesbourg, Loretteville and Quebec City. In that year the cost of a pint of milk was 10 cents. He delivered 100 pints daily, as well as cream and butter. It was also in 1939 that he had printed 1000 tokens, on a pale green coloured cardboard, which were good for a pint of milk. In 1942 he bought a used car, a 1927 Chrysler, for which he paid $75.00. Unfortunately he had that car only one year when he had many troubles with it and had to purchase a newer vehicle to overcome the problems.

Mr. Sanfaçon continued his trade until 1971, at which time the price of a pint of milk had risen to 22 cents. In 1971 he returned to farming, but a little later he became a school workman. The word *retirement* is not in Mr. Sanfaçon's vocabulary and he is still active, which is the secret of his excellent health. Now nearing 91 years of age he is actively sculpting.

Concerning his token good for one pint, only two examples are known to have survived, and these were found in the interior of a wall when Mr. Sanfaçon was doing some renovations. He possesses one example, which has been plasticized and is kept in a frame with some photos showing the life of a dairyman. The second token he gave to the author as a gift on Dec. 13, 2000. I am truly privileged to possess this token, which is an extreme rarity, and I would like to thank Mr. Sanfaçon.

The Bridge Toll Token of Terrebonne

By Jean-Luc Giroux

Aluminum
Rectangular 32 x 19 mm
Uniface

Prov. Quebec
Atwood 900-A
Bowman 4920a

Historical background of Old Terrebonne

Those who have complained about the seigneurial system established in Canada have admittedly not understood that this was the most practical method to colonize the country. The parishes were formed under the direction of the seigneurial lords who were like fathers of the families in their domains. Without their aid our pioneering Canadian families would have had troubles getting together to start the colony.

Nine seigneurs succeeded at Terrebonne and made the place the most aristocratic and the most commercial in the Montreal area. The East Indian Company, founded in 1664, by Louis XIV, King of France, granted the first seigneury of Terrebonne to one Daulier-Deslandes on the 23rd December 1673.

Later in 1802 the seigneury was sold to Simon McTavish, a rich merchant of the North West Company. Terrebonne then became the stronghold of this company's fur trade – the names of which are inscribed in the history of our country – the McTavishs, McKenzies, Frasers, Proteuses, etc.

McTavish, the seigneur of Terrebonne, the man of great undertakings, McKenzie whose name is borne by the great river flowing into the Arctic, Dr. Fraser of the North West Company, and Thomas Porteous of Terrebonne, who is 1805 obtained the right from the provincial government of Lower Canada to construct the famous wooden bridges linking the Island of Montreal at Lachine and Repentigny. Looking at the 1894 work of P. Napoleon Breton we can see the "Bout de l'Ile" tokens, illustrated under the numbers Breton 534-557.

In 1861, the first aqueduct, a water pipe made of wood, in Terrebonne, belonging to Mr. Joseph Forget, was bought by the Council of the town. In 1878 the C.P.R. built a rail line from Montreal to Terrebonne. The year 1890 saw the beautiful city hall built, which burned down in 1922. It also in 1890 that the first electric lighting was installed in Terrebonne, preceded in the Province only at Montreal, Quebec, Three Rivers and St Hyacinthe. Bell telephone reached Terrebonne in 1893. In 1898 Joseph Limoges opened a sash and door factory at the side of the river, near the St Louis College. It was there that the great fire of 1922 started. Some of the wooden water lines were replaced by iron pipe in 1900, and two years later the Provincial Bank opened its first office here. In 1905 the Federal Government built the first post office and Romuald Masson, son of Joseph Masson, was the last seigneur of Terrebonne.

In 1998 the town of Terrebonne celebrated its 325th birthday, but the first church dated only to September 1723. In 1998 the population of the town was 44,276 inhabitants.

Designated as a national historic site of interest in 1973, the Ile de Moulins (Mill Island) constitutes an unforgettable cultural experience. In the cradle of the town of Terrebone visitors can relive the period of the 19th century when the merchant seigneurs ran their imposing mills.

Through the gates of Mill Island one enters the narrow streets of Old Terrebonne, a quarter rich in history and beautiful architecture.

The Wooden Bridge of Terrebonne (1834-1905)

We know that since the beginning of the 17^{th} century a small commercial town has grown around Mill Island. One reached there by means of the river or by the King's road from Lachine, that uses the crossing at Bout-de-l'Ile. As early as 1780 a ferry was put in service between Terrebonne and Jesus Island. The surveyor, Joseph Bouchette, showed the crossing on a map of Lower Canada in 1815. Later, another map of his, of 1832, indicated that the crossing was moved downstream close to the present bridge. The service must have been inadequate because in 1834 John McKenzie, following the example of James Porteous, obtained permission of the parliament of Lower Canada to build a toll bridge to link the village of Terrebonne to Saint Francois de Salles.

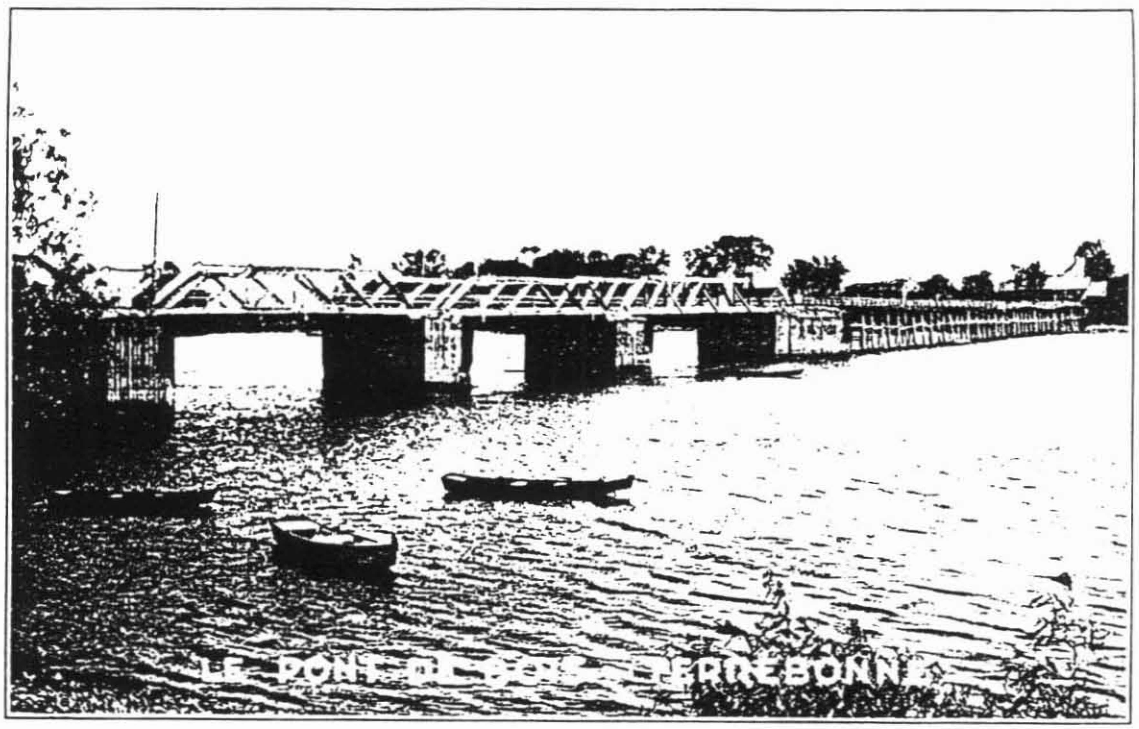
McKenzie formed a company for the bridge project, of which he became the secretary treasurer. Among the members of the company we find mainly merchants, and such notables as Joseph Masson, Joseph-Ovide Turgeon and Francois Coyteux.

When it came to receive tenders for the construction of the bridge, surprise, no entrepreneur showed the slightest interest. Then the promoters took the course of hiring several local workers by the day. The work seemed to proceed well, finishing on schedule, November 6, 1835. The next day, two experts, Jos. Lajeunesse and A.-L. Whiteside made an inspection and declared the bridge satisfactory, the bridge then being opened to the public. After the opening the construction committee became the administration committee. It didn't take long for various groups and people to solicit privileged rates on the bridge. First there was the Sisters of Notre Dame, then the shareholders, then their families, and then those of Saint Francois who demanded reductions because they were coming to Masson's mill, etc. Following such abuses and the resultant recriminations the directors were forced to eliminate certain privileges. In 1840, the shareholders were even going to refuse a reduced rate of 8 deniers, compared to 10 deniers, for the Seigneur, Joseph Masson, who had become the most important shareholder because he had acquired the shares of Lloyd and Kempton.

A little after the bridge's construction the administrators were confronted with the problems of maintenance. During break-up the first spring the ice had violently struck the pillars of the bridge, seriously weakening the structure. Moreover, the revenues were low and there wasn't enough money on hand to make the repairs. The company then had to approach Joseph Masson who advanced the necessary funds. Sadly the ice was an annual worry. The break-ups of 1844 and 1845 nearly took the bridge out. At every blow, it was Masson who provided money to meet the expenses of the bridge. Thus when he died in 1847 he owned 78% of the shares. Not surprisingly in October 1847 his widow acquired the remaining shares and became the sole owner of this white elephant.

Some words on Joseph Masson. When he bought the seigneury of Terrebonne, on Dec. 12, 1832, for the price of 25,150 sterling Louis, it was said that some English upset to see a Canadian make the acquisition, told him that he would fail meet the payments, but he did, to the great surprise of the group who could not imagine a French Canadian had such a sum available. Without a doubt they didn't know him. The dream was realized. The little Joseph Masson, poor, was to become the biggest and richest merchant in Montreal. "I recall," wrote E.Z. Massicotte,


L'HONORABLE JOSEPH MASSON (1791-1847)
SEIGNEUR DE TERREBONNE
LA CHÂTELAINE DU MANOIR (1798-1883)


LE PONT

"how much people admired Joseph Masson's superb carriage which passed my father's house like a flash on the way to Terrebonne."

The new seigneur started immediately on some grand projects on his realm. He had new mills erected, a new office, the Boulevard Hotel, and the activity revived Terrebonne. A close friend of the parish priest Masson helped out when it concerned the benefit of the people or the progress of the parish. Masson died prematurely on May 15, 1847, leaving his widow many millions. Masson had accumulated one of the largest fortunes of the period. From 1848 Masson's widow decided to build an immense country home to comfortably house all the members of her large family. Furthermore, she undertook the project that her husband had toyed with for some time, that his premature death had prevented him from realizing. The construction took six years and nothing was spared to make this residence a monument worthy of the fortune acquired by the late seigneur, a monument that could be called the "Chateau Masson". This building cost $80,000.

To return to the wooden bridge, the various companies which operated it had to frequently repair it, rebuild entire sections taken out by the ice. The revenues never allowed for a real profit, the undertaking suffered thus, to the point in 1862 there was the question of entirely rebuilding the bridge. Could one speak of renovations or of reconstruction? However often the bridge was repaired it was necessary to rebuild it in the summer of 1883, this time the work being onerous. In the spring of 1887 the river level was high and the ice tore out five of the eleven arches and four of the footings. Seeing that, the proprietors had no other choice than to consider building a permanent iron bridge.

The situation became so alarming that the problem took on proportions that disturbed the populace. The taxpayers forced the town of Terrebonne to move. However, the finances of the town did not permit it to undertake such a project. In the spring of 1892 the supports for the bridge were destroyed. Again, repair or rebuild? Was it necessary to point out that the successors of Masson no longer had any financial interests in the bridge, the charter having expired in 1884. At the end of 1896 the Public Works of Quebec engineer returned to Terrebonne to effect a series of plans with the view to building an iron bridge with reinforced concrete footings capable of withstanding the worst of the spring conditions.

To conclude on the wooden bridge, here are several figures on the revenues: in 1900 $1,859, in 1901 $1,750, in 1902 $1,728, in 1903 $1,705, and in 1904 $1,655, an average of $1,725 annually. The annual salary of the toll taker was $325 and he was housed by the seigneur. A total of 1450 vehicles were passed free of charge over the bridge in 1905, to come to the mill and one paid, on average, seventeen cents to cross. It will be easy to understand the number of approaches by the municipal authorities of the day to the political parties to obtain the necessary permission and the essential grants to build a permanent iron bridge over the river.

Construction of the Present Iron Bridge from 1906

Ernest-Seraphin Mathieu, notary, was the mayor of the town of Terrebonne during the period that the bridge was built. The council was divided three to three on June 10, 1906 and Mr. Mathieu broke the tie, a move which was to have happy consequences for the town.

We have come to consider Mr. Mathieu as the veritable instigator of the bridge. Curator of old stocks (in his occupation as notary) he worked with recognized Liberal organizers to obtain subsidies for Terrebonne. In a memoir that he wrote he said, that in 1905 he was mayor of the town and the council was made up of six members, all Liberal. However, so not to be blocked, despite my Conservative principles, he worked with the Liberal party, then in power, to obtain the necessary assistance to build *our* bridge.

About 1900 the Honorable Raymond Prefontaine, who had achieved an electoral victory in the county of Terrebonne, was named Minister of the Marine in the Laurier cabinet. During the election he had promised to have funds voted for the constuction of a quay on the Terrebone side and on the other side, the St Francois de Sales side of the river. It would be necessary to dredge the Thousand Islands River to create a navigable passage from Charlemagne to Terrebone.

In 1902 Prefontaine, still a federal minister, with the support the the Honourable Mr. Jean Prevost, the provincial member, had obtained a vote of $28,000 to build the abutments in concrete on both sides of the river. These footings were destined to serve as ice breakers and protect the quays that the federal government had the intention to build.

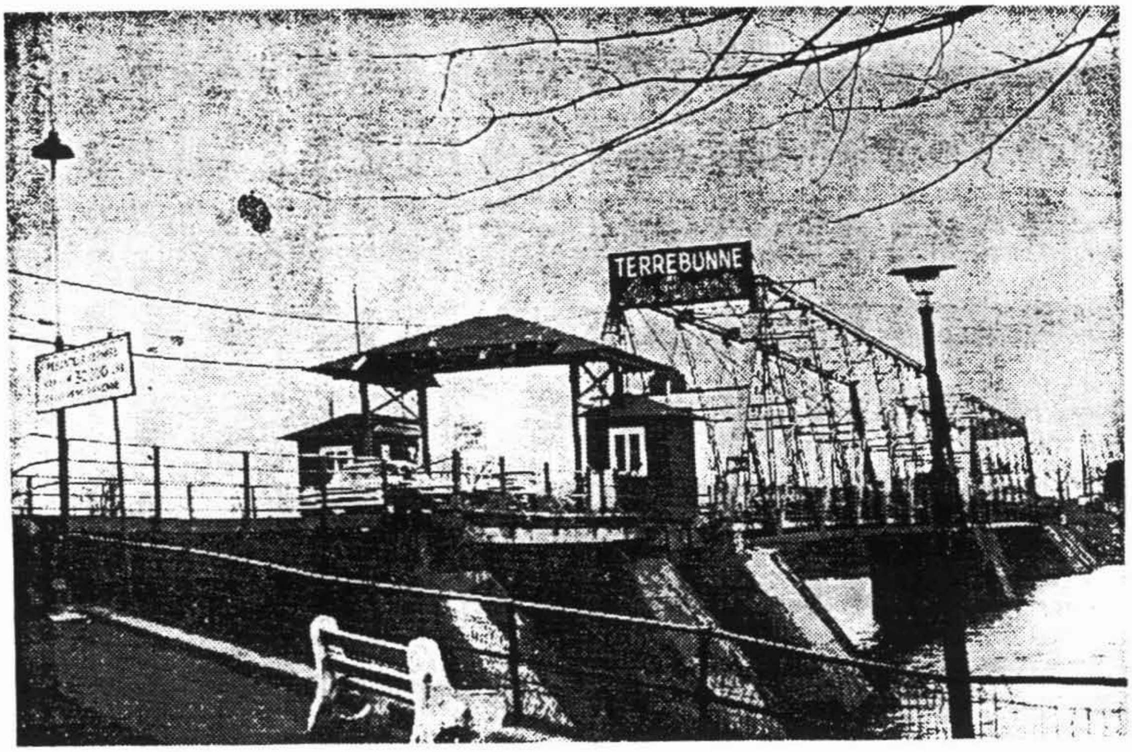
These abutments were built and, immediately, the citizens of Terrebonne realized that as much as they protected the quays they could also serve as footings for the bridge that they had wanted to have built for so long. At the request of the citizens, supported by Mr. Prevost, Mr. Prefontaine obtained for the Town of Terrebonne the right to use these footings for their bridge, and furthermore, at the federal government's expense, had a road built over the abutments. It also built the abutments on land provided for that purpose by the town. To all intents and purposes the federal government had built 50% of the bridge.

In 1905 a delegation from the town met with Mr. Prefontaine and asked him to assist in the building of the bridge by giving permission to use the abutments that had been built for the quays. They gave as reason that the work of dredging was going very slowly and it would be several years before the quays were needed. The request was agreed to and the delegation then proceeded to Quebec to see Mr. Prevost, provincial deputy for Terrebonne and a minister in the Gouin Cabinet. Promising to assist the town he had a special law passed authorizing the town to build the central part of the bridge, that is to say to build a little less than 500 feet [about 152 meters] to link the two abutments built by the federal government.

In 1906, the Town Council, having obtained promises of aid from the provincial government, found itself ready to let the contract for the construction of a concrete footing in the centre of the river and two arches in iron of about 250 feet each, to join the works of the federal government.

The Contract for Construction of the Bridge

The contact was negotiated by Mr. Paul-Arthur Seguin, notary for the town, and awarded on September 24, 1906, to The Phoenix Bridge & Iron Works Co., of Montreal, later absorbed by Canadian Vickers. According to the terms of the contract, the Phoenix company was to finish the work by April 15, 1907. The company would pay a late penalty of $25.00 per day past that date. Not to tread too lightly on the clauses of the contract, the Town Council served notice on April 23, 1907 that the company had not completed their work. We know that work was commenced in October 1906 and completed in August 1907. The cost of the bridge, was $26,500 to Phoenix Bridge & Iron Works and some other items for a total of $29,500.



The Terrebonne Bridge

"PREFONTAINE - PREVOST"

Subsidies

The provincial government, in 1907, in accordance with its promises, authorized the town to issue debentures to borrow $27,500 to build the bridge and to charge tolls to pay off this debt. At this point the successor to the Seigneur Masson, ceded his rights to the town for the sum of $200. The inaugural banquet for the new bridge, the Prefontaine-Prevost Bridge, was held on Saturday January 4, 1908 at the Hotel Bernadin of Terrebonne. Several hundreds attended this banquet.

The Tolls

The bill allowing the Town to recover its costs was No. 143, article 35. The first regulation carried the number 224. Dated June 10, 1907 it established the following tariff

For a carriage drawn by 3 horses	25¢
For a carriage drawn by 2 horses	20¢
For a 4 wheel carriage drawn by 1 horse	15¢
For a 2 wheel carriage drawn by 1 horse	8¢
For an automobile	15¢
For a quadruped, other than a sheep	5¢
For a sheep	2¢
For a large truck or bus	25¢

It should be noted that these tariffs were for outsiders, because the citizens of Terrebonne enjoyed a preferential tariff which was approximately 50% of the above rates. The tariffs were changed on a number of occasions, in 1923, 1933 and in 1935 when motorcycles were charged 10¢, bicycles 5¢, pedestrians 2¢, but always keeping sheep at 2¢.

The bridge revenues in 1916 were $3,104. The tolls taken between 1907 and 1965 came to more than $4 million. During the last ten years the bridge provided 65% of all town revenues. In 1964 the total was $339,338. Because of these revenues the town was able to maintain its budget without having to impose to taxation comparable to other similar towns.

Towards the end of the 1950's there was heavy traffic, particularly on summer weekends, with jams extending to Mascouche, but at the time on could cross only one direction at a time, according to the traffic light and the toll collector. With long waits to cross people grumbled to the collector, but to no avail. Incidentally the salary of a collector in 1960 was $3300.

About 1943 the town consulted a contractor about paving the bridge deck. This latter advised against the project, believing that the structure wouldn't support the additional weight. On March 10, 1959 a section of the deck slumped. It took several days to effect repairs and during this time the bridge was closed to all traffic.

It is not needed to say that the bridge was now considered as dangerous. In the fall of 1960 a petition of several thousand names was presented to the Minister of Public Works, Rene Levesque, then in the Lesage Cabinet, but later he became the Quebec Prime Minister) encouraging the government to proceed with a new route, #18, but now #25, that would not need to cross on the celebrated bridge. The petition bore fruit and the new route was opened in 1965.

It was from that time, Sept. 1, 1965, that the Town of Terrebonne ceased to receive tolls from the bridge. Towards midnight on August 31, 1965 the toll collector received the last toll, ending a period extending almost sixty years

This little bridge, popularly known for its width, still serves the residents of the region. Despite its 93 years, occasional problems, it is fondly remembered as a monument and icon in Terrebonne.

In recent years a barrier was installed at the entrance to the bridge to limit vehicles to 2.4 meters and three tons, i.e. only cars can now cross the bridge. The author had the honour to cross the bridge for the first time on September 20, 2000, in order to do his research in Terrebonne for this article.

The Great Fire of 1922

We cannot talk about Terrebonne without saying something about the fire which destroyed nearly 45% of Old Terrebonne. It was exactly 8:30 pm Friday night December 1, 1922 when the fire was discovered. That evening there was a Council meeting, but it was cut short to attend to the crisis. Fire, Fire. The firemen got their pumps out – they had two in Terrebonne, one steam and the other was hydraulic.

The fire started in the Joseph Limoges sash and door factory, which was situated along side the river, some distance from any residences. It was believed that the fire was set by a thief who wanted to hide the theft of a hundred dollars worth of goods from the factory.

When the news of the fire was known it didn't take long to realize that the fire would spread. In the blink of an eye the residents understood the danger and immediately got to work. The firemen rushed to the alarm but the flames were already so intense that it was impossible to approach the Joseph Limoges factory. There were two street fountains, one in front of the factory and the other opposite the garage. The fire was so intense that as soon as the hoses were connected they were consumed. The wind was also very strong, blowing at 40 to 60 miles per hour, pushing the fire. As the wind was blowing towards the north, it pushed the flames towards the home of Mr. Limoges which was soon ablaze. From there the fire spread from house to house. The Fire Chief, Mr. Grenon, realized that the men under his direction could not stop the fire.

Towards 9:30 pm the municipal authorities called for help from the firemen of Montreal and Three Rivers. They were not at the door, but it seems that these two cities had the sole means to fight such a fire. The crews from Montreal arrived towards midnight and those from Three Rivers two hours later. But the firemen became disheartened quickly as wind fanned the fire ever higher and carried burning material which fell back beyond where one would have wished, to start other fires.

The Town of Terrebonne during the fire presented the appearance of a Belgian or French town bombarded during the war. Everywhere one could see vehicles of all sorts filled with goods pulled by women who were trying to save what they possessed. The number of houses burnt was 128. The fire lasted 21 hours, the district ravaged was between Ste Marie, St Andre, Chapleau, Laurier and Dupont streets, from east to west, and between St. Louis, St Francois and St. Pierre from north to south. The *La Presse* of Dec. 2, 1922 carried the headline, FIRE DESTROYS PART OF DOWNTOWN TERREBONNE, all the business section, City Hall, the Post Office, Banks and many other businesses were in ruins. Losses were estimated to exceed $500,000, with little insurance, 400 persons were without shelter. Happily there was no loss of life. For those present it was the longest night of the year, a night of terror, of hell and devastation.

The toll tokens and tickets for the Terrebonne Bridge.

From the three trips that I made to Terrebonne, the results of my investigations were not the height of my expectations. The first trip that I made took me to the City Hall to find the records service, to ask if they had any documentation concerning the toll tokens of the old bridge. They replied that they had nothing on this subject and suggested that I visit the library, which is where the municipal archives are kept. Unfortunately I found nothing on the subject of the token or tickets concerning the tolls. On the other hand I found lots of information on the tariff structure, the annual revenues for the bridge from 1907 to 1965. A little disappointed to find nothing on the dates of issue, or of the quantity issued, or the period of utilisation of the token. Seeing my dejection the librarian referred me to Mr. Aime Despatis, a professional journalist, editor of *La Revue de Terrebonne*, a member of the Historical Society of Terrebonne, the leading person in the historical world of Terrebonne. The librarian told me that if Mr. Despatis couldn't answer my questions then no one could. A flame of hope flared in my heart.

When I met Mr. Despatis at the newspaper office, the first thing that I had to do was show him an example of my token and ask if he knew of their existence. He said yes and that many years ago an employee of the CPR had shown him one at the Windsor Station in Montreal. He told me that I was one of very people who possessed such a token. I eagerly reassured him, saying that I knew another person who had an example and that surely other collectors could have them in their collections and that it was possible that others might be found in a drawer, or in old envelopes, or boxes of family memorabilia.

Mr. Despatis said that the token had probably been in use from the opening of the bridge from 1907, but was unaware of how long it had been used. The token was used exclusively by the residents of the Town of Terrebonne because it represented a reduced toll. One could only obtain them at the City Hall of the Town of Terrebonne, proving that one was a resident of the Town. To me this seems very inefficient. Mr. Despatis told me that he didn't understand the reason the municipal archives had nothing that mention the token. Was it possible that the documents were destroyed in the great fire of 1922 as well as the tokens? That would explain the great difficulty of finding the tokens today. It was an enigma that I could not clear up during the three days of my enquiry. I knew that the token was rare, now I was more convinced of that.

As to another visit, I had searched the area of Old Terrebonne to discover something, either tokens or information, but unfortunately found nothing. It must be said that it is not obvious to find news of events which are nearly a century old. It is necessary to meet people who have a sense of history for the information that has been passed from one generation to the next. The majority of the people I met were totally unaware of the existence of such a token, but many that remember the pasteboard tickets in various colours which were used on the bridge. It is necessary to speak of the use of the tickets in the 1930's which were more often remembered. These tickets were used exclusively by the residents of the Town of Terrebonne, and it was necessary to obtain them at the City Hall there. The sole thing that I was able to pluck at Terrebonne was a small quantity of tickets, which themselves are not easy to find. I bought them from a collector.

This has led me to conclude that this token is not only rare, but it is Extremely Rare. If you compare it with the Bout de l'Ile tokens of Montreal which are considered rare but which you can always find one in auctions even those of little importance. What can we say about the Terrebonne token? I have been in the field of numismatics for more than forty years and I have never seen one offered at auction or in a coin dealer's stock. Following my meeting with Mr.

Despatis he put an announcement in *La Revue de Terrebonne* about the token, but no one has turned up with a token, and it has been more than four weeks.

Now there is no doubt in my mind about the degree of rarity of this piece. I am convinced that very few collectors have a specimen in their collection. Finally, to prove my hypotheses I would like to sound out the collectors of north American tokens, especially those vecturists who are members of the A.V.A., the most important association of transportation token collectors. I appeal for your collaboration and cooperation. If you possess this token, Atwood 900-A would you please send me a post card confirming that. It is not necessary to identify yourself. I would like to thank you in advance for your assistance.

It is understood that such a survey is not scientific but taking into account those who will not respond and the percentage of tokens probably tucked away in the bottoms of drawers we will have a better idea of the rarity. In the months following I will make an endeavour to provide the results. In closing, we hope that this article on the toll bridge, Prefontaine-Prevost and its token has been of interest.

Please send your cards to

Jean-Luc Giroux, FCNRS
606-4412, Place le Monelier
Charlesbourg, Quebec,
Canada G1H 7K3

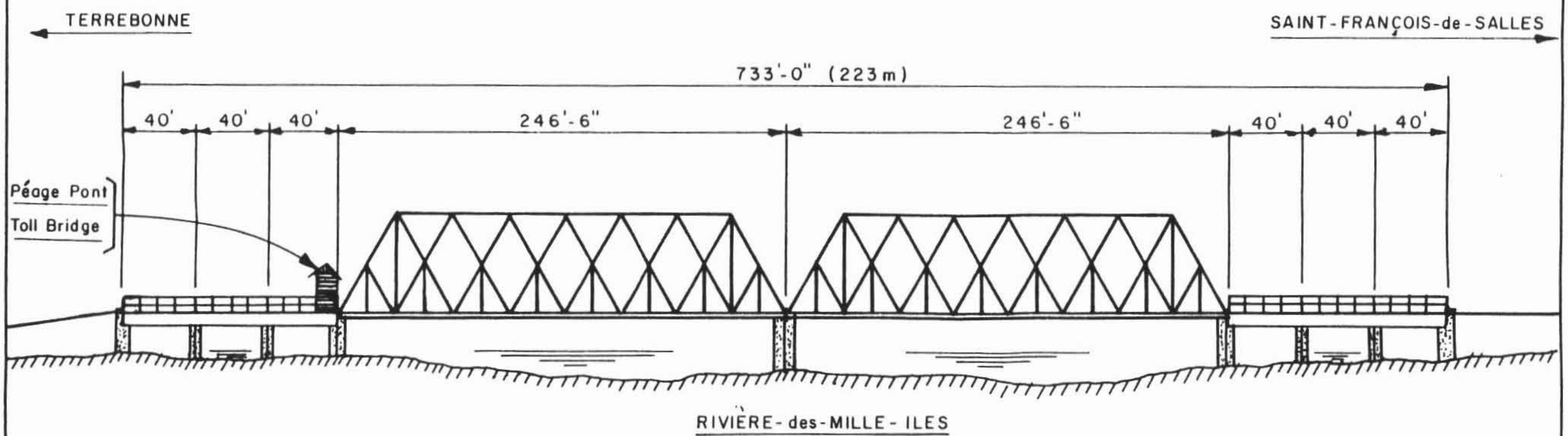
References

Archives nationals du Quebec
Archives ville de Terrebonne
Bulletin de la Societe Historique de Terrebonne
Circuit Historique de Terrebonne
La Revue de Terrebonne
La Presse, December 1922
La Patrie December 1922
Le Devoir December 1922

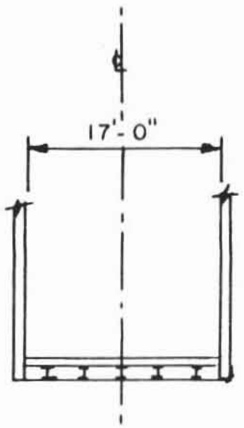
Translated by R.A. Greene

PONT "PRÉFONTAINE-PRÉVOST" BRIDGE

(1907)

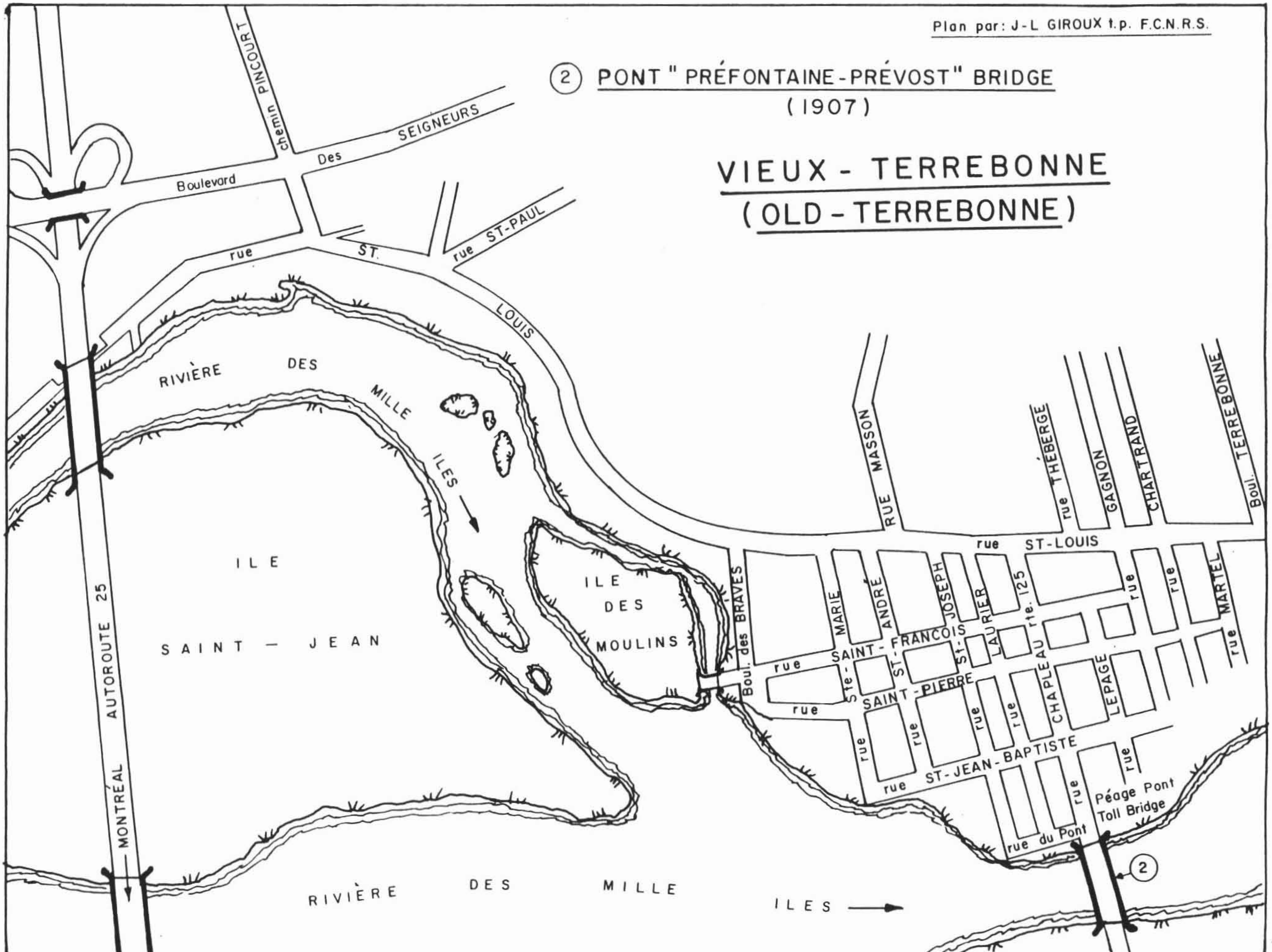


—ELEVATION—



—SECTION—

Plan par: J-L GIROUX t.p. F.C.N.R.S.


Plan par: J-L GIROUX t.p. F.C.N.R.S.
(2) PONT "PRÉFONTAINE-PRÉVOST" BRIDGE
(1907)
VIEUX - TERREBONNE
(OLD - TERREBONNE)
chemin PINCOURT
Boulevard Des SEIGNEURS
rue ST. LOUIS
rue ST-PAUL
RIVIÈRE DES MILLE ILES
ILE SAINT - JEAN
ILE DES MOULINS
AUTOROUTE 25
MONTRÉAL
RUE MASSON
rue THÉBERGE
GAGNON
CHARTRAND
Boul. TERREBONNE
rue ST-LOUIS
Boul. des BRAVES
rue SAINT - FRANCOIS
rue SAINT - PIERRE
rue ST-JEAN-BAPTISTE
rue du Pont
Ste - MARIE
St - ANDRÉ
St - JOSEPH
St - LAURIER
CHAPLEAU rte. 125
LEPAGE
rue MARTEL
rue
Péage Pont
Toll Bridge
2
RIVIÈRE DES MILLE ILES

HUMPHREYS & PITTOCK, of Nelson, B.C.

By Ronald Greene

N3860a
Brass:Round:21mm

N3860b
Brass:Round:21 mm:Uniface

The Humphreys & Pittock token, N3860a, would have been issued in 1899. At least eight have survived. Another token which reads HP & Co. has been tentatively attributed to the firm but it cannot be said as confirmed.

In Victoria's Pioneer Square, which is the Old Quadra Street Burying Ground, there stands a large monument to Thomas Pritchard and his wife, Margaret. You might ask what this has to do with a Nelson token and the answer would be that it has nothing and yet it has everything to do with the token. Thomas Pritchard was quite a wealthy man. He and his wife had no children so he made bequests to the children of his sister, also named Margaret, wife of John Watkins. One of the bequests went to Caroline Watkins Humphreys, wife of Thomas Basil Humphreys while another bequest went to Anna Watkins Pittock, wife of Robert Bonner Pittock. These two sisters were the mothers respectively of Thomas Stanley Humphreys and John Whistance Pittock. Of course, we didn't start off knowing this valuable little bit of information: it came to be exposed as a result of a concerted digging for information.

This short article has also been written with the assistance of four other genealogists who we know only through e-mail. Not one of us had the whole picture. Each of us has brought information forward that the others did not have. The process of finding the information is perhaps of more interest than the information itself. Fortunately both Humphreys and Pittock are rare names, and the name Whistance is even more unusual. We first determined that the Thomas Stanley Humphreys born in Victoria was the same man as the Nelson merchant. By tracing deaths in the family, by using the Vitals Events which are available through the B.C. Archives website, we were able to contact a grandson, who suggested his brother would be a better source. This second brother suggested a cousin, Barb Ethier. It was she who became our first co-conspirator and mentioned that her great great grandmother's full name was Margaret Whistance Pritchard Watkins and that there was also a Robert Pittock in the family, which was our first clue that Humphreys and Pittock were related. Thomas Stanley Humphreys' father, Thomas Basil, was a Colonial Constable and later an M.L.A. and has been the subject of some study already.[1] Possibly he is a candidate to be the subject of a full length biographical work.

We started working on the Humphreys family and amassed quite a bit of information, including finding a child of Thomas Stanley of whom the family was unaware -- the child died at a very early age -- and were able to confirm residency by the use of Voters' Lists and school records. But the Pittock connection was more difficult.

Barb Ethier found that the 1891 Census listed a Robert and Anna Pittock, in Victoria. Following this lead we found that there was a Pittock family in Victoria from 1885 to 1893, Robert and Anna, and some eight of their eleven children,[2] including John W. There are no recorded deaths in B.C. of anyone named Pittock and John W. Pittock did not get married in B.C. so we looked for a Pittock bride – hoping that we might find a sister as John W. had five sisters in Victoria – but the only marriage was for a Stella Pittock and a Charles Warburton Young in Cranbrook. None of John W.'s sisters was named Stella. Not to be deterred we checked the certificate and found that it held a surprise. It stated that Stella was the *widow* of John Whistance Pittock. Stella's maiden name was Tamblyn, she was the daughter of Francis (Frank) A. Tamblyn, who while a wine merchant and café operator in Nelson c. 1898 to 1904 issued a token. Now Stella became doubly important. Charles Warburton Young was the Chief of Police in Nelson when he married Stella in 1911 and Barb dropped in on the Nelson Museum to see what she could find about Mr. Young. It turned out that a John Young had produced a family history and that Charles Warburton Young was an outstanding artist. John Young became co-conspirator number two. But he knew nothing of Stella's family beyond the fact that she had four daughters. We were able to find Stella's death and the married names of her four daughters. Then we were able to contact Nora, the third daughter, and only surviving child of Stella's. She had no records, but had some valuable memories, photographs, and stories which added to the mix. One of her nephews, Graham Ennis, a grandson of Stella, is also interested in the family history and has been able to corroborate some details.

Furthermore, John Young had earlier been in contact with Carol Hubbard, who was doing the Tamblyn family genealogy and Carol's records added to the picture. Through the only person in Victoria with the name of Pittock we also found Michael Cox who is the Pittock family historian. It turned out that the man in Victoria was from a different Pittock family, from Essex rather than Kent, but he made been contacted by Michael Cox and had his e-mail address. It was Michael who had Pittock's marriage and death dates, and locations. All this because of a small brass token issued in Nelson, B.C., circa 1899.

Thomas Stanley Humphreys was born in Victoria on December 22, 1873, son of Thomas Basil Humphreys and Caroline (Carrie) Watkins. He grew up in Victoria. The father died in 1890 and Thomas Stanley left school. He worked as a clerk for a while at City Hall c. 1892 – 1893. The family was not mentioned in the directory for 1894 and appear to have left Victoria for a time but returned to the family home by 1897. Thomas Stanley is next found in Nelson in October 1898. He appeared as a witness, along with J.W. Pittock , in a notice of dissolution in the partnership of Lewis and Chase, bakers.[3] At the beginning of November he married Jane Ross in Victoria. The Colonist report[4] of their wedding stated that Stanley Humphreys was, "a son if [sic] the late Hon. T.B. Humphreys and is now a successful business man of Nelson, for which city he left with his bride this morning." He operated Humphreys & Co., fruits and candies on Baker Street.[5] By February the following year, 1899, the business was being carried on as Humphreys & Pittock. The firm was located next to the Nelson Hotel. The occasional newspaper advertisements showed various merchandise: fruits, candies, newspapers, tobacco, ice cream soda, etc. An ad for Joy, The Star Baker, listed Humphreys & Pittock as one of the grocers that stocked their bread.[6] A December 13, 1899 note in the newspaper read, "John Pittock, of the firm of Humphreys & Pittock, leaves today for California in consequence of a letter received announcing the serious illness of his father. Mr. Pittock expects to be away a couple of months."[7] Perhaps the newspaper did not know or report all the facts for ten days later it was announced that "Joe Howson has purchased the stock of Humphrey [sic] & Pittock, and is

Humphreys & Pittock.

Best Candies, Fruits, etc., delivered to any part of the city.

Canadian and American Papers always on Sale.

Next to Nelson Hotel, 'PHONE No. 93.

Above:
Advertisement of Feb. 15, 1899
Nelson Daily Miner, p. 2

Below
Advertisement of Dec. 3, 1899, p. 2

To right
"Bargain Columns" advertisement of August 17, 1899

"Joy cometh in the morning."

JOY THE STAR BAKER...

Comes any time of the day with

Home Made Bread

Ask your Grocer for it. These Grocers carry it:

KIRKPATRICK & WILSON.
J. A. IRVING & CO.
MORRISON & CALDWELL.
EAST END GROCERY.
GEO. BELL & CO.
T. A. SCANLAN.
COLE'S GROCERY, Hume Add,
HUMPHREYS & PITTOCK.

Black Top Shirts
ALL SIZES AT REASONABLE PRICES.
Martin O'Reilly & Co.

I BUY ANYTHING
From a Steamboat to a Baby's Rattle
Everything has a value at my store
PROSSER,
VICTORIA STREET,
Between Ward and Josephine Streets

GOOSEBERRIES & RED CURRANTS at Humphreys & Pittock's.

SMOKE "ROYAL SEAL" CIGARS.

Bring Your Job Work to the Miner Office . . . .

FRUIT
MILLS & LOTT,
CORNER BAKER AND WARD STREETS.

Cucumbers at Humphreys & Pittock's.

25 Per Cent Off
CLOTHING....
J. A. Gilker.

Fresh supply of all kinds of
Soda Biscuits.
East End Grocery.

SMOKE "ROYAL SEAL" CIGARS.

Cantelopes at Humphreys & Pittock's.

Fresh Creamery Butter
in pound Prints. Dairy Butter in Tubs for table use,
Morrison & Caldwell.

The Doctor Orders It. What?
Riesterer's Lager Beer
Just the Thing in Hot Weather.

Have you ever slept on a
CUBAN BEDSPRING?
If not you have wasted half your life. We sell them.
D. McARTHUR & COMPANY.

Ice Cream Soda at Humphreys & Pittock's.

selling out same, to start in the tobacco business."[8] A later report[9] mentions that the business failed and it is hard to see how a small grocery would support two partners. However, Humphreys was still shown as a merchant in the 1900 voters list, dated May 7th, 1900 for the June general election of that year, as was John Whistance Pittock. Following the failure of the business Humphreys went to work as a bookkeeper, and then was taken on as a car repairman by the Canadian Pacific Railway. He worked for a time in Eholt and by 1912 was in Grand Forks. He lost his job with the CPR as a result of a strike following WW1. However, he was hired back and worked for them at Beaver (or Beavermouth) which is on the main line between Revelstoke and Sicamous. The family has been told that he was hit by a locomotive while switching cars which caused some brain damage and loss of memory. Unfortunately we have not been able to uncover any information about such an accident, but Thomas Stanley Humphreys was committed

Thomas Stanley Humphreys

taken September 1913

at Spokane, WA

to the Provincial Mental Hospital at Essondale November 1, 1925 and died there on March 1, 1940. His widow, Jane Ross Humphreys died in Victoria in November 1945.

John Whistance Pittock was the son of Robert Bonner Pittock and Anna Maria Watkins. Robert Bonner was born in London and came to the USA in the early 1840's. He came west by wagon train. He and his brother, Henry Lewis Pittock settled in Portland. The brother started as a printer's devil and in 1860 purchased the *Oregonian* newspaper, in time becoming a wealthy man. He built Pittock Mansion which was purchased by the City of Portland, restored, and is today a part of the City's parks system. Robert Bonner's first wife, Maria Buckingham died in 1857 as a result of childbirth. He returned to Pittsburgh to visit his parents and overcome his grief. Returning to Portland he worked for Thomas Pritchard. In 1863, he married Anna Maria Watkins. When Anna Maria's uncle, Thomas Pritchard, decided to move to Victoria he gave his business to Robert Bonner. Robert Bonner and Anna Maria Pittock had eleven children, of which John Whistance, called Jack, was the seventh, born in Portland, Oregon July 26, 1873. Following Pritchard's death in 1883 the Pittock family moved to Victoria where Jack became a draftsman. Jack moved to Lewiston, Idaho by 1896 where he became involved in a real estate company. Robert Bonner Pittock probably moved to San Diego where in 1899 he had a stroke which invalided him for the rest of his life. He died in September 1906.[10] Jack came to Nelson in late 1898 where he joined his cousin, Thomas Stanley Humphreys, in the business. Following the business' failure and his trip to San Diego to see his ailing father he appears to have returned to Lewiston and resumed his real estate business.

Stella Tamblyn's father, Frank Tamblyn ran the Nelson Wine Company which was also located on Baker Street. In fact, both Humphreys & Pittock and the Nelson Wine Company in 1899 listed their telephone number as No. 93 so they might have been sharing premises. Stella and Jack Pittock were married on February 14, 1906 in Lewiston, Idaho at her mother's home. The reference seems to imply that Mr. and Mrs Tamblyn were divorced or separated by this time and Stella's daughter believes that Mrs Tamblyn was married three times. At some time Jack became diabetic, which in the early part of the twentieth century was tantamount to a death sentence. By 1907 he was living in San Diego, and a letter from his sister to a brother said that he was camping in the mountains nearby and feeling and looking better. He died in Claremont, California on January 19, 1908.

It is quite sad that both partners had their share of misfortune and were it not for the token much of this tale would have been forgotten.

---

[1] Jean Foote, *The Honourable Thomas Basil Humphreys, A Controversial Contributor to Changes in early B.C.*, a paper submitted at UCC. Ms Foote is the wife of a great-grandson of TBH.

[2] The first born daughter , Carrie, died at one year of age, and Emma died at 18 months. The second born, Henry, does not appear to have come to Victoria.

[3] *Nelson Miner* October 25, 1898, p. 3

[4] *Daily Colonist* November 2, 1898, p. 3

[5] *Williams B.C. Directory for 1899*, which listed Humphrey [sic] & Co.

[6] *Nelson Daily Miner* December 3, 1899, p. 2

[7] *Nelson Daily Miner* December 13, 1899, p. 3

[8] *Nelson Daily Miner* December 23, 1899, p. 7

[9] The Essondale medical history of Thomas Stanley Humphreys was obtained by Barb Ethier and in it is mention that his business failed.

[10] *The Pittock Descent*, genealogical notes by Michael Cox

Frank A. Tamblyn, Nelson, B.C.

By Ronald Greene

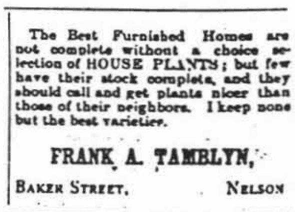
BC N6610a

Brass:Round:21mm

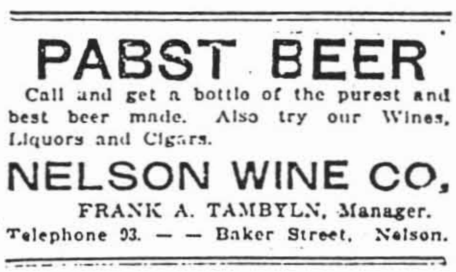
It is difficult to say when Frank Tamblyn issued this token, possibly in the first year that he was a Nelson merchant, 1898 - 1899. But let us explain.

Francis Arthur (Frank) Tamblyn[1] was born in Hope Township, Ontario on November 4, 1852, the oldest son of John Tamblyn and Grace Parsons. He married Agness Maud Johnson[2] on January 30, 1878. Frank Tamblyn and his wife had four children. The only son, Arthur Ashton, born in Hullett Township, Ontario in 1879 survived only four weeks. The three girls, Louisa, born in 1880, Stella, born in 1883, and Elsie, born in 1894 lived to adulthood. Louisa was born in Ontario, but Stella and Elsie were born in Manitoba.[3] The family had moved to Souris, Manitoba by 1883. The Sowden Land Colonization Movement left from Millbrook, Ontario in April 1881, passing through Hullett Township, and while there is no record of Tamblyn being a part of the movement they went to the same area and may have met or known members of the colony.[4] In Souris the Tamblyns met the Young brothers, Barney and Charles Warburton, who had come from England. By 1897 the Tamblyns were in the Nelson area. The Williams B.C. Directory[5] lists Frank Tamblyn as a prospector under the Nelson listings. The Henderson's B.C. Directory[6], says he was a liquor wholesaler in Nelson in 1898. With input from the City of Nelson business licences published in April 1898[7] which does not mention Tamblyn and a voters list[8] published in July of that year, that shows him as an hotel-keeper in Ymir, it would appear that he gave up on prospecting, ran a hotel for a while then by July or August 1898 was running a wholesale liquor business on Baker street in Nelson.

The earliest ad for Frank Tamblyn that we have been able to find was run under his name on March 28th 1899.[9] The content is not what one would expect of a wholesale wine merchant, as it reads, "Frank A. Tamblyn Baker Street, will have, throughout the summer, an assortment of the Choicest House plants ever received in Nelson. New shipments every week." On August 2nd 1899 his ads started appearing under the name, the Nelson Wine Company.



ad under Tamblyn name July 30, 1899

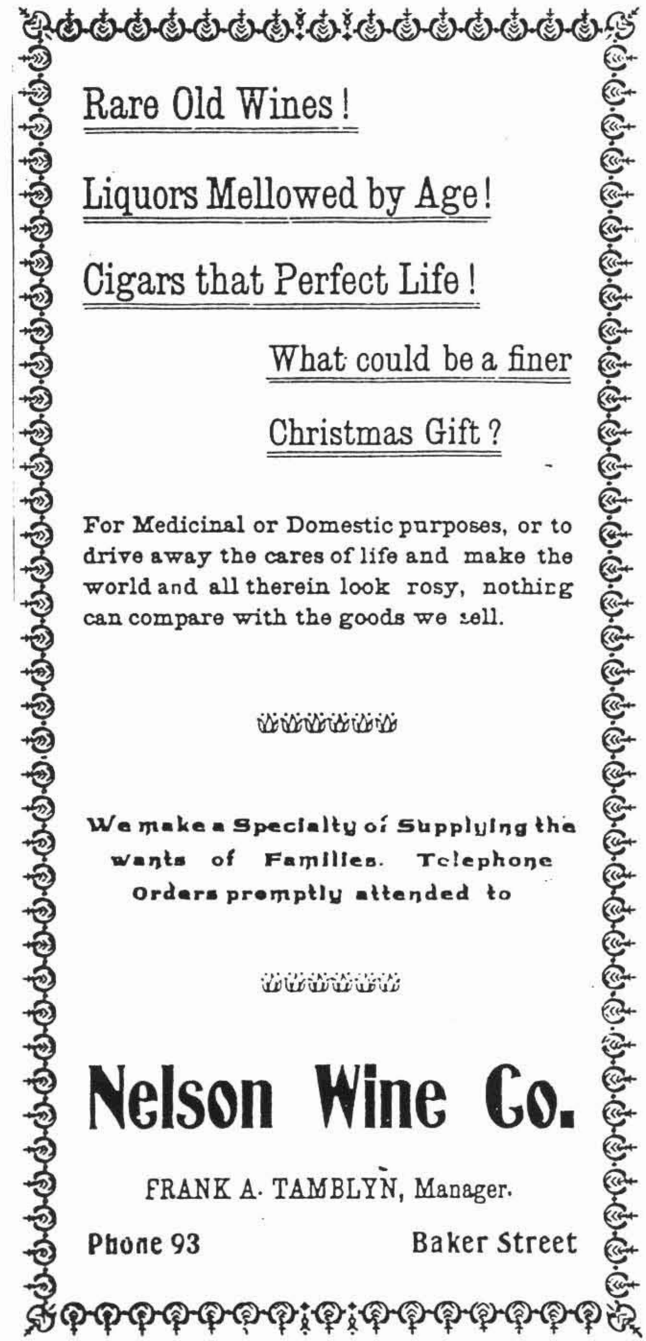


ad under Nelson Wine Co. name , Jan 4, 1903

There is a good possibility that the token that bears his name may have been put into use in the time prior to August 1899. Considering his close relationship with Humphreys & Pittock who issued a similar token in 1899 can one think of a better time? Complicating this view, however, is that the Williams 1899 Directory, published in January 1899, lists him as operating the Nelson Wine Co.

Tamblyn could not be considered to have been a large advertiser, but small ads appeared quite regularly through the latter half of 1899, with a large display ad appearing Dec. 17, 1899 (shown at right). He was still advertising as the Nelson Wine Co. until May 8, 1903 which was the last advertisement that we have found. On May 7, 1903 the following item appeared in the Nelson Daily News:

"C.A. Bartley, who recently came to Nelson from Manitoba, yesterday purchased the interest of Reisterer & Vaughn in the Nelson hotel. Commencing today the hotel will be run by the new firm. Frank Tamblyn, being associated in the management, which will have full control of the restaurant, saloon and lodgings."



Henderson's 1903 Directory[10] showed Frank Arthur Tamblyn as the manager of the Nelson Wine Co., and A.M. Tamblyn, who presumably was his wife Agnes Maud, as "wholesale liquors, Nelson Wine Co., and prop. Nelson Café E. Baker." Mr. Bartley, or possibly Mr. Barcley, see below for the explanation of this comment, was not listed. The 1904 Henderson's[11] lists Frank Arthur Tamblyn as a bar-tender on the S.S. *Moyie*, a Kootenay Lake steamboat which today is a museum ship moored at Kaslo. The directories also show that a Mrs Ida Teucat, or Tencat, was the proprietor of the Nelson Hotel and Café as early as July 1903, so Tamblyn's involvement in the hotel was likely of short duration.

Tamblyn had left Nelson by 1905, probably returning to Ontario while his wife moved to Lewiston, Idaho. He died at Blyth, Ontario in 1931. The community consisted of 618 people that year and did not have a newspaper. Goderich was the closest large community and while its newspaper ran a Blyth column the file in the Ontario Provincial Archives is incomplete and those copies on the file for 1931 did not mention Tamblyn.

In a fairly cursory check of the Nelson newspapers we have found Frank Tamblyn's name arising on only a few occasions. Two of the references are about his prowess as a curler and his results from bonspiels he attended in January of 1899 and again in January of 1904.

According to Nora Young, a grand-daughter, Agnes Maud Tamblyn was married three times. Her last husband was a Saskatchewan turkey farmer, named Charles Barclay. In January 1903, C.A. Barcley, a visitor from Manitoba, a guest of Frank Tamblyn, was taken seriously ill.[12] Were C.A. Barcley, C.A. Bartley, and Charles Barclay all the same person?

As to the daughters, Louisa married William Graham Lillie in Nelson on January 30, 1901. The two witnesses were Stella Tamblyn and C.W. Young. Stella married John Whistance Pittock in 1906 in Lewiston, Idaho and was widowed 18 months later. [See article on Humphreys & Pittock]. In 1911 Stella returned to Nelson as the wife of Charles Warburton Young. It was said that Charles pushed Stella's pram when she was a baby. He was a graduate of the South Kensington School of Art and after leaving the Nelson police force was able to make his living as an artist. Elsie was quite a bit younger than either of her sisters and we have not found when or where she married.

---

[1] Carol Hubbard, *Descendants of John Tamblyn*, undated genealogical manuscript.
[2] Her Ontario birth certificate spelled the name Agness, but all other references give the more usual spelling of Agnes.
[3] 1901 Dominion Census
[4] John Young, the Young family genealogist wrote that the Sowden Colony passed through Hullett Township before crossing the river into the United States and was known to have added additional members to the party as they passed through Ontario. He was looking for the possibility that the Tamblyns joined the Colony.
[5] R.T. Williams, *Williams' Official British Columbia Directory 1897-8*, published September 1897, p. 66
[6] Henderson Publishing Company Ltd. Lty., *Henderson's British Columbia Gazetteer and Directory and Mining Companies for 1898*. published August 1898., p. 288
[7] *The Tribune, Nelson, B.C.*, April 2, 1898, p. 3
[8] *The Tribune, Nelson, B.C.*, July 2, 1898, p. 4. The 8th General Election was held July 9, 1899.
[9] *Nelson Daily Miner*, March 28, 1899, p. 4
[10] *Henderson's British Columbia Gazetteer and Directory for 1903*, published July 31, 1903, p. 408
[11] *Henderson's British Columbia Gazetteer and Directory for 1904*, published June 21, 1904, p.
[12] *The Daily News*, Nelson, January 18, 1903, p. 6

Numismatically Oxford (part 16)

by Harry N. James

Woodstock continued.

The following rather sketchy information was gleaned from various Vernon's Woodstock (Ontario) Directories, Vernon Publishers, Hamilton, Ontario, issues from 1930 - 1976.

Dairies listed for Woodstock for the year 1930:

City Dairy, Maple Dairy Co., Ltd., Silverwood's Oxford Dairy and the Woodstock Dairy Co. Ltd.

1948 - Silverwood's Dairy Ltd. Woodstock (Dairy) branch, 609 Dundas St., office and milk powder plant 695 Canterbury.

1952 - Silverwood's Dairy Ltd. 609 Dundas St.
Silverwood's Oxford Dairy Ltd. Canterbury St.

1962 - Oxford Dairy (Woodstock) Limited, 225 Norwich Ave.

1972 - 1976 - Oxford Dairy Ltd. Eric E. Wadsworth, pres. and general manager - 225 Norwich Ave.

The Oxford Dairy Ltd. was responsible for at least six tokens which were used in conjunction with their business.

Four were cow's head shaped aluminum tokens differing in colour and milk type.

Obv.: OXFORD DAIRY / LTD. / TEL. / 170 / WOODSTOCK
Rev.: GOOD FOR / 1 / QUART — A-CH-36 X 28 aluminum colour bottom hole

Obv.: same as above
Rev.: GOOD FOR / 2 / QUART / 2% / A.J. MILK — A-CH-36 X 28 light gold colour bottom hole

Obv.: Same as above
Rev.: GOOD FOR / 2 / QUART / SKIM MILK — A-CH-36 X 28 green colour bottom hole

Obv.: Same as above
Rev.: GOOD FOR / 2 / QUART / HOMO MILK — A-CH-36 X 28 purple colour bottom hole

Obv.: OXFORD / DAIRY LTD. / GOOD FOR / 1 QUART / SKIM MILK / WOODSTOCK
Rev.: Blank — A-R-31 red colour - top hole

Obv.: OXFORD / DAIRY LTD. / GOOD FOR / 1 QUART / 2% HOMO / WOODSTOCK
Rev.: Blank — A-R-31 green colour - top hole

Two bakery tokens were used in Woodstock. Both are from the same firm, one being a later variety of the other.

Obv.: HARRISON / BAKER / WOODSTOCK, ONT. (Star over and under "baker")
Rev.: GOOD FOR / 1 / LOAF OF BREAD A-Sc8-30

Obv.: HARRISON / BAKER / WOODSTOCK, ONT. (Bar over and under "baker")
Rev.: Same as above A-Sc8-28

In addition to these tokens, the city of Woodstock made use of a parking token for municipal parking.

Obv.: CITY OF WOODSTOCK (Around diameter)
Rev.: PARKING / TOKEN B-R-23

Transactions

of the

Canadian Numismatic Research Society

ISSN 0045-5202

VOLUME 37 SUMMER 2001

On the Trail of a Fake Nor'wester.

by Wayne L. Jacobs, FCNRS

Forward.

A short time ago, the writer was fortunate in securing a number of older auction catalogues, each of which contained a certain offering of Canadian colonial tokens and the like. In one of them, a "copy" of the Northwest Company token (Br-925) was offered. While it obviously was a copy, the writer had never heard of such an "issue", nor could he find any reference to one in his library and files. This was mystifying since where there is one such item, there is almost certainly a number.

At a personal dead end, the writer turned to the network of the C.N.R.S. for more information and was extremely lucky in scoring a hit with his first contact.

For the background information regarding the "copy", I give special thanks to C.N.R.S. Fellow Les Hill whose very first "educated guess" prove to be completely accurate and who did the legwork in contacting other sources further afield. Thanks is also extended to them: Les Copan and the website of the Pacific Northwest Numismatic Association, operated by Eric Holcomb. Two photos are downloaded from this site which, although copyrighted, also notes: "Coin club and school educational use permitted and encouraged".

The writer is grateful for the data input while noting that presentation and interpretation - as well as any errors thereof - are solely his responsibility.

The Northwest Company Br-925.

If any token in the North American series falls through the cracks of attribution, it is this one. Struck for one purpose, it served another; meant for one citizenship, it had it revoked. Today, the Charlton token catalogues omit the Br-925 while the Haxby/Willey works include it - both for equally valid reasons.

First of all, "What is it?". Being plainly marked "Token", it obviously was originally meant to serve as coin - yet the fact that nearly all are pierced for suspension shows they rarely (or never) performed this function. Most extant pieces have come from "excavations" - which we can probably interpret as being from Indian graves, a rather macabre concept.

Next, "Where were they used?". This is the easiest of all to answer since practically all traceable pieces originate in the "Oregon Country" of what are now the U.S. states of Washington and Oregon, particularly the area drained by the Columbia River.

Lastly, "Are they Canadian?" No, but then "Canadian" is not the same thing as "British North American", and they *are* that. Certainly they would not have been struck for use in a recognized part of U.S. territory, otherwise they would not prominently display the effigy of England's George IV some 44 years after the Declaration of Independence. Let us not overlook the fact that "Canada" in 1820 was really just two rather small colonies: *Lower Canada (Quebec)* which at the time consisted only of the Gaspé Peninsula plus a strip only some thirty miles wide north of the St. Lawrence River and Atlantic seaboard and *Upper Canada (Ontario)* with relatively the same strip continuing south to the Great Lakes and including the triangle bounded by them. Aside from these two, there were the four Atlantic

Provinces as they exist today plus a small settlement at Red River (roughly where Winnipeg is today) - everything else we now consider as "Canada" was a vast unorganized territory, very much viewed by the Hudson's Bay Company as their personal fiefdom. *But*, in addition, was a large slice of the Pacific Northwest, presently part of the U.S. : this ran roughly from today's British Columbia/Alberta/U.S. intersection southwest to the recognized Spanish territory in what is now northern California. It was hardly recognized as undisputed British territory by the U.S. but, *de facto*, the main power there for some years *was* the Hudson's Bay Company of Britain, especially after the takeover of its chief rival, the Montreal-based Northwest Company, in 1821.

History of the "Oregon Country".[1]

While the coast of Oregon may have been sighted from sea by both the Spanish (Bartolmé Ferrelo, 1543; Vizcaino and Aguilar, 1603) and English (Francis Drake, 1579), no attempt was made at exploration or even claiming the land for many years. In 1774, the Spaniard, Juan Perez, sailed up the Oregon coast and continued on as far as the Queen Charlotte Islands. The next year, another Spaniard, Bruno Heceta, actually landed at a point near today's Port Grenville and formally took possession for Spain.

As usual, rumours abounded as to a major passage inland by sea - which may have been garbled accounts of the Columbia River or the Straits of Juan de Fuca. In searching for the last, Capt. James Cook sailed along the Oregon coast in 1778, missed the Straits but did land and trade with the inhabitants of western Vancouver Island - then sailed away to the Sandwich Islands (Hawaii) where he met his doom.

Even before the Revolutionary War was over, "Yankee traders" started to frequent these waters, in part spurred by the accounts of Cook's voyages, but leaving little trace of their passing. Small trade goods - and *anything* copper or iron - could profitably be traded to the West Coast aboriginals for sea otter pelts (particularly) which, in turn, were much in demand in China. In turn, these could be traded for chests of tea or Chinese porcelain ware, the tea serving as admirable packing material for the latter. All of the Chinese trade goods could be sold for high prices in Boston, the typical home port.

It was one of these traders, Capt. Robert Gray of Boston, who is credited with the discovery of the Columbia River (named after his ship) in 1792. On the basis of this, he claimed all the land drained by this river and its tributaries for the U.S. It was a claim largely ignored as unsupportable.

Lewis and Clark (1805-06) reached the Pacific via the Columbia from overland but their claims for other than those specified in the Louisiana Purchase from France (such land as drained by the Mississippi and its tributaries) were not recognized. The "Oregon Country", being west of the Continental Divide, was not drained by those rivers. In addition, Alexander MacKenzie, in the service of the Northwest Company, had already made it overland to the Pacific in 1793.

But settlement, in the form of fur traders and their posts (chiefly British) were arriving in the area. In 1808, the Northwest Company had several posts on the Fraser River and by 1811 had several more south of the present U.S.-Canada border. In 1811, the Pacific Fur Company, under the guidance of John Jacob Astor of New York, founded a trading post at the mouth of the Columbia River which he modestly named "Astoria" (*Plate A, Ill. 1*), then went on to

[1] Mostly taken from "Encyclopedia Britannica", 1929 edition.

establish a number of more minor posts on the Willamette, Spokane and Okanogan Rivers. However, upon hearing of the outbreak of war between the U.S. and Britain, Astor's associates, deeming the fort untenable, sold the property to the Northwest Company (1813) after which Astoria was re-named Fort George.

The Northwest Company was no small potatoes. Organized in 1775 as an amalgamation of a number of "master pedlars" who knew every feature of the country and tricks of the trade from the St. Lawrence to the Saskatchewan, they directly challenged the Hudson's Bay Company and its royal charter. Montreal-based, they established their field headquarters at Grand Portage near the head of Lake Superior and fanned out all through the north and west. When boundary determination placed Grand Portage in U.S. territory, they shifted to Kaministique, later Fort William, now Thunder Bay, Ontario. Reaching the peak of their power in the early 1800s, the Northwest Company had some 2,000 employees, its own freight canoes, Lake schooners and even ocean-going ships capable of reaching the direct markets of England and the Orient. During this 15-year period, its profits were estimated to be £1,185,000 and in 1804, it even undertook to buy out its chief rival, the Hudson's Bay Company for the sum of £103,000. The transaction was not completed only because certain shares were held by infants and other persons incapable of transferring title. Toward the end, however, ambition and Company boldness gave way to ruthlessness and outright lawlessness; to escape prosecution, the leaders began to turn on one another and with reduced income, lost trade and jeopardized credit, entered into negotiations for merger with the rival Hudson's Bay Company in December, 1820, a move that was completed in 1821.

Always sensible that there would be U.S./British partition of these territories some day, the Hudson's Bay Company had its chief factor in the Northwest, Dr. John McLoughlin, establish a major post, called "Fort Vancouver", on the north bank of the Columbia River at the highest point of deep-water navigation in 1825. *(Plate A, Ill. 2)*. During the years before the merger, the two fur companies were in stiff and sometimes bloody competition but following the joining of the two forces, the organization known by the same old name - the Hudson's Bay Company - was *the* power in the Pacific Northwest, including the "Oregon Country".

This is not to say their perceived "sovereignty" was recognized by all; it was not, especially by the numerous American trappers and fur traders operating out of St. Louis - singly, in small groups and by large brigades. The Hudson's Bay Company considered them poachers in their territory and treated them accordingly; the Americans considered the country open to all and resisted strongly. It was not just Indians the trappers and mountain men fought - it was just as likely to be rival fur interests.

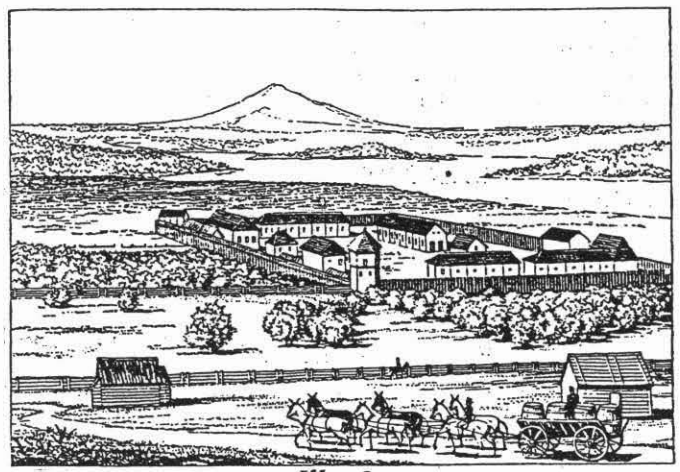
The Americans may have been based in St. Louis but many of the trappers never saw civilization for years, meeting annually at a designated location (Jackson Hole in what is now Wyoming was a favourite) for "Rondyvoo", a combination trade fair, Mardi Gras and regimental reunion. Sometimes travelling hundreds of miles with their packs of cured furs, the momentarily wealthy trappers considered themselves lucky if they could return to the mountains with enough basic supplies to see them through another year, all else expended in a week of riotous living. Numerous fortunes were made by sharp practices and the provision of the "shining times" to the trappers. Their day was actually quite brief; beaver streams became trapped out, beaver hats as men's wear became passé and settlers began to push back the wilderness.

Directly following the War of 1812, there arose the "Oregon Question" between Britain and the U.S., the latter's position being that the 49th Parallel be extended all the way from Lake of the Woods to the Pacific Ocean as the boundary between the possessions of the two

PLATE A.

Illus. 1

Fort Vancouver of the Hudson's Bay Company. Est. 1815. Sketch from 1854.



Illus. 2

John Jacob Astor's "Astoria", Founded 1811 Became Northwest Co.'s, "Fort George", 1813

Illus. 3

Genuine Northwest Company Tokens (Br-925)

countries. To this Britain would not accede and a compromise was reached in 1818 by which there was to be joint occupation of the Oregon Country for the next ten years, the compromise renewed in 1827 for an indefinite period but with either party able to withdraw on a year's notice.

The days of Britain's power in the area were numbered as of the late 1830s when American missions began to be established. In returning to the U.S. for fund-raising and recruitment drives, these missionaries extolled the virtues of the Oregon farmland, especially that in the Willamette area. Consequently, there began an American immigration into the region, slowly at first, but with 1400 following the "Oregon Trail" in 1844 and a further 3000 in the next year. The "servants" of the Hudson's Bay Company were now badly outnumbered, to the extent that the American settlers even set up their own "provisional government" in 1843.

But the Hudson's Bay Company had actively - and successfully - discouraged American settlement north of the Columbia River, that area now known as the state of Washington. There was not a single viable American settlement in this region even though the HBC had extensive farms of its own at Nisqually House on the Puget Sound and on Cowlitz Prairie, large enough to supply Company needs and export meat and dairy products to Sitka and beyond. It's quite evident that the Company had staked what it considered a strong claim to this northern section of the Oregon Country.

But the U.S. now held the entire Oregon Country to be hers by right and the federal election of 1844 was won by the Democratic Nationals with their slogan "Fifty-four Forty or Fight" - in other words, the annexation of *all* the west coast between the Spanish possessions in the south and the Russian in the north just above the Queen Charlotte Islands. A treaty was worked out in 1846 between Britain and the U.S., surprising the Company by Britain's agreeing in "compromise" to the original U.S. territorial terms of 1816, one that followed the 49th parallel all the way to the Pacific, the boundary as it is today. Consequently, the Hudson's Bay Company had to pull out of Fort Vancouver and relocate at Victoria on the southern tip of Vancouver Island. But the Company didn't come away too badly, being compensated for their "improvements" to the amount of $650,000 by the U.S. government - an amount considerably more than they were willing to sell *everything* to the Northwest Company some four decades previously.

The "Real" Br-925.

For American and Canadian collectors during the mid-19th century, the Northwest Company token was both elusive and extremely rare. This could be expected, seeing that before the establishment of the transcontinental railways, the West Coast was literally half a world away from the East and its developing numismatic interest.

The token seems to have been first described by Rev. H. Christmas in his "Copper Coinage of the British Colonies in America" (1862) followed by Alfred Sandham (1869) where he describes it under "Canada No. 13" with the accompanying remark: *"This coin is exceedingly rare, no specimen known to be in Canada"*. Obviously, he had never seen one.

Apparently it was offered at public sale for the first time by Edward Cogan in his auction of 1876 where "Lot 685" was a brass *"Pierced but otherwise in fine condition"* Northwest Company token, accompanied by the comment: *"It is believed this piece is unique. No other specimen has been seen in Canada to the knowledge of the late owner"*. It brought $39, a large amount for the time.

But the odd additional piece was starting to show up. R.W. McLachlan ("Our Rarest Canadian Coins", *Canadian Antiquarian*, July, 1882) knew of two: one each held by Thomas Wilson and Gerald Hart. By 1894, Breton could note in his catalogue the token's rarity at "5 or 6 pieces".

Over the years, the search spurred by rarity and high prices, a lot more turned up. Most major sales of Canadian tokens for the past several decades have managed to contain one or more. The C.N.A. auction of 1965 offered no less than four: two brass and two copper; that of 1969 had two more and the Lepczyk Auction (Number 43) of 1981 yet two more, one in each metal. In his "Colonial Coins of Canada" (*C.N.J.*, 1979-83), Robert Willey noted: *"Some 5000 of these pieces were struck in copper and brass, brass specimens being less rare"*. Unfortunately, he gave no reference for this assertion.

The fact is the Br-925 *per se* is not much more than "Scarce". The writer has it on reliable authority that a hoard of no less than 43 pieces showed up in the 1950s - even though all showed differing degrees of corrosion from having been excavated and most reduced to the state of being not much more than a "Filler". *Decent* Br-925s are something else again - they are distinctly rare. Also, practically all (the Haxby-Willey catalogue says *"All but one.."*) have been holed for stringing.

So far as the date of issue is concerned, that would seem to be exactly as represented. George IV ascended the British throne only in 1820 and in the very next year, the Northwest Company disappeared into the folds of the Hudson's Bay Company. Although perhaps originally *intended* to serve as coin (or possibly computation counters at the trading posts), the fact that nearly all are holed tends to show few actually served this purpose, becoming more in the way of "medalet", "presentation piece" or "Indian gift".

In his "Colonial Coins of Canada", Willey wrote of the Br-925: *"Their fabric suggests that they may have been struck by the firm that struck the thistle tokens of Nova Scotia"*. This is *possible*. The pieces have a definite "Birmingham look" of design and lettering and we might reasonably assume that a company headquartered in Montreal in 1820 *would* have such work done in England - and, yes, *probably* Birmingham. However, there is no scrap of written evidence in support of this contention to the writer's knowledge.

Shown are two illustrations (*Plate A, Ills. 3 and 4*) of genuine Br-925 pieces, that in horizontal format possibly the finest known and the one presented vertically from the C.N.A. auction of 1965 where it was offered as "Lot #147"; despite obverse gouges and being pierced, it is superior to most of the genuine "population".

The Northwest Company Token Copies.

Once the first examples had come to collectors' attention, more tended to turn up as the search for these rare and high-priced pieces intensified. With insufficient numbers to meet demand, reproductions started to be made - but, so far as we know, all of these were electrotypes, a perfectly legitimate method used by many museums (among others). While an electrotype produced by the deposition of copper results in the most faithful of copies, it can be made only as "half-shells". For display purposes, these halves were frequently mounted side-by-side. For those who chose to have a copy with the same relative characteristics as the original, the halves were joined by soldering or similar means; however, the join is almost invariably evident on the edge and next to impossible to conceal when closely examined. Therefore, electrotype copies should fool no one. Some were made of the Northwest Company token - as they were for practically all other rarities in the token series.

Less legitimate are struck copies manufactured solely for the purpose of monetary gain. Oddly, for such a rare piece, the Br-925 seems not to have had this "compliment" paid until recent times. Robert McLachlan's "Address to the A.N.A." in 1912 - which was an overview of counterfeits, fakes and concoctions in the Canadian token series - failed to mention any such copy, a good indication that there weren't any as yet.

It was with this in mind that the following offering proved so mysterious to the writer, appearing in Auction #55 conducted by Joseph Lepczyk (November 25-26, 1983) as "Lot #665". The lot was described as follows: (See *Plate B, Illus. 1*)

> *"North West Company. Token, 1820. Struck copy of Br-925. Thick planchet. Dark AU ($200+).*

The writer was at a loss to explain the token copy shown, having never heard of another and unable to locate any reference in his library and notes. It was at this point that he enlisted the aid of the C.N.R.S. network of Fellows.

Cornering a Fake.

As things turned out, the first Fellow contacted - in the person of Les Hill - also turned out to be the one entirely adequate to the task. In his very first letter, Les wrote:

> *"When I mentioned years ago that one should be aware of Northwest Company token frauds, I surely had in mind the P.N.N.A. medals of 1950 which had a replica of that token as the center piece which could have been tooled down to actual size and passed to an unwitting collector as a genuine article".*

In addition to the above, Les advised that although he had owned such medals in the past, they had since been sold but he would do his best to secure a photo or good illustration for me.

Subsequently, this was accomplished by way of a download from the internet site of the Pacific Northwest Numismatic Association[2] collection of convention memorabilia, operated by Eric Holcomb - site located by Les Copan.

As may be seen from the accompanying illustrations (*Plate B, Ills. 2 and 3*), the "copy" offered by Lepczyk in 1983 and the medal centers *are* definitely the same, even to the reverse "tag" of the second T in NORTHWEST sitting on the beaver's nose - which it does not on the original. Therefore, Les was exactly right: the "copy" *is* the center of one of these medals cut down to token size. Small wonder it was noted as being "thick"; it could hardly have been otherwise.

The P.N.N.A. Convention Medal of 1950.

In addition to solving the mystery, Les provided background to this particular medal that might be of interest, especially since he had something to do with its genesis. Here I quote from one of Les' letters:

---

[2] Full URL for this site is: http://www.pnna.org/collection/convention2.html

PLATE B.

Illus. 1

Lot 665, Lepczyk Auction.
Offered as N.W.Co. Token "Struck copy".

Illus 2 and 3

Obverse and Reverse of 1950 Convention Medal,
Pacific Northwest Numismatic Association.

"Late in 1949, Stephen H. Bibler, who was the Medal Chairman for the upcoming 1950 PNNA Convention being held in Centralia, WA., asked me about medal manufacturers in Vancouver so he could compare costs. I took him to Pressed Metal Products where he made a deal to have the dies engraved and medals struck. He left an example of the 1820 token for the engraver to copy; however, when the engraver examined the token he said it had two holes which had been plugged so he could not make a good copy. Neither Steve nor I had noticed this holing and plugging so it was very well done. The engraver, Frank Sarson, agreed to do what he could with the token as we were in no position to find another one which was not well worn.

"When Steve picked up the medals, he requested one stamped 2 or 3 times as a special favour to a Wash collector who specialized in double struck coins. He then asked me if there was anything I would like. As a result, I had two made in silver, two in aluminum and one with an opposite reverse to the way they appeared on the medals. (Do not ask me now how the medals were struck, whether with a straight or upset reverse, however I would suspect they were made with a straight reverse as I believe my oddity had an upset reverse.)"

The P.N.N.A. Collection site reveals that the medals were struck with a diameter of 40.5mm and that most of the issue (numbers unknown)[3] were struck in brass and brass with a bronzed center since the original tokens exist in both brass and copper. According to the site, reports indicate that three each were also struck in aluminum, silver and gold-plated. However, with Les' information, it would seem that in addition to the "ordinary" brass and brass-with-bronzed-center medals, there exist *five* aluminum, *five* silver, three gold-plated, one multiply-struck and one with an inverted reverse.

The "ordinary" medals formed part of the convention package of those registered for the Seventh Annual Convention of the Pacific Northwest Numismatic Association, held May 20-21, 1950, at Centralia, Washington. After registration closed, the other "ordinary" medals were sold for $1 each.

Wrap-up.

For American token collectors, one of the more notable publications is "Talkin' Tokens", the monthly journal of the National Token Collectors Association. One area of which they keep close track are offerings of significant items on eBay auctions, complete with illustrations of their downloads and, frequently, the selling price.

In the past several months, NATCA reports the offering and sale of a couple of Northwest Company tokens: one in their January edition shows a holed specimen which appeared to be a "problem-free piece in the scan" ($787.77) and another in the February number which was "An unholed brass specimen" which also seems to be in top condition ($601.00). Even so, the editor of "Talkin' Tokens" notes of the last: *"If authentic, a great bargain. The scans look fine but a piece of this nature needs to be carefully examined to determine its legitimacy. A number of Northwest Company pieces have been appearing over the past few months, including a holed specimen mentioned in last month's column. Aluminum uniface examples have also sold on eBay. The aluminum pieces can be readily dismissed as bogus, but they have the same disturbing appearance in the scans of being well struck. All this points to a need for caution on*

[3] In proof-reading a draft copy of this article, Les advised me that the number struck were probably not more than 100 since Steve Bibler was charged $100, later reduced to $80 when it was discovered that "Oregon" was misspelled.

the part of the bidders to protect themselves as best they can until these pieces can be studied and a verdict rendered.".

Caveat emptor.

* * * * * * * * * * * * * * * *

Canadian in bear attack wins royal society award

Canadian Press

LONDON — A Canadian has received the Royal Humane Society's greatest honour for bravery after saving a young Nova Scotia woman from a bear attack two years ago in the Yukon.

David Calnan has already been awarded the Carnegie Medal in the United States for his bravery and the Canadian Medal of Bravery from the Governor General.

But he is only the eighth Canadian to receive the society's Stanhope Gold Medal and will be the last, because the Royal Canadian Humane Association, which recommended Calnan, is disbanding.

Calnan said he was just helping someone in distress when he came to the aid of Carrie-Lynn Fair.

"Every time that I'm recognized it makes me think like, when I first did it, when it first happened, it was basically something that you would do," he said.

Calnan, 47, who operates a landscape company in Fort St. John, B.C., was working at a campground near Dawson City on July 9, 1999, when he saw a woman on crutches limping toward him. Kristen Teunissen, then 23, was screaming for someone to help her friend.

He grabbed a pickaxe and followed her to a campsite where he found Fair, a 19-year-old from Halifax, lying in a pool of blood.

The bear was standing over her and was ripping chunks of flesh.

Calnan threw blocks of firewood at the bear to distract it. The animal reared up on its hind legs and twice charged at him, but kept returning to the woman.

Calnan resisted using the pickaxe, fearing he would kill Fair if he missed the bear.

But when the bear locked its gigantic jaws around Fair's head and began dragging her into the woods, Calnan grabbed a metre-long log and beat the bear with it. The bear dropped Fair.

The bear continued circling the campsite as officials arrived and treated Fair's wounds.

Calnan and Fair still keep in touch by telephone. "She usually brings it up and it always comes down to thank-yous," he said.

from: The London Free Press, 11 May, 2001

W. Cowan, Revelstoke, B.C.

BC R0960c (Breton 938)

by Ronald Greene

Brass: Round: 24½ mm

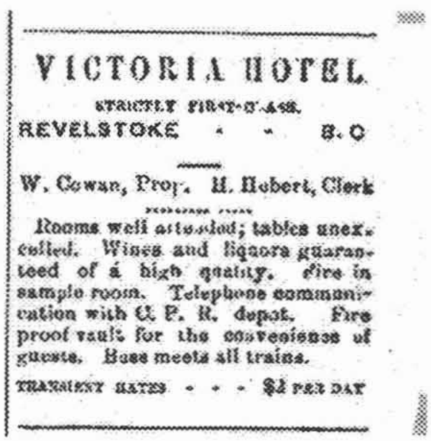
When P.N. Breton wrote his *Illustrated History of Coins and Tokens relating to Canada*, which appeared in 1894, he listed the Government of British Columbia $10 and $20 patterns and four merchant tokens – three trade and one advertising. I don't believe that it is any coincidence that the three trade tokens were from Revelstoke. Sitting on the main line of the Canadian Pacific Railway (CPR) the town would have been about the first town in British Columbia to be visited by travelling salesmen from the east after the railway was completed in 1885 and passenger service started the following June. Furthermore these pioneer token were issued by hotels: two of the tokens carry the name of the Central Hotel, and the third reads W. Cowan who ran the Victoria Hotel. Mr. Breton did not provide much information about the Cowan piece, an illustration and the following text, "Issue 200. still in use. R.1"

The name of Revelstoke was bestowed by the CPR on its station, named after Edward Baring, first Lord Revelstoke, a prominent London banker who had been one of the financiers backing the railway, but the establishment of the town was a little more complicated. A government surveyor, Arthur Stanhope Farwell had surveyed the Eagle Pass and had worked for the CPR. When he heard that the CPR would follow the Rogers Pass route he proceeded to Second Crossing and pre-empted 175 acres where he thought the railway would cross the Columbia. On October 20, 1883 he applied for a provincial grant of an extra 1,000 acres. Just over a year later, on January 13, 1885 the provincial government issued him a crown grant for the requested 1175 acres. This grant, however, contravened the terms of the agreement to build the railway, under which the CPR was entitled to a belt of land twenty miles (32 kilometers) either side of the right of way. The Government of British Columbia refused to rescind the grant. Meanwhile the federal government had given grants to others, believing that the site was within the railway belt. It was not until 1894 when the case was decided in the Supreme Court of Canada that people could obtain title to their property, etc. Earlier Farwell had wanted a high price for his townsite, which the CPR refused to pay. They had no choice when it came to buying the right of way -- but that was all they bought from him. Farwell had hoped that the CPR would build its shops, etc., on his land, but they refused to have further dealings with him.[1] Of course, Farwell's townsite was named Farwell. The CPR arranged for a townsite on some higher ground a little to the east of Farwell's where they laid out the railway yards, station, hotel, streets and lots. They then asked the federal government to change the name from Farwell to Revelstoke which was done in June 1886. For many years the Farwell townsite was known as *Lower Town* and the Station townsite was known as *Upper Town*. Revelstoke was first listed in the British Columbia Directory for 1887 and Mr. Cowan's name was one of only four to appear on that occasion.

William Cowan was born in 1855 in County Huron, Ontario, the second of nine children. He came to Revelstoke in 1885[2] and in June of that year built the Victoria Hotel, sometimes referred to as the Hotel Victoria, which was the first of his many ventures in Revelstoke. The hotel was situated at the corner of Front Street and Wright Avenue which was located in Lower Town. It survived until April 1924 when it was destroyed by fire.[3]

At right: A 1914 photograph of William Cowan. RMA 1599

Below. An ad from 1890



VICTORIA HOTEL.

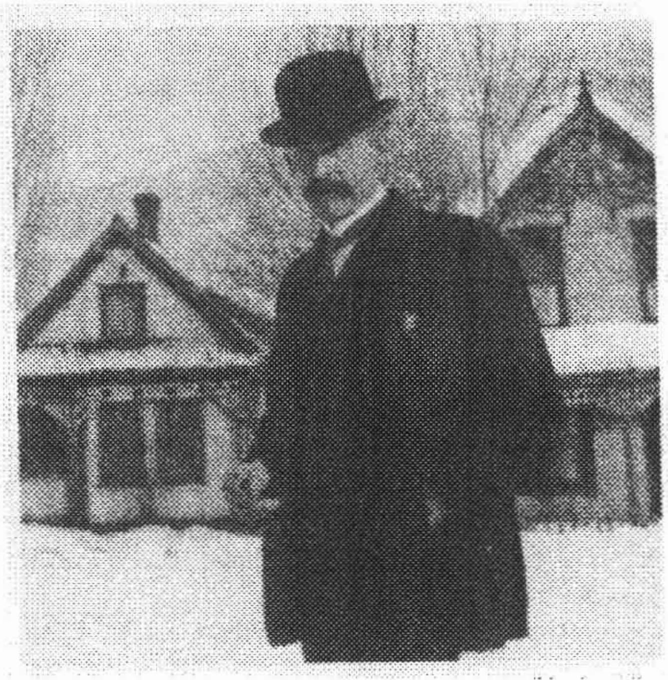
STRICTLY FIRST-CLASS.

REVELSTOKE - - B. C

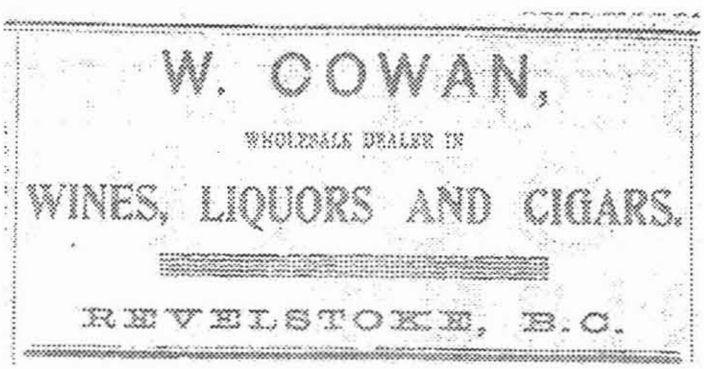
W. Cowan, Prop. H. Hebert, Clerk

Rooms well attended; tables unexcelled. Wines and liquors guaranteed of a high quality. Fire in sample room. Telephone communication with C. P. R. depot. Fire proof vault for the convenience of guests. Buss meets all trains.

TRANSIENT RATES - - - $2 PER DAY



Mr. Cowan seems to have been a man of great energy and became Revelstoke's premier entrepreneur. In 1888, in partnership with J. Fred Hume and Robert Sanderson he formed the Columbia Transportation Company. The company launched the steamer *Dispatch* in 1888 and the *Lytton* in 1890. Later three more men, all prominent, became partners, John Mara, Frank Barnard, and John Irving and the company was incorporated as the Columbia and Kootenay Steam Navigation Company on Dec. 21, 1889. Mr. Cowan sold out of this enterprise fairly early on.[4] The company was sold to the CPR in 1897 and formed the basis of their inland steamer service. In November 1890 Cowan opened the first public telephone system in Revelstoke, and which later, in 1897, was incorporated as the Revelstoke, Trout Lake and Big Bend Telephone Company, Limited by Act of the Provincial Legislature.[5] His partners at the time of the incorporation were Charles Holten and Thomas Downs with whom he had other dealings. At the same time as the telephone company incorporation, with partners John Abrahamson,[6] Williams M. Brown and Thomas Downs, Cowan obtained an incorporation of the Revelstoke Water, Light and Power Company, Limited to supply electrical light and power to the Town of Revelstoke and within a ten mile radius.[7] Revelstoke enjoyed its first electric light in February 1898. Cowan also started the first horse-drawn street car service between Upper and Lower towns.



Opposite: The Victoria Hotel, Revelstoke, c. 1904 BC Archives HP25162

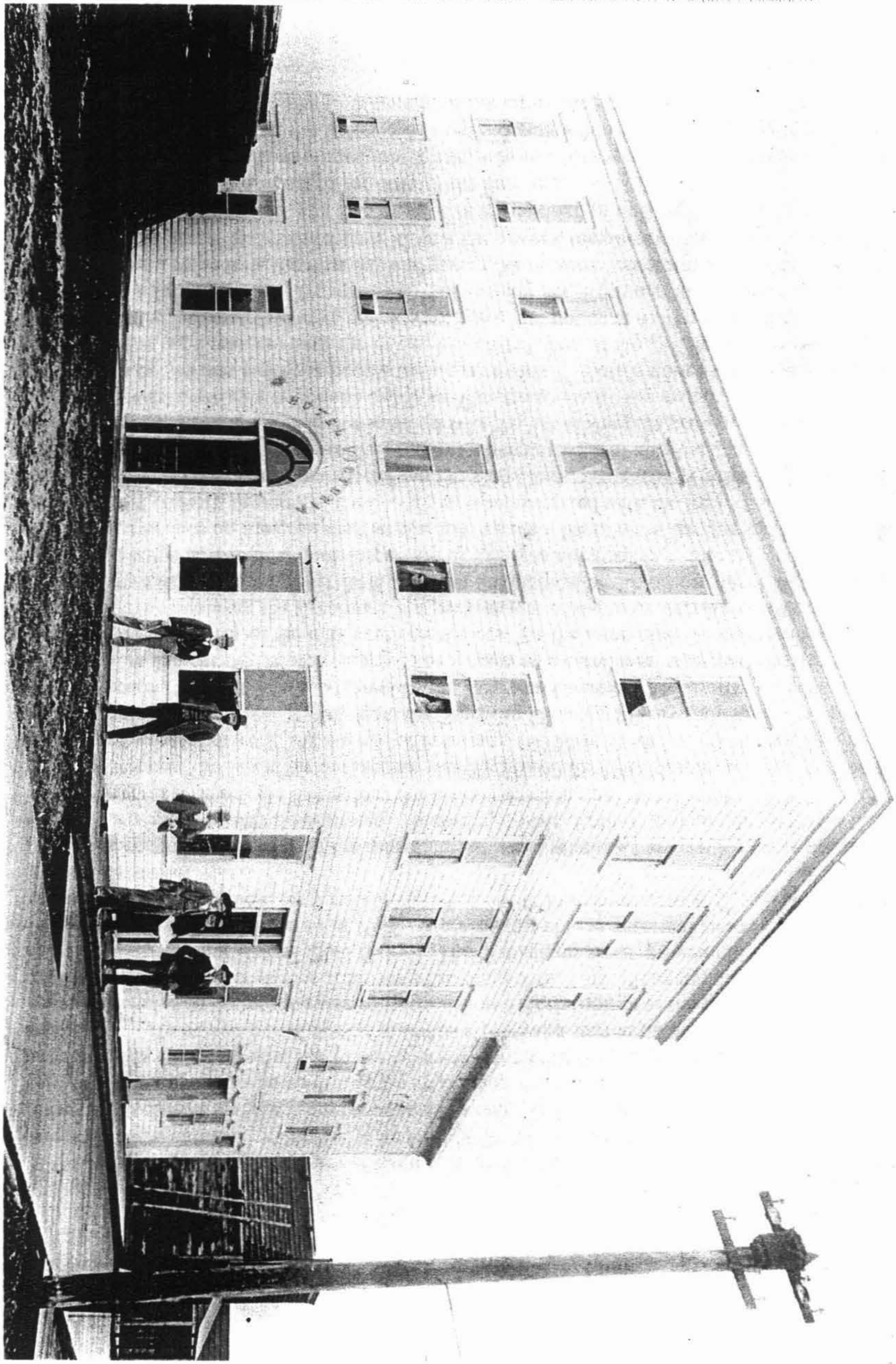
At left, Liquor ad from August 4, 1894

Mr Cowan doesn't seem to have relished the thought of being a hotel proprietor for long as he leased out the hotel as early as April 1894 when Capt. C. Edwards took over the management of the hotel.[8] At this time Cowan opened the first licensed bonded liquor warehouse, an enterprise in which he was joined, in 1896, by Messrs Holten and Downs.[9] The three men also were involved in the formation of the Enterprise Brewery which opened in 1897, although Mr. Cowan seems to have been less involved in that project and more of an investor. Capt. Edwards died suddenly in mid 1897[10]. Cowan subsequently leased the hotel to Charles Holten in January 1898, and the liquor licence was transferred to Holten shortly afterwards.[11] Charles Holten engaged his brother-in-law, J. Edwards, to manage the hotel. R. Laughton, the last owner of the hotel, started advertising the hotel as "under new management" in January 1906.[12] By then, Cowan seems to have settled into running his telephone company which he ran until his death.

William Cowan married Bertha Beatrice King of Revelstoke in 1903. They had one son, Patrick. Unfortunately Mrs Cowan died from appendicitis in 1906. For all his public spirit, Cowan disliked politics and only served as an alderman for 1910 and 1911. In 1926 he went to the Mayo Clinic in Rochester, Minnesota for treatment, but died there in April 1926.

---

1 Ruby M. Nobbs, *Revelstoke History & Heritage*, 1998, pp. 24-25, p. 112 This local history is one of the best local histories I have encountered, and certainly the most useful as it mentions several token issuers.
2 Edward Mallandaine, publisher, *The British Columbia Directory ... 1887*, Victoria, B.C. p. xiii
3 *Revelstoke Review*, April 2, 1924, p. 1, the article about the fire said the hotel had opened Aug. 5, 1885
4 *Revelstoke Review*, April 14, 1926, p. 1
5 British Columbia, Chapter 69, 1897
6 John Abrahamson was one of the owners of the Central Hotel, issuers of Breton 936 and 937.
7 British Columbia, Chapter 70, 1897. The act specified the creeks where the company could take water
8 *Kootenay Mail*, April 14, 1894, p. 3
9 *Kootenay Mail*, December 5, 1896, p. 4 was the first ad for the Cowan-Holten-Downs partnership.
10 *Kootenay Mail*, May 8, 1897, p. 1
11 *Kootenay Mail*, January 15, 1898 and Feb. 12, 1898, p. 4
12 But we haven't found when the hotel was sold to him. There are conflicting reports.


HOTEL VICTORIA

A.T. Roth, of Kelowna, B.C.
And a Tempest in a Milk Bottle

by Ronald Greene

Adolph Theodor Roth first delivered milk in Smithers, for the Woodlawn Dairies from November 1928 until July 1929. Later he worked for Guisachan Farm Dairy located on the outskirts of Kelowna for five years between 1934 and 1939, delivering milk with a Bennett Buggy – a car drawn by a horse during the depression when people couldn't afford to buy gas and which was so named after the Prime Minister. The milk bottles were both hand washed and hand filled.[1] He moved into Kelowna in January 1940 and started on his own. Kelowna Creamery decided to go into the sale of fresh milk and Roth took over the distributorship. At the time there were five other dairies competing for customers; Tutts, Sanitary, Guisachan Farm, Bulman Cloverdale and Ireland Goat Dairy.[2] The first tokens were ordered either in 1944 or 1945 and another lot was ordered in 1948. We were not able to ascertain which tokens came from which order. All these early tokens state K.C. Milk Distributor, the K.C. standing for Kelowna Creamery.

The tempest referred to in the title occurred when relations between Kelowna Creamery and Mr. Roth unfortunately deteriorated. According to Mr. Roth he had no contract with the Creamery and as business got better they cut his commission rate. In an advertisement published during the tempest[3] he stated his net income was $2,140.00 for 1948 despite owning six trucks and having a crew of drivers. At the end of February, 1950 Mr. Roth had given the Creamery a month's notice. He arranged supply from the Shuswap Okanagan Dairy Industries Co-operative Assn of Vernon (S.O.D.I.C.A.). Meanwhile the Kelowna Creamery bought trucks, tried to hire Roth's drivers and cut off the milk supply. The Creamery's complaint[4] was that Mr. Roth wouldn't give them a list of the milk route customers. At the same time the medical health officer, possibly favouring the Creamery, but perhaps just trying to protect Kelowna consumers refused to give Roth a licence. Mr Roth said that the medical health officer, Dr. Helen Zeman, either found some new fault at each inspection or just was not available. She refused to recommend a licence on the grounds that she didn't have a list of all of the dairies that would be supplying milk to Roth through SODICA. Even when supplied with the list of the 64 dairies from SODICA, accompanied by a letter from Dr. Carl Clark, provincial veterinarian at Penticton who conducted the inspections over the previous eleven months of all 64 shippers listed, she was quoted as saying that she was still not satisfied with the list of shippers presented by Mr. Roth and that she was awaiting a telephone call from Victoria to clarify the matter, and 'My primary concern is to be see that Kelowna people obtain pure milk.'[5] Roth's notice would have seen him deliver milk for the Creamery until the Friday March 31st, but on the 29th the Creamery, now equipped with vehicles of their own and drivers, gave him notice at 4:30 pm that they would not supply him the following day. Exasperated, that evening Mr. Roth distributed flyers explaining that there would be no milk the next day and giving the reasons.[6] A storm quickly developed. Immediately the mayor and council gave Roth a three-week temporary licence, which was all that they had the power to do, and SODICA[7] sent a truckload of milk to Kelowna in time for delivery. That day Roth accounted for 60% of the business.

On April 1, 1950, Roth started for SODICA from a location on Harvey Street, Kelowna. In 1951 SODICA bought out the Lakeview Dairy and built a building on Richter Street which was occupied by January 21, 1952. When the writer interviewed Mr. Roth[8] the firm was still using this building. When the SODICA operation began on Richter Street, Henry Amundrud, formerly of the Lakeview Dairy, managed the plant and A.T. Roth was in charge of the distribution.[9]

Following the separation of Mr. Roth and the Kelowna Creamery two things happened. Firstly, the Kelowna Creamery kept many of Roth's tokens so that he was short of tokens and thus two more tokens were ordered, K4611j and k,[10] which simply state A.T. Roth, Distributor. Secondly, the older tokens in Mr. Roth's possession were mutilated to remove the unwanted initials K.C.

A plastic token was introduced on July 1, 1960 because it was not known how many aluminum tokens were out, this token being K4612a.[11] By this time Mr. Roth was operating as Roth Dairy Products. The business was incorporated on April 25, 1963 and the newly incorporated Roth Dairy Products Ltd. purchased all the assets, liabilities and trade of the unregistered company. The assets purchased, including good will, came to \$52,372.14, and the liabilities, including "tokens outstanding \$1965.50", totalling \$30,365.58.[12] The operation had seven panel trucks, three vans, and several other vehicles. In September 1964, at the time of the interview, the company had nine door-to-door trucks and three wholesale trucks on the road, operating from Oyama (between Vernon and Kelowna to the north) and Westbank to the southwest.

Mr. Roth passed away from cancer in June 1969[13], by which time Wayne Theodor Roth was managing the dairy. In 1963 there was an assignment of book accounts to Shuswap Okanagan Dairy Industries Co-Operative Association. In November 1980 a debenture was registered in favour of the Canadian Imperial Bank of Commerce and Silverwood Industries Ltd. When the alliance changed from SODICA to Silverwood was not revealed on the file.

Roth Dairy Products Ltd. filed an assignment for bankruptcy on June 10, 1981. Perhaps strangely there was no mention in the *Kelowna Courier* newspaper which was surveyed several days either side of the date. The Clarkson Company of Vancouver was named as Receiver Manager and filed a final report January 31, 1983.

Additional plastic tokens were introduced between 1960 and its demise in June 1981. Of these several carry the name including the "Ltd." so these obviously were issued after incorporation in 1963, but there are several without the "Ltd" which would appear to have been introduced between 1960 and 1963. The rubbings which follow are courtesy of Leslie C. Hill.

---

1 Wamboldt, Beryl, *The History of S.O.D.I.C.A.*, Enderby, 1965, pp 167-168 and
Whitehead, W.J. Reminiscences, The Kelowna Milk Delivery. *Okanagan History, Report 54*, 1990, This is a interesting story of the conditions under which milk deliverymen worked c. 1939, well worth reading.

2 Wamboldt, p. 167

3 *Kelowna Courier*, March 30, 1950, p. 3

4 *Kelowna Courier*, April 3, 1950, p. 5

5 *Kelowna Courier*, March 30, 1950, p. 1

6 A notice was also published in the *Kelowna Courier*, March 30, 1950, p. 4

7 NOCA changed its name to SODICA in 1947. Their brand name remained as NOCA, which derived from an earlier name, North Okanagan Creamery Association. The Co-op was popularly called NOCA throughout its life.

8 Interview with Mr. Roth at his house in late September 1964.

9 Wamboldt, p. 71

10 These were formerly catalogued as K4620j and k, in LCHill's 1980 catalogue.

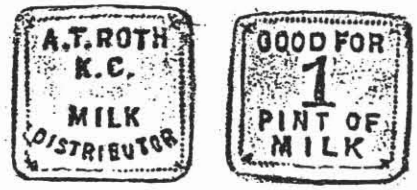
11 This was formerly catalogued as K4630a.

12 Registrar of Companies file BC 5451, in custody of the B.C. Archives, box 86-30-803

13 Death registered 1969-9-008961, film B13297, obituary in the *Kelowna Courier*, June 18, 1969, p. 34

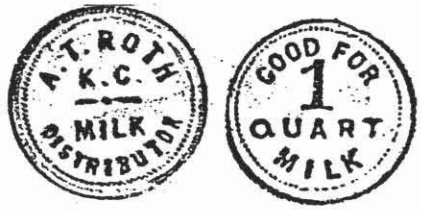
Illustrations of the tokens

K4610a K4610b



K4610c

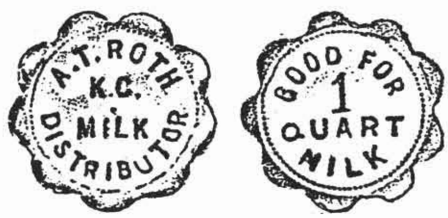
K4610d



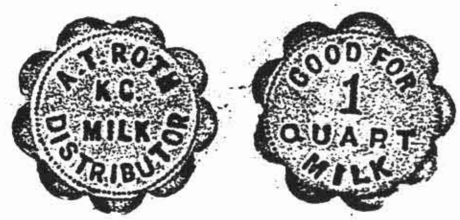
K4610e

K4610f

K4610g

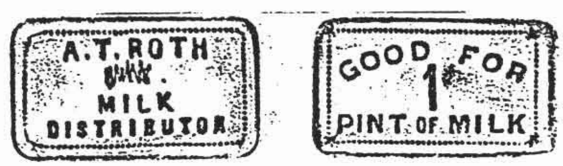


K4610h



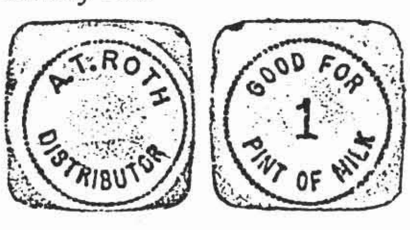
K4610i

The tokens numbered from "a" to "i" had the "K.C." scratched out. These tokens have been renumbered K4611a to K4611i, so that "a" corresponds to "a", "b" to "b", etc. Only the first is shown.

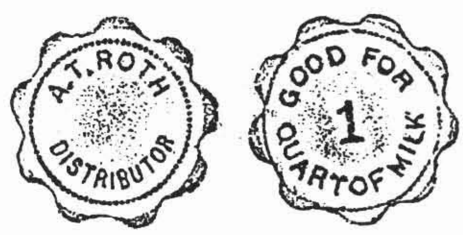


K4611a

The following two were introduced in 1950 following the split from the Kelowna Creamery Ltd.



K4611j



K4611k

Plastic tokens introduced from July 1, 1960 to April 1963, but used beyond 1963.

K4612a (minor reverse varieties) K4612a2 K4612c

The following tokens were introduced after incorporation in 1963.

K4612d

tokens K4612f to "i" have a common obverse

K4612f K4612g K4612h K4612i

B. Honig and the Old English Bakery, A Chimera

Ronald Greene

In the early days of the Vancouver Numismatic Society Research Committee a decision was made to list the tokens of British Columbia. Since a number of the members collected by category: bakery, dairy, trade, etc., it was decided to list the various tokens by these categories. Larry Gingras produced the first list, which happened to be the Bakery Tokens, dated November 1, 1963. One item which appeared on this list under Vancouver was:

"Old English Bakery, B. Honig
Good For 1 Bread (Fisher/ Reid sale, 1940, part of lot #889)"

Larry had not seen the piece, but was aware of the listing in the first of two Fisher sales of Robie L. Reid's collection. Robie Reid was a New Westminster lawyer, early ANA member, active historian, and the author of the definitive work on the British Columbia pattern $10 and $20 of 1862.[1] For some reason, unknown to this writer, he consigned his collection to Charles H. Fisher, of Cleveland, Ohio. In looking at the catalogues of the sales we find that Fisher did a very poor job of describing the tokens, and mixed them up in a rather haphazard manner. The lot that Larry referred to reads:

"889. Haiti, Cayenne (3) China, 5c Trade, Van Couver 10c, 12 ½c, Balmoral Hotel, Delmonica Hotel, I. & B. 5c, Old English Bakery 1 Bread. B. Honig. Fine. 12 Pieces."

We think it would be impossible to identify several pieces from the information provided, e.g. "China" doesn't tell us very much. But, let's look at the following points:

1. In the nearly 40 years since Larry listed the piece, no Old English Bakery token has surfaced.
2. We have not discovered an Old English Bakery in the city directories, although there was an Old England Bakery. No one named Honig was related to the Old England Bakery which was operated by J. Dodson for its dozen years or so.
3. The punctuation is strange. Why would one follow Bread with a period? Was a comma, intended to separate two tokens, meant?
4. If we try to count the pieces in the lot we can come to a count of twelve as follows:
   1. Haiti
   2. to 4., Cayenne
   5. China
   6. 5c Trade [I can't begin to guess on this one]
   7. 10c Vancouver [Your guess is as good as mine]
   8. 12 ½ c Balmoral [A Vancouver token]

9. Delmonica [Possibly the Delmonico, a Victoria token]
10. I&B [A Nelson, B.C. token]
11. Old England Bakery [Because we don't think it was Old English Bakery]
12. B. Honig

5. If we track B. Honig through the various city directories,[2] he is not listed in 1901, He is first listed in Vancouver in 1902, operating a confectionery, location not stated, and living at 623 Gore Avenue. In 1903 his confectionery is at 131 Hastings St., E., Vancouver. In 1905 we note the same occupation but he is located next door at 133 Hastings E. In the 1906 listing Mr. Joseph B. Honig is running a stationery store at 133 Hastings St. E. and the following year he is shown as Bernard Honig. He also has a clerk by the name of Peter Honig who lives at the same address. We have not been able to determine whether Peter was a son or a brother. In 1911 a second store was listed at 45 Hastings St. E. By 1912[3] Bernard Honig is the president of Honig Stores Ltd., and the same in 1913. Honig Stores Ltd. was incorporated in January 1913, in order to take over the business of B. Honig, then trading as Honig Stores, a departmental store. Honig Stores Ltd. made an assignment of bankruptcy in November 1913.[4] The appearance of Honig Stores Ltd., in the directory seven months before incorporation is a discrepancy that may or may not be explained easily. In the 1915 there is no B. Honig in Vancouver. There is no recorded death in British Columbia for either a Bernard or Peter Honig so we must assume that he left the province following the bankruptcy. Vancouver City Business Licences[5] list a Mr. Honig as buying a tobacco retail licence in 1904, a J. Honig in 1908 and a B. Honig in 1912, all of which probably are the same man.
6. There is a B. Honig token known. It is uniface, brass, 22 mm in diameter. BC U4110a
7. Looking for a moment at Joseph Dodson and the Old England Bakery. He was listed as a baker at 17 Hastings St. E. in 1893. From 1896 the name Old England Bakery was used but Dodson seems to have dropped the name by 1906. He or his son, Joseph Dodson Jr., carried on as Dodson's Bakery, or Dodson & Kolle until 1928 when we terminated our search. The Old England Bakery name crops up again in 1909 on E. Broadway under different management, that of Thomas Graham. Mr. Graham took over the George Robbins bakery in 1908 and started using the name Old England Bakery by 1909. There is no known link between the two Old England bakeries, except that Dodson took over the 250 9th Avenue E. location (then called Broadway) in 1913, and used the name Dodson's Bakery. Tokens bearing the name of the first Old England Bakery and/or J. Dodson are known. One, U5850b, is illustrated.

Conclusion: We believe that Fisher made two mistakes in lot 889. Firstly he recorded the Old England Bakery as the Old English Bakery and secondly he put a period after Bread instead of a comma, which might imply that the Honig and Old English Bakery pieces were one and the same. Larry Gingras misread the listing and took these two tokens to be one and the same and thus a Chimera was born.

By the way, the Oxford English Dictionary defines the ordinary modern use of Chimera as, "a mere wild fancy: an unfounded conception."

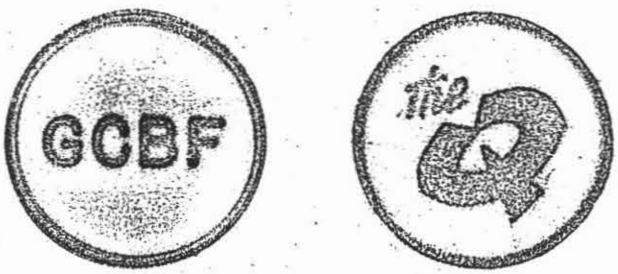
---

[1] Robie L. Reid, *The Assay Office and the Proposed Mint at New Westminster*, Archives of British Columbia Memoir VII, Victoria 1926.
[2] *Henderson's Vancouver City Directory for 1906, 1907, 1908, 1909, 1910, 1912, 1913* and *1915*, and *Henderson's British Columbia Gazetteer and Directory for 1901, 1902, 1903, 1904, 1905* and *1910.*
[3] *Henderson's Vancouver City Directory for 1912*, published in June 1912.
[4] Registrar of Companies, BC #1753 (1910). Microfilm B5132
[5] City of Vancouver Archives, Business Licences, Series 383, 126-A-2 (1903-1909), 126-C-1 (1910-1912)

The Great Canadian Beer Festival
of Victoria, B.C.

by Ronald Greene

Beer Lovers Unite, Stand up for Real Beer!



Green Plastic (embossed):Round:34-1/2 mm BC V4900a

The following article is taken from the CAMRA Victoria website and some additional information provided by one its founders, John Rowling. In 1971 upset beer lovers in England formed the **CAM**paign for **R**eal **A**le (CAMRA) to fight the replacement of local or regional beers with mass produced factory beers. One of their aims was to promote and preserve full flavoured and distinctive beers.

CAMRA BC was incorporated in 1990 and is dedicated to the promotion and responsible consumption of natural, crafted beers. The Victoria group was organized as a branch and now has close to 200 members. Monthly meetings feature guest speakers, beer tastings, or homebrewing seminars.

In 1992 CAMRA Victoria made the decision to promote "real beers" in an annual beer festival. Since October 1993 successful festivals have been held at the Victoria Conference Centre annually. In 1995 the **Great Canadian Beer Festival Society** was formed to organize and manage the annual Victoria beer festival.

Essentially the festival is an opportunity to sample a number of craft and microbrewery beers. Brewers from British Columbia, other parts of Canada, and occasionally from across the US border are invited to bring their products for sampling. The Society charges an entrance fee and provides a 5 ounce souvenir glass – which are different each year -- with a 4 ounce fill line. The Society also sell tokens at $1.00 each, a price comparable to what one would pay in a pub. Each token allows the holder to purchase a 4 ounce sample of whatever beer strikes their fancy. The Society pays the producers for the beer and the tokens are used to determine the amount of each beer sold and what the producers are paid. The tokens were introduced in 1995 because there was some abuse of the tickets which had been used in the first couple of years.

Some 30,000 tokens were produced by injection moulding, by Scott Plastics of Victoria who have produced other similar tokens for the Princess Marguerite and the Inter-Cultural Association. A local radio station, "the Q", FM 100.3 supported the purchase of the tokens and their logo appears on the reverse of the token.

A.C. Cummins, Ferguson, B.C.

by Ronald Greene

Brass: Round: 21 mm B.C. Database F0860b

The settlement of Ferguson was named after David Ferguson who founded it in 1895. A note in the *Revelstoke Mail* in mid 1896 described the town as follows with the typical boosterism of the day:[1]

"The new town of Ferguson is situated at the forks of the Lardeau River[2] and about 15 miles from Thomson's Landing. It is a most suitable and probable site for a town, being on a large stretch of almost perfectly level ground. It has quite convenient, unlimited water power for smelting and other works which will probably, with the development of the mines, be built there in the near future. It is surrounded by the very best mines in this section and all within reasonable distance, viz: Great Northern Group, one mile, Poole Group, 1-1/2 miles ...Silver Cup 6 miles ...."

The time was during the silver mining boom of the mid 1890's. Ferguson was located in the Lardeau country of the Kootenays, some 5 miles (8 kilometers) up Lardeau Creek from Trout Lake City, at which point the creek empties into Trout Lake. As the newspaper indicated it was surrounded by a number of silver mines in the mountains for which it was the supply point. Ferguson received a post office December 1, 1898 and was first listed in a British Columbia Directory in 1898.[3] The population of Ferguson peaked at about 200 in 1903. In the early 1920's there were still 100 people in Ferguson. Henderson's BC Directory for 1901 gave the population at 150 and the Dominion Census[4] that year listed 130 names, surprisingly perhaps, missing A.C. Cummins. This caused us a little puzzlement, but we discovered that Cummins was the enumerator for Trout Lake City and surmise that since he would have been out of Ferguson on census day the enumerator for Ferguson didn't include him, and he didn't add his own name to Trout Lake City because he was a resident of Ferguson.

Alexander Christie Cummins was born in Liverpool, England in 1870. The family, including a sister and younger brother, moved to Costa Rica where Alec spent most of his childhood. It is believed that his father had a fruit plantation in the jungle and was associated with a railway in the country, somehow involved in management, and possibly even an investor.[5] Unfortunately Alec's mother, Mary Ann Christie Cummins died of fever at age 30. The sister, Mabel, was sent back to England to live with the mother's sister, who was married to an Italian named Cato, while the boys, Alec and Fred stayed with their father. Tragedy struck a second time several years later when the father died. Alec and his brother Fred returned to England where they received a good middle class education, supported by their uncle. Fred went on to become a banker, eventually becoming a bank manager in Winnipeg. Alec was found a job in the merchant marine, but he didn't care much for the work. When he arrived in Vancouver, c. 1894 he jumped ship – by this time his sister and brother[6] were living in Vancouver. He worked for the C.P.R. for a time, then headed inland. In selecting Ferguson he got almost as far from the ocean as it is possible to get in British Columbia.

In July 1901 Alec Cummins married Berthia J. Burrell of Trout Lake City.[7] Bertha – she didn't like the spelling Berthia -- and her widowed mother were living at the Abrahamson's Queen's Hotel there. The mother was listed as a housekeeper and the daughter as a waitress. Presumably they were living and working at the hotel. Bertha's older sister, Mattie, married Noah Abrahamson, the resident manager of the Queen's Hotel in May 1901. The hotel was owned by the Abrahamson Bros. who also owned the Central Hotel in Revelstoke, where they issued tokens.[8] Bertha's father had been a carpenter and he was killed by a falling tree when she was nine years of age. Following that she had to work sewing to help support the family and so received a very limited education. After she and Alec were married and living in Ferguson the local school teacher boarded with them and taught Bertha how to read and write. She became a prolific reader and when she too was widowed at an early age she resisted the urging of neighbours and friends to send her children out to work, insisting they obtain a good education, which they did.

Mr & Mrs Alexander Cummins, with son Fred

Cummins became a merchant and ran a general store at Ferguson at least from 1898 until his death in 1922. For several years from 1898, he also was located at Ten Mile, which was seven miles further up the Lardeau Creek. Ten Mile was not large enough to rate a directory listing after 1898. Cummins was the postmaster in Ferguson for a while in 1898 and from 1905 until his death. Interestingly enough the Duns Credit directories for 1906 and 1908 show B.J. (Mrs A.C.) Cummins as operating a confectionery and fruit business, and fail to mention Alec. Alec and Bertha had two children, Fred born in December 1909 and Elizabeth (Betty) born in July 1911. The credit directories from 1912 mention A.C. Cummins, general store. What little credit information they provide indicate that the Cummins operation was not very large. In Ferguson, Alec was a member of the Ferguson Hockey Team, which laid claim to being the Lardeau Champions in 1910. He also used to read books in the evenings to the miners, many of whom could not read.

The Cummins' store in Ferguson, B.C.

Alec Cummings contracted Typhoid Fever in Ferguson and was taken to the Queen Victoria Hospital in Revelstoke where he died December 10, 1922 at age 54.[9] Two Abrahamsons and W. Cowan were among the pall-bearers. His widow left Ferguson shortly afterwards, moving to New Westminster where she died in 1968.

The Cummins token has a reverse which is common to several Dawson, Y.T. tokens which were issued c. 1903 which might indicate that he issued the token about then or not long after. As it is denominated as 12½ cents it is unlikely to have been issued much later. Five examples are recorded in collectors' hands. Rubbing of the token, courtesy of Leslie C. Hill. The photos are courtesy of Mrs Davis.

---

1 *Revelstoke Mail*, August 1, 1896, p. 1

2 Today known as the Lardeau Creek. The Lardeau River is a different stream.

3 *Henderson's British Columbia Gazetteer and Directory and Mining Companies 1898*. p. 175

4 Dominion of Canada Census of 1901, film T6430, Section G9

5 Interview with the granddaughter of A.C. Cummins, Mrs Joan Davis, March 23, 2001

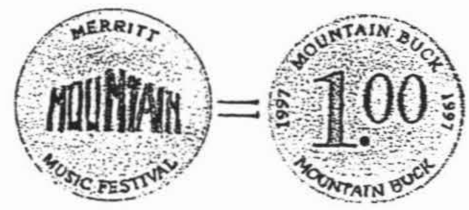
6 Mabel had married Arthur Percy May in 1894 and Fred was working for the Bank of Montreal in 1895.

7 Marriage Certificate 1901-09-176504

8 But that is another story which will be told in due course.

9 *Revelstoke Review*, December 13, 1922, p. 1

Merritt Mountain Music Festival
BC M5208a - d
By Ronald Greene



On 3 June 1999 I visited Active Mountain Entertainment Corp. in New Westminster and spoke with the president, Diana J. Kelly. Their 1999 festival was only about five weeks away and it was very hectic, so after a few minutes and a number of interruptions she suggested that September would be a good time to talk as she would have more time then, and the tokens would be available. In September I twice phoned for an appointment for the following week and neither time did Ms. Kelly return the call. A subsequent letter went unanswered. So having given up any hope of obtaining more information from the company I present what I have.

The firm operated the Hedley Blast for two years, but there were serious space problems at Hedley, so management searched for another place, ultimately deciding that Merritt had all the necessary facilities. Thus the Hedley Blast became the Merritt Mountain Music Festival, the first of which was held in 1993.

From the posters on the walls of their offices, I could see that there were a number of top line acts each year since it had started. The names that I recognized – and I admit that I know nothing about this type of music – were:

	1993	Tanya Tucker
	1994	Wynonna
	1995	Jerry Lee Lewis
July 18-21	1996	Johnny Cash and the Carter Family
July 17-20	1997	Nitty Gritty Dirt Band
July 16-19	1998	Travis Tritt
July 15-18	1999	Kenny Rogers, Ian Tyson

For convenience and security the festival utilizes tokens for purchases on the site, which is an outdoor venue. The tokens could be purchased at "banks" on site for cash, Visa or Mastercard. There are campgrounds around the site, pay showers, food courts, beverage gardens and souvenir stands.

In the beginning there were three denominations of tokens produced; \$1, \$5, and \$20. I have examples of the former two, but have not seen the \$20 which Ms Kelly said was slightly larger. The first \$1.00 tokens were struck in Nickel Silver and the \$5.00 tokens were gold plated. All the first order pieces were dated 1993, the inaugural year. Mention was made that a quantity of the tokens had been stolen so that those on hand were gold plated, thus enabling the staff to spot any of the stolen pieces should someone try to pass them. Unfortunately we don't know the denomination of the stolen pieces so we don't know which denominations might exist in unplated and in plated variations. Pressed Metal Products of Vancouver did not produce the original order, but did the gold plating and struck a \$1.00 dated 1997 token in stainless steel. Ms. Kelly did not wish to disclose quantities, but admitted that there were thousands of each.

Clearbrook Brewing Company, of Abbotsford, B.C. A0240a

By Ronald Greene, assisted by Duff Malkin

We owe thanks to Duff Malkin for discovering this token. On Oct 23rd, 2000 he wrote up what he knew, which he had obtained from various directory and on-line sources. On Nov. 30th I happened to be in Abbotsford with an hour to spare so I found the company at 2043 Abbotsford Way, Abbotsford and managed to talk to Dale Frederick. Some of the information that Mr. Frederick gave me differed from that which Duff had obtained, so I have appended Duff's information in square brackets thusly [ ] which is not to say that Duff's information is any less reliable than what I obtained. Mr. Frederick was busy helping a customer brew a batch of beer so the interview was necessarily quite short.

Prior to January 1995 Clearbrook had been a community within the District of Abbotsford. At that time the Districts of Abbotsford and Matsqui were amalgamated, with the outcome, following a vote, being called the City of Abbotsford. [1] Abbotsford is in the Fraser Valley about an hour drive east of Vancouver and in recent years has become a bedroom community for Vancouver.

Dale Frederick says that he started the company about nine years ago (which would be 1991) in Clearbrook, at 2344 Peardonville Road [January 1993]. It is a U-Brew type of business. He assists the customer to brew either beer or wine. At the present site, on Abbotsford Way, an industrial type building, he has six small brew vats, a cooler, a clean-up area, and a sales area for supplies. The customer that he was assisting to start a new batch says that he makes a very good product, the equal of a commercial brewery. A company brochure says that they have 36 in-house beer recipes and 25 wine styles – as Mr. Frederick said, "anything that can be fermented." The company moved to its current location in the spring of 1999.

The tokens were introduced in 1992 and were given as a bonus, one token for each batch of wine or beer made. With ten tokens the customer could obtain a free batch. When the company moved it was able to track their customers on computer which ended the need for the tokens and their use was discontinued. A bonus point system is now used, with each batch of wine providing either four or five bonus points, coolers three points, and champagne style nine points. The points may be redeemed as follows (partial list):

42 points	=	Regular wine kit
50 points	=	Sparkling wine kit
63 points	=	Premium wine kit
70 points	=	Champagne style
85 points	=	Straight juice kit

The tokens are made of brass, 25 mm in diameter. They have the RWM mintmark of the Roger Williams Mint, of 79 Walton Street in Attleboro, Massachusetts.

[1] Information received from David Blake, Municipal Affairs, Province of British Columbia.

Henri Belanger, Laitier

Unlisted tickets and token

By Jean-Luc Giroux

orange

red

octagonal
40 x 40 mm
blue plastic

blue

all tickets are 62 x 36 mm

blue

In the fall of 2000, more precisely from the October 1st to November 5th, the Historical Society of Charlesbourg, of which I am a member, organized at the ancestral home of Ephraëm Bédard, an exhibition of the dairymen of Charlesbourg. From my visit to this exhibition, and to my great astonishment, I learned that there had been fifty dairymen who had worked in Charlesbourg in the course of the last century, from 1884 to 1977. A dozen of these dairymen were still living, the oldest over 90 years of age was in excellent health and even visited the exhibition. Being a lover of the history of Charlesbourg I had discovered amongst the many interesting things some dairy tickets and tokens of which I was unaware, even more surprising when we consider that this is my home. It was necessary to determine those dairies who delivered raw milk, that is milk that was not pasteurised and not homogenized.

I would love to tell you a little about one of these dairymen, who had worked in Charlesbourg from 1932 to 1969. His name was Henri Bélanger, who was born November 26, 1918, on Dollard street in the parish of St-Malo at Quebec, the youngest of a family of five children.

At the beginning of the 1930's there was the depression, with little work available and many families were on relief. The father, Louis Bélanger was luckier, he worked as a deliveryman for the Zephirin Paquet Co. on St-Joseph street in Quebec. It was one of the larger department stores of Quebec. In this period of great difficulty the great majority of youngsters did not stay in school very long, survival was most important.

Louis Bélanger's children loved to go to the country for their summer vacations, and showed a certain interest in living there year around. From 1930 the question of helping his children establish themselves and alleviate the lack of work caused by the economic crisis led Mr. Bélanger to buy the farm of Béloni Fortier at west Charlesbourg. As Mr. Bélanger's salary was modest, he earned only $18 per week from the Paquet company, he obtained a loan from his brother which allowed him to buy the farm for $8,000. This was quite a lot of money at the time, but it included a house, numerous farm buildings and stock. There were twelve cows and two horses, some chickens and rabbits. The farm of some 52 arpents (approximately 44 acres) was situated to the south of a maple slope. It was the three boys who ran the farm as the father kept his employment with the Paquet company. It was necessary to raise the chickens and rabbits and cultivate the vegetables, and when harvest time came, to sell their products in the St. Pierre market in the St. Sauveur parish at Quebec.

In 1931 Mr. Bélanger bought a used car, a 1930 Ford which had belonged to the grocer, J.A. Moisan, of St. Jean street in Quebec, for the sum of $600. Young Henri, through the intervention of a friend of his father's, managed to get permission to drive this vehicle although he was only 14 years of age.

After he completed his seventh year of school, his studies were ended. It was thus from 1932 that he began the career of a milkman. With his father's vehicle he delivered raw milk in the City of Quebec. With the rudimentary means of the day he carried cans of milk and measured milk out by a one pint ladle or mug. A line indicated a half measure.

From his start in 1932 he sold a pint of milk at 8 cents, and it also in that year that he had printed some 1000 pasteboard tickets, 500 orange which were good for a ½ pint of milk and 500 blue which were good for 1 pint, identified as west Charlesbourg. In the first years he sold about 125 pints of milk per day.

On August 6, 1949 he married and moved, buying a house at 618 rue Napoleon in Quebec. It was on this occasion that he made additional tickets with his new address. He ordered the same quantity as before, but this time the ½ pints were red and the pints blue. These pasteboard tickets deteriorated very quickly, and also because certain less than scrupulous clients split the pasteboard to create two tokens from one, he decided in 1952 to have 1,000 plastic tokens made. These were octagonal 40 mm of blue colour with silver lettering. They were used until 1969.

In 1956 Henri Bélanger bought the milk route of Gerard Trudelle and in 1960 that of Jean-Louis L'Heureux. The additions allowed him to deliver more than 200 pints of milk per day. He retired from his career as a dairyman in 1969 for the reason that a new law prohibited the use of jugs and ladles for the sale of milk -- concerns regarding hygiene. He would also have been obliged to pasteurise his milk, keep it in refrigerated tanks, and bottle it. This implied an outlay of some thousands of dollars for equipment to wash and sterilize the bottles, etc. He analysed the situation and considered all the factors. The arrival of the supermarket had changed the mentality and habits of many people, home delivery started to decline. Bélanger could see that home delivery was a thing of the past. When he quit in 1969 he was selling a pint of milk for 31¢ and selling a hundred pints per day.

At the time the value of a milk route was estimated as a function of the number of cans of milk sold daily. Mr Bélanger was selling some fifty cans per day, which he estimated that were worth $10 each, he sold his route for the modest sum of $500. The good years of a dairyman were re-evaluated. At age 51 he was too young to retire so he went to work for a bus company driving a school bus until 1983. Then, at age 65, he retired for good.

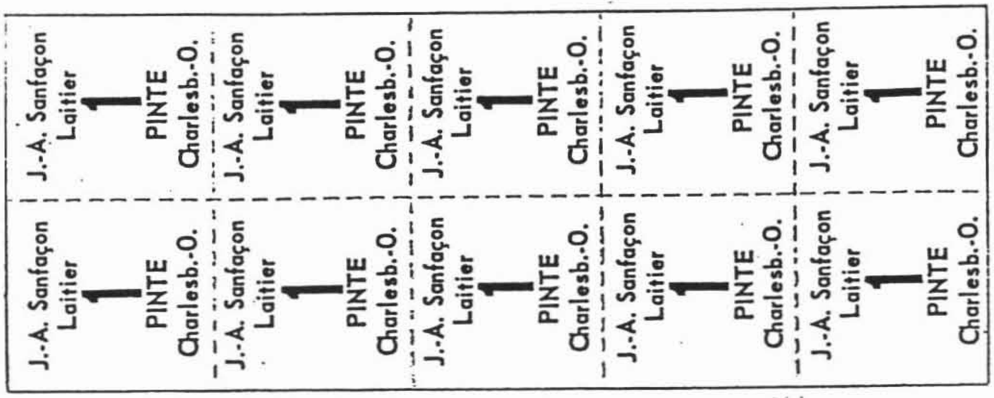
Now 82 years of age, Mr. Bélanger is still in relatively good health. He still drives his car without fatigue and enjoys a good life.

This article allows collectors to discover a milkman who for the most part was unknown, even to me, because his pasteboard tickets and plastic tokens had not been catalogued. Very generously Mr. Bélanger gave me a box of the tickets and tokens which he had saved. Of course, the use and humidity had caused the majority of the tickets to deteriorate and to the same extent the tokens as well. He said he didn't know why he had kept the pieces because he always thought of throwing them into the garbage.

I was able to save about 35 tokens and about 30 sets of tickets. Those without legible letters were not worth keeping. I'm convinced that no one else has any of these pieces. The reason is quite simple as during the time of such small dairies their tokens weren't known to collectors. I am probably the only collector to have any of Mr. Bélanger's pieces. Sets are available.

Pierre et J.-Albert Sanfaçon Laitiers

by Jean-Luc Giroux



Strip of 10 coupons, beige coloured

The Sanfaçon business was that of a father and son. It is a family tradition. Pierre Sanfaçon was born in 1869 in west Charlesbourg. He owned some land, of several arpents in extent (an arpent is roughly an acre in area) which was located to the south of the St .Joseph boulevard. He had a large herd of animals, of which there were some forty milk cows. He delivered raw milk using a horse drawn cart. Written on the side of the cart was (translated) Accredited herd No. 1384, tested by the federal Minister of Agriculture. He carried more than 180 pints of milk per day in cans and jugs. Each time that they could the milkmen would get a youngster to climb the numerous stairs for them. Mr. Sanfaçon died in 1953 at the age of 84, having been a dairyman for 52 years from 1899 to 1951.

It was his son, J.-Albert Sanfaçon, born in April 1899, who succeeded him on the farm; but primarily as a dairyman. He hired men to make the deliveries, although he had to make the deliveries on occasion. His sister, Béatrice, married Irénée Castonguay, who also was a milkman from 1953 until 1976. She lived in the family home with her brother Albert who never married.

Albert Sanfaçon, proud to be one of the first to utilize a new invention, an electric milking machine, said he was well equipped, a cream separator, electric cooling equipment, etc. At the beginning of the 1970's he had printed strips of ten tickets good for a pint of milk. But what is important to note is that these tickets served only once, being destroyed after they were used. It is for this reason that the chance to find one of these coupons is virtually nil. I am convinced that very few collectors have one of these coupons in their collection, that they are rare.

Lately I have had the opportunity to meet Beatrice Sanfaçon, Albert's sister, and she gave me a dozen strips of tickets which she had found in a drawer. These coupons were used up to 1976 when Albert Sanfaçon died at the age of 77.

Numismatically Oxford, (part 17)

Tillsonburg, Ont.

The village of Tillsonburg Ontario straddles the counties of Oxford, Norfolk and a small part of Elgin. It is situated on Hwy 19 about 20 miles north of Lake Erie and a few miles south of Ingersoll.

There are two merchants there known to have used *due bill* tokens. H. C. Buchner, Family Grocer, made use of aluminum tokens running from 1c to $1. They were octagonal in shape and ranged from 19 mm in diameter for the 1c, to 34 mm for the dollar.

Another merchant, W. B. Hogarth was responsible for at least three sets of *due bills*. Tokens ranging from 10c to $1 had on the obverse - TILLSONBURG'S / LEADING / GROCERY & CROCKERY / HOUSE / WALLPAPER / BOOTS & SHOES / W.B. HOGARTH

The 1c and 5c tokens read - TILLSONBURG'S / LEADING / GROCERY / & / CROCKERY / HOUSE / W.B. HOGARTH

These were round, aluminum, and ranged from 18 mm for the 1c to 35 mm for the dollar.

A $1 and a 1c token are known with the obverse reading - W.B. HOGARTH'S / DEPARTMENTAL / STORE / TILLSONBURG. The $1 is also found counterstamped on both sides withe the letters "S" and "S". These are probably from a set of 1c to $1.

Another 1c reads - W.B. HOGARTH / DEPT STORE / TILLSONBURG.

The early newspapers on microfilm file at the Tillsonburg library gave some information concerning these stores.

The first ad I saw for Hogarth, was in the October 18, 1895 issue of the *Tillsonburg Observer*. It described his business as "The Leading Grocery & Crockery House". His ads ran steadily through the 1890s. In June of 1901 he is advertising pickles made by Lea of Simcoe, Ontario who also made use of due bill tokens.

In January 16, 1902 his ad reads: "I would respectfully request all persons having any quantity of our Cash Register Checks to bring them in and trade them out before February 2nd, in order that we may estimate our liability for stock taking".

In April of 1904, Hogarth purchased the store and stock of a Mr. Charlie Graves. He started advertising both stores simultaneously, his old business under the name of W.B. Hogarth, and the new store under the name of The Hogarth Company. He was asking his customers to leave their orders for groceries at the Big Grocery House, and to go to the South Store for your dry goods and millinery. The new store musts have been one door south as he is later advertising a south entrance for dry goods and the north entrance for groceries.

In 1907 he was referring to himself as "W. B. Hogarth's Departmental Store".

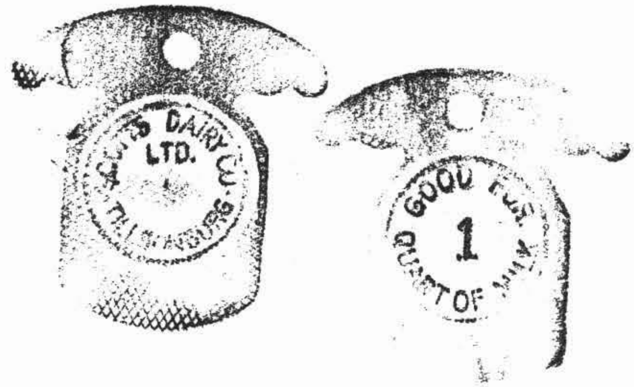
In 1908, his ad states that he is entering his 25th year in business, having started in 1884.

Sometime in 1910 he took his son on as a partner, and his ad alternated between ads for "W.B. Hogarth" and " Hogarth & Son". In 1915 the ads still read " Hogarth & Son" but by 1923 the ads read " Hogarth's Pure Food Store". I believe that Hogarth senior was out of business by this time. The last ads of any kind under the Hogarth name appeared in February of 1926.

The first ads I could find for H. C. Buchner appeared in December 13, 1895. He was selling "Groceries Bakery & Confectionery". In March of 1896, he moved his business into the store formerly occupied by Barrett & Co. His ads ran fairly steadily in 1896 and 1897 but had disappeared by 1898. He was still listed in the Tillsonburg phone listing of 1900 as a grocer on Broadway Street. He does not appear in the phone listing of 1910.

There were three dairies in Tillsonburg who also used tokens. A description is as below:

Annandale / dairy / J.W. Allin / Prop. / Tillsonburg, Ont.	
Good for / one / pint of milk	A-Oc-22
T. Lowrie / Silver St. Dairy / Tillsonburg	
Good for / I pint / milk	A-Ov-31X22
Good for / one pint (C.H.)	A-Ov-31X22
Good for / one / quart (T.H.)	A-Oc-25
Scotts Dairy Co / Ltd. / Tillsonburg	
Good for / I / quart of milk (T.H. red)	A-MC-42X42



Transactions

of the

Canadian Numismatic Research Society

ISSN 0045-5202

VOLUME 37 FALL 2001

The Bank of England Countermarks; The Relatives and Rogues.

by Wayne L. Jacobs

By 1797, England had not minted a substantial issue of silver coinage for ten years and that of 1787 practically the only one since 1762/3. Much of the reason lay with the relatively high cost of silver bullion and the frequent gyrations in its price. Regal coinage was struck at the rate of 62-shillings face value to the Troy pound of bullion (or 5s2d per ounce) and a moderate rise in silver prices could result in intrinsic value exceeding nominal with the consequent danger of melting. The British government circumvented this problem by the simple expedient of coining little or no silver, to the great detriment of the public.

Things became slightly worse in the same year of 1797 when the Bank of England, in response to the war with France, suspended payment of gold coin (and kept it suspended for nearly twenty years). Suspension caused a demand for *some* coin of relatively high value for payments and the prime candidate was the common Spanish-American and Spanish 8-real "dollar", widely traded upon the exchanges.

At the British Silver Coinage Standard of 62-shillings per pound, each dollar was computed to be worth some 4s.5¾d each[1]. Therefore, the Bank of England decided to countermark the dollars and, according to the public announcement of March 6, 1797, have them pass at 4s6d each. The countermark to be used was that used at Goldsmith's Hall for marking *silver* plate and was to be applied at the Mint. Before the day of issue, it was discovered that the actual bullion value of the dollars was closer to 4s8d so the circulating value was raised to 4s9d, with the permission of the Treasury Board. *(Plate 1, A).*

Although the punching of the dollars with the silver hallmark of the King's head in an oval was done at the Mint, it appears it was done more in the way of a private project by the officials and workers there, the charge being 1d per pound weight struck (or about fourteen dollars). A total of 2,323,288 dollars were sent to the mint for countermarking but only 354,000 were released by the Bank when silver rose again and they were recalled over a five-week period as of 28 September, 1797.

The countermarked dollars gave rise to a couple of sayings such as "Two kings' heads not worth a crown"(a reference to the 4s9d value) as well as a piece of doggerel referring to George III's increasing insanity:

> "The Bank of England, to make its dollars pass,
> Stamped the head of a fool on the head of an ass."

Silver fell again in late 1798 and was especially helped along by the capture of two Spanish "treasure ships" in late 1799, the haul being some 40 tons of bullion, mostly silver and mainly dollars. According to both Hocking[2] and Craig, 945,460 dollars were again countermarked with the old device and value; Craig not mentioning "When" but Hocking quite definite about it being in 1799 only. If so, no dollar with the oval countermark on a dollar dated 1800 or later can be legitimate. And such pieces *do* exist. *(Plate 1, B).*

---

[1] Craig, Sir John "The Mint", 1953

[2] Hocking, W.J. "Royal Mint Museum Catalogue, Vol 1", 1906. p.168

PLATE 1.

A

B

C.

D.

E.

F.

A. **Spain, 8-reales, 1795-Seville. Oval countermark.** **B.** **8-R, 1797-Mo. Oval cmk. plus "crown" cmk. for Azores (1871).** **C.** **8-R, 1802-Mo. Octagonal cmk.** **D.** **Bank of England Dollar, 1804.** *The Bank of Ireland Dollar of 6s. was similar, the reverse showing Hibernia seated.* **E.** **Pattern Bank Token of 5s6d, 1811. Royal Mint.** *These exist on copper planchets as well as struck over Spanish dollars.* **F.** **Bank Token, 1s6d, 1815.** *There were two types of 1s6d and 3s Bank Tokens: armored bust (1811-12) and laureate head (1812-16). The Bank of Ireland struck similar "laureate bust" pieces: 5d (1805-6), 10d (1805-6, 1813) and 30d (1808).*

Silver took a dip again during the short-lived Peace of Amiens (1802-3) so that an unstamped dollar was perhaps fivepence below the official 4s9d value of the stamped ones. As might be expected, counterfeit stamps started to be widely applied to "raw" dollars for the inherent profit. It was also during this period that a number of "private issue" tokens struck on dollars - especially from Scotland- started to appear; a stamped value of 4s9d readily places the piece in the 1797-1804 period. *(Plate 2, A).*

Several things happened in late 1803: the Peace was over, silver rose again in a "wartime economy" and circulation was being flooded with Spanish dollars fraudulently stamped. The Bank of England again responded with stamped dollars but this time with the more complicated effigy of George III as used on the Maundy Penny within an octagonal frame. These, too, were done at the Mint, 415,080 dollars being so processed. *(Pl. 1, C).*

This time, the value placed on the dollars was a full 5-shillings, the first of them entering circulation in January, 1804. The hope that this more complicated design might deter counterfeiting was in vain; almost immediately fraudulently countermarked dollars appeared and in May, the issue of octagonal-stamped dollars ceased, to be replaced by more drastic measures.

The Bank contracted with Matthew Boulton of the Soho Mint to completely overstrike the dollars with a new design. This was the Bank of England " Five Shillings - Dollar" dated 1804 which showed the bust of George III right on the obverse and Britannia seated within a crowned garter on the reverse, engraved by Conrad Küchler of the Soho Mint. Contrary to what some writings would have us believe, the new Dollar was *not* struck on "planed-down" blanks but rather the Spanish dollar coins served as ready-made planchets. *(Pl. 1, D)*

The Bank Dollars were first issued May 2, 1804, and the public given just one month to have the older punch-marked dollars redeemed at issue price and thereafter as just plain bullion. Since face value was somewhat more than intrinsic, we may presume that most of the older dollars were turned in to the bank - as well as those counterfeit-stamp pieces as would pass inspection. Redeemed dollars were presumably melted since we have yet to encounter an 1804 Bank Dollar on which the older countermark is visible under the overstrike.

Soho continued to sporadically overstrike the Spanish dollars with a frozen 1804 date until 1815, explaining why a post-1804 date can sometimes be discerned on the original coin. Soho was paid a farthing apiece for the overstriking and, by February, 1812, had completed £1,048,595 worth of them.

At the same time, Soho was overstriking a companion piece in the form of Bank of Ireland Six Shilling tokens. This was actually more over-valued than the English since £13 Irish = £12 English (a difference of 8½%) while these tokens had 6-shillings Irish equal to 5-shillings English (a difference of 20%). The two "pounds" were synchronized only in 1825.

As the Napoleonic War continued, silver continued to rise so that the "Five Shilling - Dollar" had to be declared worth 5s6d (March 18, 1811). At this time, Bank of England silver tokens for 3-shillings and 1s6d appeared, both of a lighter weight in proportion to a 5s6d "dollar" *(Pl. 1, F).* The Royal Mint was entirely responsible for the design and manufacture of these pieces with dies by Lewis Pingo and planchets produced from melted down Spanish dollars (meaning the fineness was .891 instead of sterling .925). Interestingly, a companion Pingo pattern for a 5s6d token also appeared, overstruck on the usual Spanish dollars, traces of which can be discerned underneath. It was never adopted, the Soho 1804 dollar simply having its tariff raised to this amount (no matter that the coin read "Five Shillings") - and certainly produced more cheaply. *(Pl. 1, E)*

With Waterloo, silver prices plunged from a high of 6s9d per ounce in April, 1815 to only 4s11½ d a year later. As regal silver began to be struck in that year, the Bank redeemed its silver tokens at 5s6d per dollar until May 1, 1817 and 5s thereafter.

Interestingly, only one Canadian province - Prince Edward Island - seems to have taken much notice of the Bank of England Dollar, the rest merely rating it as the equivalent of a British crown. A P.E.I. Order-in-Council, dated Sept. 22, 1813[3], rated the Bank of England Dollar at 6-shillings local currency, obviously with the Dollar computed at its current British value of 5s6d Sterling. At the same time, the Bank of England 3s. tokens were rated at 3s4d local and the 1s6d token at 1s8 local. Unstamped Spanish and Spanish-American dollars were to pass at just 5s. Obviously these last could not compete with the overvalued tokens and it was at this time that the "Holey Dollars" - 1000 of them - were ordered manufactured, the outer ring to pass for 5s, the centerpiece for 1s.

* * * * * * *

The stamps used to countermark the earlier Spanish dollars continued in use for some time. The oval stamp continued on in its usual capacity as the hallmark for silver plate until the end of George III's reign in 1820 - then still existed in storage. And may exist yet. The same was true of the octagonal "Maundy" stamp, retained at the Mint. These were the *legitimate* ones; there were numerous counterfeit punches - some of them very good indeed - all over the Kingdom.

Therefore the first of the "rogues" are the two types of punched dollars. If Hocking is correct, any with an oval stamp on dollars dated 1800 or later cannot be legitimate - even if the punch itself is deemed genuine. The same can be said of those with octagonal stamps with 1805 as the earliest "year that cannot be". Again, the stamp may be genuine. Such pieces as exist outside this time frame would not have been made to defraud the public at the time since all would have been called in by then. They may have been manufactured for the collectors' market (a fraud), a pocketpiece curiosity or just a bit of idle whimsy. But they are not *real* in the sense that they were not countermarked at the proper time for the proper purpose.

Then there are the contemporary counterfeits, made from scratch. Mexican 8-reales dated 1791 and 1795 are known in silvered copper or brass on which the oval counterstamp has been applied. This would date them to the 1797-1804 period. An 8-reales of Spain, dated 1792, is also known. *(Pl. 2, H).*

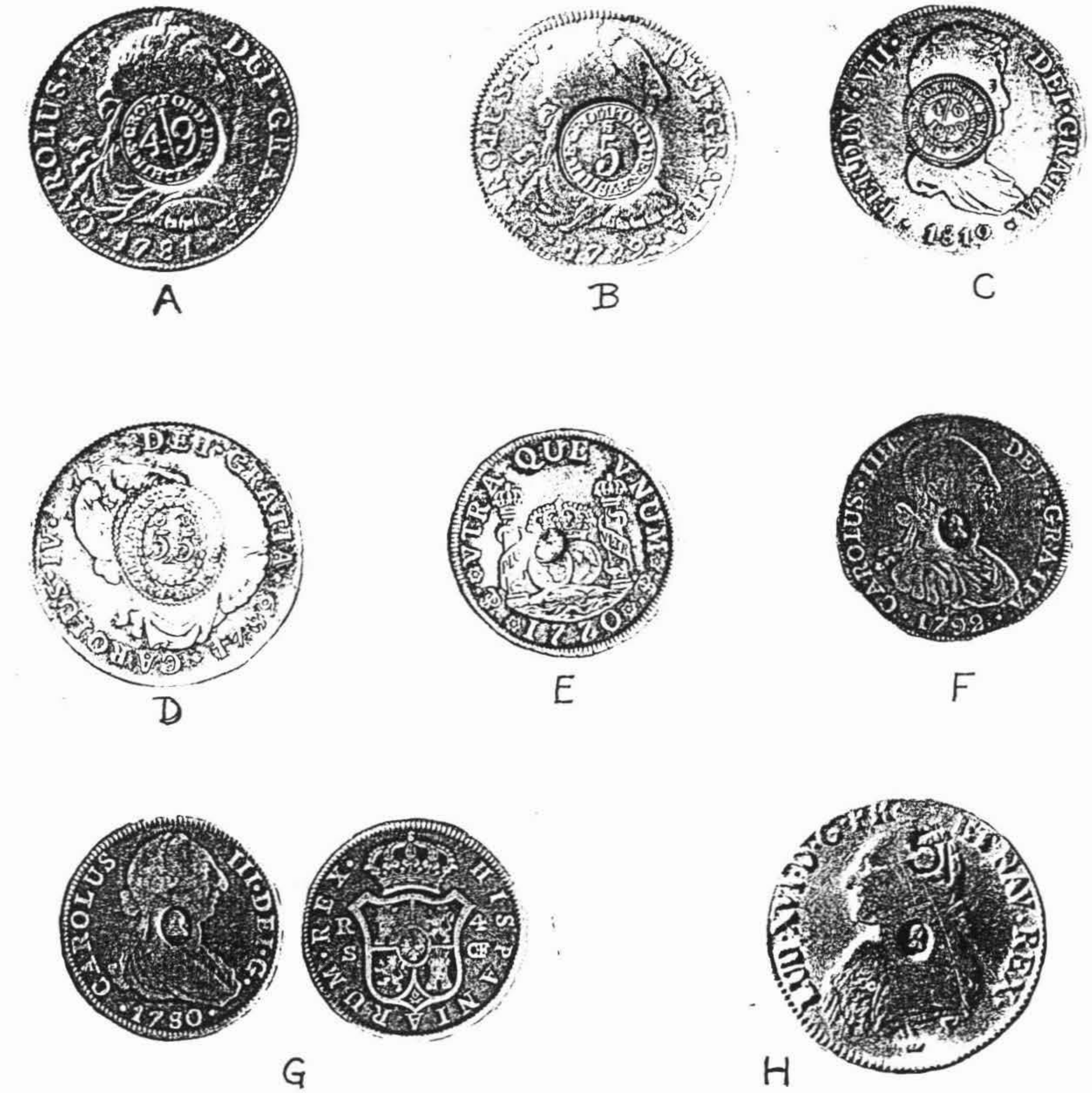
* * * * * * *

This brings us to the fractions of dollar, counterstamped with either the oval or octagonal punch, usually the former. At the very outset we should note: in no official order or document is other than a "dollar" specified. Every other piece is very - or extremely - rare. With one exception. And that exception is a palpable, contemporary fraud.

---

[3] McCullough, A.B. "Money & Exchange in Canada to 1900.", 1984. p.190

PLATE 2



A. **8-R, 1781-Mo, cmk. "CROMFORD. DERBYSHIRE. 4/9". (Scotland, 1797-1804). B. 8-R, 1789-Mo. Similar but "S 5" (1804-11). C. 8-R, 1812-Lima, cmk "ROTHSAY COTTON WORKS 4/6 1820". D. 8-R, 1789-Lima, cmk "PAYABLE AT CASTLE COMER COLLIERY. 5s5d". Ireland.** ***Cmk 1804-11, 5s5d Irish = 5s English.***

IMPROBABLES: **E.** 4-R, 1770-Potosi. Inverted oval cmk, "dubious status". **F.** 4-R, 1792-PTS. Oval cmk. **G.** Spain, 4-R, 1780-Seville. *By fineness and weight, with a bullion value of only 80% of the last. A contemporary cheat and the commonest of all.* **H.** France, ecu, 1786-M. *A quadruple threat: ecu was 10% too heavy; this one probably counterfeit; cmk probably counterfeit; later cmk "5/" probably an attempt to raise the value after 1804.*

Simply because such pieces exist, numismatists for the past couple of centuries have been led to the assumption they had some sort of official status. While possible, it is extremely remote. Such assumption has been aided and abetted by the use of "official" punches - but Mint workers are as much given to producing the odd concoction as any. "Legitimate status" was apparently first conferred by H.A. Greuber in his "Coins of Great Britain and Ireland" from late in the 19th century. His words have tended to become conventional wisdom even though parts, at least, are demonstrably wrong:

> *"In 1797 an attempt was made by the Treasury to supplement the deficiency of silver coinage by the issue of the Spanish dollars, and half, and quarter, and eighth dollars, countermarked on the obverse with the bust of George III, the stamp, an oval one, being that used by the Goldsmiths' Company for stamping the plate of the Country. The dollars were to be current for 4s9d, which gave rise to the saying 'two Kings' heads not worth a crown'".*

As Craig and Pridmore[4] determined some decades later, the Treasury's sole relationship to the issue was merely the granting of permission to the Bank of England to have the stamping of the *dollars* done - and accepting them for 4s9d as guaranteed by the Bank.

Davis[5] became badly confused regarding this issue, assuming that the stamping of the oval and octagonal designs was by the Soho Mint. He also assumed that the Soho issue of the 1804 Bank of England "Five Shilling - Dollar" was done only in that year and that inexplicable charges by Soho in subsequent years for "overstamping" *must* have been for more "octagonal" counterstamping. None of the above is true. The punching of the dollars was done by Mint personnel and the "1804" Bank of England Dollar was coined off and on for some eleven years by Soho.

The fact the counterpunching was done by Mint personnel - apparently as something of a private project - raises a further objection to there being legitimate denominations of less than a dollar. The fee for their work was computed as being one penny per Troy pound, the equivalent of stamping about fourteen dollars. For dollars, this was a reasonable charge but for the others, multiples of work had to be done for the same small fee: 28 4-real "half-dollars"; 56 2-real "quarter-dollars"; 112 1-real "eighth-dollars" and 224 ½-real "sixteenth-dollars". Yet all of these denominations exist - with the *oval* stamp- including the ridiculous last.

That they *do* exist with the oval stamp raises yet another problem: that of value. Oval-stamped dollars *always* passed for 4s9d until superceded by the octagonal-stamp in 1804 and withdrawn later that year. Consider the value of these fractions:

Coin	Value
8-real "dollar"	4s9d (or 57-pence)
4-real "half-dollar"	2s4½d (28½d)
2-real "quarter-dollar"	1s2¼d (14¼d)
1-real "eighth-dollar"	7 1/8d
½-real "sixteenth-dollar"	3 9/16d

Aside from the dollar itself, only the 4-real "half" would stand any chance of being circulated - and then, not *much* of a chance. Yet of all the above, 4-real on down, only one

[4] Pridmore, Capt. Fred. In Seaby's Bulletin, 1955

[5] Davis, W.J. "Nineteenth century Token Coinage", 1904

is relatively common. And it, being the oval counterstamp on *Spanish* 4-real coins, is an obvious contemporary fraud *(Pl. 2, G)*

While the Spanish and Spanish-American 8-real coins were of equal weight and fineness, the same was not true of their aliquot parts. Spanish-American fractional silver was of the same fineness and exact proportional weight to the dollar; Spanish fractions were on the "New Plate" standard and, by lesser weight and lower fineness, worth some 20% less than its American counterparts. In English America, the Spanish 4-real was a "double pistareen" (although little used there). To all but the Spanish, their 4-real coin was a "2/5 dollar" rather than a "1/2-dollar".

So long as silver prices were relatively low (especially during the 1802/3 period), there was a certain profit to be made in applying a fake countermark even on the dollars. But on the Spanish 4-real, much greater- probably at least 25%. The English public might not be fooled by the coin itself, being fully aware of the lesser worth of the fractional silver of Spain, but the application of the countermark, a cachet of guarantee by the Bank of England, might well see numbers of these pieces pass at full 28½d (or "half-dollar"). Only at redemption time would the current holder find the Bank of England disowning these coins as fakes and accepting them only as so much silver bullion - probably not more than 20d.

The same scam was done with the octagonal countermarks except on a much smaller scale. First of all, the time frame was limited - even for the real countermarks - to a period January to June, 1804 after which they were worth only so much bullion. Yet Duffield's catalogue[6] illustrates a Spanish 4-real of 1796 with the octagonal mark. The mark is apparently unknown on 1- and ½-real pieces of any type.

Consequently, such works as the Krause catalogues[7] now note that any denomination below the 4-real "oval" and *any* less than the dollar "octagonal" are usually regarded as spurious *(Pl 2, C and Pl. 3, A)*. But that wasn't the case even a short while ago: both of the illustrated ½-reals were offered side-by-side in 1971, both dated 1773 and both from the Mexico mint *(Pl. 3, B & C)*. The first was noted as being "although not blatantly false, of doubtful status" - mostly because of the off-center stamping (price: £5); the second had the notation "We would consider the counterstamp to be genuine" (price: £35).

Then, of course, are those pieces *no one* considers to be other than concoctions, the results of idle moments or the manufacture of "rarities" for collectors. Two of these are shown, both of them in copper. The first is an oval counterstamp (judged to be genuine) on a counterfeit British halfpenny of 1775 - "obviously of dubious status" *(Pl.3, D)*. The second is an octagonal counterstamp (judged "false and of crude style" although it looks good from the photo) on a copper penny token of Jackson & Lister in Barnsley *(Pl. 3, E)*; while the counterstamp was retired from use on coinage in 1804, the token was struck during the period 1811-14. It's difficult to find a fake more obvious (although offered as "an almost certainly contemporary piece").

* * * * * *

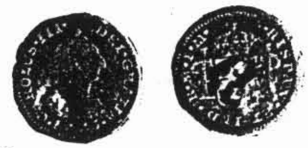
So what is *real*, noting the degrees of gradation that exist from the "perfectly legitimate" through the "suspect" to the "obviously fake"? As noted above, the writer is of the opinion that *anything* under the dollar is at least "suspect". Muddying the waters are

[6] Duffield, F.G. "A Trial List of the Countermarked Modern Coins of the World", rpt 1962
[7] Krause, C & Mishler, C "Standard Catalogue of World Coins" 1701-1800 and 1801-1900

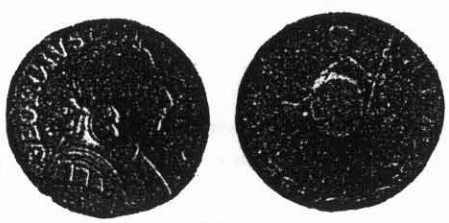
PLATE 3

A

B



C



D

E

F

G

A. 2-R, 1790-Mo. Oval cmk, "stamp" considered genuine. **B.** & **C.** ½-R, 1773-Mo, oval cmk. B of "dubious status" while C "consider countermarking to be genuine". **D.** Oval cmk on counterfeit English halfpenny, 1775. "Dubious status". **E.** Octagonal cmk on 1d, "Jackson & Lister Warehouse", Barnsley (1811-14). Pièce de plaisir? **F.** Octagonal cmk on British "Lima Shilling" of 1745. Pièce de plaisir? **G.** France, ½-ecu, 1729, cmk "BALLINDALLOCH Cotton Works" (Scotland). Advertising piece? Probably passed for a half-crown.

those pieces which appear to have been manufactured as *"pièces de plaisir"* by Mint workers using legitimate punches and methods. For instance, older French ecus and Austrian thalers could not have stamped to defraud the general public, since they contain up to 10% more silver than do the dollars - yet they exist. As extreme rarities. Possibly the copper pieces mentioned in this article fall into the same category since there is no other reason for their existence. American silver dollars, because they weigh the same as the Spanish, could be legitimate; or they could be "pleasure pieces", too. American half-dollars so overstruck are probably the latter.

There *are* certain guideline parameters into which the vast majority of the "undoubtedly genuine" dollars fall: (a) The punches themselves must be judged genuine. (b) The dates of the dollars. If Hocking is correct, all oval-punched dated 1800 or later, and all octagonal-punched dated 1805 or later, cannot be legitimate. (c) The manner of the punching. Genuine pieces have the countermark applied flat, with the "ovals" usually quite well-centered and some care obviously taken to ensure it was within a few degrees of upright; just as obviously, the "octagonals" tend to be sloppier so far as centering and uprightness are concerned. The Mint apparently applied the "ovals" with some sort of hand-press that allowed all three conditions to be consistent.

* * * * *

Lastly are the dollars that were privately countermarked by various companies, mostly in Scotland. On these, the value is almost always given and by it, we can attribute them to a certain time period.

Those stamped "4/9" were issued first and would have appeared 1797 to 1804, having the same value as the Bank of England oval-punch dollars. Possibly there was even a few pence profit to be had by their issuance during the 1802/3 period of lower silver prices.

As of January, 1804, the Bank of England octagonal-punch dollars with a 5/ value appeared, followed before mid-year by Soho's Bank of England Dollar. This continued until the dollar was raised in value to 5/6 on March 11, 1811. Not only did Scottish 5/ countermarked dollars appear during this time *(Pl 2, B)*, but also fractional coins and cut dollars: Lanark Mills counterstamped a halfcrown of Louis XV with 2/6 and Rothsay Mills put out both a cut half-dollar of 2/6 and a cut third-dollar marked 1/8

Dollars of this private type countermarked with a 5s6d value appear to be rare or absent. Quite possibly the Bank of England tokens, the dollar and the fairly large issues of the 1s6d and 3s pieces, were adequately filling the gap 1811-16, the period during which the dollar *was* tariffed at 5s6d.

There *are* Spanish dollars countermarked with a seemingly odd 5s3d value but these are neither English nor Scottish but rather Irish. With the Irish pound worth just 12/13 of the sterling, this odd value would correspond to 4s9d in England. It's evident, then, that these particular countermarked coins were issued 1797-1804 and, as usual, *probably* during the 1802/3 period of cheap silver. A value of 5s5d is the Irish equivalent of 5s English and would date the pieces to 1804-11.

After Waterloo, the price of silver dropped and the Royal Mint began to mint regal silver in 1816 - but only sixpence, shillings and half-crowns to begin with. As of May 1, 1817, the Bank of England dollars were withdrawn with no crowns to replace them for a year. By this time, silver was down to 5s per ounce or less and the Spanish dollar the "cheapest" in more than twenty years. Consequently, more countermarked Spanish

dollars appeared, this time with the value given as 4/6. It was done quite late; one from "A. STEVEN & SONS - GLASGOW" is on a Mexican 8-real of 1819 and another from Rothsay Cotton Works is even counterstamp-dated 1820 *(Pl 2, C)*. All were soon retired as unneeded since regal coinage in silver and gold was being churned out by the Royal Mint in unprecedented numbers.

Education Medals of London, Ontario.

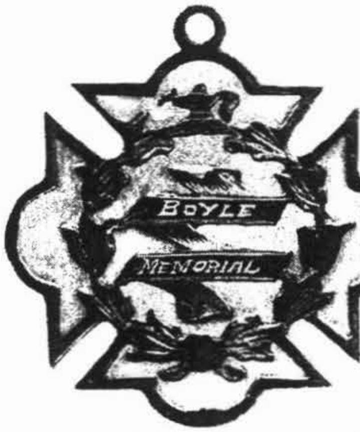
by Ted Leitch

The first record of a London school was 1827, in the attic over the city jail. In 1831 the first log school was built, followed by a number of private schools. In 1842, Rev. Benjamin Cronyn was appointed Superintendent of Education and he divided the town into school districts. By 1848 it was determined that the ward schools were inadequate, and this resulted in the building of the "Union School" in 1850 on the block bordered by Waterloo, Colborne, King and York Streets. In 1855, the year London became a city, there were two public schools, a grammar school and two thousand pupils. In 1878, the expanding school requirements saw the first high school built. The Collegiate Institute was built on the north west corner of Dufferin and Waterloo Streets for $16,000 and it served until April 1920 when it was destroyed by fire. In 1900 the average salary of a female teacher in London was $346 and a male teacher, $840. The average cost of education in the Public School in London at that time was $10.55 and the Collegiate Institute $23.52 per year. In 1899, London Normal School was opened to educate teachers for the expanding education system. In 1912 a new London Industrial and Art School opened offering technical and commercial art programs. The ever increasing needs for education put continuous pressure on the London Board of Education to expand to meet those needs.

Award medals for general proficiency, special academic achievements and sporting events were presented in the public and private school system. It is not known when most of these award medals started or stopped or when they became diplomas only. In a number of cases a single medal was awarded each year to a recipient. Few records exist of the recipients or the style of medal awarded. Some of the early medals were probably ordered locally by a firm or a patron without the London School Board involvement. One early award medal is the "Boyle Memorial" medal named after J.B. Boyle. J. B. (Barney) Boyle, was educated at Trinity College in Dublin, Ireland. He began his career in the London education system in 1855 as the third principal of the Union School. In 1871 he became the first inspector of London schools. He held that position until his death on January 28, 1891, when he was found slumped over his office desk. On April 12, 1915, a new eight room Boyle Memorial Public School was opened, with an enrollment of 95 pupils plus a kindergarten of fifty-one.

It is presumed that the Boyle Memorial medal was introduced shortly after his death. The medal appears to have been awarded to the pupil with the highest marks upon graduation from any London public school.

The 10K gold medal measures 40mm high, 36mm across and features a floral wreath with a lamp of knowledge at the top, and a ribbon in the centre with the inscription "Boyle Memorial". This medal features a gold pin with the recipient's name engraved on the bar. The reverse is engraved "Aberdeen School P.S. Coll. Inst. Ent. Examination 1909." The initials and abbreviations were Public School, Collegiate Institute Entrance examination.



Althought this medal is similar in design to the previous one the lamp and ribbon face the opposite direction. The medal was presented by Thomas H. Purdom, a prominent London lawyer who had his own local law firm and was president of several London companies as well as being a Governor of the University of Western Ontario.

The obverse of this Boyle Memorial gold medal is the same as the previous medal. Because the recipient's name is engraved on the reverse it would appear the medal was issued without the pin. The reverse has the engraved inscription "Pres'd by T.H. Purdom Esq. K.C. to Eleanor Grant for highest standing in part 1 Faculty Entrance". The term "Part 1 Faculty Entrance" refers to the completion of grade eight. Although the medal is not dated the recipient received other dated medals which indicate that this medal was probably awarded about 1918.

This 35 mm gold medal of merit was awarded to Flora L. Carson. She had achieved the highest marks in public school ward 4 for the Collegiate Institute entrance examination in 1898. The medal was presented by Emerson J. MacRobert, a London insurance agent for the Phoenix Insurance Company of Hartford, Connecticut.

In 1870 Mr. Thomas B. Robb, of New York and a former resident of London, donated a gold medal for competition among the pupils of the public schools. Subsequently he bequeathed a sum of money, the interest from which was designated annually for the purchase of a gold medal to be awarded to the public school pupil who achieved the highest standings at the entrance examination to high school.

This 1900 example of the Thomas B. Robb Memorial Prize gold medal has the simple inscription on the back "For General Proficiency Public Schools London Ont." .

This 42mm gold medal consists of two convex gold disks placed back to back with a gold ring around the outside. The ring is marked "Birks" and has a loop at top. The obverse is inscribed "Alan Gibbons Memorial Medal 1910" around an open wreath, and inside the wreath the name of the recipient "Herman Ferns". The reverse of the medal has the inscription "Awarded for highest standing at matriculation examination, Presented by Geo. C. Gibbons K.C. at London Ontario".

The Alan Gibbons Medal was presented by Sir George C. Gibbons, the Canadian diplomat responsible for the Boundary Waters Treaty of 1909. Gibbons was appointed Chairman of the Canadian International Waterways Commission in 1905 and was responsible for drafting the treaty to deal with the Great Lakes boundary waters regarding navigation, diversion for electric power, canals, irrigation and sanitary uses.

Alan Gibbons, son of George Gibbons, accidentally shot himself with a 32 caliber revolver on October 5, 1901 at a boarding house in Toronto. Alan was only seventeen and had just begun attending the University of Toronto the week before. The newspaper reports indicated that the gun was fired from arm's length and the bullet entered the right side of the head. He was found a couple of hours after the accident and was rushed to the hospital. He died the following day with his father at his side. His mother and two sisters were on a ship returning from Europe to New York and were not aware of his death.

The medal was probably initially presented shortly after Alan's death. A medal awarded for the highest standing at a matriculation examination seemed appropriate considering Allen was only sixteen when he finished high school. George Gibbons died in 1918 at the age of seventy. A second medal belonging to the London Regional Art and Historical Museum is engraved "Presented by the Family of Geo. C. Gibbons KC at London Ont.". Although the medal is not dated the inscription would suggest it was presented after 1918. London's Gibbons Park is named after George C. Gibbons.

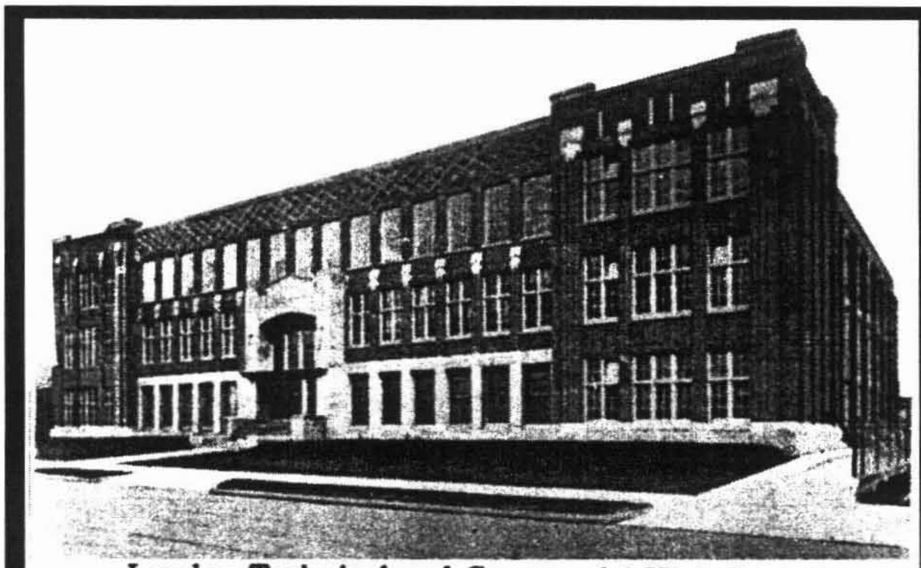
London Collegiate Institute, which was destroyed by fire in 1920, was rebuilt by the city and two other high schools were added: Sir Adam Beck and South Collegiate. This 33mm gold medal with the inscription "London Collegiate Institute Beck Medal" has the ornate initials "LCI" in the centre an attached bar dated 1922. The reverse reads "Presented by Sir Adam Beck for highest standing Part II entrance to Faculty Examination to Eleanor V. Grant". Adam Beck, one of London's most celebrated citizens, will be remembered for bringing hydro to London as well as being Mayor of London and a member of the Legislative Assembly for London. Adam Beck was knighted in 1914 by King George V for his work in procuring horses for the army in the First World War. Sir Adam Beck died August 15, 1925 and there are no records to indicate if the "Beck medal" was issued after that date.

The London Collegiate Institute about 1910.

On December 5, 1911, the London Board of Education reported that the city would open a new technical school called the London Industrial School. The man behind the push to open a technical school, who was later to become the school's first principal, was Herbert Benson Beal. The school began at the old Colborne Street School at the corner of King and Colborne Streets. Part-time courses for men were offered in machine shop, forge work, wood working, mechanical drafting, architectual drafting and Business English. Women were offered sewing and dressmaking, cooking and home economics. By 1915 the technical school was so successful that property was purchased on Dundas Street for $33,000 to build a new school. Because of the First World War construction of the $160,000 building was very slow. The first class began in September of 1918 and the official opening came five months later on January 14, 1919.

After the fire at Collegiate Institute, commercial students moved temporarily to the new technical school. In December 1921 the school's name was formalized to the London Technical and Commercial High School. In 1922 there were 1,883 evening class students and 661 day students. In 1935 Herbert Benson Beal was in failing health and had to step down as principal and it was at this time the board deemed it fitting to rename the school the H.B. Beal Technical and Commercial High School. The school continued to grow with numerous additions added to the building over the years.

The 32mm aluminum Technical School token was an advertising token to promote evening classes. The obverse reads "London Technical School, Dundas Street, Education for Efficiency, evening and day classes". The reverse reads "It will pay you to attend, The Evening Technical Classes Opening Now". The inscription "London Technical School" suggests the token was issued between 1922 and 1935.



London Technical and Commercial High School.
H. B. Beal, Principal.

After the Collegiate Institute burned to the ground in 1920 there was a scramble to find a place for all the students. A new Victoria Public School had been built beside its condemned predecessor. It was felt that the old building would be safe for senior students, so at first one room was used, then classes expanded into other rooms. The school became known as the London South Collegiate Institute, with 290 students and 10 teachers. The sod for the new building was turned by Mr. A.R. Cairncross on April 6, 1927 and it was officially opened on April 28, 1928. The students left the old Victoria School on Askin Street for the new South Collegiate at 385 Tecumseh Avenue.

Type 1.

Type 2.

There are two different obverse dies for the London South Collegiate Institute medals. Both of the 30 mm medals have the same basic design and inscriptions. On the 1932 and 1944 medals the shield has a higher relief and the lamp of knowledge has an extra protrusion, but the main difference is the number and position of the maple leaves around the shield. The inscription around the outside reads "London South Collegiate Institute". The medals also have the Latin inscription below the shield "Virtus Repulsae Nescia Sordidae" meaning "courage ignorant(unaware) of a disgraceful defeat". The reverse of both medals was left blank and was engraved with the presenter's name and the recipient's name and achievement. The first South Collegiate medals were struck in 10K gold and have the maker's name of Bernard stamped on the back. John S. Bernard was a London jewelry designer located at 324 Central Avenue. Bernard passed away in the early 1930's and the medals after that time have the name "Sumner" for C.R. Sumner & Sons Limited at 392 Richmond Street. Presumably the medals were engraved either by John Bernard or later someone at C.R. Sumner & Sons.

The University of Western Ontario began when Bishop Benjamin Cronyn wanted his own college to train clergy under his supervision. He selected Dr. Isaac Hellmuth to lead this campaign. Due to health reasons Hellmuth had just resigned as the general superintendent for the Colonial and Continental Church Society in British North American Colonies. Hellmuth went to England in 1861 where he raised twenty-three thousand dollars towards a new college. In July 1862 arrangements were made to purchase the estate of Lionel Ridout located between St.James and Grosvenor Streets, just west of St.George Street. On May 5, 1863 the Province of Canada gave royal assent to the Act to Incorporate Huron College and in January 1864 lectures began at Huron College. In February 1877 an association was formed to establish a university to be called the Western University of London. The university was officially created in 1878 and after many difficulties the university opened on October 6, 1881. After much negotiation by interested citizens a new provincial act was passed in 1908, under which the Church of England surrendered control of the university. The university name was changed to the University of Western Ontario. With the purchase of the Kingsmill "Bellevue Farm" in 1916 plans were made to move to the new location on Richmond Street north. The new University of Western Ontario officially opened in October 1924 and has continued to expand its facilities every year since. Over the years the coat of arms has changed and these changes are reflected in the award medals which are presented to outstanding students.

Coat of Arms used
1878 to 1908.

Award medals used
from 1923 to 1931.

The first coat of arms for the University of Western Ontario was adopted in 1878 and was similar to the Diocese of Huron. In 1908, the coat of arms was altered to reflect the university's new affiliation with both the City of London and the province. The second coat of arms was used from 1923 to 1931 as illustrated. This 1926 award is a 38mm 10k gold medal with the obverse inscription "The University of Western Ontario" with a crest topped with the sun and clouds. The crest consists of three portions containing a lion, a stag and an open book. Below the crest is the Latin inscription "Veritas et Utilitas", Truth and Usefulness. The reverse has two crossed branches forming a wreath and the inscription "Awarded For" with a rectangular plate to engrave the subject and recipient's name.

In 1932 the obverse of the award medal changed. The inscriptions and gold content remained the same but the letter and ribbon style changed along with the shield or crest. The shield now featured a setting sun or a rising sun over four triangular quadrants with a book in the top, a lion in a circle on each side and a stag in a circle at the bottom. A new reverse die similar to the 1920's issue was used in the 1930's.

In the early 1940's a die crack appeared on the medals and a new obverse and reverse die were made. The minor differences in the new medal appear mostly on the reverse with the leaves of the wreath being slightly different. The small inscription of "10K Trophy Craft" was moved from the edge of the medal to just below the wreath. The newer medals were lighter but remained 10K gold until the late 1950's when the medal was changed to a gold-plated sterling medal.

The coat of arms was changed in 1990 and now features a book surrounded by maple leaves above the shield. The rising sun depicts an arc of flames and the overall design is a more modern look. A new 40mm gold-plated medal was introduced. The new medal is a die cast medal with a loop. The reverse is similar in design to the previous medals with a simple wreath of victory and a plaque suitable for engraving the recipient's name and subject. In the 1990's there are about a hundred gold-plated medals awarded each year along with about forty individually designed medals.

Forest City Business College

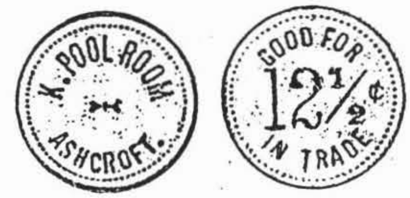
The Forest City Business College opened in London on July 1, 1885 at the southeast corner of Richmond and King Streets. The school was founded by James Washington Westervelt and John H.W. York to provide training in banking, book-keeping, ornamental penmanship, practical arithmetic, business practice, commercial law, correspondence and shorthand. Although in the first year the students were all young men, by the second year two young ladies had enrolled. John York held the position of secretary at the school for the first few years, having taught at the Woodstock Business College before coming to London. The president James Westervelt had become a teacher in 1875 serving as Commercial Master of the Brantford Public School. In 1881 he resigned to become principal of the Baptist Literary College in Woodstock.

In 1896 the school moved to the Y.M.C.A. building at 429 Wellington Street. At this time James W. Westervelt was president and James W. Westervelt Junior was secretary. About 1901 the school became affiliated with the British American Business College which had schools in Toronto, Hamilton and Ottawa. In 1913 the school changed its name to the Westervelt School. In 1918 the school moved to 463 Richmond Street at Fullarton Street. The school remained on Richmond Street for over fifty years. The school moved to 190 Wortley Road for a number of years before moving to its present location at 1060 Wellington Road.

The 28mm advertising token was issued in aluminum, brass, copper and white metal. W.R McColl's 1901 catalogue of business cards states twelve medals in each metal were struck. The obverse features three maple leafs tied with a ribbon dated "1860 1901", symbolizing the union of the three colleges. The obverse inscription reads "The Federated Business Colleges of Ontario Limited". The reverse lists the colleges and their locations of Toronto, Hamilton, London and Ottawa.

Herman Koelkenbeck and the K. Pool Room of Ashcroft, B.C.

Ronald Greene



BC Token Database A8572b
Brass: Round: 25 mm

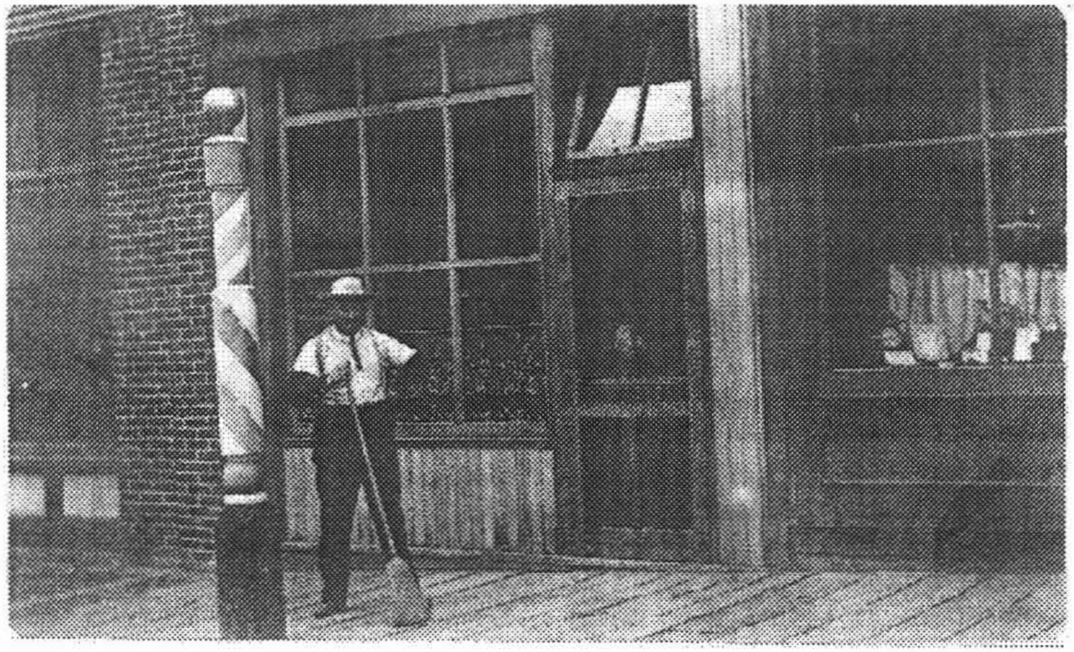
Today the Village of Ashcroft is a small community located on the Thompson River a few kilometers off the Trans Canada Hiway at the southern edge of the Cariboo country. It is about 10 kilometres south of Cache Creek, which is the junction of highways 1 and 97 (east to Kamloops, north to Williams Lake and Prince George, or south to Vancouver). The population is about 2,500 and Ashcroft has served as a bedroom community for Highland Valley Copper Mine employees in addition to those involved in the lumbering activity that goes on in the area. In 1910 the population was 500 people, and Ashcroft, which was located on the C.P.R. mainline was the Gateway to the Cariboo. Stages left the town twice a week for the Cariboo mines.

Herman Koelkenbeck was a native of Antwerp, Belgium, where he was born November 1862. He came to North America by the 1880's and was living in Chicago where four of his six children were born. By 1897 he was living in Payette, Idaho where the youngest two children were born.

According to his obituary and the family he came to New Westminster, then spent some time in Spences' Bridge, and came to Ashcroft in 1906. We found him listed in New Westminster in 1903, as a barber, boarding at the Oriental Hotel, which probably indicates that he came ahead and, when he settled in, sent for his family. We next picked up the trail in Ashcroft where he established himself as a barber and advertised himself as conducting:

> "H. Koelkenbeck the Ashcroft barber makes a specialty of Ladies' Hair trimming, singeing and shampooing, also face massage. Ladies evenings Monday, Wednesday and Friday, after 8 p.m. Please make appointment in advance."
>
> and
>
> "The only first class Tonsorial Parlors in Ashcroft. Ladies'work a speciality. Hot and cold baths."[1]

In the summer of 1908, the newspaper reported, "Barber Koelkenbeck is nothing if not enterprising. He has rented part of the Cargile Hotel and will turn it into a pool and billiard room and shooting gallery."[2] About six weeks later, September 21, the newspaper reported that "Koelkenbeck's Pool and Billiard Hall now open. First-class tables, comfortable chairs for rubbernecks, the best domestic and imported cigars and cigarettes. A delightful pastime. Call in and enjoy yourself for an hour or two."[3] Unfortunately Mr. Koelkenbeck never advertised his pool room although he continued to run a regular advertisement for his barber shop activity until May 1908. The only subsequent mention of the pool room occurred in June 1908, "The pool room is closed for the present, owing to the lease having expired."[4] To this point in time it appears that Herman Koelkenbeck's was the only pool room in Ashcroft. We note that a Donald's Billiard and Pool Room opened in late September 1908, but was slated to last but a few weeks. Mr. Donald's departure was mentioned after the fact, "The pool-room artist Donald has demonstrated his artistic abilities in skidooing out of town, sidestepping all his creditors and disappearing into the great unknown leaving many mourners in his wake." [5]



Herman Koelkenbeck sweeping up outside the barber shop

Herman Koelkenbeck inside the barber shop.

In the next few years there were other pool rooms established in Ashcroft, but no other one that might have called itself the K. Pool Room, with the possible exception of an operation by Ray Kellock for the year 1919. But 1919 is rather late for a 12-1/2 cent token and we think that we can safely discount Mr. Kellock as being the issuer.[6] In April 1910 W. Jamieson opened a pool room, which he sold to J.C. Freeman in May 1911. Freeman then increased the number of tables to six. In October 1911 F.W. Engeman and F.C. Peters purchased the former Huston's Livery building and set up a pool room there. With this news Mr. Freeman was not to be out done and added four more tables. Ashcroft was affected at the time as the Canadian Northern Rail line was being put through the Thompson Canyon. Pool was one of the few recreational activities available to railway construction workers who were living in construction camps and pool halls sprang up all along the line, wherever the construction workers were at the time. Some of the pool rooms would move every two months to stay near the rail head. But the government's attitude was unsympathetic. Special regulations were put in to govern pool rooms in 1912[7] and the rates were dramatically increased in early 1913 to $50 per licence from $5 per table.[8] The attorney general was quoted at the time as saying, "Poolrooms have sprung up like mushrooms all over the Province, especially along the lines of the railway construction, and we believe it necessary to have a better and more thorough system of inspection. There is reason to believe that some of these places are breeding grounds for blackjack, if indeed, many of them are not blind pigs,[9] ...As to the fear ...that the new rate will drive some of the smaller fellows out of business, the department would be only too glad if that were the case. A good many of these places would be better closed and whilst it is claimed that it may be necessary to provide some form of amusement for the evenings, we are convinced that in too many cases the pool-rooms are but excuses for places of a worse character." [10] One wonders what the government of that day would think of today's Casinos!

Engeman and Peters called their place the Pastime and they carried on until they were burnt out in the great fire of July 7th, 1916. One other pool room appears to have operated prior to 1916. We didn't find when McDonald's pool room opened, but it was purchased in July 1912 by Frank Riley and thereafter advertisements for the Ashcroft Pool Room commenced, but without a proprietor's name. Thus we can see that only the short-lived Koelkenbeck's Pool Room would have been referred to as the *K. Pool Room*.

For some time Mr. Koelkenbeck was the only barber shop in Ashcroft. In 1911 and 1912 he employed a second barber, and in 1913 the Engeman & Peters pool room put in a barber shop. Throughout B.C. this seems to have been a quite common combination of occupations. In his days in Ashcroft Mr. Koelkenbeck was involved in raising pigeons, which he showed, and was the initial Supreme Secretary when the Caribou Brotherhood was organized in 1912. This was a fraternal organization dedicated to collect and preserve the history of the Cariboo and the adventures had by the Pioneers of the area. The group was named after the quadraped, not the region. The spelling for the region, *Cariboo*, is long thought to be a corruption of the french, *Cariboeuf*, for the same animal. Akrigg credits James Douglas as having used the term Cariboo.[11] A number of chapter were organized but the Brotherhood seems to have faded from view quite quickly.

In early 1916 Herman Koelkenbeck decided to have a change in career and sold his barber shop to Omar Huston, who put Joe Warden in charge.[12] Mr. Koelkenbeck then proceeded to fit out a building for the new fangled movie pictures. He called his movie house, the Cozy Theatre, but at least one reference was made to it as the Kokey. Unfortunately, only about three weeks after the Cozy opened the great fire of July 7th, 1916 which started in the Ashcroft Hotel –

another token issuer – wiped out both hotels in town, the Pastime Poolroom, two banks, Warden's barber shop (the former Koelkenbeck shop), Russell's moving picture hall, the Cozy, several other businesses and a number of private houses including Mr. Koelkenbeck's. He was able to save the furniture. In total five blocks of the town were destroyed.

Following this loss Koelkenbeck went to Savonas for several months, but surfaced in late 1916 in Clinton, some 50 kilometres (33 miles) north of Ashcroft, where he purchased the pool room of C.L. McCarthy. The Pool-rooms Act had placed supervision in the hands of the Superintendent of Provincial Police without any checks on his authority and the rules were interpreted in a arbitrary, almost draconian fashion. In 1915, at renewal time for the 1916 licences it came to the attention of the Superintendent that Mr. McCarthy had in his employ, an Austrian, or as they referred to him, an *alien enemy*. Despite there being nothing in the statutes forbidding such an employee the Superintendent instructed the chief constable in Clinton that Mr. McCarthy would not have his licence renewed until he had dispensed with the services of the *alien enemy*. McCarthy had no choice and fired the man. When McCarthy sold the business to Herman Koelkenbeck, to take effect January 1, 1917 the chief constable in Clinton submitted the appropriate application form for a licence. The Superintendent almost immediately wrote:

> "In reference to the application of Herman Koelkenbeck for a Pool-room Licence at Clinton, I will be pleased to know if Mr. Koelkenbeck is the Austrian Alien Enemy referred to in your report dated 7th December, 1915, in reference to the application of C.L. McCarthy for a Pool-room Licence at Clinton, the granting of which was refused until Mr. McCarthy had dispensed with the services of the Austrian he had in his employ."[13]

Fortunately Mr. Koelkenbeck's ancestry was Belgian, and Belgium was an occupied ally at the time. Such concern over German or German sounding names led the Royal Family to adopt the name Windsor during WW1 and Herman's younger son Arthur changed his name to Kingston.

Herman Koelkenbeck conducted his barber shop and pool room in Clinton until he entered hospital in early 1919. He had been ailing for some time and succumbed to stomach cancer 20 March 1919 at age 57. His wife, Wilhelmina survived until 1930. We would like to aknowledge the assistance of Mr. Koelkenbeck's great-grandson, Brian Slough, who shared some family information and provided the photographs of the Ashcroft barber shop.

---

[1] *The Ashcroft Journal,* respectively 26 Jan. 1907 p. 4, and 8 June 1907, p. 1
[2] *The Ashcroft Journal,* 3 August 1907, p. 6
[3] *The Ashcroft Journal,* 21 Sept. 1907, p. 8
[4] *The Ashcroft Journal,* 6 June 1908, p. 4
[5] *The Ashcroft Journal,* 17 October 1908, p. 4
[6] A check of 5 months of the Ashcroft Journal, from Dec. 1918 did not produce a single reference to Mr. Kellock. His wife, "in Ashcroft for some months," moved to Cranbrook for the winter months., 21 Dec. 1918, p. 4
[7] Statutes of British Columbia, Chap 28, 1912, "An Act for the Regulation of Pool-rooms in Districts not included in any Municipal Area." assented to 27 Feb. 1912
[8] Statutes of British Columbia, Chap. 55, 1913, "An Act to amend the 'Pool-rooms Act"', assented to 21 Feb. 1913
[9] *blind pigs* were unlicensed drinking establishments
[10] Port Alberni News, 1 Feb. 1913, p. 1
[11] G.P.V. & Helen Akrigg, *1001 British Columbia Place Names*, 3rd Edition, 1973, p. 37
[12] *The Ashcroft Journal,* 1 April 1916, p. 4
[13] GR94, Vol 2, letter of 8 Dec. 1916, Superintendent to Frank E. Aiken, Chief Constable, Clinton.

Thomas Lewis, Dairyman of Revelstoke, B.C.

by Ronald Greene

BC Database R1510b R1510c
Both are Aluminum:Octagonal:25 mm

There were two men in Revelstoke by the name of Thomas Lewis, father and son, the latter being Thomas Arthur Lewis. The father was born in Radnor, Wales in 1846, son of John and Mary Lewis. The son, Thomas Arthur Lewis, or Tom as he was referred to was born in Wales in 1872. He was the oldest of eight children, five boys and three girls. One of the girls, Kate, died at age 4 but the others survived to adulthood. Thomas Lewis (Sr) came to Revelstoke in 1888 and was joined by his family in 1890. In Revelstoke he was employed as a blacksmith by the Canadian Pacific Railway Company. Tom was employed as a blacksmith's helper by 1891 but moved to Donald in 1894 where he worked for the CPR.[1] On the night of January 29th, 1895[2] an engine was standing in the roundhouse ready to go out at 11 o'clock . Tom had gone to the front of the engine to see that the blocks had been removed. He slipped in the darkness, as his torch had gone out. He hit his head on the oil box of the engine and his left hand lay across the rail. He had partially withdrawn his hand from the rail when the wheel of the engine caught it and crushed two fingers. Whether the accident precipitated a move or not is not known, but several weeks later Thomas (Sr) announced that he was leaving for Edmonton to take up farming and would be joined by sons Tom and Percy. Robert Gordon succeeded to the blacksmith position with the CPR held by Thomas (Sr). In this Edmonton interlude Mrs Lewis and the younger children remained in Revelstoke. The father returned home to Revelstoke in September 1896 and resumed blacksmithing for the CPR. Percy did not last long in Edmonton for he was living in Golden by February 1896 butTom stayed in South Edmonton for several years. Thomas (Sr) was noted as visiting Tom in November 1898 and talking about moving there, but did not do so. The 1899 Williams' B.C. Directory showed that Tom was back in Revelstoke and occupied as a milkman.

Tom signed up with the Strathcona Horse during the Boer War and served in South Africa.[3] When he returned to Revelstoke he became a dairyman. By 1901 Thomas (Sr) had retired from the heavy blacksmithing job with the CPR and was farming – whether this was dairy farming or fruit ranching is not clear and the elder Thomas Lewis may have also been involved in the dairying.

After his return from the Boer War, Tom owned a small farm in the Southside area of Revelstoke In 1907 he purchased the team and outfit of J. Henderson, and operated the Revelstoke Cartage Company, in the express and draying business.[4] In July 1907 Tom obtained a contract to carry the mail from the depot to the post office, which meant meeting all the trains.

The next month he took over the milk business of J. Bonsor. Only three months later, in October, he sold the express and draying business to H.P. Cummings. One wonders if Tom was a restless soul never content to be doing what he was doing, or whether he jumped into businesses without thinking them through. He sold the milk business to W. Clark in the spring of 1908, but Clark left town in August 1908 and the business reverted back to Tom. In 1915, despite being in his 40's, Tom enlisted once again, this time with the 11th CMR's. The 11th left Vancouver for Europe in June of 1916. In October of that year Pte Tom Lewis was sent in a draft of reinforcements to the 29th Battalion in the trenches. On August 21st, 1917 he was killed in action. There is no evidence that he ever married.

Thomas Lewis died at age 71 on October 31, 1917, only two months after his son was killed. He had been in failing health for some time. Outside of his work he had been extremely active in the Presbyterian church in Revelstoke, an interest that he kept up until his death.[5] Mary Lewis was also to pass away within the year.

There are two different quart tokens known, R1510b with the word "Quart" straight and R1510c with the word curved. The curved variety is known holed. Both varieties are rare. The rubbings are courtesy of Leslie C. Hill.

---

1 Various British Columbia Directories from 1889 until 1910
2 *Kootenay Mail*, February 2, 1895, p. 3
3 *Revelstoke Review*, September 6, 1917, p. 1
4 Ruby Nobbs, *Revelstoke History & Heritage*, 1998, p. 138
5 *Revelstoke Review*, November 1, 1917, p. 1

The German Canadian Harmonie Club of Kelowna, B.C. and its affiliated groups

by Ronald Greene

In the first week of July 2001 I spent some time in Kelowna, visiting various vineyards and ferreting out tokens. One of my goals was to sort out the various German clubs that have florished in Kelowna. I was fortunate enough to speak to Adam Anton, a former president of the GCHC, Fiona Hart, the manager of the facility, Susie Kaul of the Liedertafel and Werner Kapelle of the Male Choir, all of whom were very helpful.

Following World War II many German people left their homeland to create a better life for themselves. Quite a few settled in Kelowna. By 1964 enough people had joined together to form the German Canadian Harmonie Club (GCHC). The word *Harmonie* with its rather idiosyncratic spelling -- there is no letter *y* in the German language, thus the *ie* -- is a translation of the German word *Gemütlichkeit* which might be understood to mean good feelings and has nothing to do with musical harmony.

The GCHC has a club house at 1696 Cary Road, which is very near the intersection of Hiway 97 and Hiway 33. On the ground level there is an office, a kitchen and a good sized club room. Upstairs there is a hall that is suitable for groups of 80 to 180 people. It has a small stage and a bar area. In addition to club activities the hall is rented out for receptions, anniversaries, meetings and dances. The club today is thriving and has 335 members, although many are advancing in age. Dances are a popular activity and a number are scheduled through the year.

The tokens were introduced perhaps 25 years ago, but certainly by 1982 when they came to the attention of collectors. They have been used only during the dances so that the bartenders do not have to handle cash and are still in use, although tickets are sometimes used.

The GCHC has a number of related groups and clubs which either lease space, or use the facilities as members. For instance there is a Skat club (a form of cards) which meets regularly. All members of the Skat club are members of the GCHC.

The Deutsche Männerchor, or German Male Choir, leases space. This choir group was formed in 1984 and introduced its tokens c. 1988. One token reads DMK and the other GMC, roughly corresponding to the German and English names of the Choir. Mr. Kapelle said that the tokens originally used for draft and bottled beer, but he couldn't remember which token was used for which. However, changes to the licensing regulations eliminated the use of draft and the need for two separate tokens ended. The tokens are still used. The membership in the Male Choir is dropping and their membership is aging. The choir only has 23 members currently. Mr. Kapelle was concerned that there appears not to be much interest in the younger generation in singing.

The mixed choir, or Kelowna Liedertafel is a much larger choir which was formed in 1970. It also leases space in the GCHC facility. The Liedertafel hosts dances regularly. On occasion the group will rent a larger hall, the Mexlata Hall, and bring in bands from outside, from as far away as Vancouver. The token was introduced in 1976 and is still in use.

The Schützenklub Edelweiss was formed as an air rifle club with a strong social element. They used to have friendly competitions with other clubs, but there are getting to be very few such clubs in western Canada today. I was not able to talk to anyone from the club, but Mr. Kapelle said that use of their token was discontinued five or six years ago. The token uses the

English spelling of *Club*, although the sign at the entrance to the building uses the Germanic spelling, *Schützenklub*. Fiona Hart says that such confusion between the two languages happens quite often and we have already noted a similar problem with the Male Choir.

The tokens, all are uniface.

German Canadian Harmonie Club

K3467a Pw/k:R:37

K3467b Pr/w:R:29

Deutsche Männerchor/German Male Choir

K3379a LPy,k/k:S:25-1/2

K3379b LPta,k/k:S:26

(these two items are made of a laminated material usually used for office signs and their dimensions may vary slightly)

Kelowna Liedertafel Choir

K3778a Pb/w:R:39

Schützenklub Edelweiss

K4759a Pg/w:R:29

Numismatically Oxford (part 18)
Mount Elgin
by Harry N. James

Mount Elgin is a hamlet situated on number 19 hiway about mid-way between Ingersoll and Pt. Burwell in Dereham township of Oxford county. The place is the highest spot in Dereham township and was originally known as Dereham Heights. It was re-named Mount Elgin after the governor-general, Lord Elgin who had made a brief stop there while passing through.

The Historical Atlas of Oxford County of 1876 describes Mount Elgin as a village on the Ingersoll and Pt. Burwell macadamized road. It is in the heart of the dairy interest of the county, has a good store, a daily post and all the other necessaries.

By 1881 the population was about 200. It had two churches, a large carriage, wagon and general blacksmith shop, a large flour, saw and grist mill, a sash, door and blind factory, a number of general stores etc. A stage coach which ran daily except Sunday stopped at the corner store each morning and afternoon. Two general merchants at this time were a Mr. Robert Smart and a Mr. George Collins who was also the post master.

In its early days, a Mr. James Stevens built a brick store which was operated by a Mr. Fluelling. It was afterwards sold to Robert Smart (1880s) and later to a Perry finch. The next owner was Mr. E. C. Corbett, a Verschoyle merchant who had Mr. Basil Glyn manage the store.

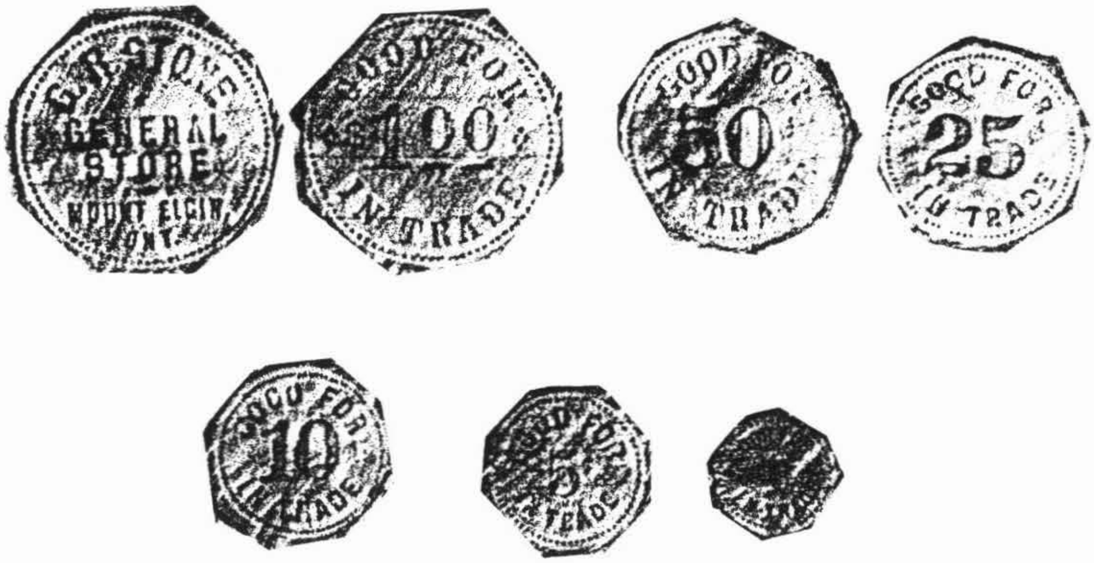
A frame store was operated by a John Folwell, who was succeeded by Mr. Joe McKay, then George Harris and a Mr. Graves. The store eventually burned but was re-built and came under Corbitt's ownership managed by Mr. Glyn and a Philip Willetts. The store was destroyed by another fire in 1963.

Another store was operated by a Thomas George. Later owners were Willetts & Glyn, Allin Burill, and Matheson & Boult.

In the late Ken Palmer's *Ontario Merchants' Trade Due Bills* published by the Canadian Token in 1991, he lists the following tokens from Mount Elgin.

B. Glyn, The Enterprise Store, a ten cent round aluminum token 25 mm in diameter.
Enterprise Store, Matheson & Boult, a 25c aluminum scalloped shaped token 28 mm in diameter.
G.R. Stone, General Store, 1c, 5c, 10c, 25c, 50c and $1 aluminum octagonal tokens running from 18 mm to 35 mm in diameter.
Wonderland, Mount Elgin's Leading Store, a brass 1c token, round and 18 mm.

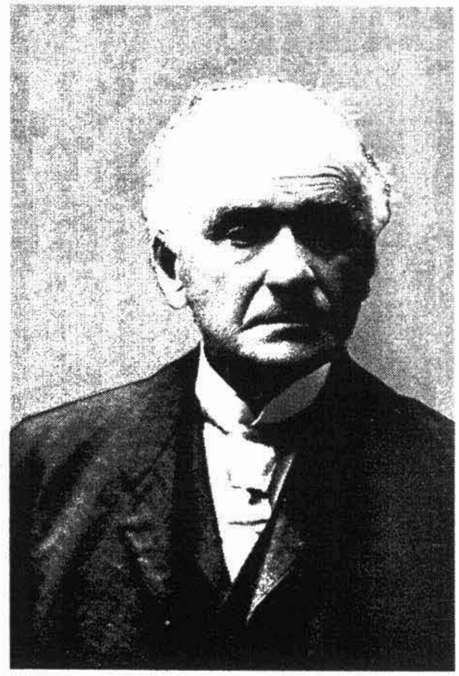
There is still a store operating on the south-east corner of the main intersection. It was known as the Clover Farm in the 1970s. This was the location of at least some of the early merchants including Mr. G. R. Stone. I found no mention of Mr. Stone in any local references however I managed to locate him in the Ingersoll Telephone directory of 1926.



References:
1. Gilbert, Bertha, Mount Elgin - Centre of Dairy Industry, 1947.
2. Crotty & Dart, Oxford County Directory, 1881.
3. Ingersoll Telephone Directory, 1926.
4. Ardel, P., Some Recollections of the Village of Mount Elgin.
5. The Historical Atlas of Oxford County, Wadsworth, Morris, et al Toronto. 1876.

Old Boys' Reunions of London, Ontario

by Ted Leitch



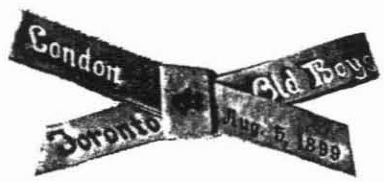
Nicholas Wilson

Collectors of London memorabilia soon discover items relating to the "Old Boys" reunions. There are a number of pins, ribbons, badges, programs, souvenir books and medals. Many of the programs and books list prominent old boys from London and other communities. It becomes apparent that these reunions were well attended by prominent London businessmen as well as former Londoners from near and far. All these events began in 1897, with the celebration of the fiftieth anniversary of the head teacher of the Union School, Nicholas Wilson (Old Nick). On January 6, 1897 a presentation of a small chest containing $1,000 in gold coins was presented to him at the Grand Opera House along with an address praising him for his years of dedication. On the train trip home a group of ex-Londoners living in Toronto formed an organization to promote an excursion to London for the Civic Holiday. From these events the London Old Boys' Association was formed. The reunions were a gathering and celebration by past students of Nicholas Wilson.

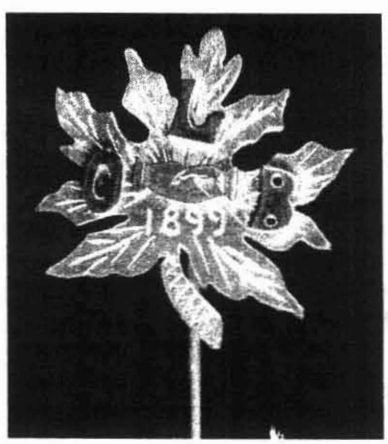
Nicholas Wilson was born in Ireland in 1829, where he received his early education. In 1842, he moved to Canada with his parents and settled in London West. Nicholas became a store clerk, but a fire destroyed the store and Nicholas was out of work. On January 13, 1845, in a small log school just west of Nilestown, Nicholas Wilson began his teaching career. A few months later he moved to a London Township school where he remained until 1846. In January 1847, he was appointed a teacher at St.George ward school on Market Street near Richmond Street in London. In 1848, Nicholas Wilson attended "Normal School" in Toronto were he received excellent grades. He returned to London and became a teacher at the new Union School where he remained for the next 21 years. In 1868, he began his second teaching career when he joined the staff of the grammar school as a teacher of commercial subjects and in 1878 he transferred to the newly built London Collegiate Institute on Waterloo Street. In 1906, Nicholas Wilson accepted a generous retirement allowance of $800.00 per year. After only a few short years Nicholas Wilson died on March 14, 1909, but he was remembered for many years by the students whose lives he touched.

The first Old Boys' reunion occurred on the Civic Holiday of 1897 when about two hundred ex-Londoners returned to London bringing with them the 48th Highlanders band. An organizing committee had also been formed to officially greet them. Concerts were planned along with sporting events at Springbank Park. The next year the excursion from Toronto was repeated with increased enthusiasm and numbers. A group of ex-Londoners in Detroit formed the Detroit Old Boys and joined the celebrations. The third convention in 1899 was bolstered by a third group from Chicago who were well represented by prominent men from London's past. A meeting was held at the Tecumseh House and the "International Old Boys' Association" was formed. Over the next twelve months many associations were formed in a number of cities and towns in Canada and the United States. The fourth reunion, in 1900, was done up in a grand manner with each group trying to outdo the other. The Chicago group engaged two special trains of sleeping cars and brought the entire band of the First Regiment of the Illinois National Guard at a cost of one thousand dollars. The London Home Guard met the trains at the Grand Trunk Railway station with its band and the 7th Fusiliers Band. They all marched to Victoria Park to hear the welcoming speech from the mayor. Sporting and musical events took place over the next three days at Springbank Park and Queens Park. The reunions expanded as clubs from Detroit, Chicago, Toledo, Ottawa, Woodstock, Aylmer, Windsor, Sarnia, St. Thomas, Hamilton, Cleveland, Brantford, and Cincinnati were organized.

Ribbon used by the first Toronto group.



Ribbon pin 1899



L.O.B. pin
1899

Committee ribbon
1899

In 1901, clubs from Ottawa, St. Paul and Rochester joined the official group of Old Boys. The 1901 reunion was similar to the 1900 one with a three day schedule which started on a Monday. The sporting events were awarded cash prizes for events like three-legged races and climbing a greased pole.

It should be remembered that the main mode of transportation to this reunion was by rail. One of the joys of these conventions was to travel with your friends to London by train. It was decided in 1901 that due to the expense and the amount of planning required the reunions would be held every two years.

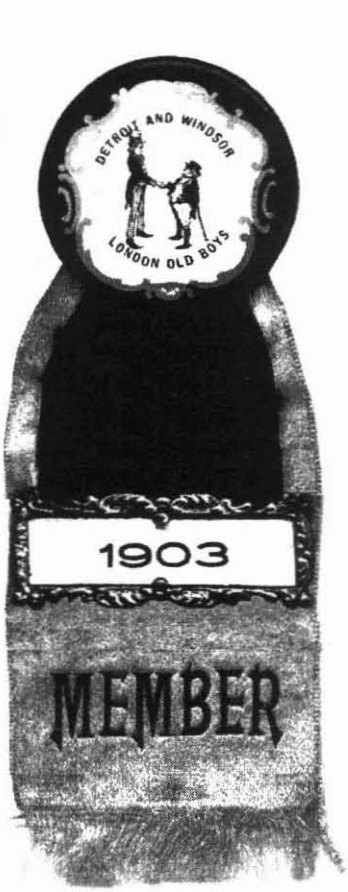
Badges used by London Home Guard

A pink member's ribbon

Toronto

The London organizing and welcoming committee also issued its own medals and badges with ribbons. In 1900 the London executive and welcoming committee wore a 45mm button with the city crest, Red Ensign crossed flags on a white ribbon overlaid on a six inch red ribbon. The ribbon had the word "Committee" and "1900" in gold lettering. In 1901, the red ribbon was replaced by a blue ribbon. The Toronto Old Boys' Association issued a badge similar to the London committee badge. The 45mm button was attached to the pin with a red, white and blue ribbon which was then connected to a blue ribbon with the word "Toronto" in gold letters.

Ribbon pin 1900



1901 Detroit & Windsor badge

1903 badge

The illustrated "Detroit & Windsor" pin from 1900 would have been used with a ribbon. The 1901 badge is a spade shaped badge which is actually a small booklet containing eight scenes of Detroit. This badge refers to the fourth reunion and it was for the Detroit and Windsor group, but it was actually the fifth reunion. The 1903 badge is a blue button trimmed with gold portraying Uncle Sam shaking hands with John Bull. The 1903 date plate is attached to a red ribbon overlaid on a white ribbon. A tag on the back of the ribbon indicates it was made by "The Whitehead & Hoag Co." in Newark New Jersey.

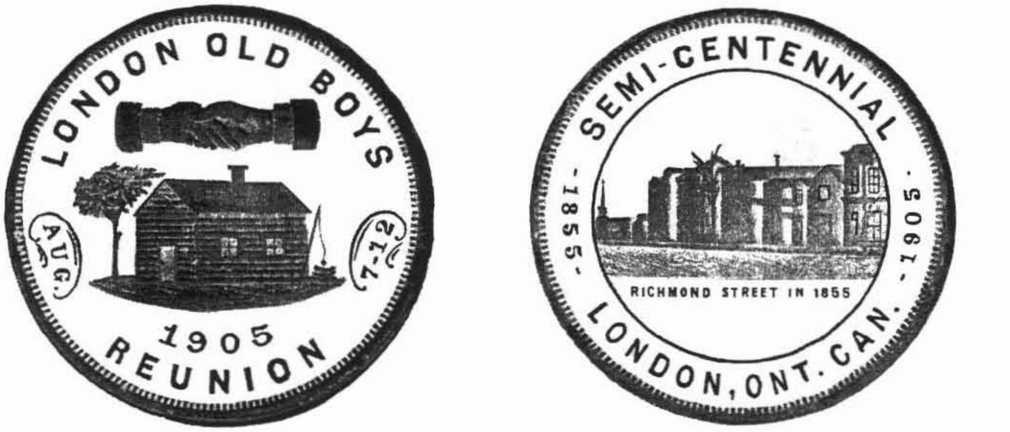
In 1903, the committee badge was similar in design to the 1901 badge. The new shield shaped button still has the city's coat-of-arms and is attached to the pin with a red ribbon. The main red, white and blue ribbon has the inscription in gold lettering "London Old Boys Association 1903". The 1903 Toronto badge was a simple 32mm button with the red ensign and the inscription "London Old Boys". The Toronto pin was connected to a mauve ribbon with the date 1903.

Badges from the 1903 Reunion

A number of the larger Old Boys' groups from other cities issued their own medals and badges to distinguish their members. The Cincinnati badge or button measures 48mm and has an overall length of 95mm. It is not dated and has the inscription "Cincinnati London Old Boys." The centre has a barrel with the inscription "Vos You Ever in Zinzinnati." The badge is suspended from the bar with a red, white and blue ribbon with the two flags on each end. The badge was made by the Pettibone Brothers Manufacturing Company in Cincinnati. The design and style of this badge is similar to the London badges and was probably issued about the same time.

Although all the badges are not dated it would appear that generally the members of the different attending Old Boys' groups started with ribbons and pins. Between 1900 and 1903 most groups had changed to buttons with ribbons. Starting in 1905, the groups began to issue medals as their badges. This general change helps to date the medals that were not dated.

The Old Boys' conventions became very successful and other cities tried to copy this tradition but did not have the same success. The London Old Boys was started by the pupils of the Old Union School. Because all the students had attended the same school with the same teacher and had shared many experiences together, they had a common thread that large cities like Toronto with multiple schools did not.



One of the earliest medals or tokens is this brass 37mm token celebrating the fiftieth anniversary of London becoming a city. The obverse has the inscription "London Old Boys Reunion 1905" with the dates of the reunion "Aug 7-12". It also features hands grasping in greeting over a log building. The reverse has the inscription "Semi-Centennial 1855-1905 London, Ont. Can." around the outside and a picture of Richmond Street in 1855 in the centre. These tokens are usually found in worn condition as if they circulated or were carried as a good luck piece.

The other 1855-1905 Old Boys medal is a gold coloured medal featuring a shield on a maple leaf with the inscription "1855 1905 London Old Boys Association." The medal measures 56mm wide by 58mm high and is connected to an ornate pin with the Union Jack, the Red Ensign and a lion's head in the centre with a beaver on top. There is no manufacturer's name on the reverse just the word "copyright". The pin is attached to either a short mauve or dark blue ribbon. The two flags suggest this medal was probably worn by the Home Guard and other Canadian Old Boys from smaller locations. The date 1905 at the top of the medal was changed to 1908 and issued for the following reunion.

A similarly designed medal with the shield on a maple leaf was used by the New York, London Old Boys. The shield has the inscription "New York London Old Boys Association" with a five pointed star in the centre. The medal was struck by the C.G. Braymar Company, of Maidenlane, New York. The medal is attached to the pin by a ring held in the lion's mouth. The two flags are the Stars and Stripes and the Red Ensign. On top of the pin is an eagle with spread wings. This medal is also mounted on a short mauve ribbon.

The Chicago branch of the London Old Boys was a supporter of the reunion from 1899. The 1905 Semi-Centennial badge from the Chicago group has a small 19mm medal which is connected to the loop on the Chicago pin. The medal has the Chicago crest and the inscription "City of Chicago Incorporated 1857". A red ribbon connects the bottom bar with the inscription "1855-London-1905 Semi-Centennial". The small medal is thin and the details of the medal are not clear.

In 1905 there was a large group from Winnipeg attending the reunion. The small Winnipeg pennant pin was probably used in conjunction with a ribbon.

The Detroit members of the London Old Boys issued the illustrated badge with two crossed flags on a white ribbon which suspended a brass bar with the number "50" on it. The pin has the word Detroit and in smaller letters "The Beautiful" and a forest in the background. The pin is connected to a blue ribbon with gold lettering and gold tassels. Although the badge is not dated it is presumed to have been issued in 1905 for the fiftieth anniversary of London becoming a city. The Detroit badges issued prior to 1905 were a joint issue of Detroit and Windsor but by 1905 it was Detroit only.

All of the known Detroit badges were produced by the Whitehead and Hoag Company, of Newark, New Jersey. The buttons have the name of the company along the edge and the medals have the name on the reverse. The London medal of 1923 featuring the crest of the city was also struck by Whitehead and Hoag along with the Cleveland medal of 1908. A number of their badges have a label on the back side of the ribbon advertising their company although a number of badges found today may not include the ribbon. The development of the London Old Boys' badges seems to start with ribbons and pins at the beginning of the reunions. The badges became buttons and then a number of Old Boys' group issued medals. Between 1900 and 1914 a large number of American Old Boys' groups issued their own badges. After the First World War the individual group medals diminished and it appears that most used the London city crest medal with an attached ribbon indicating their home. The Whitehead and Hoag Company included a card with each medal, suggesting that after all the parades and expensive events, the badge may be the only keepsake left to remind you of the event.

At the 1905 Reunion it was decided to make the reunions every three years. The reunion of 1908 started on Saturday and continued until the following Friday. The reunion started with a concert in the new Armouries on Dundas Street with seventy-five members of the 91st Highlanders Band from Hamilton performing. The reunion had become a family oriented affair with events for the children and a Street Carnival with a complete circus. There were still the baseball games and the fat man race for old boys weighing more than two hundred and twenty-five pounds.

This gold wash 36mm medal features the double portrait of King Edward VII and Queen Alexandra. The reverse features a parade float with a large shell-shaped sculpture behind a princess. There is the traditional handshake of welcome below the float. There are three other people in front with large branches. The medal is inscribed "London Old Boys Reunion 1908 London, Ont. Aug.-3-8." The loop at the top suggests it may have been used as a watch fob or a pendant.

1908 Old Boys parade at the corner of Dundas and Clarence Street.

In 1908, the executive committee prepared a gold convex badge with an enamelled crest of the city. The badge was attached to a white ribbon with the Home Guard's executive position. It would appear that these badges were for the executives of the London Old Boys and not for general issue. The illustrated ribbon and pin were the property of Nicholas Wilson who was Honorary Vice-President. There are brass name tag frames included in London Old Boys' accumulations that may have been used by the general committees. There are also ribbons with the inscription "Reception Committee They All Say London" that were not designed to be attached to a medal or badge. This ribbon could have been used in conjunction with any previous medal or name tag to identify a member of the Reception Committee.

Prior to 1908 all Canadian coins were struck at either the Royal Mint in London, England or the Heaton Mint in Birmingham, England. In 1908, the Royal Canadian Mint opened in Ottawa. A number of advertising collars with the inscription "One of the first coins made in Canada" were produced. The front of the collars was enamelled, usually red or green with white lettering. The back of this collar has the inscription "London Old Boys Re-Union From the W.O. Travelers Ass'N" which was the Western Ontario Travelers Association.

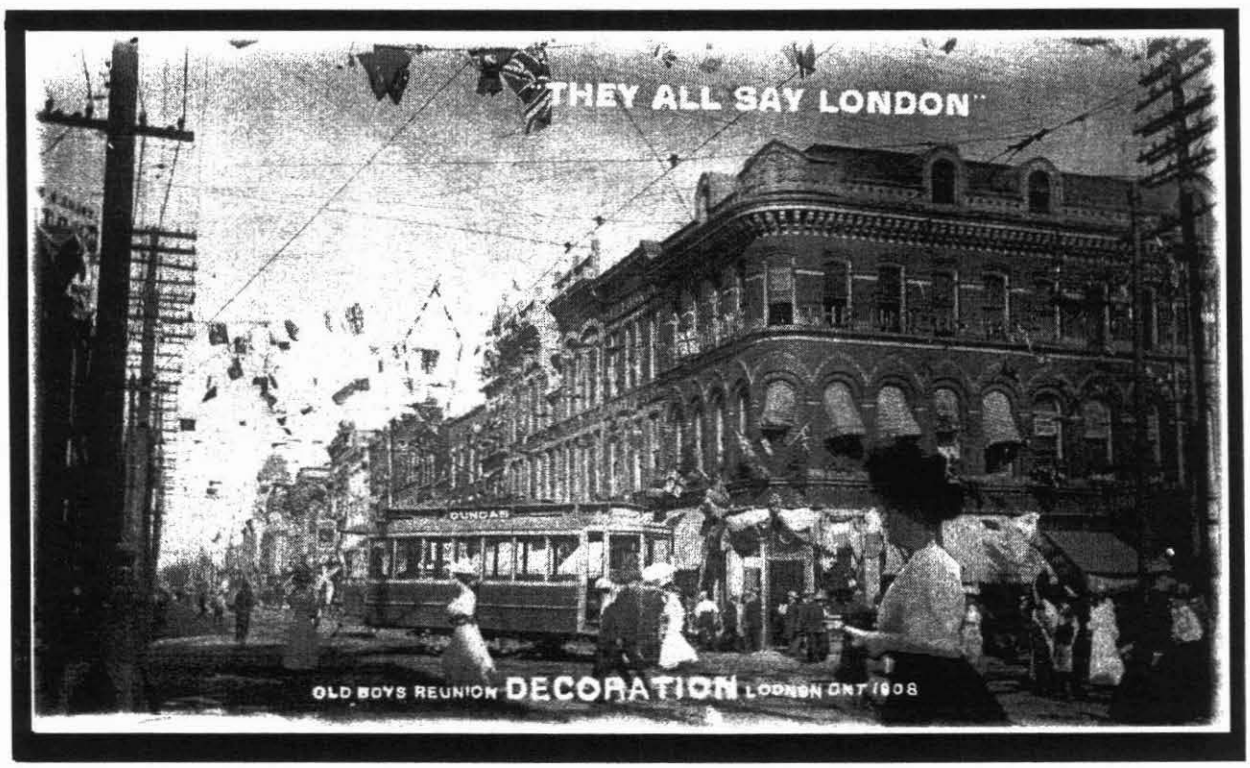
Although a large number of Old Boys came from different cities in Canada there are fewer known badges for Canadian cities. The Hamilton delegation of 1908 had this gold maple leaf badge measuring 50mm by 52mm, featuring a tiger in the centre and a beaver on the top. The badge was attached by a small chain to the pin with the name Hamilton. The pin and badge were attached to a purple ribbon with the gold letters "London Old Boys Re-union August 3 to 8 1908." The prominent roll that the Hamilton Old Boys played in the 1908 convention may have prompted them to issue their own badge.

This 44mm brass medal with the crossed flags and inscription "London Old Boy's Ass'n. Chicago" has no date on the ribbon. This medal was probably issued for the 1908 reunion based on previously dated medals and the fact one of these medals

resides in the Nicholas Wilson Collection (he died in 1909) at the University of Western Ontario. The flags are painted red, white and blue and a large loop is attached at the top for a ribbon which is also red, white and blue. The large clasp consists of a log with a beaver and maple leaf on it while beneath the log hangs a bar with the name "Chicago." The reverse of the medal features a large maple leaf with the inscription "Old Boy's Reunion" on the maple leaf. Another example of this medal is found with a wine coloured ribbon suggesting that this medal may have been used for different purposes at the reunion. The Chicago group of London Old Boys were very enthusiastic and may have been the leaders in having their own medals struck. Other cities followed with their own medals for their city.

The Cleveland badge of 1908 has the Stars and Stripes and the Red Ensign crossed on a white ribbon with gold lettering. This badge, like other badges made by Whitehead and Hoag have the flags rippled to appear like they are flapping in a breeze. The 37mm by 30mm medal is a portrait of the Garfield Monument in Cleveland, Ohio.

This shield-shaped badge from Toronto measures 30mm by 34mm. The medal is not dated but has an enameled crest in the centre and the clasped hands at the top with the inscription "London Old Boys". The medal is attached by two rings to a pin capped with a beaver. The pin has the inscription "Toronto" and is attached to a red ribbon. Although the Toronto Old Boys were the group to initiate the reunion in 1897, the souvenir booklets in 1903 and 1905 do not mention executives from the Toronto group. Other Old Boys medals which feature similar enamel work appear in 1908 and 1911. This Toronto medal was probably used at that time.



The 1911 Old Boys Reunion medal is smaller than most of the previous medals, measuring 27mm wide by 32mm high. The medal has an oval of white enamel with the inscription "London Old Boys Reunion Coronation Year" referring to the Coronation of King George V on June 22, 1911. In the centre of the medal is a scene in Victoria Park featuring the fountain that was once there. Below the oval is a red and blue enamelled Red Ensign flanked on each side by two maple leaves. The pin has two hands of greeting and the inscription "London Ont. Aug. 7-12, 1911" on a blue enamelled banner. The back has a single pin and the name of the manufacturer "Dieges & Clust 1123 Chestnut St. Phila.".

The London Old Boys of Winnipeg issued a badge for their members returning to the 1911 reunion. This brass shield-shaped medal measures 35mm by 43mm and features a sheaf of wheat with a banner inscribed "Great West". The medal is attached to a pin with the initials "L.O.B" with no period after the "B". The pin is connected to a short red ribbon with gold lettering "WINNIPEG 1911." In the Old Boys Souvenir booklets there are lists of attending members and the cities where they presently live. There were members from Calgary although there is no medal known from that city.

A distinctive badge from the London Old Boys of Chicago with a multicoloured enameled maple leaf is not dated. The medal measures 40mm by 53 mm and has the two flags, the Stars and Stripes and the Red Ensign at the top with a wreath of holly leaves around the remaining sides. A blue enameled circle has the inscription in gold letters "London Canada. Old Boy's Club. Chicago". The medal is attached by a red, white and blue ribbon to a brass frame pin. The frame has a blue card with the name "Chicago" in white letters. A second red, white and blue ribbon is attached to lay behind the medal. The medal was made by S.D. Childs & Co. of Chicago. Although this medal is not dated there are some guidelines provided from previous medals from Chicago and other dated medals. This medal is superior to the dated 1905 medal and the larger Chicago medal has been attributed to the 1908 reunion. The workmanship in this medal suggests it was used in the 1911, 1914 or even later reunions.

The 1914 London Old Boy's medal is an oval brass medal measuring 47mm by 27mm. The medal features large script letters "L.O.B" with a picture of the Union School in the centre of the "O". There is no period after the "B", the same as the 1911 Winnipeg badge. Across the top is the inscription "London Old Boy's Ass'n" and the bottom has the date "Aug-3-8-1914." The medal has a triangular loop which is attached to the pin with a blue ribbon. The pin has the word "member" on a banner and it is attached to a blue ribbon with gold lettering.

The normally scheduled reunion for 1917 was cancelled due to the First World War and plans for a 1919 reunion failed to gain support and it was dropped. The first Post-War reunion was held from August 4th to 11th, 1923. The reunion was similar to past reunions with sporting events, a circus, special L&PS trains to Port Stanley, parades and concerts. The reunion had a fifteen person "Printing and Badge Committee" along with a railway committee, Sports committee and many others. Indications are that there were fewer individual city or group medals than there had been prior to the war. The London Old Boys issued a bronze scalloped 38mm medal featuring the city's crest. The medal was attached to a brass name tag and pin. The badge had a purple ribbon with gold letters "London Old Boys Association 1923".

The 1926 reunion was billed as a centennial reunion, marking the one hundredth anniversary of settlement at London. The 1923 City of London medal was used again but this time a Centennial bar was added. This 45mm by 12mm bar, like the medal, was made by Whitehead and Hoag. The London medal and the Detroit pin were not dated making it an easy combination to produce as a badge. The Old Boys also issued a Centennial brass name tag holder where a member's name and city could be printed and a ribbon may have been an option. These name tags were cheaper and more flexible than medals.

The Detroit Old Boys medal of 1938 is similar to the 1926 issue but lacks the Centennial bar. Probably the Detroit group had a number of the Detroit pins and the London City Crest medal in stock. To this combination was added a yellow ribbon with the inscription "Detroit London Old Boys Ass'n Reunion Jly. 30 Aug. 6 1938." The London city crest medal was produced by Whitehead & Hoag and was probably available to other groups. The medal can be found separately suggesting it was used with ribbons of other cities.

It would appear by 1938 there were few organized groups of Old Boys attending the reunion. The reunion was still attended by groups from Detroit, Chicago, Cleveland, Hamilton, Peterborough and many other smaller communities. The parade was led by the Windsor-Essex Scottish Band and a complete week of activities was planned. The 1938 Old Boy's Reunion was the last official reunion. There was an "Old Home Week" in 1949 and a municipal celebration in 1955 to celebrate London's 100th Birthday. After two World Wars and the passage of time there were few Old Boys alive who had attended the old Union School or who had been pupils of Nicholas Wilson.

The reunions were part of London's history for a number of summers. There were groups from different regions of the country and as far away as Texas and Calgary. Many of these associations had their own pins, ribbons or medals to distinguish them from other groups. Some of these tokens and medals have been recorded but there are probably many yet undiscovered numismatic items pertaining to groups that returned to their respective cities with these medals. There are known badges for Sarnia and Buffalo that are not recorded here. Also, at the early conventions, the programs indicate that medals were awarded for some events. There are no records of the type of medals awarded. Although the early ribbons and pins lack numismatic qualifications they do indicate how the Old Boys' badges developed and how the proliferation of medals peaked prior to the First World War. These Old Boys' medals and badges are one of the few reminders of a local celebration.

The Bank of England Countermarks (a second opinion)

by Ted Leitch

I disagree with Wayne Jacobs' conclusion that the fractional counterstamped pieces of the Bank of England cannot be genuine. A book titled "Spanish Dollars and Silver Tokens an account of the issues of The Bank of England 1797-1816 by E.M. Kelly, Spink & Son Ltd." gives details of the workings of the Bank of England and its issues. Kelly's book is based on manuscripts, minutes of meetings and numerous records of the bank and is the basic reference for this subject.

Wayne indicates that no order was given to stamp coins other than dollars. This is true, but the term "dollar" refers to the weight. All transactions at the Bank of England over twenty-five pounds were done by the weight of the coins. If you brought one hundred dollars' worth of Spanish dollars to the Bank of England it could be eight reals and smaller denominations. The bank would weigh the coins and determine that you had one hundred dollars. The bank's records indicate they stored silver in dollars and in bullion (coins and bars).

The Bank of England purchased their silver from bullion dealers wherever and whenever they could buy it at the right price. Kelly states that the Bank of England also purchased a large amount of silver from the Navy ships which had captured the silver from Spanish galleons. The bullion dealers and the Spanish booty was sold by weight and shipped in barrels. These barrels of silver contained all denominations of Spanish colonial coins. Although it was the Bank's intention to counterstamp dollars it is reasonable to assume that some smaller denominations were shipped to the mint. It is even possible that a counterfeit coin could have gone undetected among all the genuine coins. Once the coins were shipped to the mint they would have been counterstamped. The coins were stamped by common labourers of the mint who had neither a coin of their own to strike or any idle time. The Bank of England only issued counterstamped dollars. If any minor or foreign coin were counterstamped they would probably considered bullion. Would the bank have melted these coins or sold them at some time as bullion? The bank melted all dollars they redeemed to prevent from redeeming them a second time. They did not have to melt smaller denominations as they were not redeeming them at any more than silver value.

The oval punch was also at assayers' offices and this genuine punch could be punched on any coin or denomination of dollar. There were also counterfeit punches on genuine and counterfeit coins. It would be difficult to determine if a genuine four real with a genuine punch came from the mint or an assayer's office. There are also records to indicate that a large number of four reals were counterstamped for the Bank but not issued.

There are few Bank of England counterstamps on denominations less than an eight real. Were these pieces struck at the mint or at an assayer's office? A recent book by the British Numismatic Society entitled "Tokens of the Industrial Revolution" illustrates genuine and counterfeit counterstamps of the Bank of England and covers the subject of the counterstamped dollar. If you are to come to any opinion on what is a genuine or a counterfeit with regards to the Bank of England counterstamp, read both of books mentioned above and then make an informed decision.

ORONO STAGE LINE TOKEN

R.W. Irwin

A transportation token is illustrated in "Out of the Mists", a history of Clarke Township by Helen Schmid and Sid Rutherford,1976. It may be described:

Obv. ORONO STAGE LINE around the upper edge, and, ORONO, ONT. below.
In the centre is J. W. / JACKSON / PROP.
Rev. GOOD FOR ONE FARE.

The Jackson stage line existed for 24 years, and outgrowth of James Jackson's livery business and mail contractor. His son, Thomas W. Jackson, took over the business in 1889 (the token should read "T.W." instead of "J.W."). The two horse stage made three trips a day between Orono and Newcastle to meet all trains. By 1902 the business was referred to a bus line "nicely upholstered and well equipped with oil-cloth curtains as storm shelters".

Passenger rates were increased in 1909 from \$.25 single fare to \$.35, or \$.60 return, to meet the increased cost of feed. In 1911 the rate was increased to \$.75 for a single fare. The coming of the railway to Orono killed the stage business.

An Inspector? Countermark from British Columbia

Gregory G. Brunk

By the time of the Second World War, when the practice was very common, it had long been a fad for the inspectors of military equipment to countermark coins as personal keepsakes. Doing so may have continued into the Vietnam War era. A number of American examples of such countermarked coins also are known from well before the Civil War in the form of arms inspector stamps. The early stamps often are incuse or in rectangles, and some of them may have been used as advertising, rather than as souvenirs.

Twentieth century examples of inspector stamps usually appear on silver coins, but some of the early nineteenth century American countermarks of this sort are on US large cents. Most inspector stamps have never been identified. This is because although many good references to guns and gunsmiths have been written, there is no comprehensive work to arms inspectors.

Most inspector stamps are quite simple in their design. I have seen American coins with the Navy anchor flanked by "U S" or numerals, the flaming bomb of the Army Ordinance Corps, and numbers and initials either in ovals or in the corners of a cross. The latter type of stamps may be regimental marks as this sort of symbolism occurs on US Army flags.

Because inspector stamps often appear on twentieth century coins, they are quite different from most of the other Canadian and American countermarks. Although the practice of countermarking coins with advertising was widespread in the nineteenth century, except for these inspector countermarks and a few commemoratives made for sale to collectors, not many twentieth century North American coins are countermarked. This is because most countermarked coins were used for advertising in an era when it was difficult to get your service recognized. By the early twentieth century other forms of advertising, such as telephone directories, had became more economical, effective, and popular.

While most twentieth century inspector stamps have not been identified, quite a few of them appear in triangles, circles, or complicated cartouches. They often consist of the initials or monogram of the company that made a part or checked it for quality. Most also have an inspector's unique number. Among the American issues, countermarks have been identified that indicate Pratt and Whitney, which made airplane engines, and the Briggs Corporation, which made wings for Navy aircraft in Evansville and St. Louis.

The most commonly seen of the American series of inspector stamps is the "N A A" of North American Aviation. About a dozen examples are known, all with different inspector numbers. One of these appears on a 1961 quarter, which means stamping coins in this way was still a fad in the early 1960s. Numerous other inspector countermarks of this sort have the initials of now unrecognizable firms or military units, and a number indicating a particular inspector. He or she was the person who countermarked that particular coin.

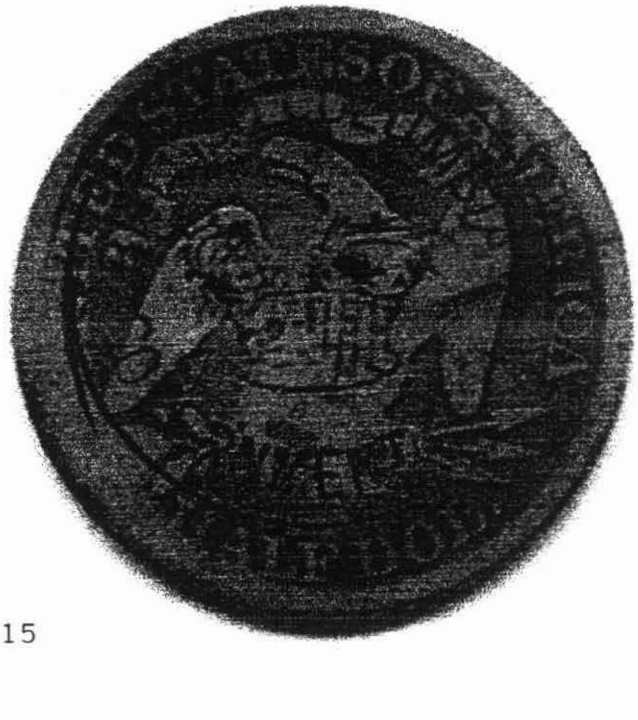
Until now, only two examples of what may be inspector stamps have been noted on Canadian coins. A fifty cents of unknown date was countermarked by an inspector for the Royal Canadian Air Force. It is stamped "R C A F / (Broad Arrow) / 403" on one side, and on the other "137 / ASSEM / D H G." Both inscriptions appear in circles, and may be from a paired set of stamps that was installed in a metal press.

A 1934 Canadian fifty cents is stamped "94402 / SIMAN CO / CAN," but it is not certain what the "94402" means. It could be a patent number rather than an inspector's number. The firm also had an American branch. Two different US countermarks of the Siman Company have been noted on a 1907 small cent and a 1929 nickel. Neither of them seems to be an inspector's stamp.

As part of my research for *Merchant and Privately Countermarked Coins*, which is forthcoming from World Exonumia Press, I placed notices in numerous publications asking readers to report any newly discovered countermarked coins. One of the most interesting reports, which unfortunately arrived after I had sent the finished manuscript to the publisher, came from John Raymond. In 1989 he purchased a group of fifty silver coins in an auction of items found in abandoned safety deposit boxes in Washington state.

Among the coins he obtained was an 1877 US half dollar that has what appears to be a large inspector's stamp. It seems most likely that this coin was countermarked as a personal souvenir. The original stamp cannot be fully read, but occurs on both sides of the coin. Putting the inscriptions together, one can made out "BRITISH COLUMBIA / (Crown) / GOVERNMENT..."

Because of its large size, the stamping was weakly done. This is typical of all large countermarks that were hand stamped. There is a five to seven letter word or abbreviation missing at the end of the inscription. While I suspect the missing letters likely indicate a particular type of government inspector, such as an inspector of weights, the word might be "library" or something else. Does anyone recognize this stamp?



"A case of some interest, as involving the right of lithographers to place their imprint on labels or cards furnished by them, has recently been decided in the courts here. Messrs. Devins & Bolton, chemists and dealers in patent medicines, ordered a quantity of chromo cards, on which was to be printed the name of a preparation of which they are the proprietors, from A. Delau, who is agent for an establishment in Paris, where such cards are printed. When delivered it was found that Mr. Delau's name and place of business were printed in small letters at the bottom, and Devins' & Bolton refused to take them. Mr. Delau thereupon sued for their value, but the late Judge Dorion, before whom the case was tried, held that he could not recover, as the sample furnished, when the order was given, had not the imprint. Devins & Bolton's objection to taking the cards was founded on the fact that Mr. Delau also deals in patent medicines, and that by circulating the cards they would be advertising a rival.

Journal of Commerce, Montreal, 14 June 1878, p 514.

BASE COPPER COIN

"We observe that the Quebec Chamber of Commerce has been representing to the Minister of Inland Revenue that the Dominion Government should take steps to remove from circulation the base copper coin, the circulation of which is unquestionably a nuisance. It is very questionable, however, whether it is in the power of the Dominion Government to afford any relief under the circumstances. This is a very different case from the American silver, which was not only a Government coinage but a legal tender in the United States, and which obtained general circulation in Canada under very exceptional circumstances. As to the base copper in Quebec the remedy is simple: The public have only to refuse to take it. It may be that all that is desired is to procure a supply of good copper coins, which would be a very easy task, and one that any of the banks would probably undertake. We cannot help thinking that Quebec would like to be relieved of its base coin at the cost of the Treasury, which would be a very dangerous precedent to establish.

Journal of Commerce, Montreal, 21 June 1878, p 549.

NEW COIN

"A new silver coin has just made its appearance which is likely to cause some inconvenience owing to its approximation in size to two current Canadian coins, viz., the twenty-five and twenty cent pieces. It is an American twenty cent piece not quite as large as our twenty cent coin and not as heavy. Another difference between it and our twenty cent piece in general appearance is that it is not milled. By the exercise of about the same amount of vigilance that is now necessary to distinguish between our twenty-five and twenty cent coins any one may easily avoid taking it for the latter. Of course like all other American silver coins it is subject to discount in this country."

Journal of Commerce, Montreal, 20 August 1875, p 17

* The Journal was not quite correct–the American 20¢ piece, while slightly smaller in diameter than its Canadian counterpart, was heavier and contained almost a fifth of a gram more pure silver.

NEW ONE CENT COIN - 1876

The Government has caused to be struck for circulation in the Dominion a new bronze cent. The effigy of the Queen, with the words "Victoria Dei Gratia Regina, Canada", is on the obverse, and on the reverse the words "One Cent" with the date 1876, within a beaded circle, surrounded by a wreath of maple leaves. These coins are legal tender to the amount of twenty-five cents in any one payment.

Journal of Commerce, Montreal, 22 Dec. 1876, p 519

Arthur Graham Lambrick and the Gordon Head Dairy of Saanich, B.C.

by Ronald Greene

An earlier version of this story was taken from the Victoria Numismatic Society's Vintage & Mintage and used in the CeeTee in 1982. That version was not complete as the original article had been intended as part of a series of short notes on local tokens. We would also draw the reader's attention to the article on Arthur Graham Lambrick's nephew, A.S.L. Lambrick, which appeared in *The Transactions*, 2000, p. 105.

Arthur Graham Lambrick was born in Cornwall in 1892. In 1911 as a young man he came to Victoria. He first worked at the Foundation Shipyard and then as a teamster for the City of Victoria. He told the writer that he bought himself a cow in 1913 because he did not care for the milk that was available in Victoria -- his father had a dairy in the old country and Arthur appreciated good milk. While still living at 1702 Kings (at Shelbourne) he gradually entered the business as more and more of his neighbours started asking for milk.

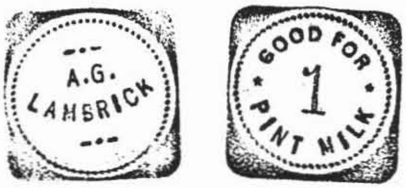
According to Ursula Jupp[1], in 1924 Lambrick purchased 10 acres of good farm land on Torquay Drive in the Gordon Head district of Saanich from Luke Pither, of the firm of Pither and Leiser, major B.C. importers of liquors, wines and cigars. Mr. Pither had used the farm to raise poultry. The original purchase included one of the staff cottages into which Arthur Lambrick moved by 1926. After Pither died, Lambrick completed the purchase of Pither's farm, five acres at a time, from the widow. By 1944 Mr. Lambrick also had possession of the big farm house which dates to 1907 or 1908. At its largest, the dairy had as many as 60 producing head and was the largest dairy selling raw (unpasteurized) milk in the Greater Victoria area. Mr. Lambrick had a passion for the taste and quality of milk and intensely disliked pasteurized milk. He called it "paralysed milk" and complained of its lack of taste. Mr. Lambrick was a strong opponent of the movement for compulsory pasteurization and a list that he compiled in mid 1935 of producer-vendors to aid in his fight showed almost 130 producer-vendors and another dozen vendors operating in Victoria. This list proved to be very helpful in ferreting out other tokens.

Lambrick was also a public spirited man. Not only did he serve several terms on Saanich council including two terms as reeve but he wanted the citizens of Saanich to have his property for public and recreational use When he retired from the dairy in February 1966, selling off his herd and equipment at auction, Mr. Lambrick sold the farm to the municipality for less than he would have received if he had subdivided the land for housing. Today his name is commemorated in Lambrick Park Secondary School and Lambrick Park, both of which are situated on his old farm. The farm house was one of the first houses designated as a heritage structure by the Municipality of Saanich. In addition to the recreational centre build in the park the oldest house still standing in Saanich, the Capt. Dodd house, was moved from its original site to the park in 1978.[2] Arthur Graham Lambrick passed away in October 1967, age 75, leaving Clara, his wife of 53 years, three sons and two daughters.

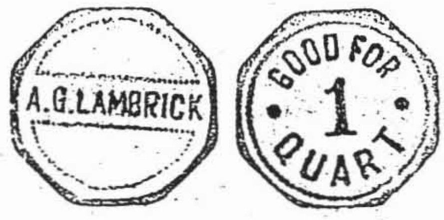
Mr. Lambrick started using aluminum tokens about 1930 and continued using them until 1952 when he replaced them with plastic tokens. The plastic tokens have the name Gordon Head Dairy on them, the name under which he had been operating since 1940. The white token for Special Milk (S0360d) was difficult to keep clean and was replaced almost immediately by a red token (either S0360e or e2).

When Mr. Lambrick passed away, the author waited a couple of months to ask the family about the remaining tokens on hand. Unfortunately by then the plastic tokens had been burned and the aluminum tokens sent to the city dump. It might have paid to be a hearse-chaser in this situation. Rubbings courtesy of Leslie C. Hill.

The tokens are as follows:



S0640b Aluminum
S:23½ mm



S0640c Aluminum
O:26½ mm

S0640d Aluminum
O:26 mm

S0360a Pk/w
O:29

S0360b Pr/w
Sc:28½

S0360c Pg/w
R:28½

S0360d Pw/k
S:28½

S0360e Pr/w
S:28½

S0360e2 Pr/w
S:28½
(larger obverse letters)

[1] Ursula Jupp, *From Cordwood to Campus in Gordon Head, 1852 – 1959*, 1975, see pp 133 to 135

[2] Jennifer Nell Barr, *Saanich Heritage Structures, An Inventory*, 1991, p 53

The Central Hotel of Revelstoke

Ronald Greene

5 cents
Breton 936 *BC R0860a*
Brass: Round: 25 mm

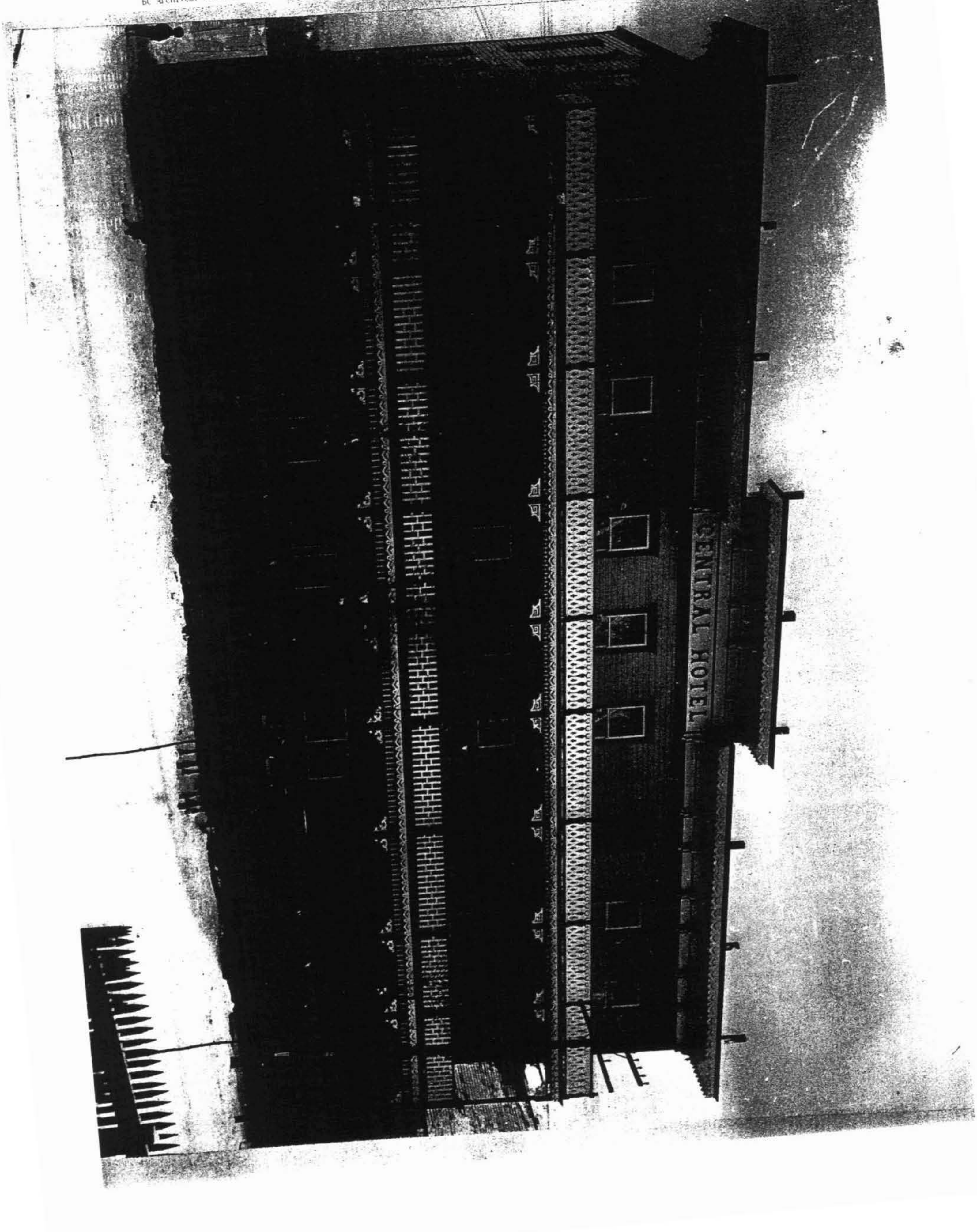
15 cents
Breton 937 *BC 0860b*
Brass: Round: 25 mm

P.N. Breton first listed two tokens for the Central Hotel in his little known publication, *Breton's Illustrated Canadian Coin Collector, First Annual Supplement* of June 1892, in which he assigned numbers 322 and 324 to the two pieces. He reassigned the numbers as 936 and 937 respectively in 1894 in his *Illustrated History of Coins and Tokens Relating to Canada* and it is these numbers which have been widely accepted and used. He says very little about either token. About the No. 936 he says, "This check was used in the above hotel in 1887. Of the 100 specimens originally struck, 63 were sold to Mr. Campeau of Ottawa, R.2." Since the token is known both in medal and coin orientation – in the former the tops of the dies are back to back, and in the latter the top of one die is back to the bottom of the other die – it must be assumed that more than one order of the tokens was made. Breton says even less about No. 937, "This check is not now used in the Central Hotel. R.2."

The denomination of 15 cents is unusual. Prior to the 1920's coins smaller than a 25 cent piece were seldom encountered in British Columbia, particularly in the interior of the province and the one cent piece was not in use at all. The 25 cent piece was commonly called "2 bits." If one needed change for a purchase of less than 25 cents – as an example, two cigars, priced at 4 for 25 cents -- then change could be given in the form of tokens conveniently denominated as 6-1/4 cents or 12-1/2 cents, or if available, in coin. Change given as 10 cents was referred to a short bit, and 15 cents was referred to as a long bit. Merchants who gave out short bits were considered unfavourably.[1] Perhaps this background explains the 15 cent denomination. In any case the brass tokens of the Central Hotel was not used for long, and are usually found in nicer condition. They are not rare. The 12-1/2 cent piece was issued later, the two we have encountered seem to be well worn, indicating extensive use. A third piece is known.

BC Database R0860d
Aluminum: Cloverleaf shape: 28 mm

An introduction to the early history of Revelstoke was provided in the Companion article on W. Cowan [*The Transactions* 2001, p. 42] and will not be repeated here.


CENTRAL HOTEL

The Central Hotel was established by the Abrahamson brothers in 1885. The brothers had been born in Dorsland, Sweden. Charles Gustave, Andrew Peter and John Abrahamson left their native land for the United States in 1880, but came to Canada in 1881. They contracted for the Canadian Pacific Railway between Winnipeg and Beaver for several years. Andrew Peter established a hotel at Beavermouth, B.C. but left there for Farwell in 1884. Charles Gustave and John also came to Farwell in 1885. By June 1886, the name of Farwell was officially changed to Revelstoke. The three brothers built and opened the Central Hotel in 1885 on Front Street in Lower Town. A fourth brother, Noah, arrived in Revelstoke in 1894 after having been in New Zealand and the United States – he hadn't seen his brothers in sixteen years. In October of that same year Andrew Peter applied for a pre-emption at Trout Lake and Noah purchased the Royal Hotel in Trout Lake City from the assignee at 80 cents on the dollar. At the time Noah was quoted as saying it was something of an experiment to see if he could survive a British Columbia winter after so many years in warmer climes.[2] By June the following year the hotel was completely renovated and opened as the Queen's Hotel with Andrew Peter and Noah operating it. Trout Lake City was by then a flourishing centre for the Lardeau silver mining region which was located south of Revelstoke. The four brothers jointly operated the two hotels. A fifth brother, William O. came to Revelstoke in May 1895, to become a building contractor in Revelstoke. Their father, Andrews, joined his boys in 1897 but as he was then in his seventies he was presumably retired.

In May 1896 the Abrahamsons brought in a 14 passenger bus to transport hotel guests to and from the station. It was considered, "well upholstered and fitted throughout." This bus rolled over in February 1897 and the newspaper hints that Charles was driving it at the time.

In the early days in the interior of British Columbia, especially before 1890, the demand for lumber was such that it was never properly dried before being sold so that it shrank and warped and most pioneer buildings needed to be repaired or replaced within a few years. The Central Hotel was completely rebuilt in 1897 and it is the rebuilt hotel which is shown in the accompanying illustration. There was a grand opening Thursday December 16th 1897, an event covered in detail by the local newspaper, *The Kootenay Mail*. About fifty couples danced until midnight when a splendid supper was served, and then dancing resumed until 3:30 a.m.[3] The description of the hotel was that the main floor had a large office, a dining room 28'x 30' spacious kitchen with a John Bull steel range and hot water boiler, and at the end of the building the offices of the *Kootenay Mail*. The first floor above contained a ladies' parlour and thirteen bedrooms. The second floor contained another fifteen bedrooms. Hot and cold water was found on each floor – but from the description not in the rooms – and the building was heated by hot air, and lighted by electricity. The building occupied a frontage of 82 feet, not including the annex. All in all, a thoroughly modern building of the day.

The Revelstoke Club moved into rooms at the east end of the Central Hotel in February 1900, possibly the same rooms earlier occupied by the Kootenay Mail.[4] The Queen's Hotel in Trout Lake City was destroyed by fire early in February of 1906[5] and was not rebuilt as Trout Lake City was no longer prospering and seemed to have little promise for the future.

The Abrahamsons ran the Central Hotel until mid 1917. The coming of Prohibition in October 1917 was to change the economics of many small hotels in British Columbia and the Abrahamsons, recognizing the potential impact of the lost revenue evidently decided to retire. Charles Gustave had died of a heart attack in December 1911, and Andrew Peter and John were then in their late 60's. Noah had moved to the Okanagan and was no longer involved in the hotel. The building was sold to a contractor and torn down in 1919.[6]

The Brothers

Charles Gustave Abrahamson married Ida Josephine Stone in Revelstoke in 1892. He and his wife had four children. Charles spent at least one term as a school trustee. He died quite suddenly in December 1911 at age 55. He was the Chief of Fire Department No. 1.

Andrew Peter Abrahamson, the second oldest of the brothers, died at 81 years of age May 2, 1931. According to the obituary[7] he had left Sweden in 1880 and came to Canada in 1882. He established an hotel at Beavermouth, but left there in 1884 and came to Revelstoke, Farwell as it then was, on a raft, carrying his belonging with him. After the Queen's Hotel in Trout Lake City burned down he turned to mining as a vocation except for a short stint as a government road foreman. He never married.

John Abrahamson, the oldest of the brothers, died at age 79 in 1933, suffering from senile dementia. He had never married. He had served as an alderman on the first City Council in 1899 through 1900, again in 1903 and in 1907.

Noah Abrahamson, was born in 1861. In 1901 he married Mattie Burrell, thus becoming a brother-in-law of Alex Cummins, the token issuing merchant of Ferguson, B.C. He was living in Vernon in the 1920's, and had moved to New Westminster by 1936, where he died in April 1942.

William O. Abrahamson arrived in Revelstoke in 1895. He became a successful building contractor and never was involved in the Central Hotel. He died in Revelstoke in 1955 a few months short of his 90th birthday. William was the most politically minded of the family and served as an alderman and as Mayor from 1922 to 1924.

The rubbings are courtesy of Leslie C. Hill.
The photograph of the hotel, is courtesy of the BC Archives, Photo A-09434

---

[1] For further reading we suggest, R.L. Reid, "Why Bits?" the B.C. Historical Quarterly, Vol 4, 1940, pp. 21 - 28
[2] *Kootenay Mail*, Oct. 13, 1894, p. 3
[3] *Kootenay Mail*, Dec. 18, 1897, p. 1
[4] *Kootenay Mail*, Feb. 6, 1900, p. 4
[5] *Kootenay Mail*, Feb. 7, 1906, p. 4
[6] Ruby Nobbs, *Revelstoke, History & Heritage*, 1998, said that A. Pradolini purchased the hotel in April 1919 from the Molson's Bank, but I could not find confirmation of this in the newspapers.
[7] *Revelstoke Review*, May 8, 1931, p. 1

CHRONIQUE DU JETON

par Jean-Luc Giroux F.C.N.R.S.

J.-B. Laliberté

145, rue St.-Joseph Québec

L'AVERS DES TROIS PIECES EST UN MIRROIR

En bronze 38mm dia.

Photos sur carton dans anneau métallique

Bowman: 3860a

Bowman: 3861a
46mm dia.

Bowman: 3862a
45mm dia.

J.-B. LALIBERTE

L'année 1867 est une année mémorable pour les canadiens car c'est l'inauguration de la confédération canadienne, pour les québécois c'est la maison J.B. Laliberté, qui est fondée en 1867 par monsieur J.-Baptiste Laliberté, exploite à ses débuts au 145 rue St-Joseph, un magasin de spécialité de fourrure. Par la suite, le fondateur ajoute une spécialité de chapellerie; un peu plus tard, monsieur Laliberté s'emploie aussi dans le commerce de gros jusqu'a sa mort en 1926, considéré à l'époque comme un des plus grand importateur de fourrures à Québec, il possède aussi un vaste atelier de fabrication de manteaux de fourrures ainsi que des casquettes sur mesure. Monsieur Laliberté voyageait beaucoup, il allait souvent en Europe pour acheter les plus belles peaux disponibles pour la confection de manteaux. Au début du siècle soit en 1905 une reproduction d'un montage publicitaire de la maison J.B. Laliberté paraissait sur la page couverture de leur catalogue de fourrure, ce serait aussi à cette période, lors d'un voyage en Europe qu'il fit fabriquer des petits mirroirs avec au revers une photo de la maison J.B. Laliberté, ces petits mirroirs servirent comme moyen publicitaire, étant remis au client lors de l'achat d'un manteau de fourrure. Vous remarquerez que la photo au revers du mirroir est la même que la photo publicitaire du catalogue de 1905.
C'est lors de la convention du C.N.A. Québec 2001 que j'ai eu la chance de faire l'acquisition de ces très belles pièces de collection. A ma connaissance ces pièces sont assez rares car je recherchais depuis plusieurs années ces petits mirroirs.

Reproduction d'un montage publicitaire de la Maison J.-B. Laliberté, paraissant sur leur catalogue de fourrure, en 1905

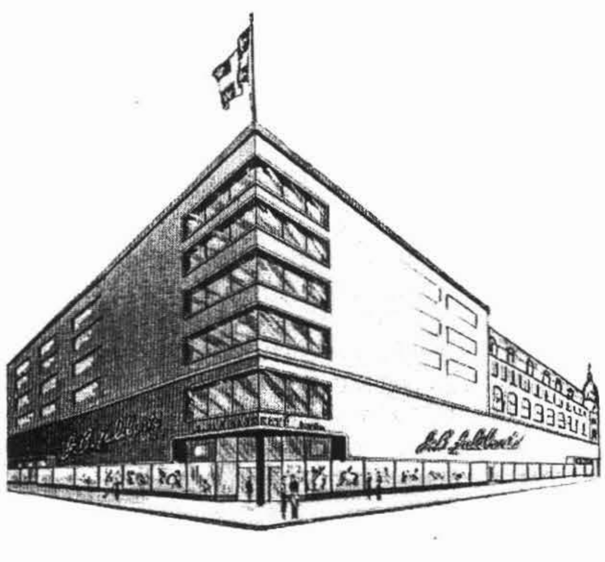
Après la mort de monsieur Laliberté en 1926, de par son testament, une compagnie est crée sous le nom de J.B. Laliberté Limitée, ayant pour directeurs ses fils, Jean-Baptiste et Edmond de même que ses petits-fils et Edouard Coulombe; le bureau de direction comprend aussi les chefs de rayons de l'établissement, de même que des représentants de la compagnie de fiducie. Au cours des opérations sous le nom de cette nouvelle compagnie, le commerce de gros est partiellement abandonné et se limite à la spécialité de fourrures et aux vêtements pour hommes, celà jusqu'en 1943. A cette date, une nouvelle compagnie est incorporée sous le nom de " J.B. Laliberté Limitée (1943) qui achète l'actif de l'ancienne compagnie.
L'année suivante, une autre entreprise sous le nom de "J.B. Laliberté Inc." acquiert des bâtisses détenues par la succession du fondateur. Depuis, ces bâtiments ont subi d'importantes modifications pour permettre à J.B. Laliberté Limitée de se

transformer graduellement en magasin à rayons. En 1950, la résidence du fondateur touchant au magasin, est démolie pour permettre un agrandissement substantiel de l'ensemble déjà existant.
Tout en gardant sa réputation de grand spécialiste en fourrure, la compagnie ajoute successivement des rayons de confection pour dames, vêtements pour enfants, chaussures tissus, garnitures de maison, meubles. J.B. Laliberté Limitée se présentait dans les années 50 comme l'un des grands magasins à rayons de Québec. Le commerce de fourrures tient toujours la partie prépondérante dans le volume d'affaires, mais progressivement, les autres spécialités se confirment dans le choix de la population.

FRANÇOIS MORISSET
Président de la Maison
J.-B. Laliberté Ltée
1950-1972

La compagnie a connu, depuis 1943 quelques changements dans son administration. Se sont succédé à la présidence M. Edouard Coulombe, Dr Paul Gilbert, M. François Morisset est devenu président le 1er septembre 1950 et à son décès en 1972, c'est son fils Jacques qui devient le nouveau président. Cette entreprise révèle une organisation méticuleuse et efficace, menant à l'entière satisfaction de sa clientèle.
Au début des années 60, avec l'arrivée des centres d'achats offrant de grandes superficies pour le stationnement automobile, c'est le commencement de la fin pour les magasins de la rue St-Joseph dans le quartier St-Roch, n'ayant pas suffisamment d'espaces de stationnement pour accueillir la clientèle.
Des magasins à rayons de grandes renommées tels: La Compagnie Paquet Ltée, le Syndicat de Québec et Pollack ont fermés définitivement leurs portes, seul le magasin de J.B. Laliberté a résisté a cette vague, la cause principale à celà, c'est sa grande spécialité de fourrures qui est encore en 2001 de grande renommée, ce que me confirma monsieur Jacques Morisset l'actuel président, lorsque je l'ai rencontré tout récemment.

Ceci termine ce court résumé sur une belle entreprise typiquement québécoise, qui célèbre en 2001, ces 134 années d'existence.



J. B. Laliberté

by Jean-Luc Giroux

Three mirror cards are described and illustrated within the French text. Bowman 3860a has a bronze obverse, while Bowman 3861a and 3862a are printed on card set in a metallic ring.

The year 1867 is a memorable one for Canadians because it was the year of Confederation, and for the inhabitants of Quebec City it was the year that Mr. J. Baptiste Laliberté opened a furrier establishment at 145 St. Joseph Street. Later Mr. Laliberté added ~~a~~ the specialty of hat making. He was active in the growing business until his death in 1926, considered at that time to be one of the larger importers of furs at Quebec City. He also had a large workshop for making fur coats and caps to measure. Mr. Laliberté travelled often to Europe to purchase the best skins available for making fur coats. At the beginning of last century, in 1905, the cover of the firm's catalogue showed a publicity montage of Mr. Laliberté's buildings. It was also at this period while on a trip to Europe that Mr. Laliberté had some small advertising mirrors made up with an illustration of the J.B. Laliberté building, which were given to customers upon the purchase of a fur coat. You may note that the building on the back of the mirror is the same as the illustration of the 1905 catalogue.

It was during the C.N.A. convention held at Quebec City in 2001 that I had the chance to obtain these lovely pieces. To my knowledge they are quite rare because I have searched for these little mirrors for many years.

Following the death of Mr. Laliberté in 1926, under the terms of his will, a company was created under the name of J.B. Laliberté Ltd., having as directors his sons, Jean-Baptiste and Edmond as well as grandsons and Edouard Coulombe. The board also contained the head buyers as well as representatives of a Trust Company. Under this new company, the large scale business was partially abandoned, the company specialized in furs and men's clothing until 1943. At that time a new company was incorporated under the name, "J.B. Laliberté Limited (1943)" which bought the assets of the old company. The following year, another enterprise under the name of "J.B. Laliberté Inc." acquired the buildings held by the estate of the founder. These buildings underwent important renovations to allow J.B. Laliberté Limited to transform gradually into a department store. In 1950, the former residence of the founder, adjoining the store, was demolished to make way for a substantial enlargement of the existing premises.

Retaining its reputation as a furrier, the company gradually added departments for women, children's clothing, shoes, fabrics, home furnishings, furniture, etc., becoming over fifty years one of the department stores of Quebec. The fur business remained, however, the major part of the volume, but slowly the other specialties became popular with the people.

Succeeding M. Edouard Coulombe in 1950, Mr. Francois Morisset became president and remained such until his death in 1972 when his son Jacques became the new president. At the beginning of the 1960's with the arrival of shopping centres with large parking lots for cars, it was the beginning of the end for the stores on St. Joseph Street in the St. Roch quarter as they did not have sufficient parking spaces for their customers. Such renowned department stores as Pacquet, the Syndicat de Québec, and Pollack have closed their doors, only the store of J.B. Laliberté has resisted this trend, the principal reason being its furrier specialty which in the year 2001 still has a great reputation, which was confirmed for me by the current president, Jacques Morisset, with whom I met recently. This ends this short history of a wonderful typical Quebecois business, which celebrates in the year 2001, its 134 years of existence.

Numismatically Oxford (part 19)

Zenda, Ontario

Zenda is located partly on concession 3 of Dereham township and partly on concession 3 of North Norwich township of Oxford county.

It was without a name until the postal authorities desired to establish a postal office there in 1895. The postmaster-general wanted to name the hamlet Bowel, after the Premier of Ontario, however there was already a village in the province by that name.

A local resident, Thomas Banbury had just finished reading Anthony Hope's novel, *The Prisoner of Zenda* and was so taken by the story that he thought Zenda would be a great name. Apparently there was enough agreement as that was the official name chosen.

In 1937, the Ronald Colman movie, *The Prisoner of Zenda*, based on the novel was to premier in New York City. The movie publicity people wished to do something different and memorable to promote the film. On hearing of the story of how this tiny Ontario hamlet got its name, the promoters offered all of the Zenda residents a free trip to New York for the premier viewing of the film. Twelve Zenda residents took the trip and were flown to New York in a 21 seater plane at the incredible speed of 200 miles per hour.

A general store was in operation in Zenda for a number of years. Originally the store building was an old house on the Wagonner farm nearby. A Willard Thomas gave the site for the store and the building was moved and re-modelled.

Two merchants made use of due bill tokens in this store. They were A. Fewster and Hamilton Kennedy.

On scanning through county directories for several years, it can be seen that Kennedys and Fewsters were in the area for many years.

In 1895 a Harrison Fewster is listed as a freeholder on concession 4 - lot 1 of Mt. Elgin. From 1902 until 1910 the address is listeds as concession 4 - lot 1 of Zenda. No mention is made of the store.

In 1902 the directory mentions that the population of Zenda is about 30 and that W. Kennedy has the general store.

In the Woodstock Sentinel-Review of 7 August, 1924 is the obituary of Hamilton Kennedy. He died at the home of his son, Lewis on the 6th concession of Dereham. The late Mr. Kennedy kept the Zenda store for a number of years where he was favourably known and highly respected.

Two \$1.00 tokens, a 50c and a 25c token are known for A. Fewster. A 1c token is listed for Hamilton Kennedy.

The Tokens:

A. Fewster / Zenda
    Good for / $1oo / in / merchandise   A-R-35

A. Fewster / Zenda
    Good for / $1oo / in / merchandise   A-S-30
    Good for / 50c / in / merchandise   A-S-26
    Good for / 25c / in / merchandise   A-S-23

Hamilton Kennedy / General / Merchant / Zenda
    Good for / 1c / in merchandise   A-Oc-20

References:

The Farmers & Business Directories for the Counties of Brant, Elgin, Norfolk and Oxford Union Publishing Co., Ingersoll, Ontario, various years from 1889 - 1915.

The Woodstock Sentinel-Review newspaper, issue of August 7, 1924, p. 7: C.2.

Palmer, Ken, Ontario General Merchants' Trade Due Bills, published by The Canadian Token, St. Thomas, Ontario, 2001.

This is the last of the series on *Numismatically Oxford.* Hopefully I will be able to re-vise and add to some of the information.