

FIRST DAY COVERS OF THE 1937 CANADA

KING GEORGE VI CORONATION ISSUE

by

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FDC MONOGRAPH NO. 7

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PART I THEMATIC CACHETS

PREFACE

This is the seventh monograph in a series dealing with First Day Covers for Canadian stamps issued during the King George VI era. Previous monographs have dealt with the six commemorative stamps of the 1947 to 1949 period, while the current document returns to an early stamp celebrating the coronation of King George VI on May 12, 1937.

As is the case with the prior publications in this series, I would welcome from other collectors scans of any cachets that are not included. I would also appreciate notice of any additional day-of-issue cancellations that are not listed herein. My intention is to prepare further editions of this monograph when new material warrants it.

The Coronation issue is demonstrably one of the more popular of the era's stamp issues, and there has been some prior research available to draw upon in compiling this work with the efforts of Melvin Baron, Pierre Ethier, and Glenn Estus being particularly instructive. Several collectors including Ivan Hebert-Croteau, George Basher, Harold Houston, and Barry Danard have generously provided scans of FDC's in their collections. The ongoing support of Stephen Prest on behalf of the BNAPS King George VI Study Group has been invaluable.

Edition 2 of Monograph 7, which contains reference to 199 cachets and first day covers, has been divided into two parts to facilitate electronic transmission of the document; this present document being Part I – Thematic Cachets.

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INTRODUCTION

This monograph provides a description and analysis of the First Day Covers published in conjunction with the issue of a single 3 cent stamp on May 10, 1937 to mark the Coronation of King George VI. Canada's effort in this regard was modest compared with other countries in the British Empire, most of which issued at least three stamps in an "omnibus" series. Newfoundland, however, participated both with an omnibus set of three stamps as well as a "Long Coronation" set of eleven stamps.

Canada's Coronation stamp (see Figure 1) was printed by the Canadian Bank Note Company Limited from portraits engraved by William F. Ford based on photographs by Peter North and Bertram Park. The stamp, which was assigned Scott #237, was perforated 12 x 12 and 51,400,000 copies were printed using Plate Numbers 1 through 4. The stamp was released on May 10, two days before the actual date of the Coronation.



Figure 1: The 1937 Coronation Issue

The absence of a larger number of Canadian stamps to mark the Coronation was offset by a wide variety of first day cachets published to celebrate the occasion. For this study, 199 different cachets including varieties were identified and are shown within.

PREVIOUS STUDIES

The first attempt to describe the range of cachets for the Coronation issue was published by Melvin Baron in the periodical *First Days* in 1979. This article was part of an extensive series in that periodical which eventually covered FDC's for all of the stamp issues of Canada for the 1930's and 1940's. Baron identified 60 different cachets for the Coronation issue although only four were illustrated in black and white. He also listed 24 official first day cities along with 20 unofficial cities and nine cities with combination covers from the day-of-issue. In a subsequent article published in the same journal in 1994, Wayne Gasper described and illustrated six cachets produced by American makers for the Coronation issue. More recently, Pierre Ethier and Glenn Estus have both shown a wide range of Coronation FDC's on their websites. Ethier shows 66 different cachets while Estus illustrates 62. Those two websites illustrate only the cachet portions of the FDC's listed and there is no written description or analysis accompanying the illustrations.

In an article published in the *King George VI Post & Mail* in 2006, Gary Dickinson surveyed the field of FDC's for the Coronation issue, estimating the number of extant cachets "in the order of 115 to 120," a total which has been far surpassed at this point given the 199 cachets described here. Dickinson illustrated a number of fairly common types of cachets and varieties, along with presenting a number of newly documented cachets.

Studying the cachets for this issue is complicated by two key concerns. Firstly, the date of issue (May 10) differs from the date of the event that it commemorates (May 12). Some cachets emphasize the stamp issue date while others highlight the Coronation

itself. For this monograph, a liberal interpretation was chosen with the result that some of the FDC's shown were postmarked on May 12 rather than May 10. The same cachets may subsequently be found with May 10 postmarks. A more restrictive interpretation was applied to day-of-issue cancellations so that the list shown in Table II includes only cancels dated May 10. A second complicating factor is that three other stamps, the 4, 5, and 8 cent denominations in the "Mufti" series were also released on May 10. Some cachets were used either for the Coronation stamp or the Mufti singles or series. This monograph includes a day-of-issue cancellation listing for covers showing a combination of at least three of the four stamps. Six cachets included in the monograph were found only for a combination of stamps but not for the Coronation issue alone.

CATEGORIES OF CACHETS

Although the large number of different cachets produced for the Coronation issue would make it difficult for a collector to search for and identify a particular FDC, a number of summary categories were constructed here to render the task less complicated. There were a significant number of cachets featuring themes related to the Coronation, with 39 of them depicting King George VI alone while a further 39 showed both the King and Queen Elizabeth. (See Table I) The Royal Family figured on 5 cachets, crowns were depicted on 18, coats of arms were featured on 4, and miscellaneous themes pertaining to the Coronation were shown on 9 cachets. Half a dozen standard categories used for cachets described in the other monographs in this series were also applied in this case. The result was that 29 cachets consisted predominantly of text, 20 were rubber stamps, 9 were labels or stickers, 8 were hand-drawn or painted, 11 were general purpose cachets, and 8 were postcards

TABLE I
CLASSIFICATION OF FIRST DAY COVERS FOR
THE 1937 CORONATION ISSUE

CATEGORY	CAT. NO.	NO. OF CACHETS
Coronation Issue Thematic Categories:		
King George VI only	237.100	39
King George VI and Queen Elizabeth	237.200	39
Royal Family	237.280	8
Crowns	237.300	18
Coats of Arms	237.370	4
Miscellaneous	237.500	9
Standard Categories:		
Postcards	237.600	8
Hand-drawn or hand-painted	237.650	8
Labels or stickers	237.680	9
Predominantly text	237.800	29
Rubber stamps	237.850	20
General purpose	237.900	11
Total		199
Uncacheted FDC's		
Business cover, typed message	237.994	NA
Business cover, hand-written or printed message	237.995	NA
Business cover, FD dated only	237.996	NA
Personal cover, typed message	237.997	NA
Personal cover, hand-written or printed message	237.998	NA
Personal cover, FD dated only	237.999	NA

The numbering system used here is basically the same as that employed in the other FDC monographs in this series. The first three digits (ie. 237) represent the Scott number for the issue while the second three digits (eg. .310) represent major types of cachets. The final pair of digits (eg. .04) were applied when there were variations of colour, wording, or design in the major types. Thus, a typical cachet might be numbered 237.310.04. Gaps in the assigned numbers provide space for new cachets to be integrated without disturbing the existing numbers. The categories as shown in Table I provide a convenient method for accessing information about a particular cachet without having to review all of them.

Six categories of uncacheted FDC's are listed in Table 1 and several examples are shown in the final pages of this monograph. As these covers were not usually produced in quantity, and as many of them may indeed be unique, attempting to classify and describe them in detail would likely be unproductive. An approach that collectors might wish to consider to organize their uncacheted covers would be to sort them in two stages, first according to their use as a business cover (advertising cover or corner card), or their use for personal correspondence. As a secondary classification, uncacheted covers could then be sorted according to the type of first day message they displayed into three groups; typewritten, hand-written or printed, or no message. In every case the covers would have a first day cancellation to warrant classification as a FDC. For inventory purposes, each uncacheted cover could be assigned a unique identification number. For example, the third FDC among several personal-use covers with a hand-written "First Day of Issue" message would be identified in that collection as 237.998.03.

DAY OF ISSUE LOCATIONS

As was noted earlier, Melvin Baron listed 24 official and 20 unofficial first day cities, plus 9 locations for combination covers in his initial review of FDC's for the 1937 Coronation issue. As Table II below shows, the number of official cities remained constant at 24, but the number of unofficial cities has increased to 50 while there are now 18 locations listed for combination covers. The summary table also depicts the existence of five different types of first day cancellations. Considering just the FDC's with a single stamp from official and unofficial locations, cancellations included flags (22 locations), circular date stamps (27), duplex (6), split circle (4), and machine cancels (6). Combination covers included flag cancellations (8 locations), circular date stamps (13), and duplex cancels (1).

TABLE II
FIRST DAY CANCELLATIONS ON #237 COVERS

	FLAG	CDS	DUPLEX	SPLIT CIRC.	MACH- INE
OFFICIAL FIRST DAY:					
Calgary, AB	X	X			
Charlottetown, PEI	X				
Edmonton, AB	X	X			
Fort William, ON	X				
Fredericton, NB	X				
Halifax, NS	X				
Hamilton, ON	X	X			
Kingston, ON		X			
Lethbridge, AB		X			
London, ON	X	X			
Medicine Hat, AB		X			X
Montreal, QC	X	X			X
Moose Jaw, SK					X
Ottawa, ON	X	X			
Port Arthur, ON	X				
Quebec, QC	X				
Regina, SK	X	X			

	FLAG	CDS	DUPLEX	SPLIT CIRC.	MACH- INE
Saint John, NB	X				
Saskatoon, SK	X				
Toronto, ON	X				
Vancouver, BC	X	X			
Victoria, BC	X				
Windsor, ON	X	X			
Winnipeg, MB	X	X			
UNOFFICIAL FIRST DAY:					
Auburn, NS				X	
Bowmanville,			X		
Brantford, ON			X		
Capreol, ON					
Coniston, ON			X		
Coronation, AB		X			
Duncan, BC					
Edmundston, NB					
Elphinstone, MB					
Granville Ferry, NS				X	
Gravenhurst, ON		X			
Hagersville, ON					
Haney, BC			X		
House of Assembly (Toronto)					X
Kennedy, SK		X			
Kentville, NS					
Kitchener, ON		X			
Lloydminster, SK					
Lunenburg, NS					
Merritton, ON			X		
Milton West, ON			X		
Mindemoya, ON				X	
Moncton, NB					
Montreal, St. A, QC		X			
Montreal, St. B, QC					X
Montreal, St. H, QC		X			
New Westminster, BC	X				
Orillia, ON					
Ottawa, Canada, R		X			
Parker's Cover, NS				X	
Perth, ON		X			
Port Burwell, ON					
Port Colborne, ON		X			
Prince Albert, SK					
Regina Terminal A, SK	X				
Rockingham Station, NS					
Rosetown, SK					
Saint John, NB		X			
St. Catharines, ON		X			
St. Jacobs, ON					
Semans, SK					
Stratford, ON					
Tor.&Lon.MC (RPO), ON		X			

	FLAG	CDS	DUPLEX	SPLIT CIRC.	MACH- INE
Toronto Sub. 116, ON					
Toronto Term. St. A		X			
Uxbridge, ON					
Vancouver Dundarave, BC		X			
Vernon, BC					
Welland, ON					
Yarmouth, NS					X
COMBINATION COVER LOCATIONS:					
Calgary, AB					
Edmonton, AB	X	X			
Hamilton, ON	X	X			
Kingston, ON		X			
Kitchener, ON					
Lethbridge, AB		X			
London, ON	X	X			
Montreal, QC	X			X	
Ottawa, ON		X			
Port Burwell, ON					
Prince Albert, SK		X			
Regina, SK	X	X			
Rosetown, SK		X			
Saskatoon, SK	X				
Semans, SK		X			
Toronto, ON	X	X			
Vancouver, BC	X	X			
Winnipeg, MB		X			

Note: Cells marked with an "X" have had first day cancellations of that type reported. In some cases there is no "X" opposite a location, indicating that cancellations have been reported but that the type of cancellation wasn't specified.

One unofficial city that was an especially active and popular point of origin for FDC's of this issue was Coronation, Alberta. Its circular cancellation appeared on numerous day-of-issue cachets on May 10 while the Coronation split circle was used on even more May 12 Coronation Day covers.

The flag cancellations that were used in 22 cities across Canada were in use for only one week starting on May 10. All but four of the official first day cities had a flag

cancellation as did two of the unofficial cities. Generally dealt with as a sub-type of slogan cancellations, the 1937 Coronation flags have been the subject of extensive study by philatelists including two recent articles by Dickinson..

REFERENCES

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Gasper, Wayne P. "Coronation First Day Covers by American Cachetmakers." *First Days*, Vol. 39, No. 5 (July, 1994), pp. 408-409.

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FDC No: 237.101.01 (Baron Type 5)

Cachet By: Gimbels Stamp Department

Description: This cachet shows a dark blue head and shoulders portrait of King George VI in a vertical frame. The text is in red script to the right of the portrait and reads, "Commemorating/ the Coronation of/ His Royal Majesty/ George VI/ King of England/ Emperor of India/ May 12, 1937." The text uses the same font and colour as other Gimbels' cachets for this issue (see, for example, 237.372.01 and .02), and the text of this cachet is the same as 237.372.01.

Photo:



FDC No.: 237.101.02

Cachet By: Gimbels Stamp Department

Description: This cachet is identical to the previous one except that it has one additional line of text, "Defender of the Faith," which appears just above the date line. Thus, this cachet has the same text as 237.372.02.

Photo: Not available.

FDC No.: 237.102 (Baron Type 19)

Cachet By: Gimbels Stamp Department

Description: This cachet shows the same portrait as the previous one but in a lighter shade of blue. The red lettering is different, with italics above the portrait reading, "King George VI" while below the portrait is, "Coronation Cover/ May 12, 1937." This cachet was also used for Coronation stamps issued in Great Britain (see Myers). It has the same lettering font and colour as other covers produced by Gimbels. (See 237.101, 237.372.01, 237.372.02).

Photo:



FDC No.: 237.103.01 (Baron Type 10)

Cachet By: Plimpton

Description: This cachet shows a blue head and shoulders portrait of the King within a double-lined gold frame topped by a crown, with flags to the left and right. Text in italics above the portrait is, "First Day Cover" while below the portrait the text reads, "His Majesty/ George VI." There is no printing on the back of the cover.

Photo:

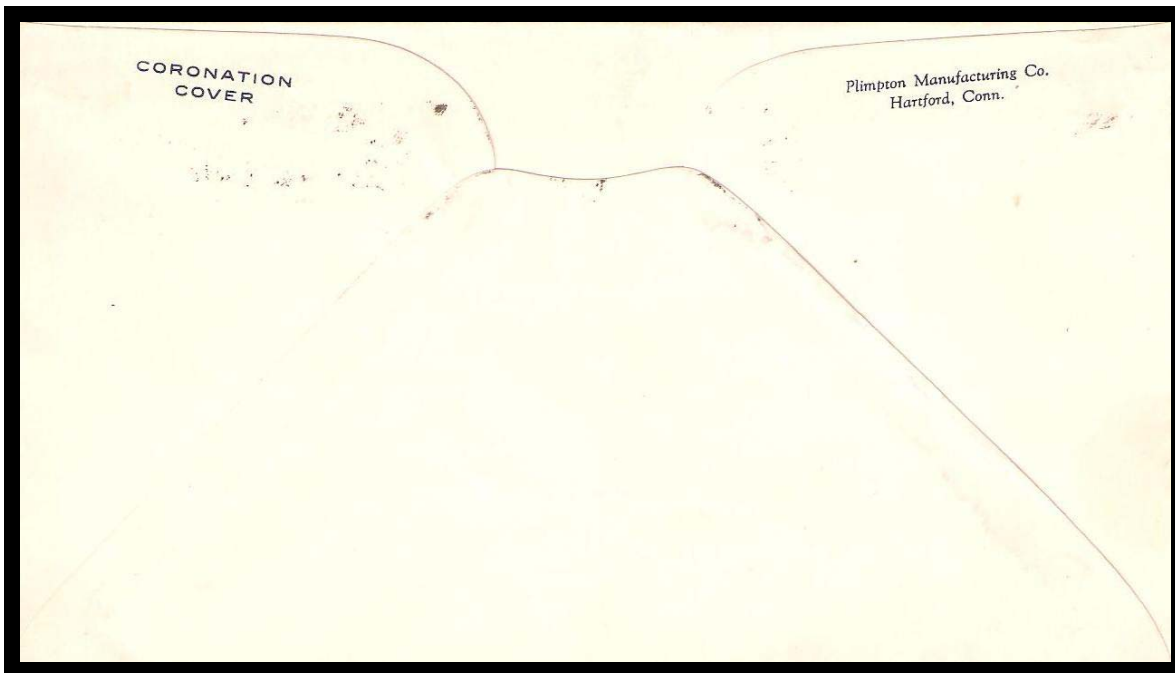


FDC No.: 237.103.02

Cachet By: Plimpton

Description: This cover has the same cachet as the previous one, but the back of the cover has "CORONATION/ COVER" printed in blue at top left and "Plimpton Manufacturing Co./ Hartford, Conn." Printed in italics at top right.

Photo:

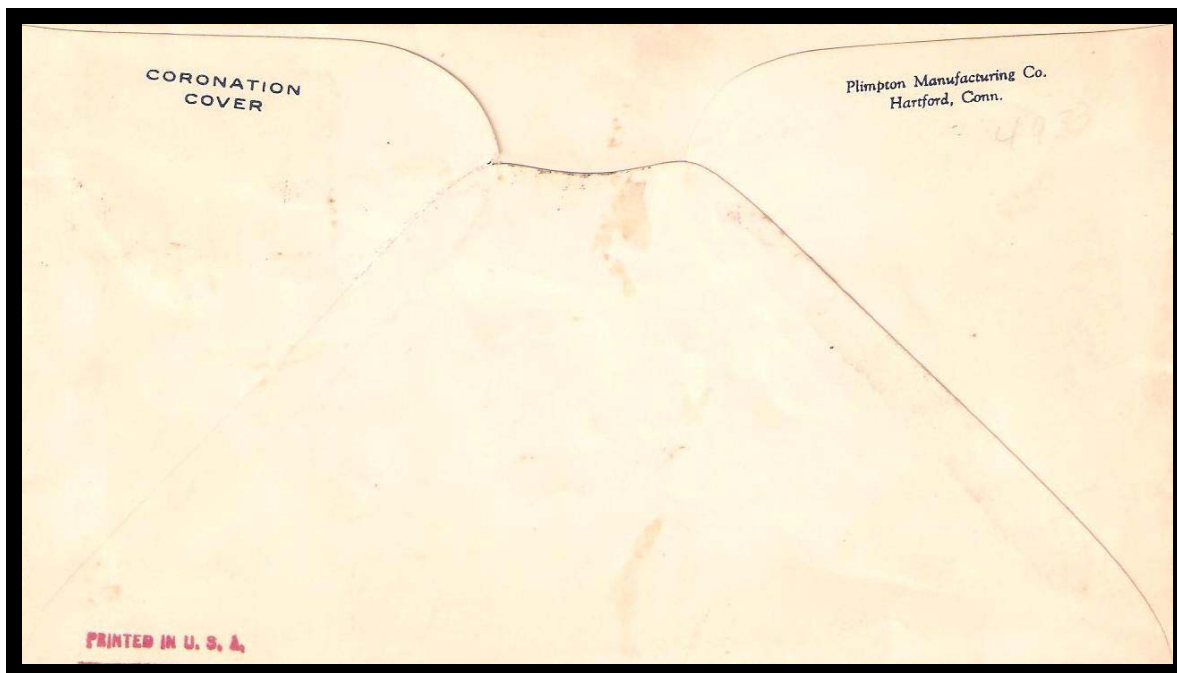


FDC No.: 237.103.03

Cachet By: Plimpton

Description: This variation of the Plimpton cachet has the same printing on the back of the cover as well as a red rubber-stamped "PRINTED IN U. S. A." at bottom left. This may have been a special printing for Gimbels Stamp Club as that is the addressee.

Photo:



FDC No.: 237.104 (Baron Type 11)

Cachet By: Unknown

Description: Here is a more detailed portrait of the King within an oval frame and flanked by a pair of Union Jacks. A framed legend above the portrait says, "Coronation Year/ 1937" while "KING GEORGE VI" appears below it.

Photo:



FDC No.: 237.105.01 (Baron Type 12)

Cachet By: Michael Sanders

Description: This red and blue Sanders cachet features a head and shoulders portrait of the King in a square frame above a map of the world showing the British Empire in red. "KING GEORGE VI." is in a banner above the portrait and 'FIRST DAY COVER' is at the bottom of the cachet.

Photo:

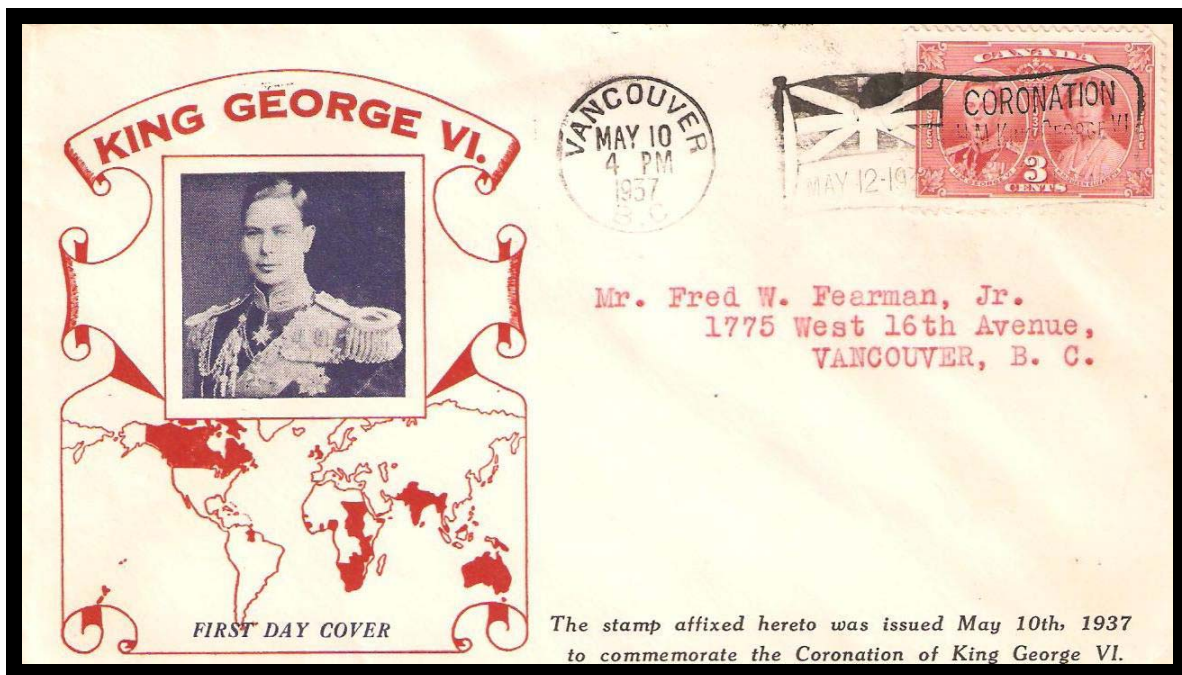


FDC No.: 237.105.02 (Baron Type 14)

Cachet By: Michael Sanders

Description: This cachet is identical to the previous one, but there is an additional text message at the bottom centre and right reading, "The stamp affixed hereto was issued May 10th, 1937/ to commemorate the Coronation of King George VI."

Photo:



FDC No.: 237.105.03 (Baron Type 13)

Cachet By: Michael Sanders

Description: This variation of the Sanders cachet has the identical design as 237.105.01 but the colours are changed to a brown portrait with the remainder in dark blue.

Photo:



FDC No.: 237.106.01 (Baron Type 31)

Cachet By: Unknown

Description: This all-over cachet is primarily in red with one of two frame lines in blue. The pictorial element shows a side view of the King's head and shoulders on a medallion, with the legend encircling the portrait reading, "GEORGE VI CROWNED 12 MAY 1937." The words, "CORONATION/ FIRST DAY COVER" appear in the lower right corner of the envelope.

Photo:



FDC No.: 237.106.02

Cachet By: Unknown

Description: This cachet has the same basic design as the previous one, but lacks the border and text in the lower right. The medallion is light brown rather than red.

Photo:



FDC No.: 237.106.03 (Baron Type 46)

Cachet By: Unknown

Description: This cachet has the same design as 237.106.01 but is in grey and has "First Day of Issue" printed above the design.

Photo: Not available.

FDC No.: 237.107 (Baron Type 32)

Cachet By: Unknown

Description: This red cachet shows the Tower of the Parliament Buildings together with a portrait of the King in an oval frame. "OTTAWA-CANADA/ 1937" appears near the bottom of the cachet while a banner beneath the King's portrait says, "FIRST DAY OF ISSUE/ KING GEORGE VI."

Photo:



FDC No.: 237.108.01 (Baron Type 54)

Cachet By: Unknown

Description: The basic cachet shown here is one of the more commonly found designs for this issue. The design features a portrait of the King in an oval frame, with a crown on top of the frame and flanked by six Union Jacks. There is a blank pedestal at the base of the design. There is no text.

Photo:



FDC No.: 237.108.02

Cachet By: Unknown

Description: Perhaps tempted by the blank pedestal at the base of the design or the lack of text, many examples of this cachet have typewritten additions at the bottom or top. This example has "May 10, 1937" typed in red on the pedestal and "First Day Cover" below it.

Photo:



FDC No.: 237.108.03

Cachet By: Unknown

Description: There are also many variations of this cachet which have text provided by a rubber stamp such as the one shown below which reads, "FIRST DAY/COVER."

Photo:

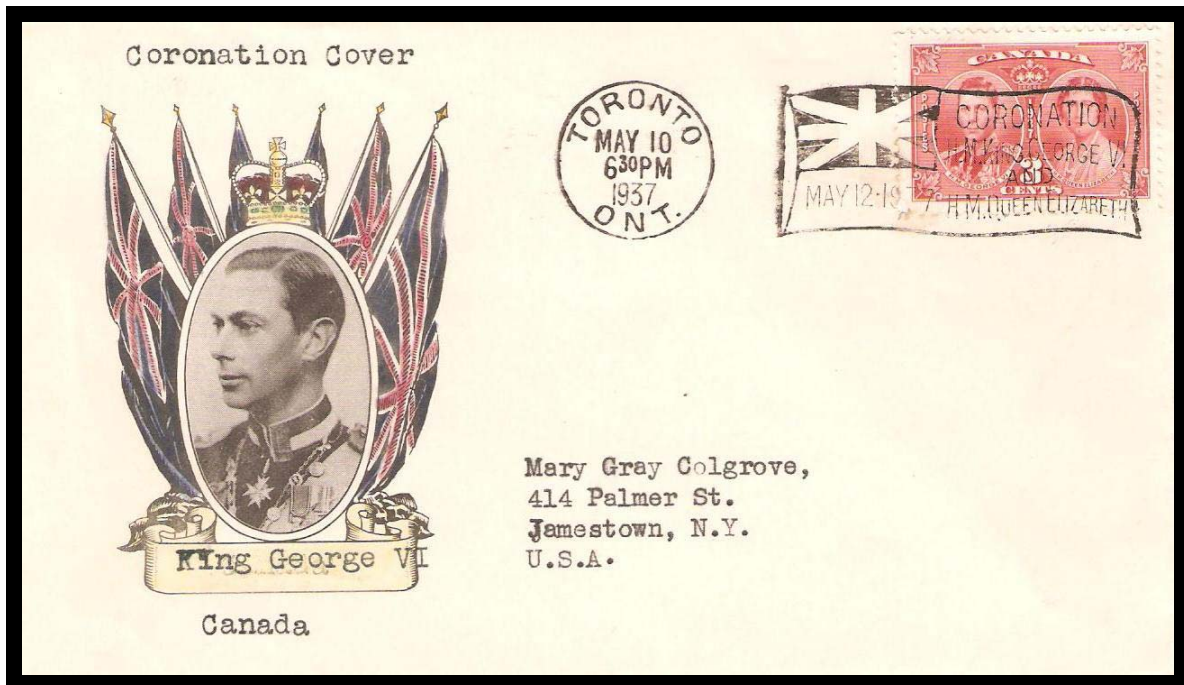


FDC No.: 237.108.04

Cachet By: Unknown

Description: This version of the basic design includes hand-painted details in blue, red, yellow, and green, along with a typed "Coronation Cover" at the top, "King George VI" in the pedestal, and "Canada" at the bottom.

Photo:



FDC No.: 237.108.05

Cachet By: Eaton's

Description: This cachet, as will be made clear by the next one in the series, appears to have been printed for the Eaton's Stamp Corner. The red, white, and blue lithographed design has the legend, "CORONATION DAY/MAY 12TH, 1937" on the pedestal and "FIRST DAY COVER" at bottom right..

Photo:



FDC No.: 237.108.06 (Baron Type 21)

Cachet By: Eaton's

Description: This variation has the Eaton's Stamp Corner address printed along with the elements that were printed on the previous version of this basic design.

Photo:



FDC No.: 237.108.07

Cachet By: Unknown

Description: This variation on the basic theme features the black design plus gold lettering printed at top left reading, "KING GEORGE VI/ CORONATION ISSUE" and at bottom left "May 10th, 1937" within the banner and "FIRST DAY COVER" beneath it.

Photo:



FDC No.: 237.109

Cachet By: Pioneer Stamp Company

Description: This poorly printed, possibly mimeographed, green cachet is reminiscent of the Sanders design shown earlier with a head and shoulders portrait of the King above a map of the world showing the British Empire. At the top is the legend, "H. M. KING GEORGE VI/ CORONATION" while at the bottom there are five stars and the date of the Coronation as, "12 th.. MAY 1937" and five more stars. At bottom centre is "FIRST DAY COVER" On the back of the cover near the bottom there is blue text as follows: "Newfoundland's First CACHET COVER, Sponsored,/ PRINTED and MAILED by THE PIONEER STAMP CO.,/ THE STATION, GRAND FALLS, NEWFOUNDLAND." Although this statement makes much of the Newfoundland origin of this cachet, this cover was actually mailed in Montreal with the Canadian Coronation stamp.

Photo:

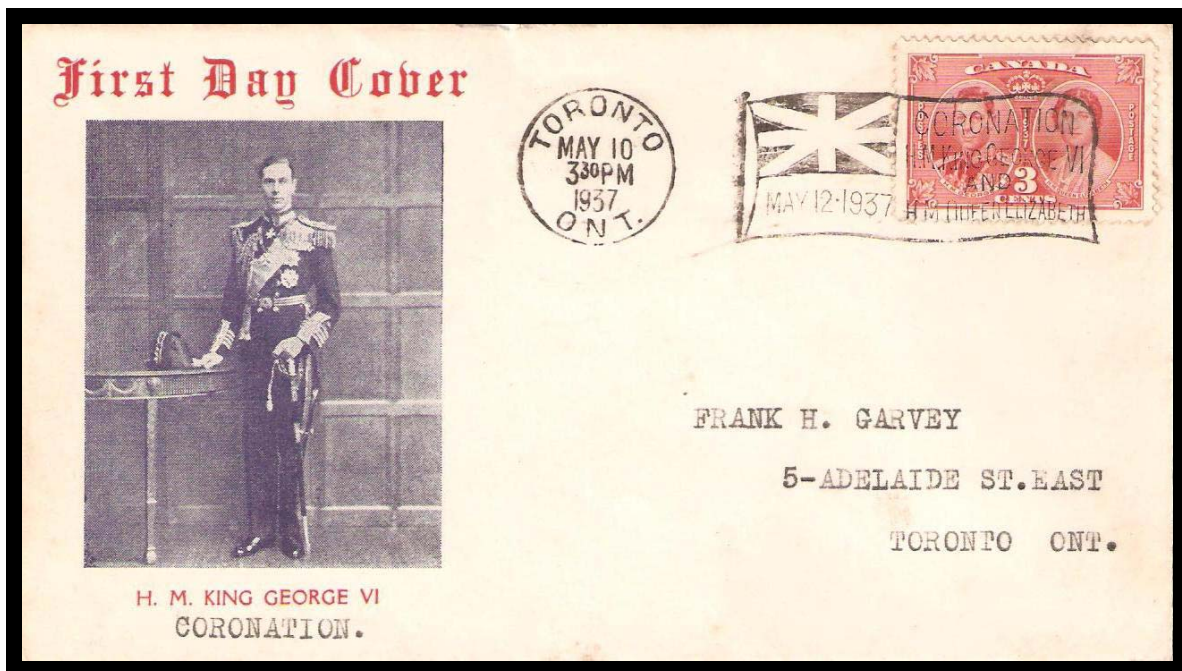


FDC No.: 237.110

Cachet By: Unknown

Description: The King is shown in a full-length portrait with his hand on a round table in this cachet. The rectangular picture is in blue, while red lettering in fancy type above it reads, "First Day Cover" and below it reads, "H.M. KING GEORGE VI." The word "CORONATION" has been typed at the bottom of the cachet in this example.

Photo:



FDC No.: 237.111.01 (Baron Type 25)

Cachet By: Vandyk

Description: This dark blue cachet features a head and shoulders portrait of the King contained within an irregular rectangle. Wording is in italics, with "Commemorative Cover" above the portrait and "Coronation of H. M. King George VI" below it.

Photo:



FDC No.: 237.111.02

Cachet By: Vandyk

Description: This variation of the Vandyk cachet is a slightly paler shade of blue and has slightly different wording than the previous one, with "First Day Cover" in italics above the portrait and "H. M. King George VI" below it. Note that this example underpays by 1 cent the 13 cent registered surface mail rate to Australia.

Photo:



FDC No.: 237.111.03

Cachet By: Vandyk

Description: Here is the same Vandyk cachet design as the previous cover however, the colour is black rather than blue.

Photo:



FDC No.: 237.111.04

Cachet By: Vandyk

Description: Here is another Vandyk cachet, this one identical to the previous black one but lacking the "COPYRIGHT VANDYK" line below the portrait of the King.

Photo:



FDC No.: 237.112.01

Cachet By: A. C. Roessler (see Gasper article)

Description: This blue cachet has a small head and shoulders portrait of the King in the upper left corner with text arched above ("POSTED ON DAY OF ISSUE") and below ("H. M. KING GEORGE VI") the portrait.

Photo:

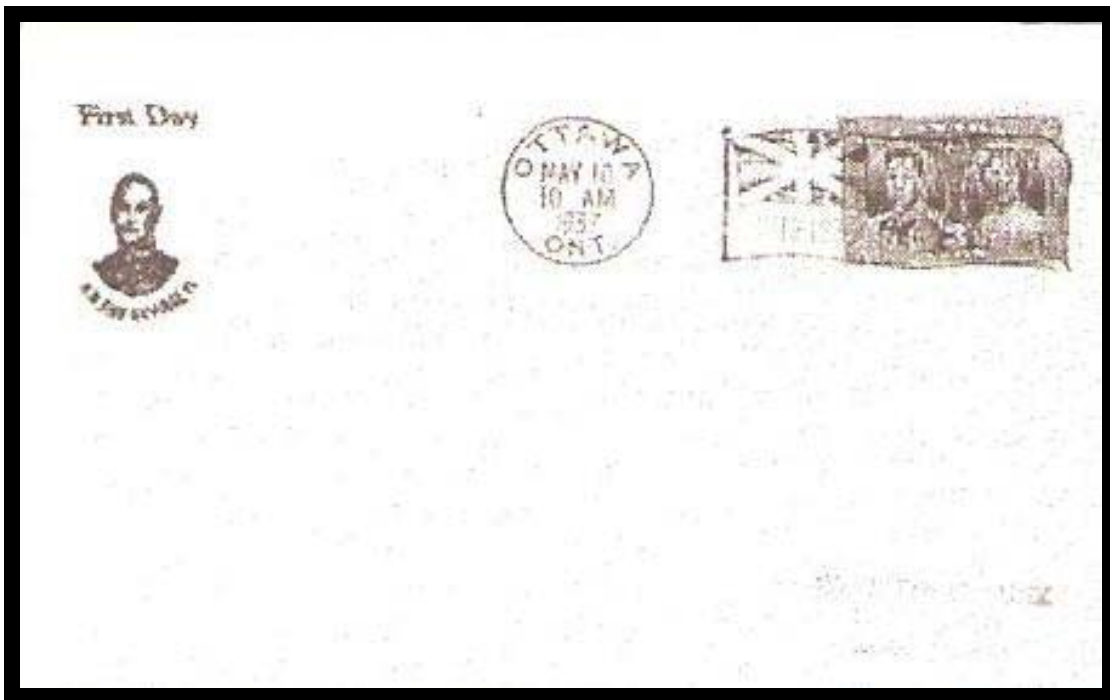


FDC No.: 237.112.02

Cachet By: A. C. Roessler (see Gasper article)

Description: This is a variation of the previous cachet, with wording above the portrait reading, "First Day."

Photo: This is a second generation scan from an article in a periodical.

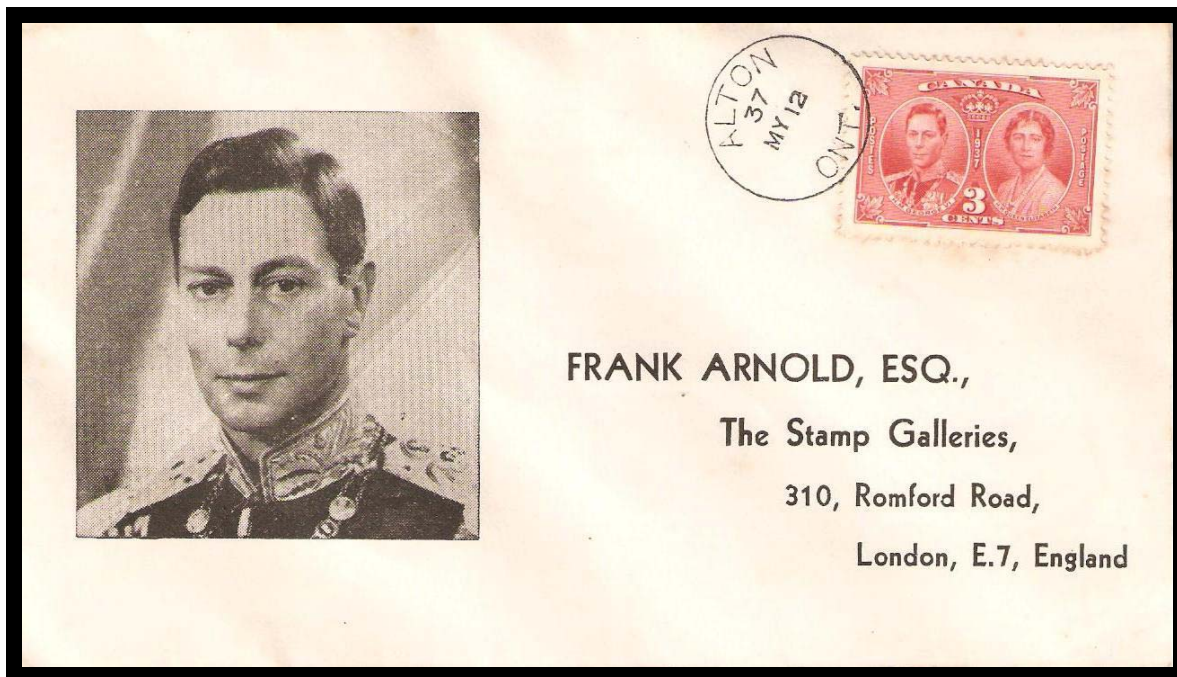


FDC No.: 237.113

Cachet By: Unknown

Description: This cachet is comprised of a photographic likeness of King George VI and it has no text.

Photo:



FDC No.: 237.114 (Baron Type 20)

Cachet By: Unknown

Description: This cachet in black has a head and shoulders photograph of the King with text beneath it reading, "His Majesty George VI/ KING OF GREAT BRITAIN, IRELAND/ AND OF THE DOMINIONS/ BEYOND THE SEAS."

Photo:

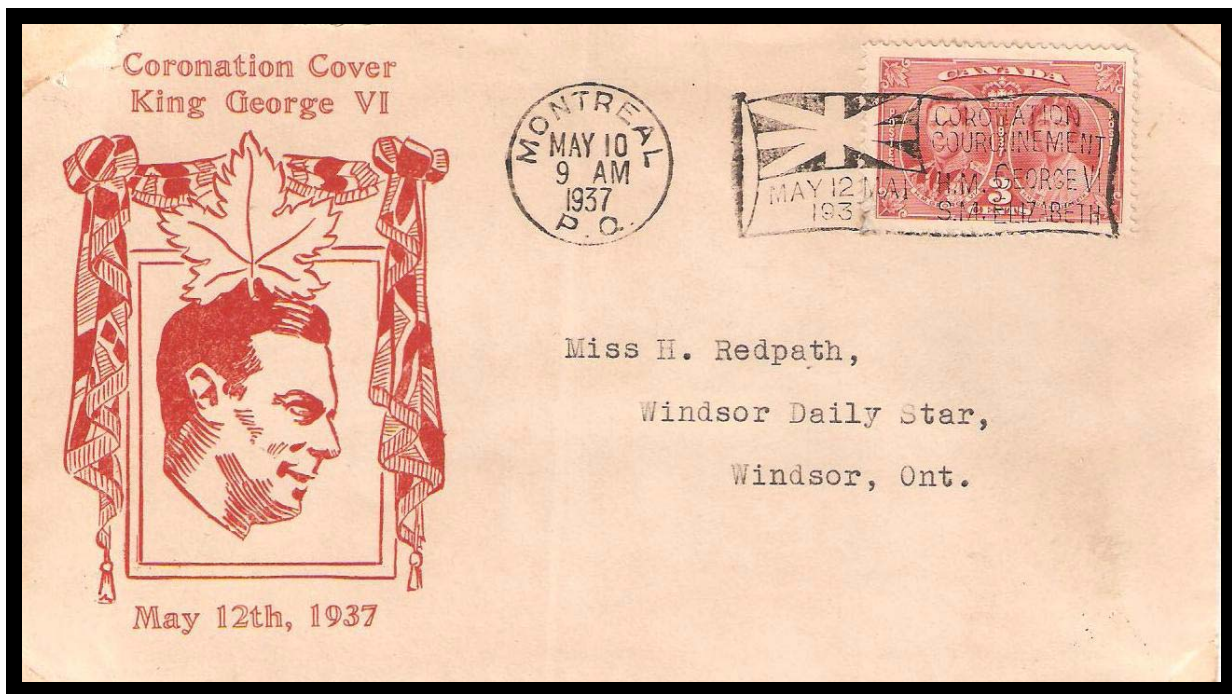


FDC No.: 237.115

Cachet By: Unknown

Description: This red cachet features a sketch of the King's head inside a frame draped by flags, with a maple leaf at the top of the frame. Text above the frame is, "Coronation Cover/ King George VI" and below it is the date of the Coronation.

Photo:



FDC No.: 237.116

Cachet By: Unknown

Description: This cachet has a central design similar to the definitive “Mufti” issue stamps. Text above the graphic element is, “H. M. KING GEORGE VI” while below it it reads “Posted day of Issue of/ First George VI Stamps/ of the British Empire.” The word “Coronation” is a typewritten addition. Pairs of parallel lines at the top and bottom complete the cachet.

Photo:



FDC No.: 237.117

Cachet By: Unknown

Description: This cachet features a head and shoulders photographic portrait of the King, with text beneath it reading, "KING GEORGE VI/ Coronation [in italics]/ MAY 12TH, 1937."

Photo:



FDC No.: 237.118

Cachet By: Unknown

Description: The upper portion of this cachet is in blue and the bottom portion in red. An oval portrait of the King is topped by an arch with "CANADA" on it and "FIRST DAY COVER" beneath. Text in the lower portion of the cachet is, 'CORONATION/ of/ H. M. King George VI/ Queen Elizabeth.'

Photo:



FDC No.: 237.119

Cachet By: Unknown

Description: Another cachet featuring an oval portrait of the King is shown here, with a double frame topped by a crown. Text at the top reads, "First Day Cover [in italics]" while at the bottom is, "His Majesty/ George VI."

Photo:

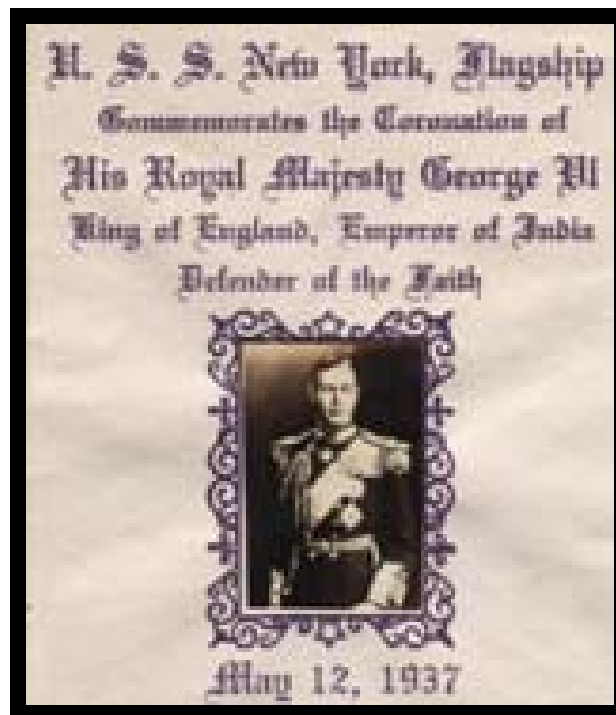


FDC No.: 237.120.01

Cachet By: W. G. Crosby

Description: This typical Crosby cachet has a photograph of the King within a decorated frame. The text is purple italics and reads as follows: "U. S. S. New York, Flagship/ Commemorates the Coronation of/ His Royal Majesty George VI/ King of England, Emperor of India/ Defender of the Faith." The date of the Coronation appears below the photograph.

Photo:

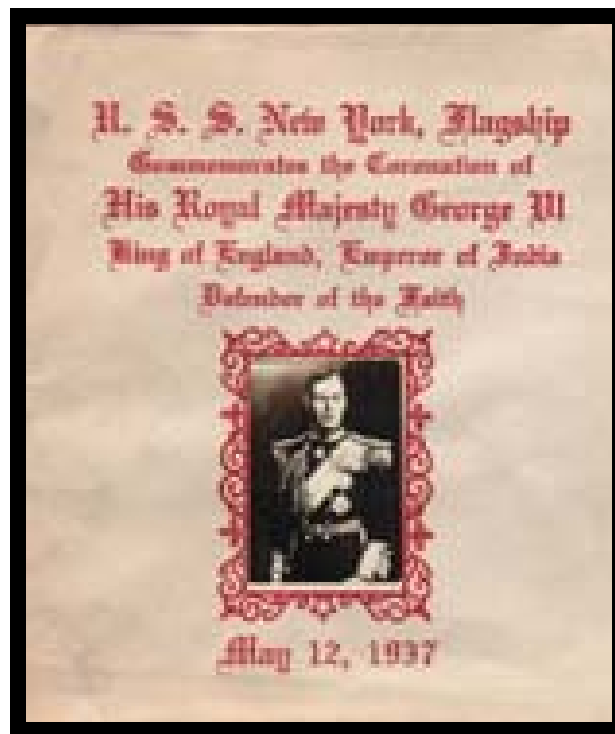


FDC No.: 237.120.02

Cachet By: W. G. Crosby

Description: This Crosby cachet has the same photograph and text as the previous one, but it is red rather than purple.

Photo:

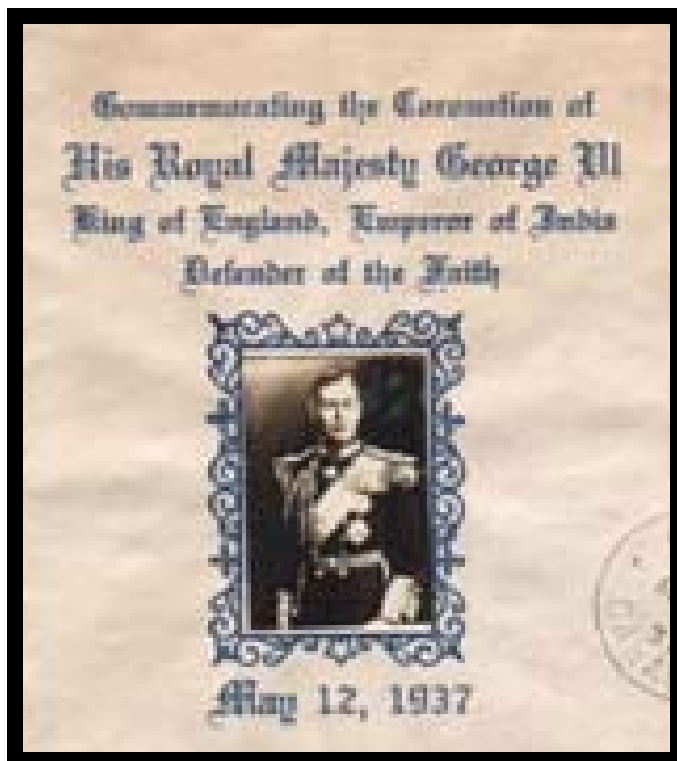


FDC No.: 237.120.03

Cachet By: W. G. Crosby

Description: This Crosby cachet is similar to the other two, however, it is in blue and lacks the first line of text referring to the U. S. S. New York.

Photo:



FDC No.: 237.201 (Baron Type 2)

Cachet By: Unknown

Description: This red, white, and blue cachet has head and shoulders portraits of the King and Queen in ovals flanked by flags. There is a small maple leaf at the top between the oval frames. Text at the top is "CANADA/ FIRST DAY COVER." Below the frames, "CORONATION" is on a banner and below that the text is "OF T. M. KING GEORGE and QUEEN ELIZABETH."

Photo:



FDC No.: 237.202 (Baron Type 3)

Cachet By: Hugh W. Flanagan

Description: This cachet shows blue portraits of the King and Queen in oval frames draped with curtains. There is a brown beaver and green leafy garland above the portraits. A banner below the portraits indicates, "12 MAY CORONATION 1937" with "CANADA HONOURS THE CORONATION" below that and the word "COPYRIGHTED" in the bottom left corner.

Photo:

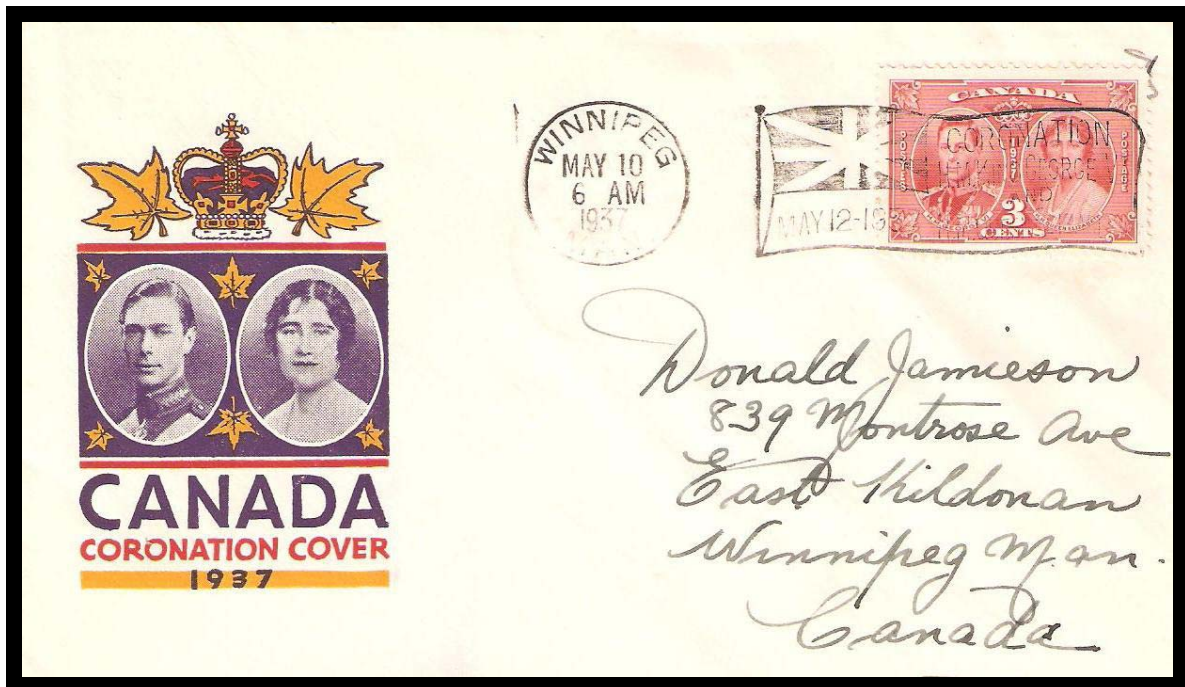


FDC No.: 237.203 (Baron Type 6)

Cachet By: Unknown

Description: Here are dark blue oval portraits of the Royal Couple within a rectangular frame, with two yellow maple leaves above on either side of a crown. There are also six smaller maple leaves within the blue portrait rectangle. Text at the bottom is, "CANADA/ CORONATION COVER/ 1937."

Photo:



FDC No.: 237.204.01

Cachet By: Unknown

Description: This all-black cachet features oval portraits of the Royal Couple with a crown between them at the top. Below the portraits is the text, "1937/ CORONATION of Their Majesties/ King George VI and Queen Elizabeth."

Photo:



FDC No.: 237.204.02 (Baron Type 15)

Cachet By: Unknown

Description: This cachet is identical to the previous one with the addition of
"FIRST DAY COVER" at the bottom of the cachet.

Photo:



FDC No.: 237.205

Cachet By: Unknown

Description: This cachet is in red and blue, and has some of the same graphic elements as the previous one. The portraits and crown are the same, but there is a small flag between the portraits at the bottom and horizontal red and blue lines running across the cover. The text is different, reading "CORONATION/ MAY 12/ 1937." This example has a typed "FIRST DAY COVER" beneath the portraits and above the printed text.

Photo:



FDC No.: 237.206.01 (Baron Type 16)

Cachet By: Harry Ioor (See Gasper article)

Description: This purple cachet was, according to Gasper, made by Harry Ioor for FDC's from many British Commonwealth countries. He also used the same basic design in 1939 for a series of FDC's in different colours marking the Royal Visit to Canada. This cachet features the Royal Couple in a black and white portrait within a double frame with "CORONATION/ 1937" appearing above the portrait and "H.M. GEORGE VI/ HER MAJESTY THE QUEEN" below it.

Photo:

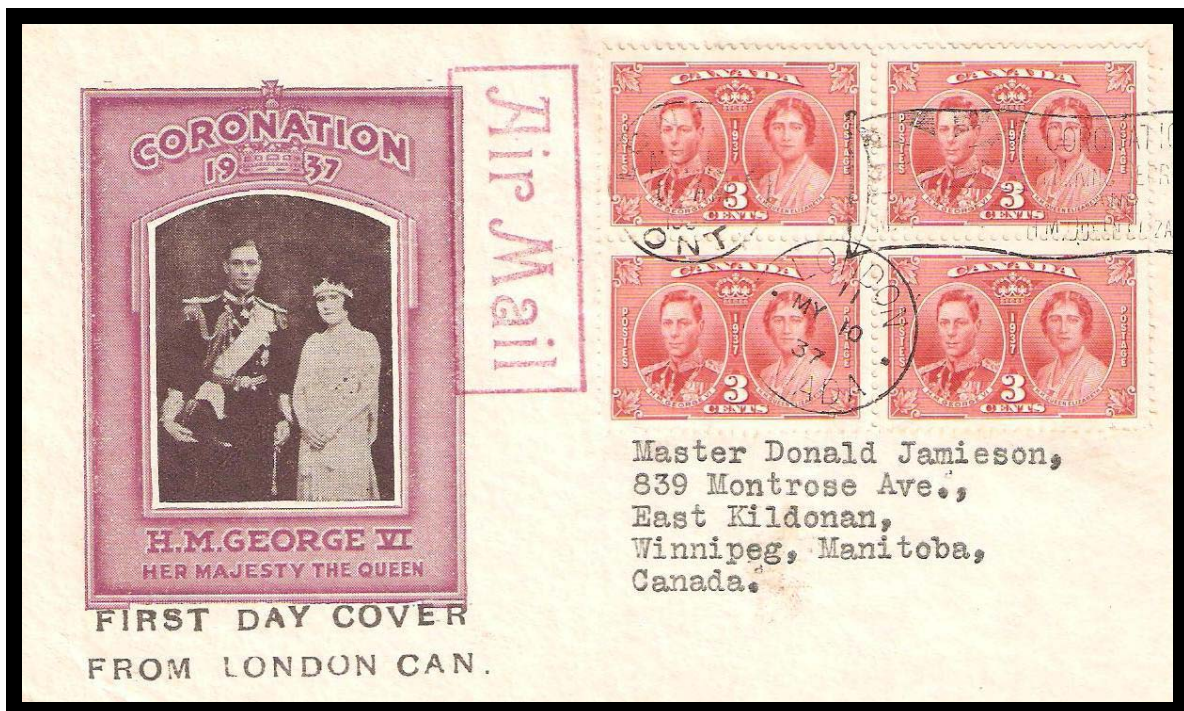


FDC No.: 237.206.02

Cachet By: Harry Ioor

Description: This variation of the Ioor cachet has the rubber-stamped addition made by the Postmaster in London, Ontario reading, "FIRST DAY COVER/ FROM LONDON CAN."

Photo:

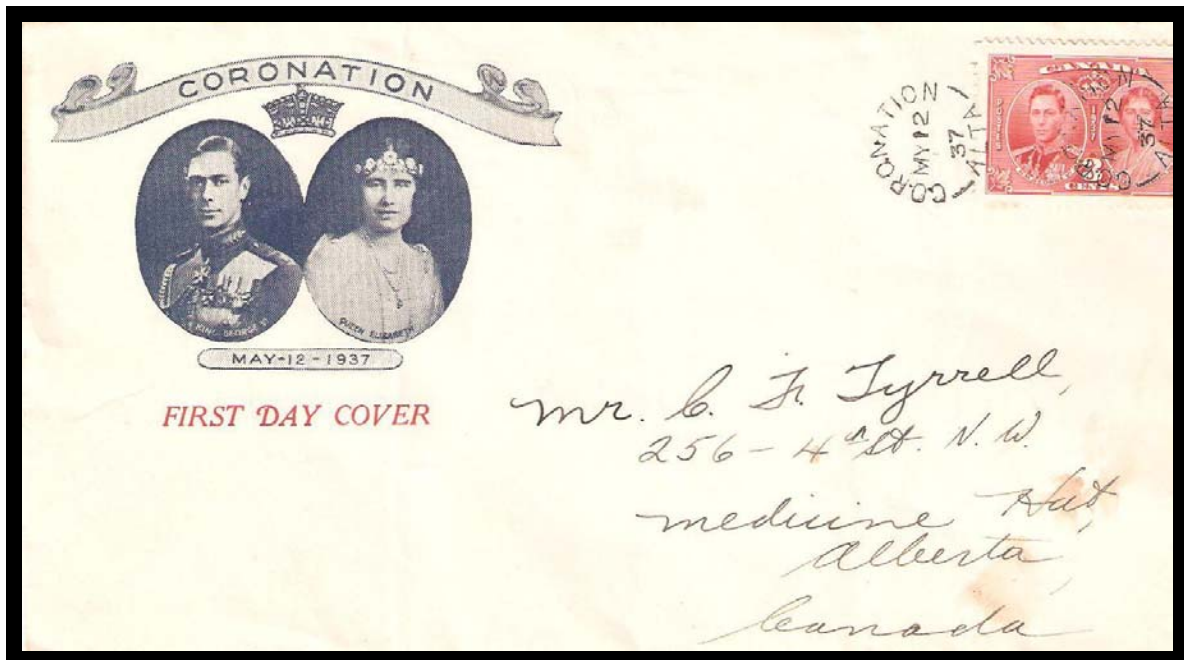


FDC No.: 237.207 (Baron Type 26)

Cachet By: Unknown

Description: This cachet is primarily blue with the legend "FIRST DAY COVER" in red at the bottom. The design again features oval portraits of the King and Queen, with banners above ("CORONATION") and below ("MAY-12-1937") the portraits.

Photo:



FDC No.: 237.208 (Baron Type 45)

Cachet By: This is one of numerous such covers addressed to C. Kika in New York, who may have been the designer of this cachet.

Description: This design is similar to 237.106.02 which featured the King only whereas this cachet shows the Royal Couple. Both designs were in the form of bronze medallions. The wording on the medallion is different from the earlier cachet, and in this case is "CORONATION OF KING GEORGE VI & QUEEN ELIZABETH" with the date added above the King's right shoulder as "12 MAY/ 1937."

Photo:



FDC No.: 237.209

Cachet By: This cachet may have been produced by J. E. Lea, the addressee, whose name is printed in the same colour as the blue of the cachet.

Description: This is an attractive blue and red all-over cachet showing small portraits of the Royal Couple at centre top against the background of a Union Jack. There is a decorative frame around the outside of the envelope with 'FIRST DAY COVER' printed at the bottom centre and "Coronation/ G. R." at top left and "Commemoration/ E. R." at top right.

Photo:



FDC No.: 237.210.01

Cachet By: Regina Philatelic Club

Description: This is the basic design of the Club for this issue. It is entirely in blue, and shows oval portraits of the King and Queen within a rectangular frame which also encloses leaves and flowers. A crown is on top of the rectangle. Text at the bottom reads, "1937/ G R & E R" while the Club's name appears in small type at the bottom of the cover. There are pairs of horizontal lines at the top and bottom of the cachet.

Photo:

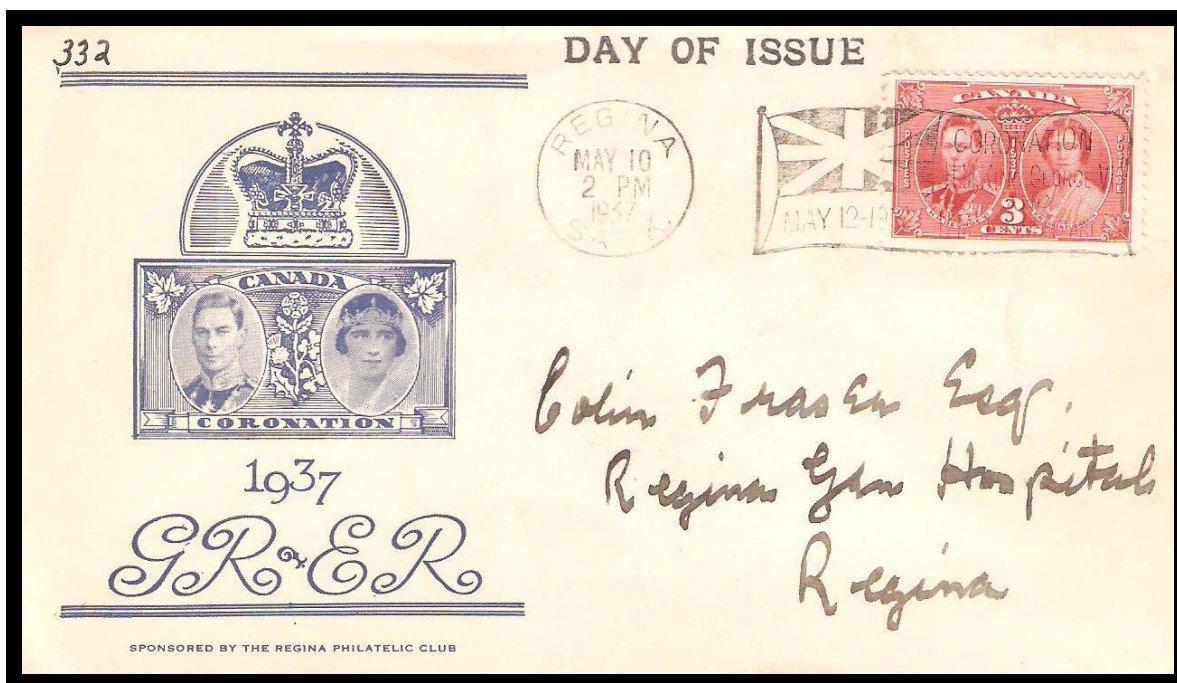


FDC No.: 237.210.02

Cachet By: Regina Philatelic Club

Description: This variation of the RPC cachet has "DAY OF ISSUE" rubber-stamped at the top of the cover and a number 332 at top left.

Photo:



FDC No.: 237.210.03

Cachet By: Regina Philatelic Club

Description: This variation uses the same basic design as the two previous covers with the addition of a bronze and white screen. The legend "CORONATION COVER" has been typewritten in red at the bottom.

Photo:

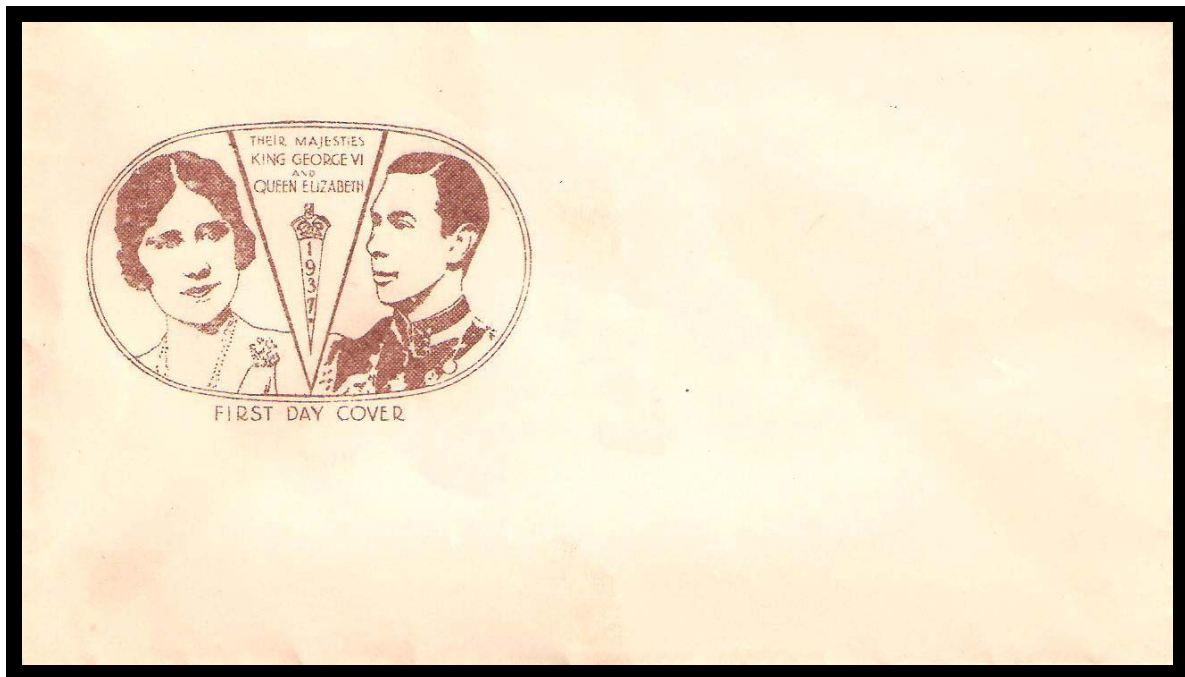


FDC No.: 237.211

Cachet By: Unknown

Description: This brown cachet shows sketches of the Royal Couple with a V-shaped inset between them reading, "THEIR MAJESTIES/ KING GEORGE VI/ AND/ QUEEN ELIZABETH." A dagger-shaped figure below the text contains the date 1937 while the legend "FIRST DAY COVER" is outside the portrait frame at the bottom of the cachet.

Photo:



FDC No.: 237.212.01

Cachet By: Unknown

Description: This red and blue cachet was probably designed by the same maker as 237.104 as the two share several design elements, including the box and legend at the top ("Coronation Year/ 1937"), the two Union Jacks flanking the portrait oval, the frame around the oval, and the portrait of the King. The cachet shown here adds a pair of outer flags and a portrait of the Queen.

Photo:



FDC No.: 237.212.02

Cachet By: Unknown

Description: The pictorial elements of this cachet are the same as the previous one, however, the legend within the rectangle is different. In this case it reads, "Coronation Day May 12th/ 1937."

Photo:



FDC No.: 237.212.03

Cachet By: Unknown

Description: Here is a third variation of the same cachet, this time with the same pictorial elements. The box at the top of the design has been eliminated and replaced with text at the bottom which reads, "CORONATION DAY/ MAY 12TH, 1937."

Photo:



FDC No.: 237.213

Cachet By: Unknown

Description: This red cachet shares a couple of design elements with cachets shown earlier (eg. 237.204, 237.205) including the portraits of the Royal Couple and the crown displayed between them. The frames are somewhat fancier in this case, and the text reads "CORONATION" above the portraits and "FIRST DAY COVER" beneath them.

Photo:



FDC No.: 237.214.01 (Baron Type 9)

Cachet By: Unknown

Description: This cachet shows black and white portraits of the Royal Couple at the top of a rectangular frame which also encloses the Peace Tower and a cloud bank. The text at the bottom reads, "FIRST DAY COVER/ OTTAWA-CANADA/ 1937/ KING GEORGE VI—ISSUE."

Photo:

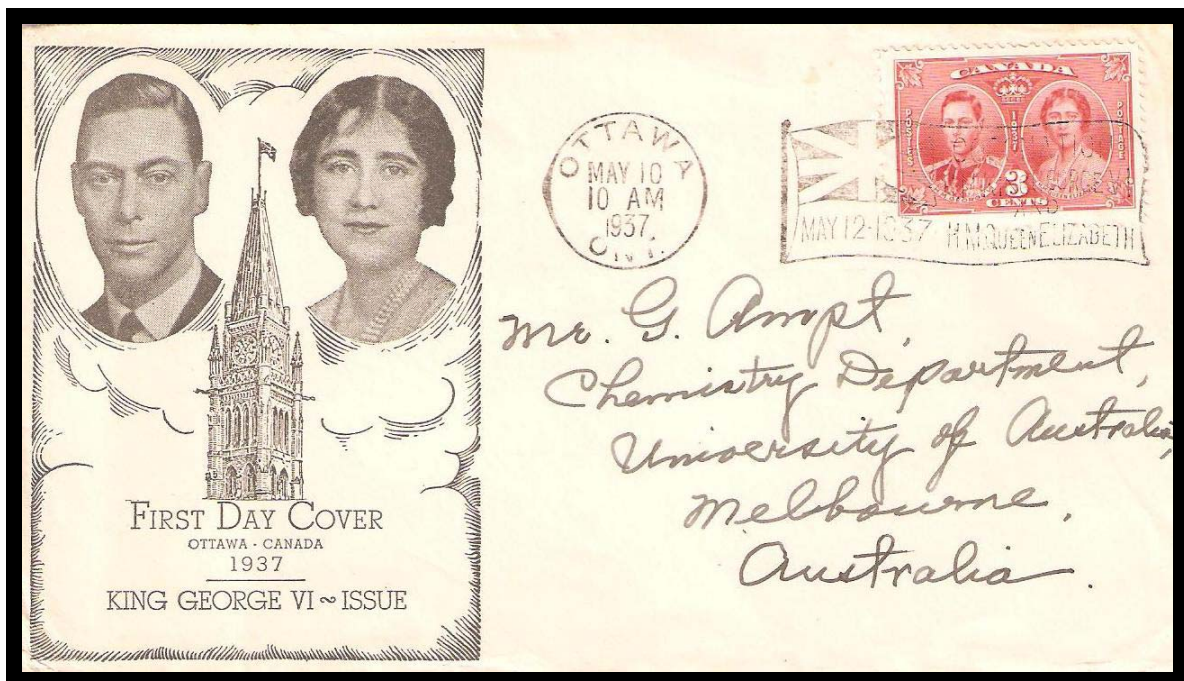


FDC No.: 237.214.02

Cachet By: Unknown

Description: This cachet is the same as the previous one except that there is no shading within the ovals around the portraits of the King and Queen.

Photo:



FDC No.: 237.214.03

Cachet By: Unknown

Description: This cachet is the same as the previous one, with no shading in the portrait ovals, but it is hand-coloured.

Photo:



FDC No.: 237.215.01 (Baron Type 36)

Cachet By: Unknown (possibly Ruislip Stamp Company)

Description: This cachet is the first of three with the same design but differing in colour. The design features oval portraits, almost caricatures, of the King and Queen in double frames topped with a crown. The only text is "FIRST DAY COVER" below the portraits. The design is in black apart from blue horizontal and vertical stripes on the front and back of the envelope.

Photo:



FDC No.: 237.215.02

Cachet By: Unknown (possibly Ruislip Stamp Company)

Description: This cover has the same design as the previous one, however it is in violet.

Photo:



FDC No.: 237.215.03

Cachet By: Unknown (possibly Ruislip Stamp Company)

Description: Here is the third variation of the same cachet, this time in green.

Photo:



FDC No.: 237.216

Cachet By: Unknown

Description: This is an interesting and complex cachet that borrows elements from several others that have been attributed to Michael Sanders. The portraits, ovals, and flags are from the 237.212 series of cachets while the outline map and frame are from the 237.105 sequence. The text is in italics and at the top of the cachet is "King George VI/ Queen Elizabeth" while at the bottom it is "Souvenir/ Cover/ Coronation May 12th, 1937." Myers indicates that this cachet was also used in Great Britain for Coronation stamps.

Photo:



FDC No.: 237.217

Cachet By: Unknown

Description: This blue cachet has a circular portrait of the Royal Couple, with italic lettering above it reading, "Coronation of Their/ Majesties King George VI/ and Queen Elizabeth." Plain lettering below the portrait says, "FIRST DAY COVER/ May 10th, 1937."

Photo:



FDC No.: 237.218.01

Cachet By: Unknown

Description: This black cachet shows caricatures of the King and Queen flanked by flags. Text at the top is, "Coronation/ Commemorative-1937,/ -May 12th-" Beneath the portraits are the names of the King and Queen, while "Dominion of Canada" appears at the bottom.

Photo:



FDC No.: 237.218.02

Cachet By: Unknown

Description: This cachet is the same as the previous one, however there is no underlining beneath "Dominion of Canada" at the bottom of the design.

Photo:



FDC No.: 237.219

Cachet By: Unknown

Description: This red and blue cachet features an oval portrait of the King and Queen, with a crown resting on a garland at the top of the oval. The frame is flanked by flags, and a pedestal at the base rests on maple leaves and contains the text, "THEIR MAJESTIES/ THE KING AND QUEEN."

Photo:



FDC No.: 237.220

Cachet By: Unknown

Description: This black cachet has separate oval portraits of the King and Queen, with a crown at the top between them. Text at the bottom reads, "1937/
CORONATION of Their Majesties/ King George VI and Queen Elisabeth."

Photo:



FDC No: 237.221

Cachet By: Unknown

Description: Here is another cachet featuring a circular portrait of the Royal Couple. The text is similar to the previous cachet although it is spaced differently as follows: "Coronation of Their/ Majesties King George VI/ and Queen Elizabeth" appears above the portrait and "FIRST DAY COVER/ May 10th, 1937" below it.

Photo:



FDC No.: 237.222

Cachet By: Possibly by Westminster Stamp Company

Description: This is an all-over cachet with sketched portraits of the King and Queen appearing at the left and right sides of the cover with their names beneath. The address is centered and the bottom two lines read, "STAMPS ISSUED IN COMMEMORATION OF THE/ CORONATION OF THEIR MAJESTIES KING GEORGE VI & QUEEN ELIZABETH."

Photo:



FDC No.: 237.223

Cachet By: Unknown

Description: The pictorial element of this cachet is similar to that of 237.212 and .216, consisting of a blue and red design with an oval portrait of the Royal Couple flanked on each side by a pair of flags. The initials "G.R." and "E.R." are below the picture and the words "Coronation Souvenir Cover" appear at centre left and "POSTED ON DAY OF ISSUE" at the bottom.

Photo: This is a second generation scan from a fuzzy image.



FDC No.: 237.224

Cachet By: Possibly the Oriental Philatelic House.

Description: This red and blue design shows a sketched portrait of the King and Queen resting on an easel, with a crown at the top of the frame and flags at each side. The wording is simply, "Coronation/ May, 1937."

Photo:



FDC No.: 237.225 (Baron Type 27)

Cachet By: Unknown

Description: Baron describes this design as showing the King and Queen in their coronation robes against a black background. Printing in the lower right corner of the cover is, "Official First Day Cover/ Coronation Souvenir."

Photo: Not available.

FDC No.: 237.226 (Baron Type 28)

Cachet By: Unknown

Description: Baron describes this cachet as consisting of a black, pasted stamp-like poster with portraits of the Royal Couple. Printing on the poster above the portraits reads, "LONG MAY THEY REIGN", while text on the cover above the poster is, "CORONATION ISSUE KING GEORGE VI/ AND QUEEN ELIZABETH/ MAY 12TH, 1937."

Photo: Not available.

FDC No.: 237.227

Cachet By: Suburban Stamp Co.

Description: This hand-coloured cachet features portraits of the King and Queen in blue along with red and blue borders.

Photo:



FDC No.: 237.281.01

Cachet By: Ph. B. Papachristidis (See 237.281.03).

Description: The four members of the Royal Family are featured in this photograph on a dark blue cachet. The text at the top reads, "CORONATION ISSUE KING GEORGE VI/ AND QUEEN ELIZABETH/ MAY 12TH 1937."

Photo:



FDC No.: 237.281.02 (Baron Type 51)

Cachet By: Ph. B. Papahristidis (See 238.281.03).

Description: This cachet is identical to the previous one except that it is in red rather than dark blue.

Photo:



FDC No.: 237.281.03 (Baron Type 4)

Cachet By: Ph. B. Papachristidis.

Description: This is the same cachet design as the previous two except that "FIRST DAY COVER" and a small "PRINTED IN CANADA" logo appear in the lower left corner of the cover. All of the printing appears to have been done at the same time as the fonts and colours are identical for all aspects of the cover..

Photo:



FDC No.: 237.282 (Baron Type 24)

Cachet By: Possibly Ludwig Staehle.

Description: This cachet has a circular portrait of the King, Queen, and Princess Elizabeth within a double frame decorated by maple leaves with a partial Canadian Coat of Arms at the top. The frame is flanked by a pair of flags at each side. Text above the frame is, "KING GEORGE VI STAMPS/ OF CANADA" and below it in smaller letters is, "First Day Cover." Copyright information is provided in very small type in the lower left corner. This cover is unusually large at 100 x 190 mm.

Photo:



FDC No.: 237.283 (Baron Type 22)

Cachet By: Ludwig Staehle

Description: This blue cachet has the same graphic design as the previous one, including the copyright information at the bottom left. The text is different, however, and reads as follows: "Commemorative Cover" above the graphics and "Coronation of/ King George VI./ and Queen Elizabeth" below them. The graphic elements are proportionately smaller on this cachet than on the previous one.

Photo:

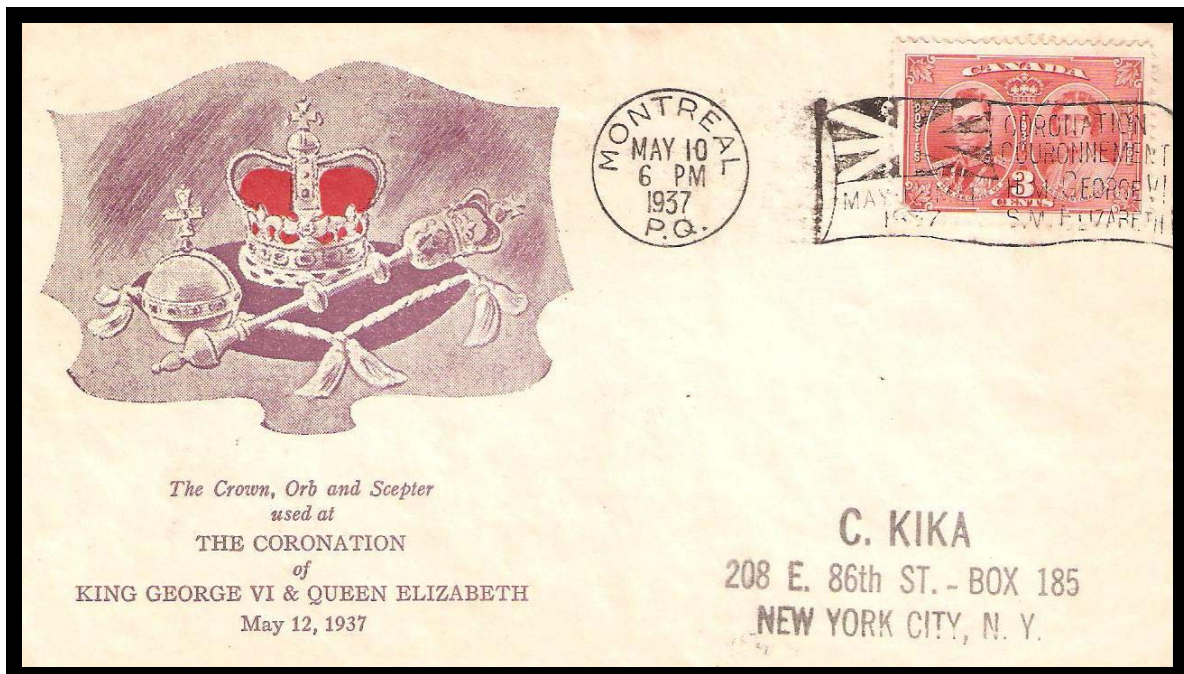


FDC No.: 237.301 (Baron Type 7)

Cachet By: Unknown

Description: This cachet is primarily purple with a dash of red on the crown. The design includes a crown, orb, and scepter on a pillow. The text at the bottom reads, "The Crown, Orb and Scepter/ used at/ THE CORONATION/ of/ KING GEORGE VI & QUEEN ELIZABETH/ May 12, 1937."

Photo:

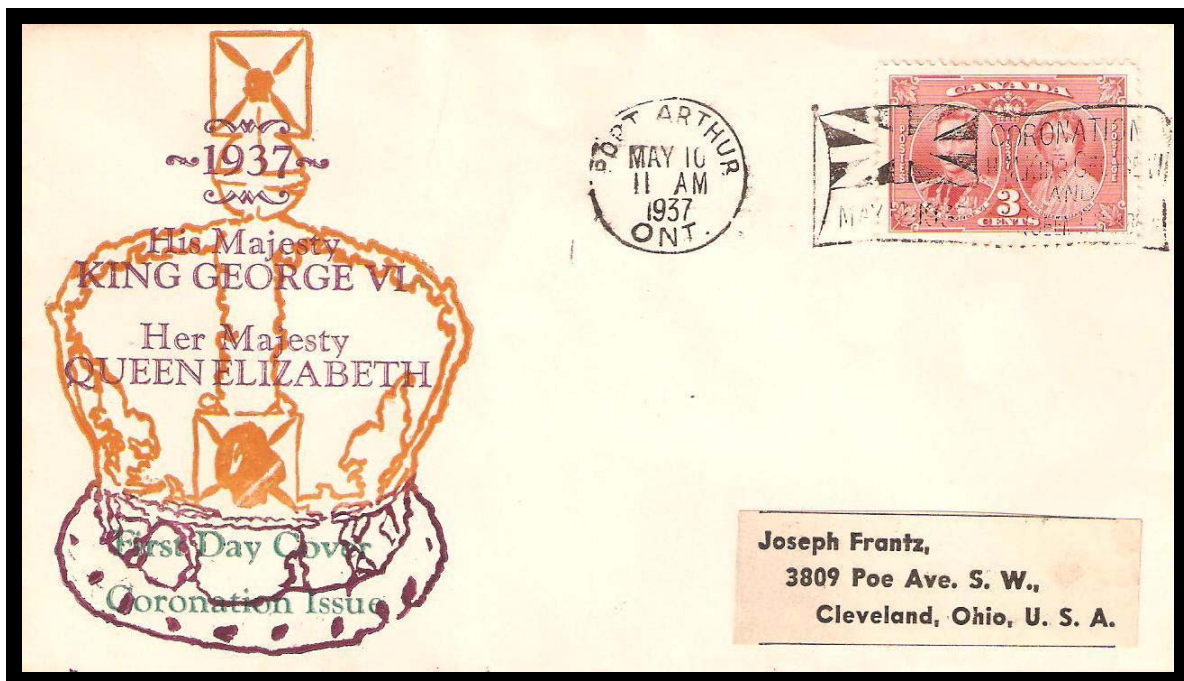


FDC No.: 237.302 (Baron Type 33)

Cachet By: Unknown

Description: This cachet features a large crown and is in purple, orange, and green. There are seven lines of text reading, "1937/ His Majesty/ KING GEORGE VI/ Her Majesty/ QUEEN ELIZABETH/ First Day Cover/ Coronation Issue."

Photo:

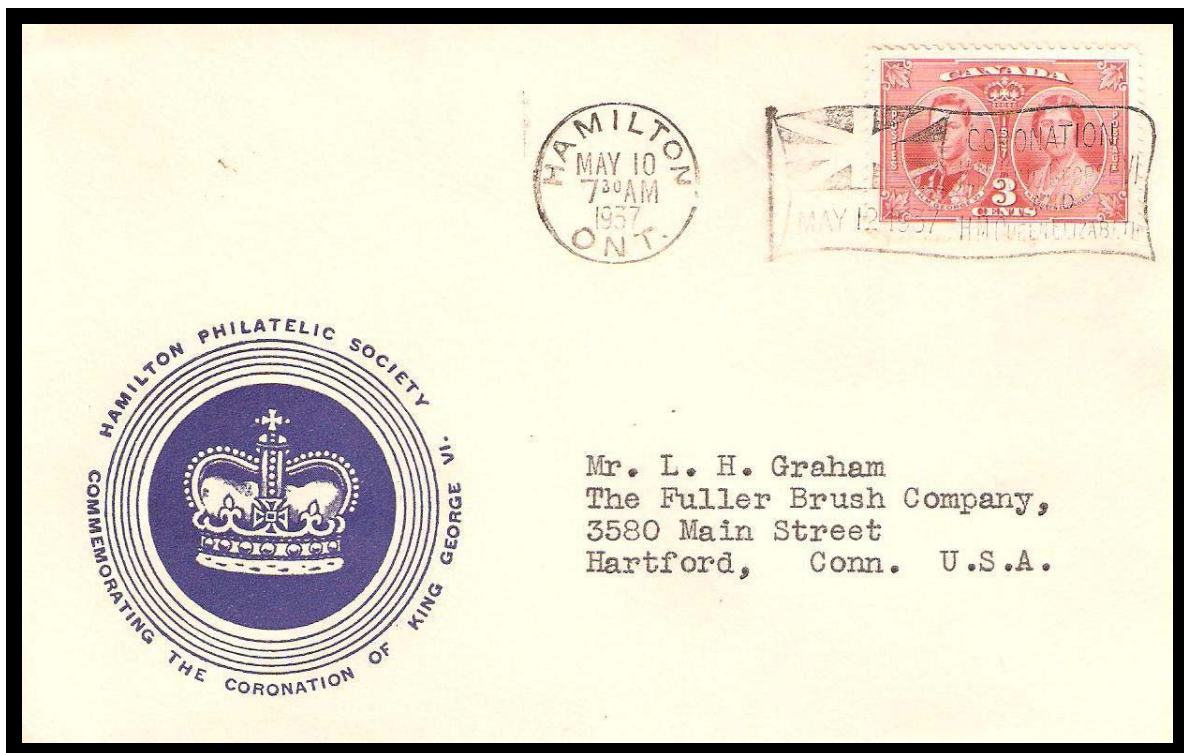


FDC No.: 237.303

Cachet By: Hamilton Philatelic Society

Description: A crown against a blue background is at the centre of this circular cachet. There are five outer rings and text around the last one identifying the name of the Society and the legend, "COMMEMORATING THE CORONATION OF KING GEORGE VI."

Photo:

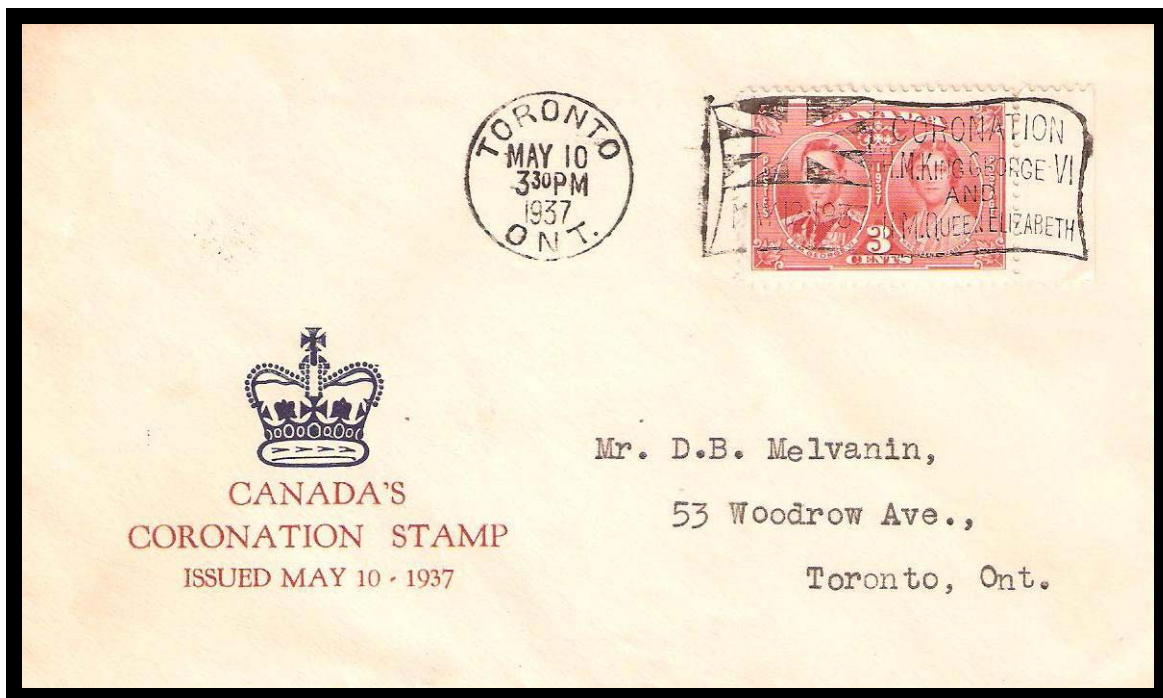


FDC No.: 237.304

Cachet By: Unknown

Description: This simple design features a small blue crown and red lettering reading, "CANADA'S/ CORONATION STAMP/ ISSUED MAY 10-1937." An enclosed note indicated that only fourteen copies were printed.

Photo:



FDC No. 237.305.01

Cachet By: Unknown

Description: This blue cachet originating in Winnipeg features a crown with "FIRST DAY COVER" above it and "WINNIPEG - - MANITOBA" below it.

Photo:



FDC No.: 237.305.02

Cachet By: Unknown

Description: Here is a variation of the previous design with a somewhat larger crown and one hyphen rather than two between "Winnipeg" and "Manitoba."

Photo:



FDC No.: 237.306

Cachet By: Unknown

Description: This cachet shows a small crown with the initial "G" on the left side and "R" on the right. The Coronation date is beneath the crown. The legend "FIRST DAY COVER" appears in a banner at the top of the cachet, followed by the text, "COMMEMORATING/ THE/ CORONATION/ OF/ THEIR MAJESTIES/ KING GEORGE AND QUEEN ELIZABETH."

Photo:

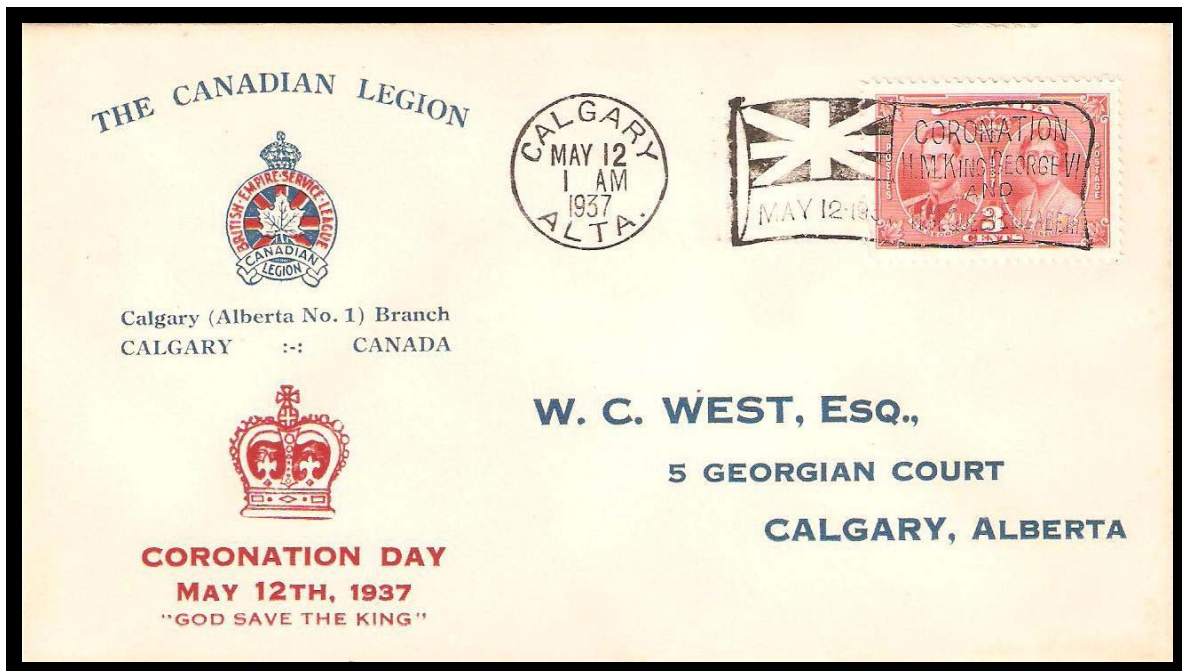


FDC No.: 237.307

Cachet By: Unknown

Description: This cachet, including the address, was printed on a business envelope of the Canadian Legion in Calgary. A crown and the text, "CORONATION DAY/ MAY 12TH, 1937/ GOD SAVE THE KING" was added in red in the bottom left corner of the cover.

Photo:



FDC No.: 237.308

Cachet By: Unknown

Description: This is one of the few unilingual French cachets produced for the Coronation issue. It has a crown label as its centerpiece, with text as follows:
COURONNEMENT/ GEORGE VI./ 12 Mai 1937/ CANADA/ Couvert du 1er jour.”

Photo:



FDC No.: 237.309

Cachet By: Unknown

Description: This cachet, shown here as a combination cover for the four stamps issued on May 10, has a small blue and red crown with a banner showing the Coronation date. The words "CORONATION DAY" appear at upper left and "FIRST DAY COVER" at bottom left.

Photo:



FDC No.: 237.310.01

Cachet By: Unknown

Description: This cachet shows a purple rubber-stamped crown inside a double-framed square with the legend "CORONATION/ 1937" above the crown.

Photo:



FDC No.: 237.310.02 (Baron Type 43)

Cachet By: Unknown

Description: This cachet also features a purple rubber-stamped crown with the same design as the previous one except that the identifier "HALIFAX, CANADA" appears below the crown here.

Photo:



FDC No.: 237.310.03 (Baron Type 41)

Cachet By: Unknown

Description: This cachet has the same design as 237.310.02 but is printed in grey.

Photo: Not available.

FDC No.: 237.310.04 (Baron Type 42)

Cachet By: Unknown

Description: This cachet has the same design as 237.310.02 but is printed in red.

Photo: Not available.

FDC No.: 237.310.05 (Baron Type 44)

Cachet By: Unknown

Description: This cachet is the same as 237.310.02 but is printed in green.

Photo: Not available.

FDC No.: 237.311

Cachet By: Unknown

Description: Here is a red and gold cachet showing a crown and coat of arms, with text reading as follows: "Coronation Stamps/ Issued May, 1937./ Imperial Crown/ Coat of Arms."

Photo:



FDC No.: 237.312

Cachet By: Hamilton Philatelic Society

Description: This blue cachet, the second one produced by the Society for the Coronation, shows a crown against a blue background. A banner around the crown reads, "PRE CORONATION ISSUE of KING GEORGE VI." The banner continues below the crown and indicates, "Hamilton Philatelic/ 1937 Society 1937." The words "FIRST DAY COVER" are at the bottom of the cachet.

Photo:



FDC No.: 237.313

Cachet By: Unknown

Description: This cachet shows a crown within a decorated frame draped by flags and topped by a maple leaf. Text at the top reads, "Coronation Cover/ King George VI" and at the bottom is, "May 12th, 1937."

Photo:



FDC No.: 237.371 (Baron Type 23)

Cachet By: Eric Heyl (see Gasper article)

Description: This cachet illustrates a considerable number of the symbols of royalty and heraldry including coats of arms, crowns, flags, animals, a scepter, and a sword. A banner along the bottom of the cachet reads, "CORONATION DAY MAY 12 1937."

Photo:

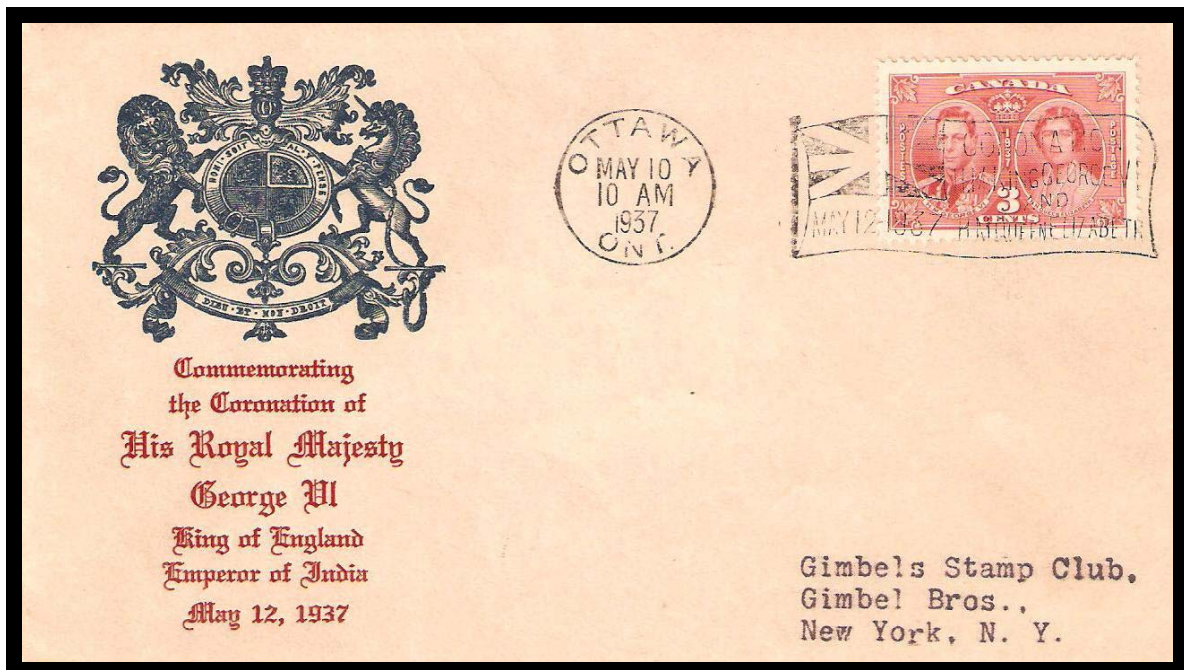


FDC No.: 237.372.01 (Baron Type 17)

Cachet By: Gimbels Stamp Department

Description: This thermographed cachet in red and blue features the British Coat of Arms and the following seven lines of italic text: Commemorating/ the Coronation of/ His Royal Majesty/ George VI/ King of England/ Emperor of India/ May 12, 1937." Myers indicated that this cachet was also used in Great Britain for Coronation stamp issues, and is one of two basic cachet designs prepared by Gimbels. (see also 237.101, 237.102 and 237.372.02).

Photo:



FDC No.: 237.372.02 (Baron Type 18)

Cachet By: Gimbels Stamp Department

Description: This variation of the previous cachet appears to have been lithographed rather than thermographed as it has a flat feeling and appearance rather than the embossed feeling and appearance of the previous one. There is an additional line of text on this cachet, "Defender of the Faith," which did not appear on the previous cachet. This variation of this Gimbels' cachet was illustrated by Myers as having been used in Great Britain (see also 237.302.01 and 237.102).

Photo:

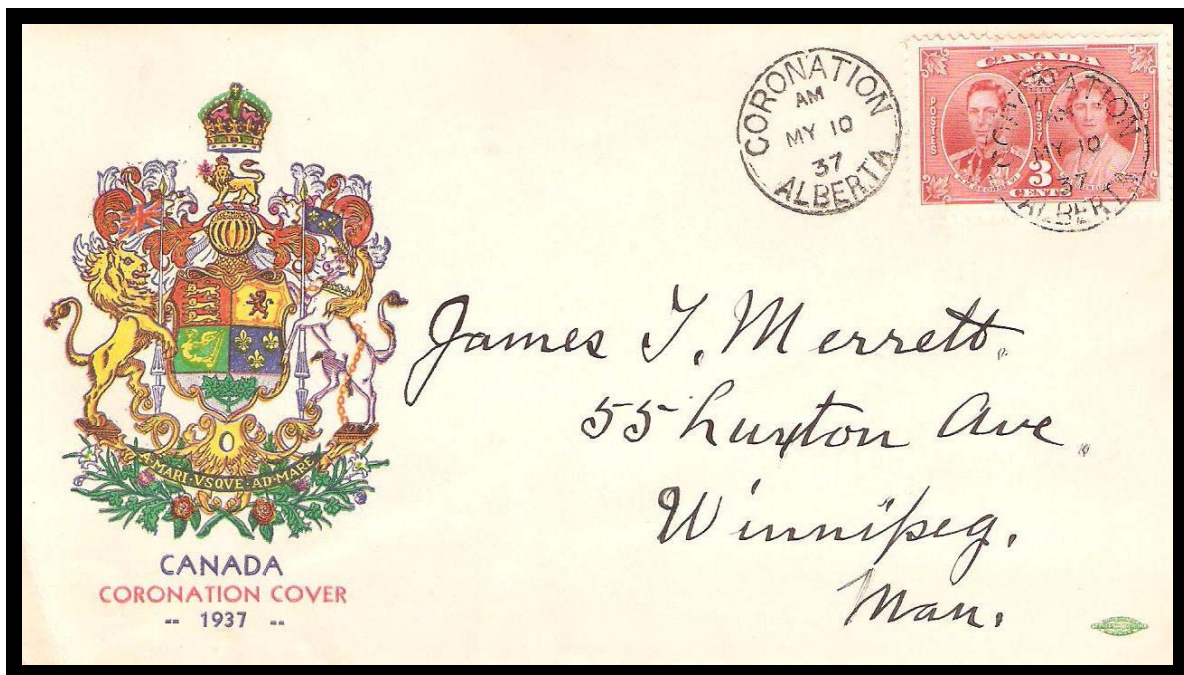


FDC No.: 237.373 (Baron Type 39)

Cachet By: Unknown

Description: This cachet features a colourful rendering of the Canadian Coat of Arms. Text at the bottom is, "CANADA/ CORONATION COVER/ 1937."

Photo:



FDC No.: 237.501 (Baron Type 8)

Cachet By: Beaver Philatelic Society

Description: This cachet has a central design in brown showing a beaver atop a globe with a maple leaf as background. Text above the picture is, "CORONATION 1937" while immediately below it is a quotation, "We hold a Vaster Empire than has been." At the bottom is the legend, "SPONSORED BY/ THE BEAVER PHILATELIC SOCIETY/ REGINA, CANADA."

Photo:



FDC No.: 237.502

Cachet By: Michael Sanders

Description: This cachet has a leaf outline as background in the style of Michael Sanders. Figures within the leaf's outline include a garland, lion in an oval frame, and crown. Text at the top is "Coronation Stamp Issue", at the left side is "Dominion of Canada," at right is "May 12/ 1937", and in the bottom left corner is "FIRST DAY/ COVER." This example has an air mail sticker at top left and rubber stamp at bottom centre.

Photo:



FDC No.: 237.503 (Baron Type 34)

Cachet By: Unknown

Description: This cachet in brown has a pair of crossed flags with a maple leaf between. Five lines of text below the design read, "Coronation/ Commemorative/ Issue/ First Day Cover/ May 10th, 1937."

Photo:



FDC No.: 237.504

Cachet By: Louis Nix (see Gasper article)

Description: This thermographic cachet was colourfully reproduced in red, blue, and gold according to Gasper. The design shows a Union Jack with text above it reading, "FIRST DAY COVER/ CORONATION ISSUE/ KING GEORGE VI/ QUEEN ELIZABETH" while text beneath the flag says, "CANADA/ MAY 10, 1937."

Photo:



FDC No.: 237.505

Cachet By: Unknown

Description: This cachet in orange and brown shows the Peace Tower of the Parliament Buildings. Text runs across the top and bottom of the cover, reading "FIRST DAY OF ISSUE – OTTAWA, CANADA 1937" at the top and "THE REIGN OF HIS MAJESTY KING GEORGE VI" at the bottom.

Photo:

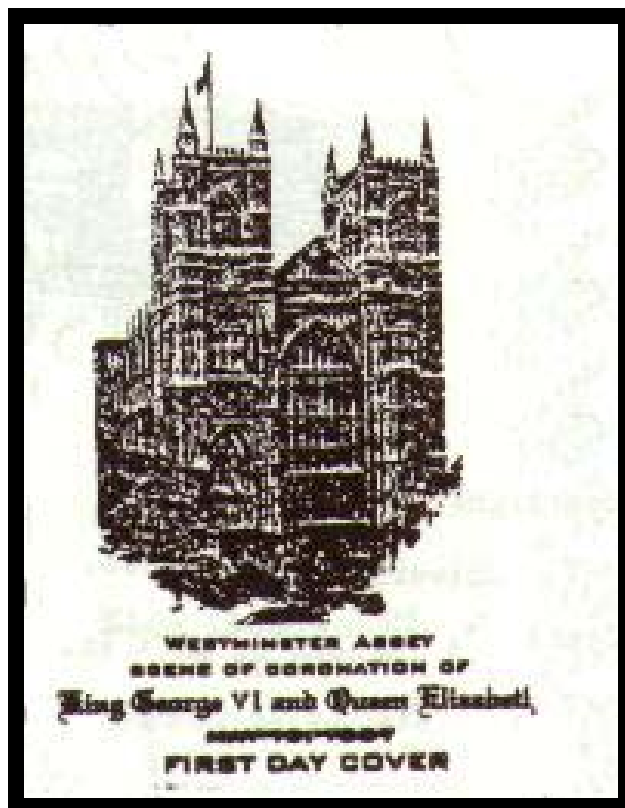


FDC No.: 237.506

Cachet By: Unknown

Description: Westminster Abbey is featured on this cachet, with text below the picture reading, "WESTMINSTER ABBEY/ SCENE OF CORONATION OF/ King George VI and Queen Elizabeth [*in italics*]/ MAY 12, 1937/ FIRST DAY COVER."

Photo:



FDC No.: 237.507 (Baron Type 40)

Cachet By: Unknown

Description: This cachet was described by Baron as a “black stamped small medallion like design showing pictures of King George V and King George VI facing right.”

Photo: Not available.

FDC No.: 237.508 (Baron Type 49)

Cachet By: Unknown

Description: Baron described this cachet as a black shield with garlands containing a portrait of King Edward VIII, the brother of King George VI who abdicated the throne. Above the shield is the legend, "KING EDWARD VIII."

Photo: Not available.

FDC No.: 237.509 (Baron Type 55)

Cachet By: Unknown

Description: Baron describes this cachet as featuring a black outline of a maple leaf with "FIRST DAY COVER" at the left of the leaf.

Photo: Not available.