

Insured Registered Mail in Canada, 1904 - 1909

by Hugo Deshayé

I have decided to take the Rixon challenge and be part of those who want to help to revive "My favourite cover series". My favourite cover is actually an insured registered cover from Blackstone, N.S. The

Postmaster General, Ottawa, decided on March 15, 1904, that on and after March 28, 1904, letters addressed to places within the Dominion of Canada, may, under certain conditions, be insured.



The insurance fee and limit of compensation were as follows:

3 cents	-	\$10.00
4 cents	-	\$15.00
5 cents	-	\$20.00
6 cents	-	\$25.00

A red "insured" label must be affixed to the front of the cover. During transmission from office to office the insured letter must be treated like other registered letters. The amount for which a letter was to be insured must be declared on the cover, both in figures and in words for example: insured for fifteen dollars (\$15.00). The condition regulating compensation is lengthy but no compensation for loss would have been given in regard to coin, gold and precious stones. Compensation for loss was strictly

in accordance with the fee paid, no matter what the original total value of the contents may have been.

The cover illustrated here shows a franking of 11¢ insured and registered to Toronto. The franking consists of 2¢ postage, 5¢ registration and 4¢ insurance. The cover fits the regulation by having the figures and words *insured for fifteen dollars* (\$15.00). Cover originated in Blackstone, N.S. (AP 15/04). The reverse has Alexander and Strathlorne transit markings and a Toronto receiver.

The insurance of registered letters was discontinued on April 7, 1909.



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