

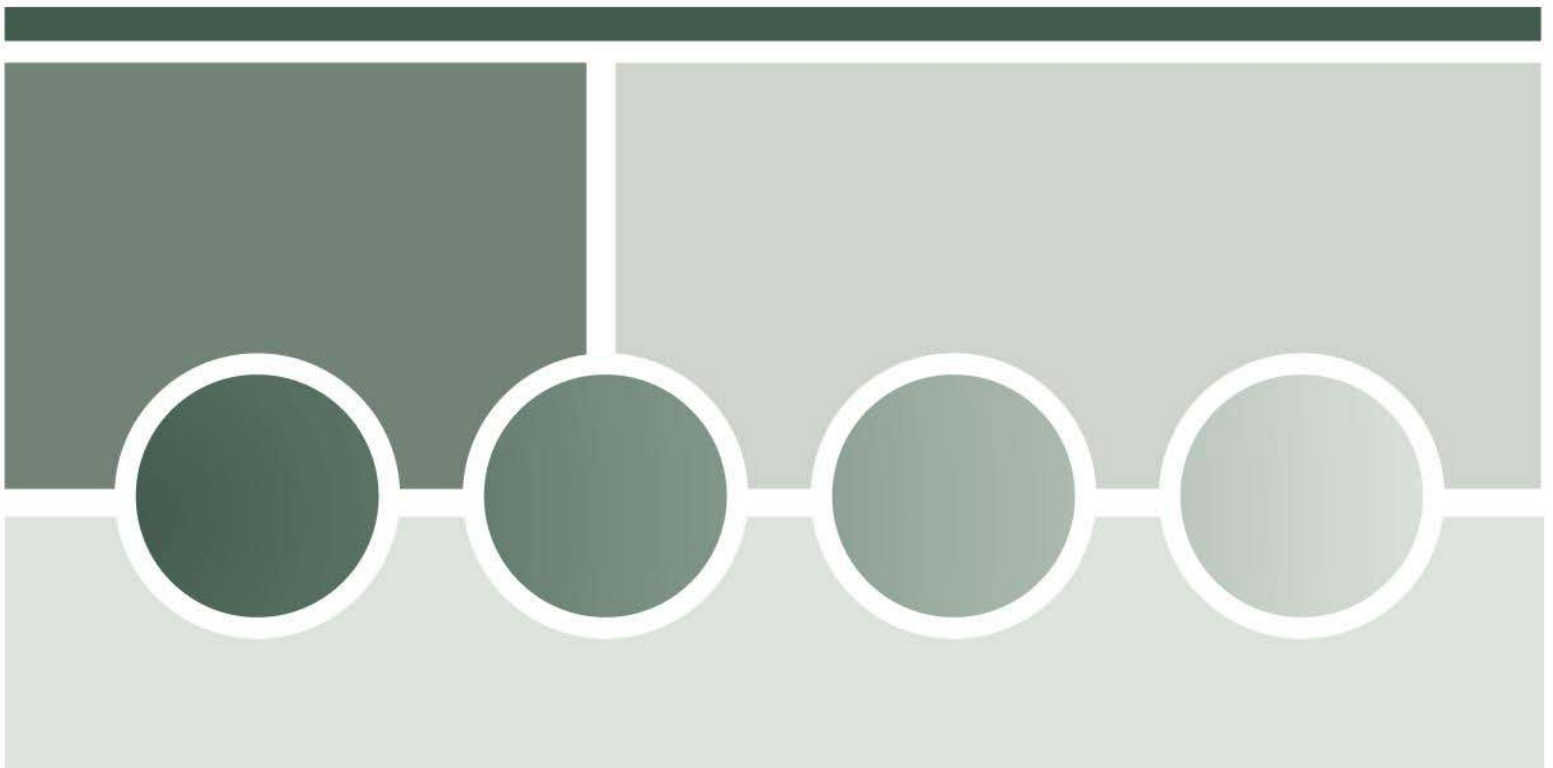


BANK OF CANADA
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Ottawa Dairy Tokens

An Overview of the Dairy Tokens of Ottawa
and Their Issuers

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The following work was produced in conjunction with the exhibit Just Add Milk.... Du Lait S'il Vous Plait... on display at the Currency Museum, Bank of Canada from July to November, 2008

Introduction

The Canadian dairy industry is a multi-billion-dollar business in which most Canadians are involved—if not as producers or distributors, then as consumers of its wide range of products.¹ It is also an industry with a tangible numismatic legacy in the form of tokens and tickets that were once used by customers to purchase dairy products. From the late nineteenth century through the 1960s and 1970s, dairy distributors across the country issued a wide array of paper, plastic, and metal tokens as monetary substitutes for advertising purposes and for customer convenience. These objects, with their varied colours and unusual shapes, represent a fascinating and charming testament to the days of home delivery.

In the Beginning

The story begins with the animals that produce the raw material on which the industry is based.² In Canada today, there are Holstein, Jersey, Ayrshire, Canadienne, Brown Swiss, and Guernsey cows, among others. They generate enormous quantities of milk, between 18,000 and 28,000 pounds of milk per cow, per annum.³

Although recognized principally as a beverage, milk has properties that allow it to be converted into other food sources such as butter and cheese. This versatility prompted our ancestors to keep dairy cattle in small numbers to serve family needs. With the expansion of urban centres in the late nineteenth century, it was no longer practical, or sanitary, for everyone to keep cows. As a result, Canadian farmers raised large herds to serve the needs of those without facilities of their own. The first such concentration of large herds was in southwestern and southeastern Ontario (Oxford County and Lennox & Addington County) and in Quebec's Eastern Townships.

Production and Distribution

Surplus milk—what was not required for the farmer's table—was delivered to cheese factories, to be made into cheese; to creameries, where it was made into butter; or to the customer's home, as a beverage or for culinary use.

Canada's first dairy farmers operated without government regulation and with minimal professional direction. No operational standards existed for either production or delivery. The first dairy organizations were established in the 1870s. Dairy schools did not exist in Canada until the late nineteenth century, and Canada's first dairy commissioner was appointed in 1890.

¹ In 2006, for example, sales of dairy products amounted to over \$13 billion of the more than \$77 billion in total food and beverage sales. See <<http://www.dairyinfo.gc.ca/pdf/graph1.pdf>> (Statistics Canada).

² Goat milk forms a small part of the dairy industry in Canada, but since tokens were not used in its delivery, that sector of the industry is not included here.

³ Wikipedia, "Dairy cattle."

Early milk production and distribution were basic. Milk taken from the cow early each morning was transferred to containers of various types and sizes and loaded onto wagons for transport. In home deliveries, milk was dispensed directly from large metal cans or earthenware jugs into the receptacle provided by the customer. This method was called “dipping,” and while it was an economical way of dispensing milk, it also represented a considerable health risk for consumers, since milk exposed to the air is an ideal breeding ground for disease-causing bacteria. Epidemics of scarlet fever, diphtheria, measles, typhoid, and tuberculosis were all attributed to a supply of impure milk in the 1860s.⁴ Moreover, there were no guarantees that the milk was pure. Some “industrious” producers sought to increase their profits by separating a portion of the cream from the milk and adding water and chalk to cover the telltale bluish tinge of watered-down milk.

Eventually, public concern over the quality and safety of milk led to steps to regulate the industry. As early as 1870, the Quebec government made it illegal to supply watered-down, sour, or dirty milk to dairy factories.⁵ Authorities demanded mandatory inspection of dairy herds to ensure that cows were not contaminated with bovine tuberculosis. Some municipalities even demanded that milk be pasteurized⁶ to reduce harmful bacteria. In 1906, the Guaranteed Pure Milk Company of Montréal was the first Canadian dairy to pasteurize its milk.

With the demand for milk increasing to the extent that it could not be handled by a single individual or even a family or extended-family operation, modern companies, using new technologies, were organized at the beginning of the twentieth century to take delivery of milk from farmer producers, process the milk, package it, and deliver it along longer routes, at times overlapping those of competing interests. In some instances, the distributors themselves operated a dairy farm to ensure a steady supply. Three of the earliest modern distributors were located in central Canada: the Guaranteed Pure Milk Company of Montréal, the Ottawa Dairy in Ottawa, and the City Dairy in Toronto.

The diverse nature of those involved in the dairy industry led to the development of associations for producers and distributors, whose mandate was to help educate members and protect their interests in negotiations of wholesale prices. Gradually, costly industry regulation, modernization of equipment, and improvements in transportation resulted in consolidation among distributors⁷ and a subsequent decline in producers. After World War II, large grocery-store chains offered customers convenient and direct access to milk products. Since more of them could be delivered to the store than to the home, there were considerable savings for the distributor.⁸ This resulted in a decline in home delivery by

⁴ J. Spargo, *The Common Sense of the Milk Question* (New York: The MacMillan Company, 1908), 120–22.

⁵ R. Dupre, “Regulating the Quebec Dairy Industry, 1905–1921: Peeling Off the Joseph Label,” *The Journal of Economic History* 50 (2) June 1990: 346.

⁶ Pasteurization reduces the number of harmful bacteria that can be found in milk, such as bovine tuberculosis (TB), E. coli, and salmonella. Pasteurized milk stays fresher longer than raw milk and is much safer to drink.

⁷ Loc. cit.

⁸ *Ottawa Milk Pricing, November, 1961* (Ottawa: Queen’s Printer, 1964), 7–8.

the 1970s and, ultimately, the disappearance of the dairy token in all but a few specialized markets.

The Tokens

The issue of dairy tokens, or tokens generally, was not an isolated phenomenon. It became a regular feature of retail business in North America at the end of the nineteenth century and for decades after. General stores, bakers, barbers, hoteliers, transportation companies, and other Canadian businesses distributed tokens in values of cents, dollars, or units particular to the issuer, such as loaves of bread for bakers and pints and quarts of milk for dairies. These pieces were useful for the merchant in that they were a form of inexpensive advertising, they gave the merchant money in advance of providing the goods or service, they saved the merchant from using cash to make change or small purchases, and they ensured customer loyalty: unlike cash, tokens could be redeemed only at the establishment of the issuing merchant.

In their heyday, milkmen sold tokens or tickets directly to their customers. Dairies encouraged such sales by offering discounts of one bottle for every twelve purchased. Tokens were put out with the empties on the step or in service boxes and collected by the milkman in exchange for products.

The earliest known Canadian dairy tokens were issued in the 1890s. Period catalogues (Paquet 1893–94;⁹ Breton 1894)¹⁰ list several. Some of these pieces, however, were fantasies—not intended for use in milk delivery—created before the turn of the twentieth century, but exclusively for sale to eager collectors.¹¹

Not every dairy issued tokens or tickets. Some preferred to extend credit to customers and settle accounts on a regular basis. For those firms that did issue tokens, however, these instruments had advantages: they eliminated the risk and inconvenience of using cash. Drivers were not put in jeopardy, and customers did not have to look for exact change. Using tokens helped to ensure that bottles were not destroyed but returned to the proper company, saving thousands of dollars each year. Unlike cash, tickets were useless to early-morning thieves who took advantage of money left in bottles. A token's physical nature also benefited the deliveryman. Some tokens were shaped so that they stood upright in the necks of the empties, and their colour alerted the driver to the type and quantity of milk desired before he even reached the customer's door.

Manufacturers such as Pritchard and Andrews (P&A) of Ottawa and Banfield and Sons of Toronto struck tokens in a variety of base metals, including copper and brass, as well as aluminum, which was made affordable in the early 1890s, thanks to Charles Hall's innovative refining process. Due to its light weight and anti-tarnish properties, aluminum quickly dominated the field.

⁹ F. X. Paquet, *Catalogue and Price List of Medals, Checks and Communion Tokens of the Ottawa District* (Ottawa: 1893), privately published.

¹⁰ P. N. Breton, *Illustrated History of Coins and Tokens Relating to Canada* (Montréal: P. N. Breton & Co., 1894).

¹¹ R. W. McLachlan, "Canadian Coins and Medals Issued in 1892." *Canadian Antiquarian and Numismatic Journal* 3, 2nd Series (1893): 56.

Paper was also used. Early on, tickets were produced individually, like metal tokens, and made of thick cardboard that could be reused because it offered a degree of durability. By World War I, paper tickets appeared more frequently in perforated strips or sheets from which individual tickets could be removed to be placed inside the empty bottle to pay for a new one. These tickets, unlike metal tokens, were produced locally and were not reusable. Beyond the basic value of the tokens, the tickets featured the merchant's name, address, and phone number. Statements about the nutritional value of milk and its proper handling were also included. Some even bore illustrations and instructions on how the tickets were to be used.

Before World War II, most tokens were made out of aluminum, and colour appeared only on paper tickets. With the development of commercially feasible plastics, colour made its way into the production of milk tokens. In the 1940s, dairies in western Canada began to make their tokens from plastic, with colours ranging from black or white to yellow, blue, green, or red. Most of these pieces were made in the United States and were opaque. Few dairies in eastern Canada adopted plastic.

Anodized aluminum was the preferred material in postwar eastern Canada. Anodization gives the surface of aluminum a hard, colourful, metallic sheen. This is not a surface finish but part of the aluminum itself, created by subjecting the bare, white metal to a chemical bath through which an electric current is passed. Adding dyes to the bath creates colours. There would appear to be no limit to the varieties of tone and sheen that are possible. Anodized aluminum was popularized in the early 1950s through its use in household wares such as tumblers, pitchers, and cooking utensils.¹²

Dairy tokens exist in an abundance of shapes. Some early favourites were round or octagonal. Other shapes were available but were more expensive to produce; oval pieces cost on average 25 per cent more than round tokens. During the 1940s and 1950s, more novel shapes were introduced, including hearts, triangles, crosses, tulips, mushrooms, notched squares, teardrops, arrows, inverted triangles, and T-shaped pieces. Tokens shaped like a bull's head, a cow's head, and a milk can were evocative of the cattle industry.

Dairy tokens were typically denominated in units of milk or cream. The most common values were one pint and one quart, ideal for household use. The largest value was six gallons, representing a large milk can and probably distributed to hotels, restaurants, and bakeries, which required large quantities. Imperial measures, such as pints and quarts, were used until Canada adopted the metric system in the late 1970s.

Almost every type of fluid milk has been represented on dairy tokens. The first tokens simply said "Milk." The type of milk was seldom mentioned. Instead, it seemed more important to the early distributor to assure customers that the product was unadulterated by any additives and that it came straight from a cow that had been tested by the government and found to be disease-free. Milk was often characterized as "pure,"

¹² S. Nichols, *Aluminum by Design* (Pittsburgh, Penn.: Carnegie Museum of Art, 2000), 149–52.

“fresh,” or “tuberculin” tested. Later descriptors included “raw” (unpasteurized) milk, “pasteurized” milk, “homogenized”¹³ milk, and “standard” milk (pasteurized but not homogenized). There are also references to lower amounts of butterfat, such as “2%,” “1%,” and “skim” milk. Some distributors even considered it beneficial from a marketing standpoint to identify the breed of dairy cow that had produced the milk. The words “Jersey,” “Guernsey,” and “Holstein” appear on tokens, sometimes with adjectives such as “gold,” referring to the yellowish colour of Guernsey milk.

Tokens also record the changing nature of the Canadian milk container, with legends that read “bottle,” “jug,” or “pouch pack.” The glass bottle was the first container used regularly in Canada for the delivery of milk. It not only made distribution easier but limited milk’s exposure to harmful bacteria. The first Canadian patent for a milk bottle was issued in 1881 to two Toronto brothers, John and Joseph Birney.¹⁴ The patent was for basic round bottles made from clear glass. Around 1892, J. J. Joubert Limitée, a Montréal dairy, was the first in the British Empire to deliver milk in a glass bottle with a pasteboard cap.¹⁵ The weight of glass bottles and their expense, owing to potential breakage, led to new developments in packaging. The first dairy to sell milk in paper cartons in Canada was Sani-Seal Dairies in 1937.¹⁶ In the 1940s, the round glass bottles in the shape of a bowling pin began to disappear in favour of more easily transportable square bottles.¹⁷ Technology for the reusable plastic milk jug began to appear in Canada in the late 1950s. By 1983, the returnable and reusable three-quart milk jug disappeared as the metrification of milk containers required four-litre packaging to take its place. Today, plastic sealed bags are among the most popular forms of milk packaging in Eastern Canada. Approximately 50 per cent of milk currently sold to consumers in Canada is packaged in plastic pouches.¹⁸

¹³ Homogenization prevents a layer of cream from separating out of the milk. The milk is pumped at high pressures through very narrow tubes, breaking up the fat globules and blending them with the milk. This new product was often marketed on dairy tokens.

¹⁴ D. Thomas and B. Marchant, *When Milk Came in Bottles: A History of Toronto Dairies* (Port Hope, Ontario, 1997), 3.

¹⁵ V. McCormick, *A Hundred Years in the Dairy Industry: A History of the Dairy Industry in Canada and the Events That Influenced It, 1867–1967* (Ottawa: Dairy Farmers of Canada, 1968), 16.

¹⁶ D. Thomas and B. Marchant, *When Milk Came in Bottles: A History of Toronto Dairies* (Port Hope, Ontario, 1997), 124.

¹⁷ D. J. Unitt and P. Unitt, *Bottles in Canada* (Peterborough, Ontario: Clock House, 1972), 199.

In Canada, round milk bottles went out of vogue in the late 1940s, although they were still manufactured for some dairies in Quebec and the Maritimes.

¹⁸ Enviro Consulting Limited, “International Waste Prevention and Reduction Practice: Final Report,” Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs (United Kingdom), (October 2004), 20.
<<http://www.defra.gov.uk/environment/waste/wip/waskemin/enviros-wasteprevent.pdf>> (20 June 2007).

Issuers of Milk Tokens in Ottawa

Several hundred milk distributors existed in Ottawa from the early 1890s to the mid-1960s, but only thirty or so firms are known to have issued tickets or tokens. There may have been other issuers, but they are unknown today because the survival rate of these objects is low. Tickets printed on paper were subject to rapid deterioration. Metal and plastic tokens were more long-lasting but were often produced in small quantities, leaving few for the collector. A description of Ottawa's known issuers of dairy tokens and the particulars of these pieces appear in the following pages.

Tokens are described using alphanumeric abbreviations such as Br-R-28. The first letter, or letters, refers to the material from which the token was made (Br – brass); the second letter, or letters, represents the shape of the token (R – round); and the number signifies the token's diameter in millimetres. Manufacturer name, additional description, and catalogue references appear in the listing if known. Abbreviations are:

Material	Shape
A – aluminum	CH – cow's head
B – bronze	D – diamond
Br – brass	MC – milk container
C – copper	Oc – octagonal
Pa – paper	R – round
Pl – plastic	Rt – rectangular
WM – white metal	S – square
	Sc – scallop

Most pieces pictured in this catalogue form part of the National Currency Collection of the Bank of Canada. We thank the City of Ottawa Archives for permission to include images of the Bradley's Dairy ticket and Plante Dairy token. We are also grateful to private collectors for the use of tokens from the City of Ottawa Dairy, (The) Ideal Dairy, and Spratt and Bradley and to Wilf McBain for reviewing the booklet and providing helpful comments.

The following catalogue reference abbreviations are used in this booklet:

Br. – Breton
J. – James
L. – Leroux
Mc. – McColl
P. – Paquet

Barrett, G. W. (Leitrim)*circa 1898*

This issuer is known to have produced two sets of pint and quart tokens. The first set was struck by numismatist Thomas Church, and their place of issue is indicated on the reverse. The second set bears only the imprint of the manufacturer, Pritchard and Andrews. The Farmers' and Business Directory for Carleton County, dated 1886–87, lists Barrett as a tenant residing in Osgoode Township, Metcalfe, at Concession 8, Lot 28. Although these tokens were not considered fraudulent, the variety of metals in which the pieces were struck might suggest otherwise.

Denomination	Specifications	Manufacturer	Reverse	Reference
1 pint	B-R-25	P&A	P&A	L. 1067m (1898)
1 pint	A-R-26	T. Church	Leitrim	L. 1067k (1898)
1 pint	B-R-26	T. Church	Leitrim	L. 1067k (1898)
1 pint	C-R-26	T. Church	Leitrim	L. 1067k (1898)
1 quart	B-R-28	P&A	P&A	L. 1067n (1898)
1 quart	A-R-29	T. Church	Leitrim	L. 1067l (1898)
1 quart	B-R-29	T. Church	Leitrim	L. 1067l (1898)
1 quart	C-R-29	T. Church	Leitrim	L. 1067l (1898)

Bayne, R. (City View, Nepean)**1864–84**

Robert Bayne operated in the City View area of Ottawa in the late nineteenth century. He lived at Concession Rfa, Lot 30, in Nepean Township. Today this location would be on the east side of Merivale Road, between Viewmount Drive and West Hunt Club Road near Colonnade Road. Directories place Bayne at this location between 1864 and 1884. Two denominations of tokens (one pint, one quart) in three different metals (brass, copper, and aluminum) bear his name. The Bayne tokens were fantasy pieces struck in

1892 to appeal to collectors. In April 1893, they were pronounced fraudulent by noted numismatist Robert McLachlan.

Denomination	Specifications	Manufacturer	Reference
1 pint	B-R-28	P&A	Br. 817; P. price list (1893)
1 quart	A-R-25	Unknown	Br. 816
1 quart	B-R-25	Unknown	P. price list (1893)
1 quart	C-R-25	Unknown	

Bradley’s Dairy (Blackburn, Gloucester)

1937–44



Raised on a farm in Blackburn, a small community east of Ottawa, George W. Bradley started a dairy in 1937.¹⁹ He made deliveries to Ottawa, Rockcliffe, Eastview (now Vanier), and Cyrville and sold paper tickets for milk and butter. Bradley was involved in the creation of Mutual Dairy and, in 1944, he joined other local dairymen to form Crescent Dairy.

Denomination	Specifications	Source
1 quart	Pa-Rt-48x24	City of Ottawa (MG1994.42.2)

Capital Consumers Co-operative Dairy (Ottawa, Dow’s Lake) 1950–67



This firm opened in 1950 at 4 Hickory Street at the same location as Central Dairies. In 1954, it moved to 125 Hickory Street under the management of president Romeo Pigeon until it closed in 1967. The dairy was a major supplier in Ottawa to large grocery-store

¹⁹ In July 1937, Dun & Bradstreet records a John Clifford Bradley engaged in the dairy business (p. 783).

chains. It issued round, plastic tokens in yellow, blue, and green. Some bore the names of company salesmen such as E. (Edward) S. Bergeron and Joe (Joseph) Lochnon.

Mr. Bergeron delivered milk for the firm until he joined Borden's Dairy in 1966. He left the industry in the following year. Joe Lochnon delivered milk for the Co-op in 1956 and 1957. Both tokens probably date to this period.

Denomination	Specifications	Colour	Reverse
1 quart	Pl-R-31	Yellow	
1 quart	Pl-R-31	Green	
1 quart	Pl-R-31	Blue	E. Bergeron 5-933
1 quart	Pl-R-31	Blue	Joe Lochnon 6-5198

Chugg, E. (Ottawa, Centretown)

circa 1900



According to the 1901 census, Chugg was born in Quebec December 19, 1869. Although unlisted in directories, Chugg rented a farm in the Pink Road Concession in Nepean Township until about 1900, when he and his family moved into Ottawa and began delivering milk supplied by local farmers. His home was destroyed by fire shortly after; Chugg moved to Quebec in 1901 and from there to Alberta. Before moving to Quebec he appears to have abandoned the milk business or pursued it only on a part time basis. The 1901 census describes his occupation as a tanner. One-pint and one-quart tokens, struck in aluminum, are known.²⁰

Denomination	Specifications	Manufacturer	Reverse	Reference
1 pint	A-R-25	P&A	P&A	Mc. 1162a ²¹
1 quart	A-R-30	Unknown	Blank	Mc. 1162a

²⁰ The story of the Chugg family is recounted by D. Stewart (1967) in "The E. Chugg Dairy Tokens," *Transactions of the Canadian Numismatic Research Society*, 3 (4): 53.

²¹ W. R. McColl, *List of Canadian, British, United States and Foreign Coins and Pattern Pieces Paper Money etc.* (Owen Sound, Ontario: McCallum and Co. Printers, 1902).

City Dairy of Ottawa Ltd. (Ottawa, Lowertown)**1939–68**

City Dairy of Ottawa opened in 1939 under the direction of Aristide Belanger, an official in the Department of Agriculture, and Raymond and Joseph Guttadauria, who had experience in the dairy business. The firm operated on Guigues Street in Lowertown until 1968. Its business depended on home deliveries and the sale of milk to small grocers. It issued scallop-shaped quart tokens made out of plastic.

Denomination	Specifications	Manufacturer	Reference
1 quart	Pl-Sc8-30	United States	J. (2006, 332) ²²

Clark Dairy Ltd. (Ottawa, citywide)**1930–81**

Clark Dairy Ltd. was a large city dairy that serviced much of the Ottawa market for fluid milk. It opened in 1930 at 634 Bronson Avenue under the direction of Leslie A Plant, president and Harry J. Clark, vice-president. By 1933 Clark had assumed sole management of the company. In 1947, the George Weston firm acquired both Clark Dairy in Ottawa and William Neilson Ltd. in Toronto. Each dairy operated independently and carried its own label until 1981, when Weston's incorporated the three under the popular Neilson brand name.²³ Clark Dairy issued both paper tickets and plastic tokens. Tickets were in use before the firm was purchased by George Weston. In 1951, Clark Dairy started issuing plastic tokens in several denominations for a number of varieties of

²² H. N. James, *A Guide to Ontario Tokens* (St. Thomas, Ontario, 2006), privately published.

²³ See <http://www.rootsweb.com/~onlanark/families/neilson_dairy.htm>.

milk and cream. They were designed by the dairy's office manager, H. L. Clements.²⁴ All Clark Dairy tokens were made from plastic by the St. Lawrence Plastic and Metal Works Company in Quebec.²⁵

Denomination	Specifications	Colour	Description
½ pint	Pa-Rt-50x27	Pink	Whipping cream
1 pint	Pa-Rt-50x27	Pink	Table cream
½ pint	Pa-Rt-50x27	Pink	Cereal cream
1 pound	Pa-Rt-50x41	Yellow	Butter
½ pint	Pl-R-28	Black	Table cream
1 pint	Pl-R-28	Blue	Milk
1 quart	Pl-R-28	Yellow	Milk
1 quart	Pl-R-28	Brown	Golden Guernsey
1 quart	Pl-R-28	Brown	Skim
1 quart	Pl-R-28	Blue	Buttermilk
1 quart	Pl-R-28	Green	Golden Guernsey
1 quart	Pl-R-28	Red	Milk (made in U.S.A.)
½ pint	Pl-R-32	Green	Skim
1 quart	Pl-R-32	Brown	Chocolate
1½ gallon	Pl-Oc-32	Red	Milk
1½ gallon	Pl-Oc-32	Gold	Guernsey gold
1½ gallon	Pl-Oc-32	Green	Skim
1¾ gallon	Pl-S-31	Red	Milk
1¾ gallon	Pl-S-31	Gold	Guernsey gold

Clark, E. W. (City View, Nepean)

1894–98



Two denominations (one pint, one quart) of this brass token are known. Edmond Clark operated a dairy farm in Nepean Township at Concession Rfa, Lot 32, which would correspond today to the area between Prince of Wales Drive and Mooney's Bay. Clark is described as a dairyman in the Ottawa directory of 1881. He is also mentioned in Ontario gazetteers of the 1890s. P. N. Breton²⁶ was the first catalogue to mention this issue.

²⁴ B. Topping, "Tokens of Clark Dairy Company Limited, Ottawa," *Numismatic Ottawa*, edited by R. P. Nadin-Davis and F. Fesco (Ottawa: City of Ottawa Coin Club, 1982), 32–4.

²⁵ Op. cit.

²⁶ P. N. Breton, *Illustrated History of Coins and Tokens Relating to Canada* (Montréal: P. N. Breton & Co., 1894).

Denomination	Specifications	Reference
1 pint	Br-R-25	Br. 823; L. 1069n (1898)
1 quart	Br-R-28	Br. 822; L. 1069m (1898)

Clarke, P., Silver Springs Dairy (Ottawa, Centretown)

1903–11



Silver Springs Dairy was another small, short-lived firm that serviced Ottawa in the early twentieth century. It opened at 10 Albert Street in 1903, on the former premises of Walker-Gordon Laboratory, which produced “modified milk.” In 1907, it moved to 30 Wellington Street and offered Ottawa residents pure Jersey milk, cream, and modified milk. Patrick Clarke owned and operated the dairy. He lived at 344 Stewart Street and, from 1908, at 365 Friel Street. The firm closed in 1911, and Clark would appear to have left the area, since he is not mentioned in the 1912 city directory.

Denomination	Specifications
10 cents with bottle	A-Oc-25

(Dominion Dairies) Sealtest (Ottawa, Centretown)

1969–circa 1975



Dominion Dairies opened at 453 Cooper Street in 1969. It had previously been represented in Ottawa by its wholly owned subsidiary, Producers Dairy Ltd. J. Arthur Morgan was general manager. The firm operated through the 1970s, offering a line of dairy products made by Sealtest. Dominion Dairies issued a variety of plastic tokens shaped like a cow’s head. All tokens are marked “Sealtest.”

Denomination	Specifications	Colour	Reverse
1 quart	PI-CH-32x35	Green	Homo milk
1 quart	PI-CH-32x35	Green	2% Jersey
1 quart	PI-CH-32x35	Beige	Skim
½ gallon	PI-CH-32x35	Red	Homo milk
½ gallon	PI-CH-32x35	Red	2% Jersey
3 quarts	PI-CH-32x35	Yellow	Homo milk
3 quarts	PI-CH-32x35	Pink	2% Jersey

Echo Farm Dairy (WSM)*circa 1900*

In his encyclopedia, Bowman²⁷ recorded that these tokens are generally considered to be from Ontario but that the town is not known. According to Bowman, the pieces appear to be associated with Ottawa, but could well originate from another centre in the immediate area. No reference is made to this firm in Ottawa city directories. Only one-pint tokens in aluminum are known from this issuer. There are two types: one with the denomination on the reverse and the other with just the name of the manufacturer, Pritchard and Andrews, Ottawa.

Denomination	Specifications	Manufacturer	Reverse
(1 pint)	A-R-28	P&A	P&A
1 pint	A-R-28	Unknown	Good for 1 pint

Fenton, W. J. (Leitrim)*circa 1892*

Fenton operated a dairy farm during the third quarter of the nineteenth century. Directories locate him in Gloucester Township, Rf5, Lot 18f, from 1864 to 1871. By

²⁷ F. Bowman, *Encyclopedia of Canadian Coins, Tokens and Medals*, Vol. 4 (1960), unpublished.

1884, he is reported at Leitrim I, Gloucester Township, Rf5, Lot 19. The tokens, specifically those for one pint, are first mentioned in Paquet’s 1893 study.²⁸ Since these pieces bear the name of Pritchard and Andrews, which was established in 1887, the tokens must have been struck between 1887 and 1893, and probably in the early 1890s, given the use of aluminum and the style of the pieces.

Denomination	Specifications	Manufacturer	Reverse	Reference
1 pint	A-R-25	P&A	P&A	L. 1069x (1898); P. 114
	B-R-25	P&A	P&A	L. 1069x (1898); P. 114
1 quart	A-R-28	Unknown		L. 1069v (1898); P. 147
	B-R-28	Unknown		L. 1069v (1898)

Frith, J. T. (Cummings Bridge, Gloucester)

circa 1911



Not mentioned in any of the traditional numismatic references, these tokens are made in brass with incuse lettering. John Frith, possibly the father of the issuer, is listed as early as 1870–71 in Gloucester Township at 1 Of 23. The latest entry puts him at the same address in Rock Village. Today his property would be in the east end of Ottawa, spanning Montreal Road just east of the Montfort Hospital. The token was probably issued by John’s son Jack. The 1911 Canadian census identifies Jack as a dairyman.

Denomination	Specifications	Manufacturer	Description
1 pint	B-Sc8-28	Unknown	J. T.
	B-Sc8-28	Unknown	John
1 quart	B-D-30	Unknown	J. T.
	B-D-30	Unknown	John

²⁸ F. X. Paquet, *Catalogue and Price List of Medals, Checks and Communion Tokens of the Ottawa District* (Ottawa: 1893), privately published.

Henry, W. (City View, Nepean)*circa 1894*

William Henry's name appears on both a pint and quart token. Struck in aluminum, the pieces must date to before 1894, since they are listed by Paquet.²⁹ In 1871, Henry is listed with his son (William, Jr.) in Nepean Township at Concession Of2, Lot 30f. The 1881 directory places Henry at Skead's Mills and his son in Hintonburg. Today his property would be east of Maitland Avenue on the south side of Carling Avenue near Broadview Avenue. Both men were still operating dairies in 1895. Leroux³⁰ first mentioned a pint token in his supplement of 1898.

Denomination	Specifications	Manufacturer	Reverse	Reference
1 pint	A-R-25	P&A	Rev. P&A	L. 1068h; Mc. 1165
1 quart	A-R-28	P&A	Rev. P&A	Mc. 1165

Honeywell, E. (Skead's Mills, Nepean)*circa 1893*

Honeywell was a long-time resident of Nepean Township. He first appears in the 1864–65 directory at Concession Of2, 26f. His home was in the area currently occupied by the Canadian Tire store on the southeast side of Carling Avenue at Fairlawn Avenue. By 1881, he appears at Skead's Mills. He is last listed (1911) in the Ottawa city directory on Woodroffe Avenue, the location of his home on the south side of Richmond Road. He

²⁹ F. X. Paquet, *Catalogue and Price List of Medals, Checks and Communion Tokens of the Ottawa District* (Ottawa: 1893), privately published.

³⁰ J. Leroux, *Le médaillier du Canada/The Canadian Coin Cabinet* (Montréal: C. O. Beauchemin, 1888).

lived with one of his sons, barrister Frederick H. Honeywell. The tokens were first listed by Paquet (1893).³¹

Denomination	Specifications	Manufacturer	Reverse	Reference
1 pint	A-R-25	P&A	P&A	L. 1070n; P. 146
	B-R-25	P&A	P&A	L. 1070n; P. 146
1 quart	A-R-28	P&A	P&A	L. 1070m; P. 115
	B-R-28	P&A	P&A	L. 1070m; P. 115

Hopkins, R., Pure Milk Dairy (Gloucester)

circa 1893



Brass tokens exist for this issuer in both one-pint and one-quart denominations. There are at least two series of pieces: one is round and the other has an octagonal-shaped arrangement of beads along the round coin's perimeter. Nothing is known of Robert Hopkins other than that he operated a farm as early as 1864 in Gloucester Township at Of1, Lot 18f. As indicated in Belden's atlas³² of Carleton County, published in 1879, his property was adjacent to that of Benjamin Rothwell and today would cross Montreal Road just west of Ogilvy Road. Directories show him there as late as 1886. Given that the tokens appear in Paquet's³³ supplement of 1894 and that they are made of brass rather than of aluminum, they may date to a period anywhere between the mid-1880s and early 1890s.

Denomination	Specifications	Manufacturer	Reference
1 pint	B-R-25	Unknown	P. 161; L. 1070p
1 quart	B-Oc-25	Unknown	P. 164; L. 1070p

³¹ F. X. Paquet, *Catalogue and Price List of Medals, Checks and Communion Tokens of the Ottawa District* (Ottawa: 1893), privately published.

³² *Illustrated Historical Atlas for the County of Carleton* (Toronto: H. Belden & Co., 1879).

³³ F. X. Paquet, *Catalogue and Price List of Medals, Checks and Communion Tokens of the Ottawa District* (Ottawa: 1893), privately published.

[The] Ideal Dairy*circa 1925*

A review of period directories has not confirmed the existence of any dairy of this name in the area. From its style, however, the token could date from between World War I and the 1930s. It may have been issued by one of the short-lived dairies that appeared during the Depression when, in desperation, people tried their hand at new occupations.

Denomination	Specifications	Reference
5 cents	A-R-25	J. (2006, 334)

Lake View Dairy*circa 1890*

Nothing is known of this dairy. The token first appears in Paquet³⁴ (1894) and, based on this reference, was presumably associated with Ottawa. Since no dairy of this name has been traced to Ottawa or the surrounding areas during this period, it is possible that the token was issued elsewhere in the Ottawa Valley or farther south. Recent catalogues (e.g., James 2006, 352)³⁵ suggest, however, that the piece originates in Pembroke.

Denomination	Specifications	Manufacturer	Reference
1 pint	Br-R-25	P&A	P. 75; L. 1070y

³⁴ F. X. Paquet, *Catalogue and Price List of Medals, Checks and Communion Tokens of the Ottawa District* (Ottawa: 1893), privately published.

³⁵ H. N. James, *A Guide to Ontario Tokens* (St. Thomas, Ontario: 2006), privately published.

LeClerc, E. D. (Ottawa, Ottawa East)*circa 1914*

Edmond LeClerc was born in 1892. Period directories usually identify him as a carpenter and give no indication that he ever distributed milk. LeClerc and his family took up residence at 155 Drummond Street in Ottawa East in 1908. He remained at the family home until 1917 and, after a two-year hiatus, returned to Ottawa but to a different location. Given that the token bears the Drummond Street address, it was probably issued in the early years of World War I. Edmond's father, François X. LeClerc, operated a grocery business and later a dry goods and confectionery store at 43 Herridge Street, which was located next to the Drummond Street residence. The token may have been used there.

Denomination	Specifications
1 pint	A-S-26
1 quart	A-Sc8-28

Michaud, P. (Ottawa, Lowertown)*circa 1890*

The Michaud piece exists in a range of metals that include aluminum, copper, brass, and German silver (which resembles silver, but is an alloy of primarily copper, nickel, and zinc). These tokens were judged as fraudulent by McLachlan³⁶ in January 1893. Philippe Michaud certainly existed but does not appear to have been engaged in any profession that would have involved the distribution of milk. What's more, the address given for him on the token is incorrect. His street address was not 169 St. André, but 269 St. André.

³⁶ R. W. McLachlan, "Canadian Coins and Medals Issued in 1892." *Canadian Antiquarian and Numismatic Journal* 3, 2nd Series (1893): 56.

These tokens stand out among milk tokens for the image featured on the reverse: a steer, which is a rather capricious representation of the milk industry.

Denomination	Specifications	Manufacturer	Reference
1 quart	A-R-25	Unknown	Br. 824
	B-R-25	Unknown	
	C-R-25	Unknown	
	WM-R-25	Unknown	

Mutual Dairy (Mutual Dairies Ltd.) (Ottawa East)

1940–72

Mutual Dairy was established in 1940 to pasteurize milk produced by a number of local Gloucester farms, such as Bradley’s, Crescent, Hedgedale, Gold Vine, Shaw, and Keenan Dairy. Located at 71 Echo Drive, the plant included a popular dairy bar. Mutual Dairy closed its doors in 1972.³⁷ This firm issued round, blue plastic tokens that were good for one quart of “high-test” milk.

Denomination	Specifications	Colour	Reference
1 quart	Pl-R-28	Blue; “high test”	J. (2006, 334)

National Milk – Langlois, I. P. (Ottawa, Eastview)

circa 1965



Ivanhoe Langlois was a route supervisor for the Ottawa Dairy in the mid-1940s. In 1953, he joined the Capital Consumers Co-operative Dairy as a superintendent and became a distributor for the National Dairy in 1960, where he worked through the 1960s. He resided at 376 St. Denis in Eastview (now Vanier) when the token was issued.

Denomination	Specifications	Manufacturer	Colour
1 quart	Pl-R-32	Unknown	Yellow

³⁷ G. Johnston, *Milk/Cream Producers-Distributors in Gloucester 1892–1975* (Ottawa: Gloucester Historical Society, 1986), publication no. 2, June 1986, 22.

National Milk Co. Ltd. (Ottawa, Lowertown)

1939–71



The National Dairy opened in Ottawa in 1939 and was one of the smaller Ottawa dairies in the mid-twentieth century. It supplied smaller grocery stores and restaurants in the 1960s, but most of its business was in home delivery.³⁸ In the 1950s, it operated under the name of National Dairy Registered, 138 Boteler Street, Charles Mongeon manager. By the mid-1960s, the firm had moved to 144 Boteler Street and issued aluminum tokens shaped like a cow’s head and made from regular and anodized aluminum. The company used the name National Milk Co. Ltd. from 1965 to 1971.

Denomination	Specifications	Manufacturer	Colour	Obverse
1 quart	A-CH-33x36	Unknown	Plain	Lait/National/Milk/Co. Ltd.
1 quart	A-CH-33x36	Unknown	Blue	Lait/National/Milk/Co. Ltd.
1 quart	A-CH-33x36	Unknown	Brown	Lait/National/Milk/Co. Ltd.
1 quart	A-CH-33x36	Unknown	Red	National/Milk/Co./Ltd. (3 punches)
½ gallon	A-MC-33x36	Unknown	Blue	National
3-quart jug	A-MC-33x36	Unknown	Brown	National

Ottawa Dairy Co. Ltd. (Ottawa, Centretown)

circa 1894–1909



Some confusion exists concerning the company that issued these three aluminum tokens. They bear the numbers 3, 5, and 10, and Paquet³⁹ (1894) has listed two of them. A firm called Ottawa Dairy did exist at that time, but it is not known to have been a limited

³⁸ *Ottawa Milk Pricing, November, 1961* (Ottawa: Queen’s Printer, 1964), 5.

³⁹ F. X. Paquet, *Catalogue and Price List of Medals, Checks and Communion Tokens of the Ottawa District* (Ottawa: 1893), privately published.

company. It operated at 180 Sparks Street from the mid-1890s through 1909, and Robert McGregor was the owner. These tokens have usually been associated with another firm, the Ottawa Dairy Company Limited, which was founded in 1900 at 385 Somerset Street, John Bingham manager. By 1902, this firm had moved to 393 Somerset Street and it continued to operate from that location and later at 403–405 Somerset Street until it was absorbed by Borden in 1930. Since Paquet⁴⁰ listed two of the three pieces six years before the founding of this company, they can hardly be associated with it unless its foundation did not take place in 1900 but several years earlier.

Denomination	Specifications	Reference
3	A-Oc-23	P.
5	A-R-25	P. 160 (September 1894)
10	A-R-30	P. 159 (September 1894)

Philion, H. (Ottawa, Lowertown)

1897



Hormisdas Philion first appears in period directories in 1872–73, where he is listed as the proprietor of McGee’s Hotel at 100 Sussex Road. Business may not have been particularly good, since he became a clerk at the post office the following year. Between 1881 and 1886, he was employed at the Public Works Department and lived first at 70 Bolton Street and then at 121 Bolton Street. For a brief time, he operated a grocery at the corner of Bolton and Sussex in 1897, when it is believed the tokens were issued.⁴¹ They must have been produced before 1898, however, since they are listed in Leroux’s⁴² supplement of that date.

Denomination	Specifications	Manufacturer	Reverse	Reference
1 pint	A-R-25	P&A	P&A	L. 1069g
1 quart	A-R-28	Unknown	Blank	L. 1069f

⁴⁰ Op. cit.

⁴¹ C. Faulkner, *An Undertype Used by Thomas Church*, *Numismatica Canada*, 6, 4 (December 2007), pp142-143.

⁴² J. Leroux, *Le médaillier du Canada/The Canadian Coin Cabinet* (Montréal: C. O. Beauchemin, 1888).

Plante Dairy (Bank Street South, Gloucester)

1938–67



The Plante Dairy was located at 2341 Bank Street, Rural Route 4, in the city’s south end. The dairy made home deliveries and, in the early years following World War II, processed milk for other producers. Their farm was located on the east side of Bank Street in an area now occupied by the South Keys Plaza, just north of Hunt Club Road.

Denomination	Specifications	Colour	Source
1 quart	Pl-R-27	Blue	City of Ottawa (MG 2001.3.3.1)

Rothwell, B. (Gloucester)

1870–84



Benjamin Rothwell (sometimes spelled Rathwell) worked as a farmer in Gloucester Township at Of1, Lot 19, between 1870–71 and 1884, the last year for which a listing of him could be located. His house stood on the south side of Montreal Road, where Elmridge Park is located today, just east of Blair Road. These tokens are in aluminum, brass, and copper. They were denounced as fraudulent by McLachlan⁴³ in April 1893.

Denomination	Specifications	Manufacturer	Reverse	Reference
1 pint	A-R-25	P&A	P&A	L. 1067t
	B-R-25	P&A		
	C-R-25	P&A		
1 quart	A-R-28	Unknown	Blank	L. 1067r
	B-R-28	Unknown	Blank	
	A-R-25	P&A	P&A	L. 1067s
	B-R-25	P&A	P&A	

⁴³ R. W. McLachlan, “Canadian Coins and Medals Issued in 1892.” *Canadian Antiquarian and Numismatic Journal* 3, 2nd Series (1893): 56.

Denomination	Specifications	Manufacturer	Reverse	Reference
	C-R-25	P&A	P&A; James	
	WM-R-25	P&A	P&A; James	
	A-R-28	Unknown	Blank	L. 1067q
	B-R-28	Unknown	Blank	
	C-R-28	Unknown	Blank	

Shaw's Dairy (Ottawa, Centretown)**1934–64**

Shaw's Dairy opened in 1934 at 118 Slater Street under the management of Edwin P. N. Laurie and F. Osborne Shaw. In 1941, the company moved to 71 Echo Drive in Ottawa East. J. H. Shaw was president and manager. The dairy continued at that location until it closed in 1964. Shaw's was one of the smaller distributors in Ottawa, and its business was based largely on home delivery.⁴⁴ Shaw's issued a one-quart round, aluminum token.

Denomination	Specifications
1 quart	A-R-33

Short, T. (New Edinburgh, Rockliffe Park)**1890–1919**

Although the tokens are not listed in any twentieth-century catalogue, city directories place Thomas Short in New Edinburgh from 1886 to the early years of the twentieth century. Born in England on 3 October 1833, Short emigrated to Canada with his young family in about 1872. Originally listed as a labourer and then as a farmer, Short was first referred to as a milk dealer in 1890–91. From his residence at 77 Union Street and later from 3 Avon Lane, he delivered milk to local residents, eventually extending his business

⁴⁴ *Ottawa Milk Pricing, November, 1961* (Ottawa: Queen's Printer, 1964), 7–8.

to Rockcliffe Park in 1895. The Rockcliffe Park business was operated from premises on the north side of Buena Vista Road. For a while, his son, Thomas Junior, worked for him as a driver. Tokens were struck in aluminum in both pint and quart denominations. Three series exist, which would suggest that the tokens were used over an extended period.

	Denomination	Specifications	Manufacturer	Reverse
(1 pint)	A-R-25	P&A	P&A	
1 pint	A-R-25	Unknown		Good for 1 pint
1 pint	A-R-25	Unknown		Good for 1 pint milk
1 quart	A-R-30	Unknown		P&A
1 quart	A-R-30	Unknown		Good for 1 quart

Spratt and Bradley Dairy (Gloucester)

1951–70s



Founded in 1951 by longtime dairymen Jim E. Spratt and George Bradley, this firm operated until the 1970s, relying largely on home deliveries for their business. The dairy issued round, plastic tokens coloured red or blue for one quart of standard or high-test milk.

Denomination	Specifications	Colour	Reverse	Reference
1 quart	Pl-R-28	Red	Standard Milk	J. (2006, 336)
1 quart	Pl-R-28	Blue	High Test	J. (2006, 336)

Sullivan, W. H. (Nepean)

circa 1890



The first mention of Sullivan is in the 1864–65 regional directory, where he is listed as a lumberman. His residence was in Nepean Township (Concession Rf1 34f). By 1870, he had moved to 33f and remained there for as long as the directory listed him. Today his property would be situated between Woodroffe Avenue and Merivale Road, just north of Meadowlands Drive, where Algonquin College is located. By 1884, he resided in the Hintonburg area. The Belden atlas⁴⁵ (1879) states that Sullivan was a farmer and was born in Canada in 1841. The tokens that bear his name were struck in aluminum and were probably issued in the early 1890s.

Denomination	Specifications	Manufacturer	Reverse	Reference
1 pint	A-R-25	P&A	P&A	L. supp. 1073f (1898)
1 quart	A-R-28	P&A	P&A	L. supp. 1073d (1898)

⁴⁵ *Illustrated Historical Atlas for the County of Carleton* (Toronto: H. Belden & Co., 1879).

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