CANADIAN PHILATELIST



Journal of the
ROYAL PHILATELIC SOCIETY of CANADA

VOLUME 24 NOVEMBER - 1973 NUMBER 6

A Million Admirals

November 1, 1973

Dear Friends:-

Not quite a million - 726 thousand to be exact. Of course, I'm referring to the Canadian Admiral issue of stamps of the 1912 - 1925 period. Let me tell you the story of this particular lot of stamps.

Back in the 1920's these were probably owned by Marks or Empire Stamp Company and sold or traded to a Mr. Bella Sekula who was a large wholesaler. His main office was in Switzerland, but he travelled extensively, always with about 20 trunks full of stamps. When in New York, usually for many months, he resided and set up shop at the old Astor Hotel in Times Square. He handled big quantities - made big deals and was one of the most important world dealers at the time. Anyway, he took the Admirals back to Switzerland where they were packed and stored. Some years later he made a deal with Tommy Cliffe, the wholesaler and packet maker in Rhyl, Wales. No doubt a lot of the original was sold in small lots or used in packets, but there remained 726 thousand untouched.

In the 1960's these were sold as a lot to an English dealer who is a friend of mine, but he never mentioned it to me. When I was in Munich last Spring, I met this dealer friend and after a few glasses of refreshment he happened to mention his Admiral lot, maybe I would be interested. My reflexes were good - I played it cool man - real cool. I replied "Yes, I might be interested, what are the details?" After I had all the fact, I just filed the whole thing away in my mind until a month later. I wrote and made an offer for the lot - not accepted - more waiting - then I made another offer for the same amount of cash, plus a very interesting lot of British Colonial stamps, and that did the trick. Offer accepted and the Admirals were on their way back to Toronto and their original home. However, they were "Hippie Admirals" they didn't stay home long. One day after their arrival they were sold. A collector bought the entire lot and he is going to have a "fun winter" sorting for you know what. Who knows the leftovers might find their way back to Empire after their travels of 50 years.

New story - with a connection to the above one. In the middle 1920's a Swiss stamp dealer approached his local banker wishing to make a large loan - reportedly over $100,000.00. The Bankers were agreeable, but wanted security, and in due course this was offered in the form of Nyassa mint stamps that had a supposed face value of considerably over the $100,000.00. The Bank held the stamps as security and made the loan. The stamp dealer left Switzerland with the money and never returned. When the loan was due the Bank put the stamps up for sale and to their horror found then the Nyassa currency demonitized and the stamps were only worth about $10,000.00, showing a straight $90,000.00 loss. I have a lot of mint Yemen with a very high face value, so if you can find a gullible Banker we will do business.

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THE CANADIAN PHILATELIST

EDITOR
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THOUGHTS & THINGS ..... FROM THE EDITOR

CANADA, AND THE QUEEN

Change is inevitable in a progressive country.

— Disraeli

When the Post Office Department of Canada announced that the low values of the new definitive issue—traditionally reserved for the portrait of the reigning monarch—would, except for one denomination, now feature portraits of some of Canada's dead prime ministers, my immediate reaction was one of pure indignation. Was this not an act of postal assassination? Was not the government destroying a tradition (yea, even a right) that has existed for well over a century?

After filling my pen with vitriol, I was determined to let those responsible for this situation know my feelings and those, I was sure, of most mature red (and white) blooded Canadians. The words MATURE CANADIANS caused me to put my pen aside and to recall Canada's growth and development especially as it pertained to its postal history. As emotion gave way to reason it became increasingly obvious that attitudes had indeed changed over the years and what may have been postally proper even a few decades ago was not necessarily valid today.

From 1851 to 1927 almost all Canadian postage stamps bore the portrait of the reigning monarch and, no doubt, this truly reflected the feelings of the Canadian people at that time. With Canada's heritage so closely linked to Britain, anything short of this recognition would have been unusual. Indeed, the situation was not far removed from a child-mother relationship.

After World War I Canada gained a new image and a newly found nationalism. Canadians, as Canadians, had won the respect of other nations. Many people of different countries flocked to Canada. For the first time we started to think of ourselves as a nation rather than a colony. The child had reached adolescence and was seeking its own identity.



Her Majesty and Kenneth Rowe

The Post Office Department responded to this situation by replacing the portrait of King George V on the high value definitives with scenes of Canada. It also expanded the commemorative program with emphasis on Canadian, rather than British, themes.

Another war, another surge of nationalism, another influx of many people from other nations and a new generation of native born Canadians spawned

a new Canadian image. We could now speak of our own past, our own future and even our own tradition. Canada, although not as old as some other nations was, nevertheless, now an adult.

This time postal policy did not mirror the shift in national emphasis as it had done in the past. The Centennial Definitive issues (1967 to 1972) contained seventeen denominations of which eight, or almost 50%, bore the likeness of the Queen. The new definitive issue will have Her Majesty's portrait on the eight cent stamp only, which will likely approximate 10% of this issue.

No doubt many people will, as I first did, react emotionally and feel that this is yet another example of the government's desire to eliminate all signs of our British heritage. Others, just as emotional, will feel that the retention of the Queen's image on even one postage stamp is yet another example of the government's desire to perpetuate the monarchy in Canada. Those who have matured along with their country will likely say "Yes, this change cames close to accurately representing Britain's proportional position in the Canadian mosaic". Some might even add "I wonder why it took so long".

☆ ☆ ☆

A BLACK BLOT ON BLACK BLOTS

> Man must not check reason by tradition, but contrariwise, must check tradition by reason.
>
> — Tolstoy.

When the little bits of coloured paper known as postage stamps were first introduced, their sole function was to prepay the cost of transporting larger pieces of paper from one place to another. Each denomination had a specific job to do. Thus a stamp collector, during these early days, did not have to worry about philatelic purity. However, the demand by stamp collectors, and stamp collectors alone, led to the establishment of a source of supply geared to fill this demand. The purists rebelled and set up the "black blot" system in an attempt to purge philately

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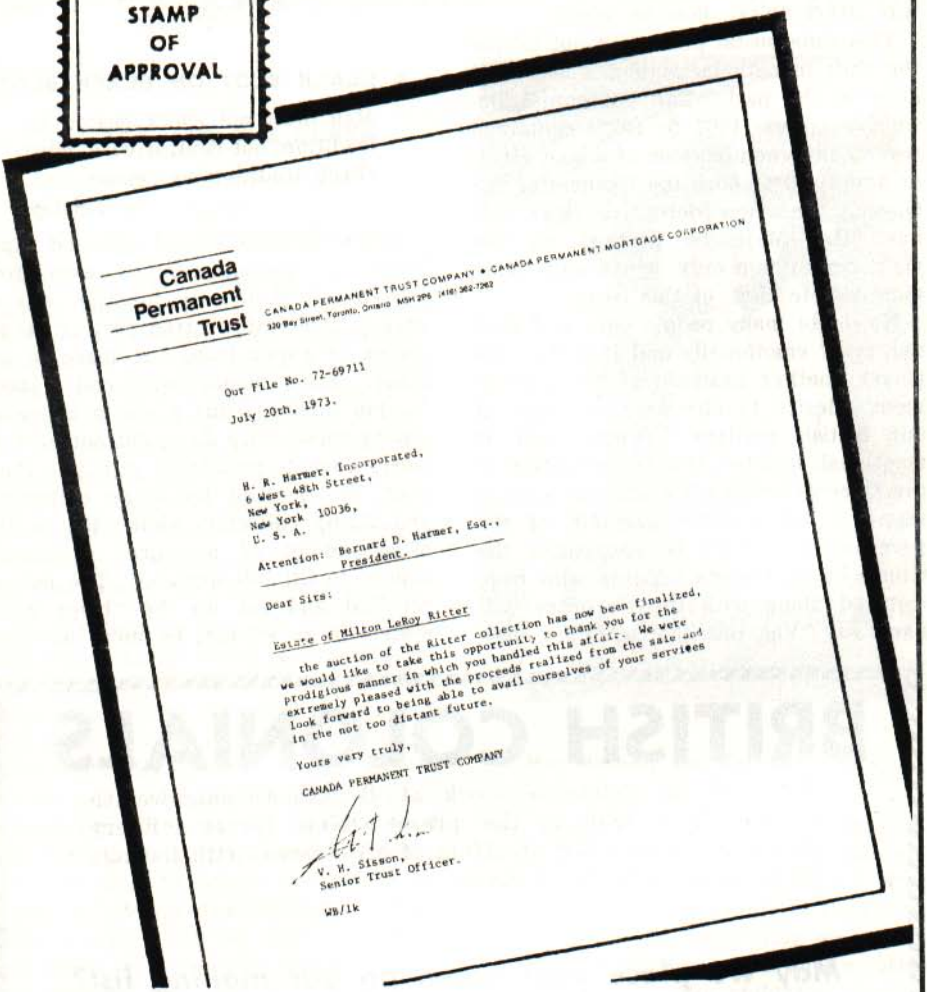
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President.

Dear Sirs:

Estate of Milton LeRoy Ritter

the auction of the Ritter collection has now been finalized, we would like to take this opportunity to thank you for the prodigious manner in which you handled this affair. We were extremely pleased with the proceeds realized from the sale and look forward to being able to avail ourselves of your services in the not too distant future.

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of the pollutants which, if left unchecked, they felt would ruin the hobby.

Since the turn of the century the black blot system has flourished. This, of course, highlights its failure rather than its success and, to add insult to injury, many of the denigrated items have become philatelic scarcities and are much sought after. There are many reasons for this singular lack of success.

In the first place, few, if any, countries issue only those denominations for which a specific postal purpose exists. Secondly, the whole spectrum of philately is so diverse that the adherents of the "for every stamp a reason" concept are in the minority. This, coupled with an ever increasing demand by collectors for stamps to collect, has led even the most 'ethical' countries to take advantage of the economic potential of the philatelic market. But is this really a malignancy?

If we continue in the belief that each new stamp or issue must be pure or it will taint the collection in which it is placed, we could easily bring on the death of stamp collecting. Efficient methods are now being used, and are still being developed, that do not require the use of postage stamps to prepay postage tariffs and it is not only possible, but probable, that the stamp as a postal entity could disappear. Thus, survival of our hobby depends upon finding more reasons for which stamps can be issued and accepting them within the framework of philately. The continued growth of our hobby depends upon maintaining a sustained supply of stuff to collect.

The complaints about the forthcoming Olympic semi-postals are starting to come in and there is little doubt that they are based on traditional conditioning rather than reason. Many will form significant collections of Canadian semi-postals with the same degree of fervour and enjoyment as others have experienced in building collections of pence issues, squared circles, tagged stamps, the definitive issue of 1967, plate blocks, etc., etc. Others could well become Canadian collectors for the first time because of these stamps.

What is most important, however, is that, in the long run, the life of our hobby may well depend upon it.

☆ ☆ ☆

THINK SMALL

For those of you who do not have your issues of the CANADIAN PHILATELIST bound as one volume, you need not continue reading. However, for those who do, it should be noted that the first issue of Volume 25 (January, 1974) will be approximately ¼ inch shorter from top to bottom. This minor alteration will allow for more efficient production and a savings in cost that could eventually lead to the introduction of colour in subsequent issues.

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C-■ D-A

Canadian Expeditionary Forces Mail - Siberia, 1918-19 - (Part 3)

A SPECIAL FEATURE

— A STUDY OF ITS MARKINGS & STATIONERY —

By ED RICHARDSON, F.R.P.S.C.

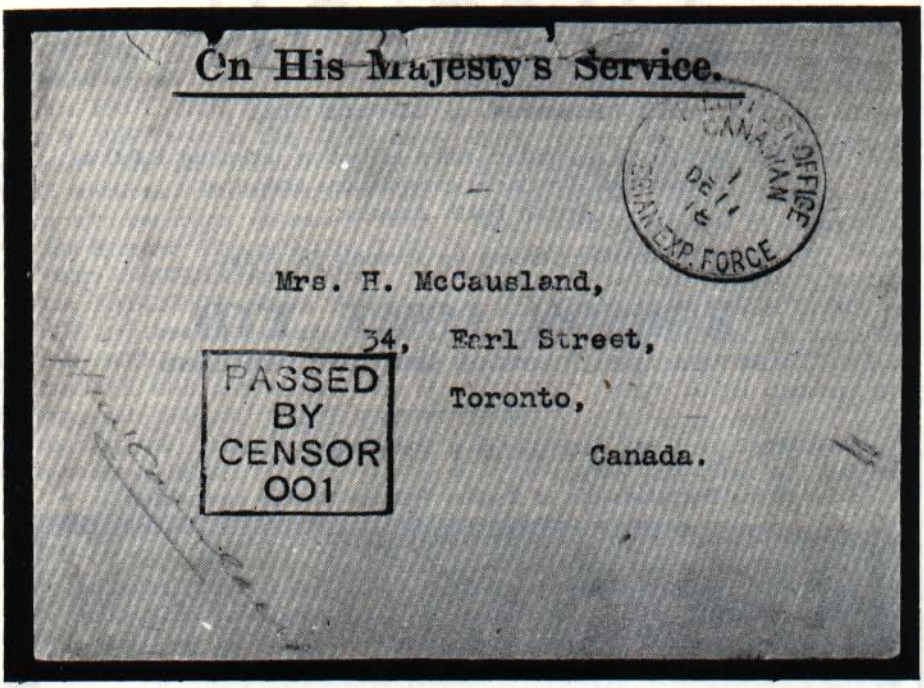


Fig. 5 —*Philatelic Photographics, Toronto*

An unusual "On His Majesty's Service" envelope used from Siberia. The FPO-CEF(S) #1 is dated December 11, 1918. The "square" 001 CENSOR MARK in magenta, and in light pencil across the lower left corner is the soldier's signature "H. McCausland".

PART III - The CENSOR MARKINGS

The BOXED CENSOR marking is most interesting, and could stand a great deal more study as new material comes to light and has an opportunity to be recorded. This is Faulstich's CS- 3.

While we do not have all the answers, we will bring together what is known, and try to shed some new light on the subject. Let us take a look at the various features of the marking, including



BOXED CENSOR MARK

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the period of use. We have arranged these under the following headings:—

1.) Period of Use
2.) Size and Shape of Marking
3.) Colors - Are they Significant?
4.) Normal Position of Marking on Cover
5.) Censor Numbers
6.) Signatures - with or without the MARKS

1.) Period of Use

While FAULSTICH illustrates a February 9, 1919 cover as the "latest date recorded" for the BOXED CENSOR. WEBB mentions a date of February 12th. In our own collection we have a cover with the February 12th date (Fig. 7 III). This bears the 006 Censor number.

Again FAULSTICH claims December 18, 1918 as the earliest known date. However WEBB illustrates one dated December 11, 1918, and we have one of the same date (Fig. 5). WEBB further reports that the earliest recorded date is December 8, 1918.

So until new data proves otherwise we will accept WEBB's suggested period of December 8, 1918 thru February 12, 1919.

2.) Size and Shape of Marking

FAULSTICH calls it a "square box", WEBB says a "rectangular mark" - but both failed to give the dimensions. Because the handstamps were made of rubber, the measurements will vary slightly, dependent upon the force of the strike. There seems to be very little variation in the size, between the many handstamps used.

The BOXED CENSOR Mark is a four lined marking enclosed in a single-lined frame, measuring approximately 27 mm. x 24 mm. - so both were somewhat right, - it is nearly square, and is slightly rectangular. The lettering, 4 mm. high, sans-serif caps, reads "PASSED / BY / CENSOR / 001". Other numbers were used.

3.) Colors - Are They Significant?

We believe that these will be found



Fig. 6 —*Philatelic Photographics, Toronto*

The FPO-CEF(S) #1 is dated December 25 (Christmas Day), 1918. 005 BOXED CENSOR in magenta. Note signature across marking. From the Carter correspondence, much of which was in the Webb Collection. This one example is in the authors' collection.

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in a much wider range of colors than FAULSTICH's "fushia-purple and dull purple". The predominate color will be found to be magenta, and it may very well have been the only color in use during December. Most likely it was the original color of the ink pads when first issued. Color variations were probably created as the ink pad or pads were "freshened" with whatever ink happened to be handy at the moment.

The BOXED CENSOR Marking will be found in varying shades of magenta, green, blue and black. We do not attach any great significance to the color variations. WEBB apparently placed no importance on them.

4.) Normal Position of Marking on Covers

All five of the examples in my own collection show the BOXED CENSOR marking near the lower left corner of cover. The two covers illustrated in WEBB show the marking in this same position. Of the two covers illustrated in FAULSTICH one is like the others, but the other has the marking in the upper right, struck over the FPO-CEF(S) #1 marking.

We can therefore conclude that the normal position for the BOXED CENSOR Marking is in the lower left corner of the cover (in relation to the address), and that **any other position is quite unusual.** We conclude this in spite of the fact that FAULSTICH states "Usually found struck over the FPO marking, or by it, but sometimes is found at bottom of the cover."

5.) Censor Numbers

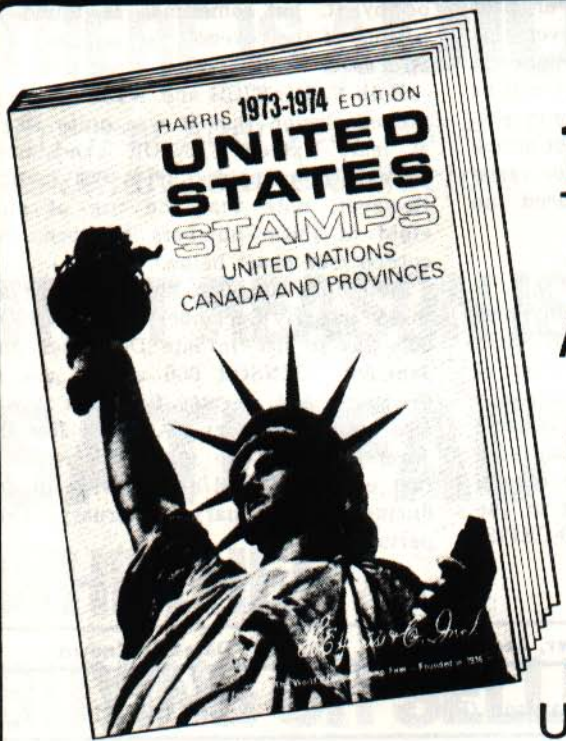
Both FAULSTICH and WEBB came to the conclusion that it was quite likely at least sixteen CENSOR handstamps were used, numbered from 001 to 016. However, note that the use of only **eight** of those numbers has been recorded (see chart below).

Note that 001, 002, and 004 were all in use in early December 1918. CENSOR 005 was in use in late December and January. CENSOR 006 was in use in February, and we may find that it was also used in January. As more January covers turn up we may find evidence that either 007 and/or 008 were in use during the January - February 1919 period.

TABLE

Censor No.	Owner, Last Known	Dates, if Known
001	Richardson (Fig. 5)	Dec. 11, 1918
002	Webb	Dec. 11, 1918
	Faulstich	??
004	Richardson (Fig. 7-I)	Dec. 11, 1918
	Wellburn	??
005	Richardson (Fig. 6)	Dec. 25, 1918
	Webb (Fig. 15)	January 11, 1919
006	Richardson (Fig. 7-III)	Feb. 12, 1919
	Faulstich	??
009	Richardson (Fig. 2)	Feb. 5, 1919
010	Faulstich	Feb. 9, 1919
016	Faulstich	Feb. 5, 1919

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CENSORS 009, 010 and 016 were also in use in February, the last month of Field Censorship.

It is most likely that these markings were all prepared at the same time, and probably that **at least sixteen markings were prepared.** But with the exception of 003, which show up on a December cover if at all, 007 and 008 which should show up on January-February covers, if at all, we doubt if the Markings were put into use.

Therefore, with only eight different CENSOR numbers currently recorded, we doubt if more than ten or eleven different numbers were ever in use.

6.) Signatures - With or Without the CENSOR Marks

In every instance where the BOXED CENSOR Marking has appeared, there has been a signature, near or across the marking. Sometimes this signature was that of the soldier sending the letter (Fig. 5). In others, it appears to be the signature of an officer or censor (Fig.2).

WEBB is of the opinion that all these signatures or initials were "obviously those of censors". If this is the case, was H. McCausland a censor, empowered to censor his own mail (Fig. 5)?

When the requirement for field censorship was cancelled sometime in late February, both the use of signatures and the BOXED CENSOR Mark came to an end.

However, signatures were used on the known October — November covers, **before** the use of the BOXED CENSOR mark. The October 28th postcard bearing the indicia "2" (fig. 4) bears a signature at the bottom. All four of the rectangular BASE HEADQUARTERS markings (see Part V) recorded, also have a signature or initials nearby, all being dated in November.

So it seems that field censorship was practiced from the time the first mails started back from the advance party, and continued until cancelled sometime in February.

(to be continued)

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T0E 1E0

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T0L 0C0

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Ottawa, Ontario
K1P 5A0

Sudbury Post Office
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Sudbury, Ontario

Sault Ste. Marie Post Office
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N9A 4H0

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17 Front Street W.
Toronto, Ontario
M5J 1A4

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STAMPING AROUND

BY PHIL. ATELIST R.P.S.C. 007.

A REGULAR FEATURE



—Philatelic Photographics, Toronto

As many of the readers of the CANADIAN PHILATELIST know, deadline for copy is a full month prior to the publication date. Therefore when one writes a "current events" column one has the choice of either reporting items that have already happened or making up a story and setting about to make it come true just at the proper time. In the case of the Royal Wedding it had to be the first approach so all we can do now is wish the newlyweds a happy future.

* * * * *

I recently overheard a discussion questioning the veracity of the meanderings and stamp dealings outlined in the ads by Harry Martin of the Empire Stamp Corporation (inside front cover). Frankly, I too have been prepared to say at certain times "Harry, you've just got to be kidding". However, recently I dropped into Harry's stamp emporium just in time to see one of the longest tractor trailers I've ever seen unload about thirty large crates of stamps (at least 5 tons of them) into every available bit of space in the place. It was impressive. Now when Harry Martin writes "I drove up to Alaska this past week-end to pick up four steamer trunks, three flight bags, two attache cases and a wallet all full of stamps" I for one will not only believe him, but I may even fight anyone who doesn't.

* * * * *



—Philatelic Photographics, Toronto

There is a distinct possibility that by the time you read this, it will be over and done with but, nevertheless, it should be mentioned. The J. N. Sissons auction (November 1 sale) features (or featured) a pair of used 'twelve pennies". Those who read through my last column saw a block of four of the "six pennies" also up for grabs. Since both were estimated at $20,000.00 this seems to establish the price of these stamps at $833.33 a penny.

* * * * *



• PHILATELIC LITERATURE •

The big news, of course, is still the Volume V of Robson Lowe's Encyclopaedia. However, by the time this number of the Philatelist reaches you, we should have our supply of Robson Lowe's latest complete list of literature available. This brochure lists over 200 books on general and specialized philatelic subjects and priced auction catalogues of past important sales which constitute valuable reference works themselves. Please write for a copy or ask for one at the store if in Toronto.

Orders are coming in very well for the Encyclopaedia Volume V, British North America and Bermuda. If you haven't ordered yet, the prepaid price for direct delivery is $40 for the library edition. $50 for the Deluxe edition. It looks as though the Deluxe edition will be an early sell-out.

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Collectors of the modern Canadian issues have sufficient material (money permitting) to form a significant collection of imperforates. The latest to join this group of exotica is the 15c. Mountie. The first report of their existence came from William Maresch, the Toronto dealer and auctioneer, and numbers available are not known. However, it will cost you at least $500.00 to add a pair to your collection.

* * * * *



—Philatelic Photographics, Toronto

The 25th Annual Exhibition and meeting of the British North America Philatelic Society was held in Calgary, Alberta on September 20th, 21st and 22nd, and it was a phine blend of philately, phood and phellowship. Many "Royal" members were present and many exhibited portions of their collections. They were:-

COURT OF HONOUR: Gerald Welburn, Sam C. Nickle, Dr. Robert Carr and Col. Robert Pratt.

GOLD AWARDS: Dr. Robert Carr (Grand Award); Dr. Robert Chaplin; Harry Lussey; Ed. Richardson.

SILVER AWARDS: Charles deVolpi; Col. Robert Pratt; Guy des Rivieres; Fred Goodhelpson; Ralph A. Hart

BRONZE AWARDS: Horace Harrison; Dr. Earl Covert; Eldon Godfrey; Bob Wooley.

Incidentally, Bob Wooley suffered a rather serious indisposition while at the convention and now seems on the mend. We wish him a speedy recovery.

* * * * *

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A SPECIAL FEATURE

By TRAVIS K. HEDRICK

Ten years ago when I found my U.S. collection had reached the point where purchase of the missing stamps was beyond reach of my purse, I got the idea of starting a new country. Luckily I decided on Canada, both mint and used, and there hasn't been a dull moment since.

As a product of the public school system, I was woefully ignorant of Canadian history and heritage though not to the degree of a recent writer to Ann Landers' advice column who complained most Americans thought their Canadian brothers lived in igloos, travelled by dog sled and hibernated six months of the year.

Overall my Canadian albums now show about 80% completion and the used portion is a particular delight because of a rather rigid demand for lightly cancelled, well-centered copies that presented a real challenge.

Along with the inflow of Canadian stamps came a new awareness of our northern neighbor and an understanding of the significance of the roles of the "Loyalists", of Sir Isaac Brock; your famed rebel, Louis Riel - of the works of the Group of Seven and Paul Kane.

Then came a correspondence friendship with a pharmacist in Outremont and an exchange agreement that brought me matched plate blocks of new issues along with singles while he got a plate block and singles of U.S. as released. From there I was soon dabbling in Squared Circles and some pre-cancels as well as a group of officials including those perfed varieties neither Scott nor Gibbons will recognize.

Today there is a mountain of new attractions ahead with receipt of Jacques J. Laroche's reference manual on the Centennial definitives while awaiting Glenn Hansen's new volume of his attractive Guidebook. The 1970 edition of Hansen's work seemed to open new vistas and it is well-thumbed.

There is no lack of paths one may take with Canadian philately and as I near the 70th milestone, there'll be new avenues to trod in pursuit of an ill-defined goal. Whatever that proves to be it is sure to be exciting, interesting and informative.

Choosing Canada as a new interest has been particularly rewarding to this collector. Your stamp-issuing policies have continued to be conservative. Values for select stamps keep advancing - mint and used - as increasing numbers of us below the border take up the chase.

Thank you, Canada!

EDITORS NOTE: Mr. Travis K. Hedrick is Contributing Editor of The Western Stamp Collector, the "Worlds Greatest Newspaper for Stamp Collectors".

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Address By The Postmaster General The Honourable Andre Ouellet On The First Olympic Stamps

(AT THE B.N.A.P.S. CONVENTION — 20 SEPTEMBER 1973)

Let me say how indebted I am to our good host, Sam Nickle — it's an honour and a privilege to be here on your 25th anniversary. Your society not only embraces some of the world's most distinguished collectors, but it's also a monument to international goodwill. And so it's fitting that I should today launch the first Canadian stamps to commemorate the greatest celebration of brotherhood on earth, a peaceful competition for which our largest Canadian city will act as host to most of the nations on the planet.

I'm sure you've all heard of these first Olympic commemoratives, so let me go to the series as a whole. For the first time, the Canada Post Office will be issuing semi-postals. We'll bring them out in the spring and fall of 1974, the spring and fall of '75, and the spring of '76. In between, we'll complement them with commemoratives, on track and field events.

The '74 series will illustrate keeping fit. They'll show Canadians of all ages — children, youth, families — enjoying typical seasonal activities . . . snowshoeing, skating, curling and skiing in winter . . . swimming, cycling, jogging and hiking in summer. Sports that touch almost everyone . . . four subjects on a sheet. In 1975 we'll depict the actual Olympic events . . . . grouping them as combative, like boxing and wrestling . . . water sports . . . and team sports, like soccer. And again, four on a sheet.

In '76 we'll issue commemoratives on a side of the Olympics that is all too often overlooked . . . the classic and the cultural . . . the exhibitions and demonstrations of architecture, literature, music, painting, sculpture, photography, and sport philately, though I can't guarantee that we'll issue a stamp on a stamp.

The semi-postals will be issued in 8s, 10s, and 15s, with a surcharge of two cents on an eight-cent, and five cents on the 10 and 15. They'll be on sale at all post offices . . . both postage wickets and philatelic counters . . . . and the spring issue will be on sale till the day the fall issue comes out, and we'll take that fall issue off our shelves on the day the next spring stamps are issued.

The surcharge, of course, will go to the Olympic committee. So will the philatelic profit on the commemoratives. It's a convenient way, we think, to make a tiny contribution to the great event, yet in total it should add up to . . . let's say, the cost of a first-rate stamp collection.

Now I know what some of you are thinking — we're putting out too many stamps. This is the classic dilemma of a postmaster general. On the one hand, he has the philatelists chanting: Cut back on your issues. On the other hand, he has all kinds of influential and vocal people pressing him for a stamp on their special interest.

When I first took over this job last year it seemed that everyone in the world wanted a stamp on the famous astronomer, Copernicus. The Polish Ambassador made representations . . . Polish-Canadians were writing their MPs . . . The 1973 stamp program was already made up . . . and we had a similar demand for a stamp honouring Canada's Scottish settlers, and Karen

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Magnussen, Vancouver's World Figure Skating Champion.

I looked into it, of course. I found that suggestions for stamps come in at the rate of two or three hundred a year, and they're screened, and checked, and researched, and compared, and weeded out, and added to, by researchers in our postage stamp division. Then the final recommendations are reviewed by the Deputy and his advisers, and passed along to me for the final decision.

Well, I found I still had time to add to the '73 stamp program, and Copernicus **met** the guidelines — which state that subjects should illustrate our cultural and economic life, or make us aware of our traditions, accomplishments and history, or foster a spirit of international goodwill and understanding. But Karen Magnussen **didn't** — it's been policy not to honor any living persons except the members of the Royal Family. But if you start honoring famous non-Canadians, where do you stop? . . . I couldn't load the program, and in Canadian terms, which was more significant? . . . Copernicus, or the Highlanders who came over here 200 years ago . . . their ship on the point of sinking . . . facing Indians with hearts in their mouths . . . to found three major industries with axes, and nets, and homemade ploughs. Well you know how I decided — A new series honoring the contributions to Canada of our immigrants. A much different thing, I might add, than an ethnic series.

Our 1973 program, then, will embody 29 stamps — 22 commemoratives and seven low-value definitives. And I don't know how we can cut this back, and meet the sometimes conflicting demands of Canadian unity, education and social justice.

But I think if you check Scott's Journal you'll find we're not doing badly by you. Only five countries issue fewer than 20 new stamps a year, and another eight issue from 20 to 30. That puts us in the top 13, and if you look at the total face value, I think you'll find we come out even better.

The next step is with our design advisory committee. And judging by your letters, when this committee was set up four years ago, you thought we'd been taken over by a clique of way-out radicals. And of course we **did** have failures, or what seemed at first like failures. The Louis Riel stamp we issued three and a half years ago, was very much avant garde and no one seemed to like it much except the college kids, who read abstract design as easily as they read Playboy.

But picking designs is like picking racehorses — so many elements enter into it that absolute judgments are best left to God. What we think is great today may be passé tomorrow, and vice-versa. And Louis Riel, design-wise, looks better and better as time rolls on. Perhaps because designer Reinhard Derreth chose blue and red to represent the French and English involvement; and that electric blue and fiery red suggests conflict, and conflict was the story of Riel's life. In this case, time was on the committee's side.

But I can vouch that it's a hardnosed committee . . . working experts in the visual arts, printing or philately, including our host, Sam Nickle, who's a bit of a Renaissance type. It had seven members until now, but this month I appointed three more — Mrs. Marion Sherman of Prince Albert, Saskatchewan; Mrs. Molly Bobak of Fredericton, New Brunswick; and Mrs. Joan Murray of Toronto — three women to keep the men straight. And I'm looking for a British Columbia member — this one to keep Sam straight. They meet once a month at nine a.m. and work on through until evening, with a 45-minute break for lunch, and they're working with their pencils as well as their minds.

In the case of the Olympic stamps they racked their brains to think of artists who'd be interested in bike riding or soccer — and came up with two. They study the new designs and tell the ar-

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Certainly you will remember the DM 287.000, — obtained for the BLUE MAURITIUS in the spring of last year, the DM 260.000, — the original sheet Saxony No. 1 fetched in the fall of 1971. Others will still think of the unused block of 6, DOUBLE GENEVA, and the block of 12, OLDENBURG No. 5, or MAURITIUS No. 1 and 2 on cover. Forty years ago these items were sold by Edgar Mohrmann to Maurice Burrus, a celebrity in philately.

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tist, "That tree looks fine here, but you'll lose it when it's reduced — better widen the trunk". And sometimes they have to say, "That's just not good enough". Sometimes I have to say it myself.

For example, we're bringing out next month a commemorative on Sir Wilfred Laurier. And when I saw the stamp design I'll admit I was disappointed. Laurier was the political matinée idol of his day, but the artist had chosen to show him in later years, worn out from fighting English - Canadian imperialists on one side, and French-Canadian nationalists on the other. The artist had caught his character, but it wasn't a Laurier most people would recognize.

Well, the artist went back to his easel, and painted a more robust Laurier, and I felt better about it, but the artist didn't —not altogether. So for two hours one day in Frank Flatter's office they looked at that first drawing, and they analyzed every line in Laurier's face as character or strain, and then they took out some of the strain lines and brought this third drawing in to me, and asked, "Which one do you prefer?" You'll see this third portrait next month on the Laurier stamp.

The finished design goes to one of our three security printers, who try to make sure that no errors, no variety, occurs. Because that would make some of you richer, and the rest of you would write us and suggest that we have questionable ethics.

Well, every country makes errors, but I'm sure most of you know that we take every precaution possible. Our printers' employees are sworn to secrecy. They're told information on a need-to-know basis. And the only people who see the stamp are the printer's contact man, the engraver, the platemaker, and the man who orders the ink. There are guards, lockups, alarm systems, and a small army of inspectors — and still the odd mistake slips through.

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100	$7.50	174	$1.20	229	$1.25
101	$17.00	175	1.85	230	$1.00
102	$19.00	176	$20.00	243	$3.50
103	$27.00	177	$15.00	244	$5.00
104-40	60% of Lyman's	178-83	60% of Lyman's	245	$8.00
				261	$2.50
143	$1.30	190	$1.35	262	$8.50
144	.50	193	.70	272	$2.50
145	$1.20	194	$1.20	273	$4.70
146	.50	198	$4.50	294	$2.00
147	$1.00	199	.30	302	$9.50
148	$2.25	200	$1.00	411	$2.25
151	$2.50	201	$2.75	492	.70
152	$2.15	203	$4.75	C2	$3.50
153	.60	204	$1.25	09	$30.00
155	$1.35	205	$3.00	010	$10.00
156	$2.20	206	$1.45	011	$4.25
157	$29.00	207	$1.00	024	$1.75
158	$45.00	208	.50	025	$16.00
160	$2.75	209	$2.75	027	$16.00
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In our Frontenac issue of May last year, a typist spelled the designer's name wrong, and not even the designer noticed the error til six months later. In our Maple-in-Spring stamp of last year, four upper rows on four sheets weren't perforated — a mechanical error that boosted their value up into four figures. And a postmaster in Saskatchewan picked up one of these sheets and took it home and ran it through his sewing machine. Our 1969 Xmas stamps had a color missing in four sheets. And we spelled Krieghoff's name wrong, but at least we were consistent — we spelled it wrong on the whole 28 million.

But as you know, our rate of error is low compared with most countries. When the Olympic stamps were going through the press the second time, when the printer was putting on the silver and the gold, an inspector pulled a sheet and put it back upside down. Another inspector caught it. That's the way it is on most issues.

Let me tell you something else about our printers. The British American Bank Note Company, as you're probably aware, has been printing Canadian stamps since our Confederation issue: The 'large cents' issue of 1868. The other, the American Bank Note Company, formerly Rawdon, Wright, Hatch and Edson, printed the first Canadian stamp, in 1851: Sir Sanford Fleming's Upper and Lower Canada. Perhaps, with this kind of tenure, our security printers felt too secure, because after we signed up a third firm — Ashton-Potter of Toronto, in 1970 — the three of them have been trying to outdo each other, and we're getting quality now that we wouldn't have dreamed of getting before.

We just recently gave a job to one of these three, and he said, "Wow! That's going to be a tough one!" Then he tied up a half-million-dollar press for three solid weeks before he was

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TOPICALS

- ☐ Airmails
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- ☐ Famous Men
- ☐ Fish & Shells
- ☐ Flowers
- ☐ Medicine
- ☐ Olympics
- ☐ Paintings
- ☐ Red Cross
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satisfied. And this fellow was working on a fixed price.

One result of such attitudes **and** the new printing techniques — the Maple-in-Four-Seasons was selected by Scott's, as you know, to introduce their new feature, Stamp of the Month. The British Columbia Centennial Stamp was picked two years ago by a large Italian monthly as one of its 10 Stamps of the Year. The CBC International Stamp received a design award at St. Louis, and Krieghoff, and Lismer, and the Christmas stamps of two years ago, were pioneers in a new world of color.

Public response was so enthusiastic, in fact, that this month I appointed three people to search for appropriate Canadian paintings for next year's Christmas stamps. Doris Shadbolt, curator of the British Columbia Art Gallery, David Silcox of the Fine Arts Department of York University, Toronto, and Claude Bouchard, a former gallery owner in Montreal — all deeply involved and knowledgeable in Canadian painting. Mrs. Shadbolt will look in the galleries and private collections of the west, Mr. Silcox will check central Canada, and Monsieur Bouchard, Quebec and the east. We hope they'll each bring eight or ten paintings to the attention of the advisory committee, and the painters, I might add, don't have to be dead.

Spectacular improvement in printing is hard to come by, of course. But we think our 1975 and '76 Olympic stamps will be not only colorful but novel. We're not deserting the time-honored techniques we know you want and appreciate.

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And that's the aim of our efforts . . . the aim of our steps to improve the product . . . to give you stamps that meet, not only the needs of a diverse Canadian public, but the standards of international excellence. If we're right, and we're only judging by the rising numbers of letters and sales, these Olympic stamps we're launching tonight aren't just the start of another series, they herald an expansion of the Canadian collector's domain. If we're wrong, well, I'm sure you'll let me know.

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SECRETARY — Keith R. Spencer, 455-0894
Representative G. C. Bolton Phone 452-2978
Address all mail c/o the Club
P.O. Box 399, Edmonton, Alberta T5J 2J6

LA SOCIETE PHILATELIQUE DE QUEBEC

(CHAPTER No. 40)

Meets in the
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1158 Bourlamaque
Quebec

First & Third
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POSTAL ADDRESS: P.O. Box 2222,
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KITCHENER WATERLOO PHILATELIC SOCIETY

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President: Howard Bryce
Tel. 744-8865
464 Hazel St., Waterloo, Ont.

Lakehead Stamp Club

R.P.S.C. Chapter No. 33

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Donald Jack, Secretary-Treasurer
225 Clarke Street
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North Toronto Stamp Club

CHAPTER 5 OF THE ROYAL
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Phone: 425-1545
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R A Stamp Club Ottawa

(CHAPTER 41, RPSC)
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Visitors Welcome — Phone 733-5100

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Meets on the 1st and 3rd Wednesdays of each month (July & August excepted) at the North York Memorial Community Hall.
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Secretary—Mrs. M. Summerfield,
Phone 221-0375
— VISITORS WELCOME —

CHAPTER MEETINGS

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Established 1935

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Chapter Fifty-one

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Secretary: Walter Hundleby
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Society Reports

THE SECRETARY

Applicants listed as new members have applied for membership in the Society and in accordance with the Constitution, their names are hereby published. If no adverse reports are received within thirty days of publication, they will be admitted to full membership.

(*) Has requested that street address be left out.

(M) Minor with activity guaranteed by parent or guardian.

New Members		Interests
10641	John G. Schmidt, 3 Canterbury Court, E. Setauket, N.Y., 11733, U.S.A.	Canada, U.S.A.
10642	Donald A. Shaw, 876 Riverside Drive, London, Ontario N6H 2T3	B.N.A., U.S.A., U.N.
10653	(*) Fred L. Solomon, Montreal, Quebec	Canada, Br. Commonwealth, Israel
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Steernberg, Peter, 14010 - 101A Ave., Edmonton, Alta. T5N 0L2
Thibault, Rene, 3914 Avenue Verdun, Verdun 203, P.Q.
Trueman, Wes., 2 Church Street, Flin Flon, Man. R8A 1K4
Wade, Mrs. Lucy M., Apt. 9, 33359 - 2nd Avenue, Mission City, B.C.
Wait, L. G., Box 658, King City Ontario L0G 1K0
Walker, B. J. 217 Wright Street, Fredericton, N.B.
Whyte, James L., 156 Blake Street, Barrie, Ontario L4M 1K3
Wiedemann, Peter, P.O. Box 264, Goderich, Ontario N7A 3Z2

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#121 St. John's Philatelic Society
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#122 Society of Israel Philatelists, Montreal Chapter,
C/o Mrs. Barbara Denes, Apt. 415, 7425 Canora Road, Montreal 301, P.Q.

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87 Confederation Life Stamp Club
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42 Old English Lane,
Thornhill, Ontario L3T 2T9

92 Stratford Stamp Club
C/o The Librarian
P.O. Box 353
Stratford, Ontario.

#111 The I.O.O.F. Stamp Club
C/o Mrs. B. Perkins
1234 - 86th Street
Edmonton, Alta. T5B 3L2

#116 Swift Current Stamp Club
C/o Mr. E. L. Kyle
825 8th Avenue N.E.,
Swift Current, Sask., S9H 2R6

Deceased

Mr. W. J. Wood, Ottawa, Ont.
Mrs. J. D. Goodall, Edmonton, Alta.

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Report Changes Of Address Immediately To The Secretary Of The R.P.S.C. P.O. Box 3144 Station 'C' Ottawa, Canada. K14 4J4

THE SALES CIRCUIT

SALES DEPARTMENT

The circuit season is well on its way again and at the time of writing many letters are coming in with most requests being for Canadian material. However I regret to say that stocks of Canadian books are very low so if you have not had a circuit yet please be patient. In view of the supply situation I must point out that those of you who are late in returning circuits will have to go to the bottom of the list for future shipments.

For members requesting circuits for the first time please quote your membership number and state your areas of interest, with as much information as possible.

Many times I am asked how stamps should be priced in relation to catalog quotations. This in my opinion is a complex area and I must decline to answer such requests. It is well to remember that sellers should know the market value of their items if they expect to sell successfully in the sales circuits. Too many members seem to price everything at a fixed percentage of catalog and while some items may be underpriced, on balance I would say that prices are generally too high for the type and quality offered for sale. Members are not looking for poor or common issues and books containing this material show low sales. A book containing clean stamps draws attention to itself and usually shows satisfactory sales, providing of course the country is in demand.

In addition to CANADA, we require the following countries: early GREAT BRITAIN; U.S.A.; FRANCE; NETHERLANDS - early used; AUSTRALIA and NEW ZEALAND; Also wanted are **pre** 1940 First Day Covers of Canada. Blank sales books are available at a cost of one dollar, for five, postpaid.

Gordon F. W. Frost

THE CHAPTER COORDINATOR

List of slide programmes put into the slide library since publication of the 1971 Society Directory. Programmes marked "*" are not presently available; announcement will be made in Canadian Philatelist when they are. From the old listing programme #31 is not available at the present time due to its loss in the mails. Announcement will be made in CP when a duplicate has been obtained.

36. Heraldry on Philatelic Items. By Ed Beaubien, Orleans, Ontario. 49 slides.

*37. Canadian Pioneer Air Mail Envelopes and Stamps. By Major R. K. Malott, Ottawa, Ontario. 80 slides.

*38. Canadian Semi-Official Air Mail Stamps on and off cover. By Major R. K. Malott, Ottawa, Ontario. 80 slides.

39. Canadian Air Mail Stamps Regular and Varieties. By Major R. K. Malott, Ottawa, Ontario. 80 slides.

40. Canada - Confederation. By Capt. G. A. MacKenzie, Astra, Ontario. 50 slides.

41. Stamp Collecting, Its Basics. By Dr. F. G. Stulberg, Downsview, Ontario. 47 slides. (Can be used to replace #26).

42. Cancellations on the Admiral Issues. By Hans Reiche, Ottawa, Ontario. 47 slides.

43. The BNA Postal Markings used in Transatlantic Stampless Letters. By Dr. J. C. Arnell, Ottawa, Ontario. 70 slides.

44. Some Variations on the Winnipeg Tagged Stamps. By Kenneth Rose, Calgary, Alberta. 40 slides. (F)

*45. Tne Henry Hechler Story. By F. G. Stulberg, Downsview, Ontario. 72 slides.
46. Scouting on Stamps. By George H. W. LeMesurier, Ottawa, Ontario. 74 slides. (F)
47. Famous People in Canadian History. By Capt. G. A. MacKenzie, Astra, Ontario. 51 slides.
*48. Canada - Its Beauty on Stamps. By Major R. K. Malott, Ottawa, Ontario. 57 slides.
*49. Canadian Government Air Mail Flights. By Major R. K. Malott, Ottawa, Ontario. In preparation, number of slides not known.
*50. Canadian United Nations Military Postmarks. By Major R. K. Malott, Ottawa, Ontario. In preparation, number of slides not known.
*51. Canadian Interrupted (Crash) Flight Envelopes. By Major R. K. Malott Ottawa, Ontario. In preparation, number of slides not known.
*52. Canadian Military Postmarks - Overseas and in Canada. By Major R. K. Malott, Ottawa, Ontario. In prep., number of slides unknown.
53. Canada - Aerogrammes. By Clark Stephens, Belle-Air, Florida. 70 slides.
54. Handstruck Markings of the Legislatures of Canada During the Victorian Era. By Dr. F. G. Stulberg, Downsview, Ontario. 64 slides (F).
55. Metered Postage. By Prof. R. W. Irwin, Guelph, Ontario. 40 slides.
56. Famous Women on Stamps - Part 1. By Betty Killingbeck, Peterborough, Ontario. 50 slides.
*57. Famous Women on Stamps - Part 2. By Betty Killingbeck, Peterborough, Ontario. In preparation, number of slides not known.
58. Prince Edward Island. By Dr. R. V. C. Carr, Youngstown, Ohio. 74 slides.

* * * *

Slide programmes are for use of Chapters only, they are not available for individual members and may be obtained from the Chapter Co-ordinator:—

Michael Millar,
192 Shanty Bay Road,
BARRIE, Ontario
L4M 1E6

Chapters are requested to send in orders for slides at least 30 days in advance of the meeting for which they are required. A cheque or money order, payable to the Society, for $2.00 per programme should accompany the request. After the meeting programmes are to be returned promptly to the Chapter Co-ordinator either via Registered First Class Mail or via Parcel Post insured for at least $50. This will enable the Society to partially recover the cost of the programme in the event it goes missing in the mail.

In addition to the foregoing list of programmes the Chapter Co-ordinator is pleased to announce that programmes are in preparation on both the Large and Small Queen issues, Barred Circle Cancellations and British Postal Markings. Announcement will be made in the Canadian Philatelist when these are available.

Mr. M. Millar

THE COORDINATOR OF YOUTH ACTIVITIES

The 1974 International Youth Show will be held in Sofia, Bulgaria under the name MLADOST '74, May 23 to May 31. It is most important that Canada is again represented at this major annual event for the philatelic youth of the world. For particulars please write:

Youth Education Program, R.P.S.C.
157 Clifton Avenue
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	under 15 years	aged 15 to 18	aged 19 to 21
a General impression (appearance, text)	45 points	30 points	20 points
b) Basis and development of the collection	15 points	20 points	25 points
c) Conditions of stamps, postmarks, and knowledge of philately	35 points	40 points	45 points
d) Size of the collection	5 points	10 points	10 points
Total	100 points	100 points	100 points

a) Silver medal	90 to 100 points
b) Silver-bronze medal	75 to 89 points
c) Bronze medal	60 to 74 points
d) Diploma	45 to 59 points
e) Participation diploma	less than 45 points

Free stamps to clubs are still available as well as copies of COME, BLOW YOUR HORN, in English and French

M. Madesker

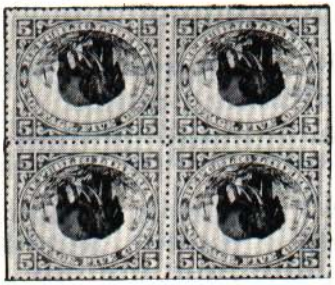
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LIBERIA No. 62a

THE INVERTED ELEPHANT

All those who collect Liberian stamps will at once know what this number means. Merely to list it is enough to cause the heart to beat a little faster and the blood pressure to rise. This is the big error that has been, and is, on every Liberian want list, and it didn't matter how much money one commanded, the want lists have remained unfilled for almost the 70 years since this stamp first appeared. Colonel Rogers, in his authoritative "A Century of Liberian Philately" made note that Scott was the only catalog anywhere to list such a variety but that he had never seen it. He had plenty of company, for nowhere in he world was there a dealer who had it in stock, nor any collector who had a copy in his collection.

Just one exception. There was a collector who had the entire sheet of 60 of the error, all that were ever found. It is not known when it was discovered, very likely soon after it was printed in 1905 by the great English firm of Waterlow and Sons, but for certain it was a genuine printing error found in the postal stocks. The sheet still has he number 482 which means it was the 482nd sheet to be numbered. The renowned dealer, Philip Ward Jr. acquired and sold it intact to a specialist in Liberian stamps and the sheet has remained in this collection for very many years.

In a private treaty transaction through H. R. Harmer I've recently acquired the sheet and have broken it up. 44 copies either have been sold or are reserved for my customers, 12 are offered in this advertisement at $500.00 each. The unique corner number block is available at $3000.00.

It is quite a stamp, this handsome engraved error, and very reasonable at $500.00 a copy. It is about 4 times rarer than the Canadian Seawy Invert and almost twice as rare as the U.S.A. 24c. airmail inverted centre. Liberian are not exactly on the same popularity basis as these two nations but one has only to look at the present day catalog to realize that the days when Liberian stamps were only considered juvenile collector material are gone forever. It's rather strange that there should have been any such ideas as most of the great collectors of the past had excellent specialized collections of Liberian stamps, and why not; most were the work of the world's foremost printers, a great number by Perkins Bacon, who back in 1840 and in the following years printed the world's first stamp and firsts for many nations.

Besides the above, can offer a very handsome and valuable $100.00 collection of Liberian stamps. This can be had on approval as well as, now and then, selections of other Liberian sets and singles when available.

* * * *

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A REGULAR FEATURE

...HANS REICHE

It is interesting to note that two major European countries will discontinue the issue of stamp booklets. During the last six years Canada did issue 22 major booklet types or if one adds the pictorial designs a total of 67 !! The average quantity issued is a little over 1,000,000 booklets each. If one adds up the printing cost, handling cost, distribution cost, accounting cost, etc. (even not knowing all these cost items accurately) this would not be economical over the very short period which these booklets see the light. The general public appears not too much interested in the booklets and a large number sold go to the philatelic customer. So, we wonder how long Canada will continue booklets?

* * * * *

The 'back of the book' stamps command a greater interest this year. For example the Postage Dues which were issued in 1969 attract great attention lately with a number of values sold out and with a very small printing quantity. Anything unusual in Dues, such as plate inscriptions or the earlier guide arrows and engine turn border have jumped in price almost as fast as the gold has. Even the War Tax stamps, for long time not wanted by many buyers, begin to move.

* * * * *

A lot of the new catalogues this year will be issued much earlier than usual. What this means to a collector or dealer is not certain but because these catalogues will be out just at the beginning of the stamp season and not in the middle, it may help to start the season rolling faster. It may also mean that the auction houses will not delay their auctions until the caltalogues are issued. Bargains on the other hand will have to be picked up during the summer. Most of the new catalogues are beginning to make use of computers. Unfortunately this will allow faster changes, not more accurate information, but mistakes can be corrected better. Eventually it will likely reduce the setting-up costs. Lyman's catalogue will certainly make use of this idea.

* * * * *

Some years ago a large number of forged stamps from various countries appeared on the market. Investigations led to Ecuador's Mr. Raul Ch. deThuin. Members of an American Philatelic Society contacted this man. He was in need of money and the entire stock of plates, forged stamps etc. were sold to two negotiators of the society with the written promises that he would no further engage in manufacturing forged stamps. That was in 1966. Unfortunately it appears now that this man is back in business trying to sell some of the material which he did not sell at that time. We do not know if any Canadian stamps were forged by him but it is intended that a detailed book will be prepared in the U.S.A. dealing with all the forged stamps which deThuin manufactured.

* * * * *

The donation of stamp collections to museums should be discouraged. We are not talking about specialized collections such as a forgery collection for references but of the general type of collection. Donating such collections to a museum means depriving future collectors of stamps and artificially increasing the scarcity of them. These collections will never see the stamp market again and not even a fraction of a percent of collectors will ever get to see them. Thanks to such famous collectors as Steinway, Ferrari, Caspary, Lichten-

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	No. 2004 BR. EMPIRE De Luxe, Best, *on paper*	$12.00	$22.00	$40.00
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* * * * *

You may remember the 7c. airmail stamp which was found in Vancouver some years ago imperforated. Not knowing how to separate the sheet for sale, the postmaster perforated the sheet by a sewing machine. Although the philatelic press is full of finds of imperforated coils, a few of these coils have been found cut apart and used as singles. As the margins are wide and the break-off coil rolls show the peculiar indentations from the roulette the singles are not difficult to detect. So, keep your eyes open.

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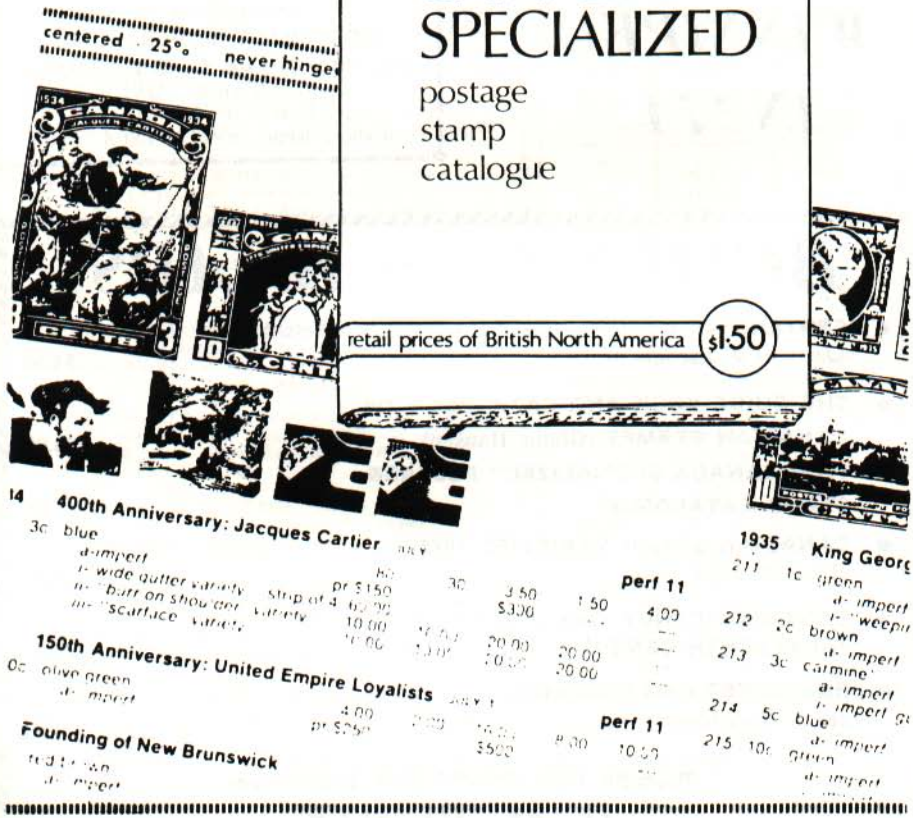


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WHAT'S NEW IN OLD CANADA

BY FRED STULBERG

A REGULAR FEATURE



—*Philatelic Photographics, Toronto*

IMPERIAL PENNY POSTAGE PECULIARITY

When one reads the list of those people who held the position of Postmaster General of Canada during the last century, one name stands out above all others. Indeed, to all but the most avid students of postal history, the only familiar name is William Mulock (1896-1905).

Without doubt, most collectors of Canadian stamps associate Mulock with the Map Stamp issue of 1898. Although this stamp was the first multi-coloured Canadian stamp and also the world's first Xmas stamp, the reason that this stamp was issued, rather than the stamp itself, is the basis of William Mulock's postal immortality.

In 1898 an Imperial Postal Conference was held in London, England with the idea of adopting a uniform postal rate for letters mailed from one British Empire country to another. Mainly through the efforts of the Hon. (afterwards Sir) William Mulock most, but not all, of the countries involved agreed that letters weighing ½ oz. or less could be mailed from one to another for one penny (two cents). Imperial Penny Postage, as it became known, became effective on Christmas Day, 1898 and the Canadian Post Office prepared the 2c. Map Stamp (the design supposedly was inspired by Mulock himself) to mark the occasion.

Apparently the Post Office department was unable to maintain a consistency in its postal rates for, although one could send a letter from Toronto to London, England for 2c., the same letter from Toronto to London, Ontario (or any other town in Canada for that matter) would require 3c. postage. This situation was remedied seven days later (on New Year's Day, 1899) at which time the domestic letter rate was lowered to 2c.

The cover above was mailed at Toronto on December 29th, 1898 (confirmed by the backstamp) addressed to Waterdown, Ontario (approximately 75 miles distant). It shows not only the use of the Map Stamp but also has the additional 1c. postage required until January 1, 1899 for letters mailed from one town to another in Canada.

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Contact your nearest CP Air office for additional information and reservations.

The London Letter

BY ROBSON LOWE

A REGULAR FEATURE

Expert Opinions v The Trades Description Act

To the best of our knowledge, all but two of the members of expert committees in the United Kindgom, whether they be professionals or amateurs, express their opinions on a voluntary basis. Most of these philatelists have considerable expertise in more subjects, but few, if any, are general practitioners.

Whether they are amateurs or professionals they are invariably very busy in their own occupation and their voluntary work is done with the sincere wish to provide a real service to philately.

It is the cost of the staff that do the administrative work that has raised the fees for these voluntary opinions so that it now can be less expensive to get a first-class medical opinion than to get an opinion on a stamp.

It is common knowledge that if the patient suffers damage to his health through a mistaken medical opinion, then the patient has good grounds for compensation.

When philatelic expert committees issue a certificate, the printed conditions make it obvious that the committee accepts no liability for their opinion.

Compared with fifty years ago, expert committees to-day have considerable advantages. They have many more text books dealing with most philatelic subjects. There are many pieces of equipment which have made the detection of cleaning and repairs more certain. In our opinion the disadvantages greatly outweigh the advantages. The modern expert does not have the same amount of time to give to a problem. He suffers the handicap of **having** to be a specialist, as there are four times as many different stamps to know as there were known to the G.P. of 1922, and over twelve times as many collectors. So it does not take much arithmetic ability to appreciate that something like fifty times as many problem children are produced in 1973 as there were in 1923, with less time and no more experts to provide the answers.

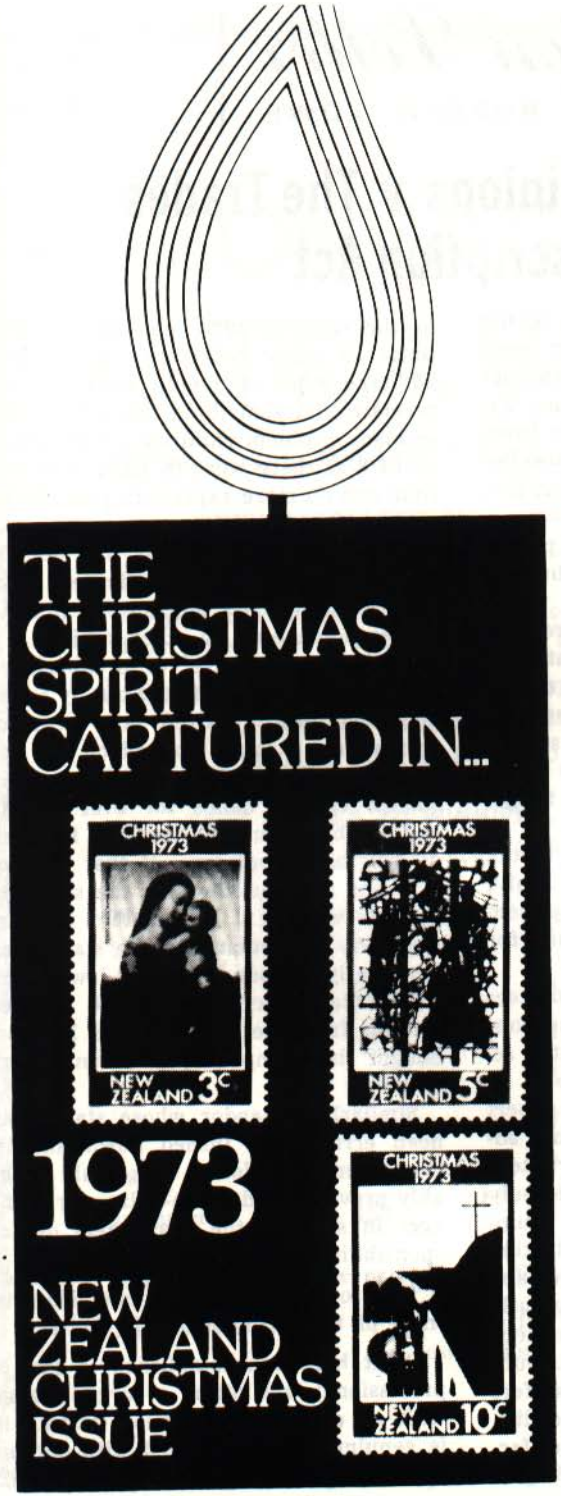
The unpalatable truth is that outside their own particular and limited field, the expert just has not got the time to do his home-work on other subjects.

British experts have yet to experience the result of legal action taken by someone who has received an incorrect opinion on a stamp for which he has paid a substantial fee. Now many stamps change hands for over £1,000, and the buyer may be involved in a fee of £50 for an opinion. If that opinion is wrong and certifies that the stamp is genuine when it is forged. then at least the party who submitted the stamp has apparently a sound claim-in-law under the Trades Description Act to recover his loss from the expert should he have bought the stamp subject to an expert opinion.

Similarly, a vendor whose stamp has been erroneously turned down and in consequence has lost a sale, could probably prove a good claim-in-law for damages in spite of the disclaimers of responsibility on the certificate.

The sooner test cases establish the truth of these comments, the better.

What **has** been established is that a professional who offers a forged stamp with an erroneous certificate stating it is genuine, can be charged with obtaining money under false pretences as well



The symbolic and graphic design for this handsome set was by Allan Mitchell, Wellington.

The stamps in this three stamp issue are:-

3c-"Tempi Madonna by Raphael.

5c-Stained glass window from St Theresa's Roman Catholic Church, Auckland.

10c-Symbolic illustration depicting a family about to enter a church.

Printed Photogravure by Joh Enschede en Zonen, Holland, these stamps measure 25.3mm × 41.6mm.

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as a misdemeanour under the Trades Description Act. The professional's duty is to know what he is selling and he should verify for himself the opinion given on any certificate for stamps that he is offering for sale. On the other side, if the professional has to offer a genuine stamp with an erroneous certificate that it is forged, he should so endorse that certificate and write his own guarantee.

Philatelists need a GUARANTEE with the financial backing that if the guarantee is proved wrong that the guarantor will meet the loss.

If such a system was introduced, opinions would be fewer in number and more expensive.

Churning out masses of certificates which, in the long run, can have little significance, is not good for the hobby, and it would be a good thing if standards were raised. Certificates should only be issued where there is substantial evidence to prove the validity of the opinion.

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PRICE LIST of mostly 20th century Canadian stamps. Send 8c. stamp. Mint, used, special offers. #133 fine used $12.50. Robert Eatock, 23 Compton, Hamilton, Ontario.

WANTED CANADA: All issues, except recent, of Canada, Newfoundland and provinces, including full sheets, rarities. Send description of stamps for sale and price wanted. Knox Philatelic Service, P.O. Box 1247, Sation "B", Ottawa. K1P 5R3.

CANADIAN VARIETIES and ERRORS available from my extensive collection, list on request, Robert A. Lee, P.O. Box 91175 West Vancouver, B.C.

SEND 100 large size Canada Commemoratives - receive 100 large size Foreign. Ed. Peterson, 1265 N. Harvard, Los Angeles, Calif. 90029.

FINE CANADA: MINT and used from my illustrated, 28 page 1973 price list. Only 25c. sent 1st class. It's incomparable. Prompt, personalized service. Norm Raffaele, Box 237, Grimsby, Ontario, Canada. (CSDA)

IRELAND and BRITISH COMMONWEALTH on approval. Catering only to serious collectors. Ireland specialist. All but extremely elusive Irish items available, including FDCs back to 1937. 'Specials" list available for SSAE or with approvals. J. Smallman, R5, Bowmanville, Ont.

B.N.A. REVENUES - 25 different $1., 100 different cataloging over $20.00 only $9.95. Approvals available, wantlists invited. Free pricelist on request. E. van Dam, Box 151, Peterborough, Ontario, Canada K9J 6Y8.

B.N.A. REVENUES AND TOBACCOS WANTED. Collections, accumulations, dealer stocks and better singles. E. van Dam, Box 151, Peterborough, Ontario, Canada K9J 6Y8.

WANTED: 19th and early 20th century Barbados covers and cards; also 19th century covers and cards of Ottawa (Bytown) and Suburbs. Colin H. Bayley, 425 Hinton Ave., Ottawa, Ont., K1Y 1B2.

OLD COVERS and POST CARDS mailed from Leamington, Ruthven, Mersea or neighboring Post Offices for Historical Collection for Leamington's Centennial. Eugene Barna, 203 Seacliff Dr. W. Leamington, Ont.

STAMPLESS COVERS: Serious collector making study of Canadian Stampless Covers with **Postmarks.** Will trade two U.S. Stampless Covers for one Canadian Cover. Gordon S. Veith. P.O. Box 51011, New Orleans, LA. 70150.

CORRESPOND
Would like to correspond and exchange with people interested in the Centennial Definitives. G. Walen, Box 691, Eston, Sask., S0L 1A0.

TWO NEW HARDBACK BOOKS FOR PICTURE POSTCARD COLLECTORS: Picture Postcards of the Golden Age, $8.25; Pictures in the Post, $12.95. Profusely illustrated. Deltiology, Suite D. Folsom, PA 19033.

CANADIAN Semi-Official Airmail Commercial Airways wanted Proofs & Colour Trials also Used on Cover not First Flight between May 31 1929 and Dec. 6 1930. M. Heifetz 15 St. Clair W. Toronto.

PRIVATE TREATY SALE of PRE-1930 Canada is loaded with rare items . . . including multiples. Also Canadian Bargain Lists. Postage appreciated. L & C Stamps, Box 344C, Shrewsbury, Massachusetts. 01545

ICE HOCKEY: Want cacheted covers, cancellations, picture postcards, advertising covers, autographed covers, etc., relating to hockey. Am especially interested in philatelic material relating to Canadian participation in world championships. Please send description and price to: Ralph Mitchener, 1253 Sherman Drive, Ottawa, Ontario, K2C 2M7.

FOR SALE: 12 U.S. Mint #230 - 241, 274 U.S. Mint Plate Blocks, 130 Blocks of Four, 60 Zip Code Blocks, starting #1096 through 1970. John A. Ross, P.O. Box 61, Abercorn, J0E 1B0 Quebec

VERY FINE Canadian mint collection, including most early 19th century, 6 000. M. Smith, 5307 Yonge St., Willowdale, Tel. 223-6700.

MINT or USED stamps of any part of British Commonwealth on approval. Want lists filled. WOODSIDE, P.O. Box 837, Brockville, Ontario.

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Coming Events

NOVEMBER 9 - 10 — 41st Hamilton-Buffalo Re-union Stamp Exhibition in the Y.M.C.A. Auditorium, 79 James Street South, Hamilton, Ontario. Auction - Friday, Nov. 9 at 8:00 p.m. Exhibition and Bourse - Saturday, Nov. 10 from 10.00 a.m. to 5.00 p.m. Dinner - 7.00 p.m.

NOVEMBER 14 to 23. INTERNATIONAL EXHIBITION, New Delhi, India. Canadian Commissioner: J. N. Sissons, Suite 27, King Edward Hotel, 37 King St. E., Toronto.

DECEMBER 19 to 30 — JERUSALEM '73 INTERNATIONAL EXHIBITION. Canadian Commissioner: A. Ben David, 7 Old Park Road, Toronto 347, Ontario.

1974 - March 30 & 31 - ANNUAL EXHIBITION OF THE NORTH TORONTO STAMP CLUB at North Toronto Memorial Gardens, Toronto.

1974. MAY 2 - 4 — Winnipeg's Centennial Stamp Exhibition and the 46th Annual Convention of the Royal Philatelic Society of Canada. Chairman, George Warnock, Box 1425, Winnipeg R3C 2Z1, Manitoba.

MAY 10 to 12, 1974 — Lakeshore Stamp Club Eleventh Annual Exhibition & Bourse at the Fairview Shopping Centre Auditorium, Pointe Claire, P.Q. (Montreal area) Exit 33, Trans-Canada Highway. Exhibition Chairman - Jack Westwater, P.O. Box 1, Pointe-Claire-Dorval, P.Q.

1974 - MAY 30, JUNE 1-2 — 2nd Annual STAMPEX, TORONTO '74, Four Seasons Sheraton Hotel, Toronto. Information from Toronto '74, 157 Clifton Avenue, Downsview, Ontario M3H 4L6

1974. JUNE 7 to 16. INTERNATIONAL EXHIBITION, Basle, Switzerland. Canadian Commissioner: J. N. Sissons, Suite 27, King Edward Hotel, 37 King St. E., Toronto.

1974. SEPTEMBER 21 to 29 — STOCKHOLMIA '74, INTERNATIONAL EXHIBITION. Canadian Commissioner: J. N. Sissons, Suite 27, King Edward Hotel, 37 King Street East, Toronto 1, Ontario.

1974 - October 26 to November 3. FIAF EXHIBITION, Mexico City, Canadian Commissioner: Mr. George S. Wegg, 37 Victoria Street, Toronto, Ontario.

1976 PHILADELPHIA INTERNATIONAL EXHIBITION — MAY 28 - JUNE 6. Secretary - A. H. Kessler
1528 Simpson Ave.,
Ocean City,
New Jersey, 08226
U. S. A.

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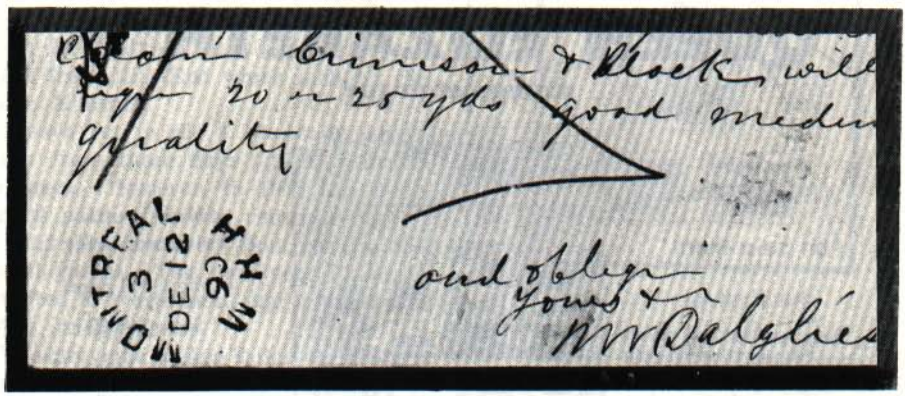
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MORE MONTREAL AREA POST OFFICES — TO 1910

A SPECIAL FEATURE

By MAX ROSENTHAL



Western Receiving House — Montreal

First efforts are likely to have things missing, erroneous facts included. "Montreal Branch and Sub-Post Offices to 1910" (Canadian Philatelist, July 1972) is no exception. Here is new information gathered since its writing:

Bleury Street. It closed in 1909, not 1910.

Boulevard St. Denis. The first of the two post offices with this name opened at the beginning of 1896, not 1895.

City Councillor Street, 1898. A. Dumont, a grocer, was postmaster at 941 St. Catherine St. W., at the corner of the street for which it was named.

Commissioners Street, 1901-1906, located a little southeast of Place Royale.

McGill Street. This sub-post office was open only for a few months in 1901.

Notre Dame Street West. It closed in 1905.

Ontario Street Centre. It opened in 1900, not 1896.

Prince Arthur Street. This branch post office opened in 1895 as St. Lawrence Street, changing the next year to Prince Arthur Street. The latter year, 1896, St. Lawrence Street, Centre was established at a completely different location from the St. Lawrence Street one, in fact, the one given in the previous article.

St. Catherine Street Centre. It closed in 1909, not 1906.

St. Catherine Street East. This establishment was first open from 1900 to 1904. It reopened in 1907, kept by a barber, Josephat Lavoie, at 1360 St. Catherine Street East.

St. Denis Street. It existed from 1896 to 1905, reopening in 1907.

Victoria Avenue. It closed in 1908. Although a sub-post office of Montreal it was actually located in the Town of Westmount.

Visitation Street. This closed in 1909, not 1908.

Station D. This Montreal postal station replaced both Point St. Charles and St. Gabriel de Montreal in 1910. It was actually situated in the same block as the latter branch had been.

NOMINAL INDEPENDENTS

Because they were independently incorporated municipalities, Hochelaga, Mile End and Westmount were not listed

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The definitive issues of GREAT BRITAIN have been greatly improved by separating the sideways and inverted watermarks from the basic sets, and illustrating the various positions of the watermarks. The booklet panes have also been extracted from the basic listings.

AUSTRALIA has been revised and several sets have been transferred to the special issues from the definitive section.

The Canadian Centennial Definitive section was completely re-written for the 1973 Edition. This year many prices have been revised upward and the error 6c black (Die II) printed on the gummed side has been listed and priced.

All new issues have been listed and many of this year's Christmas stamps are included. This catalogue is the most up-to-date reference book of its kind.

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as branches of the Montreal postal system, and their normal postmarks only show QUE. at the bottom of the circle, yet in actuality they were run as branches of Montreal.

There was a receiving mark, stamped on the backs of mail, which does identify Hochelaga as a branch of Montreal (fig. 1).

On Edwardian stamps appears a postmark from Mile End which includes the name Montreal.

I have yet to see a Westmount postmark from those days which mentions Montreal. However, in 1915 the Westmount post office was renamed Station L, and listed under Montreal in the postal guides. The next year its name reverted to Westmount, and it was again listed independently.

The previous article failed to mention that Côte St. Antoine, opened in 1876, changed in 1895 to Westmount. The Westmount post office was at the northwest corner of St. Catherine Street West and Greene Avenue, not the address given there.



(Fig. 1) (Fig. 2)

LETTER CARRIERS DEPOTS

From the 1870's on one sometimes sees postmarks from the Montreal letter carriers' depots, called Receiving Houses: the Eastern Receiving House, 504 St. Lawrence Boulevard, the Central Receiving House, at the main post office. At first initials were used on the markings, such as E R H (fig. 2). In the 1890's one gets Notre Dame St. W. LCD and St. Cath. St. W. LCD, illustrated in the previous article. The latter was a letter carriers branch located at 532 St. Catherine Street West. In the 1900's the Eastern Receiving House was at 226 Amherst Street.

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THE MAILBAG

Dear Sir:

After a six month tour in Viet Nam I am now back in Ottawa. Any one who had written to me on Canadian air mail items, including aerogrammes, crash covers, and military cancellations, and who did not receive an answer, are requested to write again. Most of my mail was sent on to Viet Nam but some letters did go astray, for a considerable amount of CFPO 4005 mail ended up first in CFPO 5000 (in Europe). Any one with questions concerning the MCCD/ICCS postal system are invited to write to me at the following address: Major R. K. Malott, 16 Harwick Crescent, Ottawa K2H 6R1, Ontario, Canada.

I have two corrections to my story in the Canadian Philatelist Volume 24, No. 4, page 187 July 1973 issue re Postal Facilities in Viet Nam. In reference to the number of personnel served by the two hard-working Postal personnel there was an approximate total of 290—i.e. 250 Canadian military personnel and 40 Canadian Department of External Affairs personnel. There was one special type of air letter form prepared for the Indonesian contingent to the ICCS. The Indonesian contingent of approximately 290 personnel also received a green aerogramme for use by themselves and their dependents at the rate of 4 per month for each member. It appears that the members of GARUDA IV (the name for the Indonesian contingent) used more than this amount. Just as the Canadian delegation was preparing to leave the Indonesian and Polish delegations were commencing to use special stationery with applicable designations in their applicable language.

May the liaison members of the various Chapters of the RPSC note that the position of Chapter Coordinator has been taken over by Michael Millar, 192 Shanty Bay Road, Barrie, Ontario, L4M 1E6. All reports for slide programmes, lecture data, society medals, and chapter activities must be directed to Mike. Any requests sent to me will be forwarded to Mike but the sender will have a longer wait for a reply. I have enjoyed working for the RPSC in this capacity and of meeting, by correspondence, so many RPSC members. I am now assisting the RPSC in the position of Convention Coordinator for RPSC Conventions. Clubs interested in hosting a national convention after 1978 are requested to submit their requests to me.

Yours philatelically,
R. K. Malott, Major
RPSC #5358

Dear Sir:

As a serious philatelist of some 70 years I feel I must express my utter disgust and dismay at your feature article "The Gray Creek Bisects", (Volume 24, No. 5). What is the usefulness of the article and what is the writer trying to achieve or to convey?

I lived near Gray Creek for many years around 1927 and was a close friend of the then postmaster and his wife, who still lives there. He was a very able postmaster and held the office for some 40 years until politics intervened and brought about a change.

We often discussed philatelic crackpots—there were many who sent bisects at random to themselves and friends as well as franking letters with postal note script. Strictly speaking they should have been prosecuted under infringement of postal regulations, but authorities shut their eyes, since I believe for many years the Kootenays held the

highest insanity rate per capita in Canada.

I must by now be one of the senior members of the Society, but I am still unwilling to be bludgeoned into the modern trend and ways of philately, its methods of promotion and advertising.

Captain W. L. Holmes, R.P.S.C. 3990
Vancouver, B.C.

ED. NOTE: An editor's duty is to disseminate not only academic knowledge but also to make his readers aware of potential hazards. If editors of yesteryear had publicized the "dirty linen" of their time, perhaps many questionable items would not be fetching high prices today as philatelic desirables.

* * * *

Dear Sir:

On the last few tagged items that have come in the mail, I find the cancellations can be erased with an ordinary pencil eraser. Also, (either from the stamp or the eraser) the grease seems to be on the stamp so that the cancel will earse from the stamp itself. This seems to bear out that the migration is continuing on the last couple commemoratives. This is also interesting, after these stamps are soaked off (typically the way a collector does this) the cancel **cannot** be erased off. It therefore appears that after regular soaking in warm water, the tagging material is either stabilized or is removed.

Thought the readers would be interested, although many no doubt have discovered this.

Hope all goes well with CP - sure is a big job!

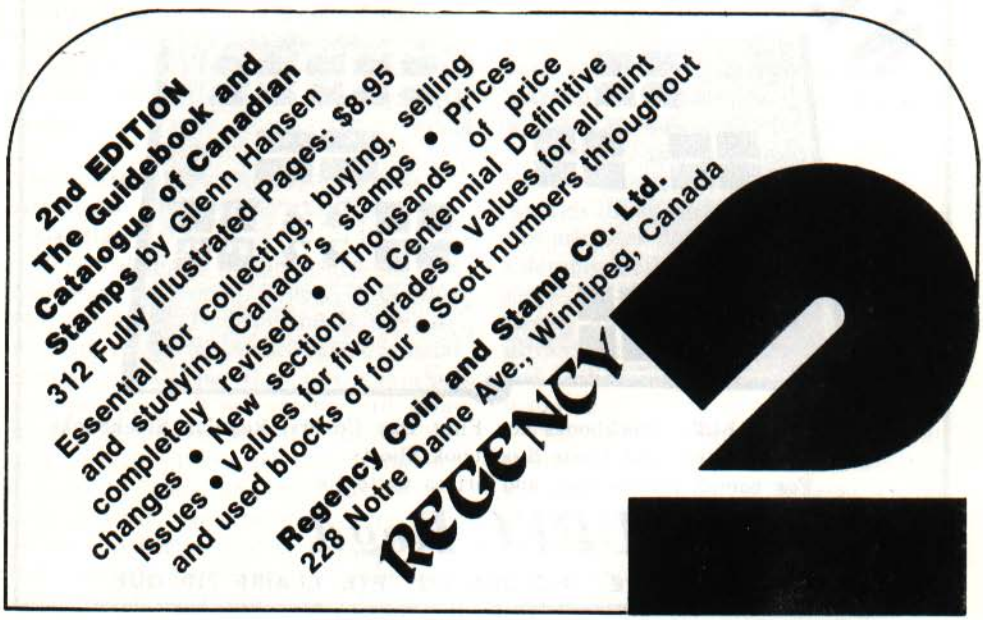
Sinceley,
Richard P. Hedley
Fredonia, N.Y.

Dear Sir:

Re: Peter Anderson,
Fort McMurray, Alberta, T0A 1K0

We have been advised by our office in Switzerland that the subject-noted individual offers stamps at extremely low prices. We have recived a complaint that stamps have not been delivered although the money has been paid. The enquirer checked with the Philatelic Warning Service in Hamburg, Germany, and was advised that Mr. Hans-Peter-Bostrup Andersen is known to them through a variety of addresses.

We have been requested to advise you



of this information. Further information can be obtained by writing to:

Mr. E. A. Mallory,
Assistant Commercial Secretary,
Canadian Embassy,
Kirchenfeldstrasse 88,
3000 Berne, Switzerland.

Yours very truly,
W. Mackenzie Hall
Regional Manager,
Department of Industry, Trade and Commerce.
Edmonton, Alberta.

Dear Sir:

I write to you after reading both Mr. Hogen's and Mr. Davidge's letters in the last two issues of The Canadian Philatelist. I agree with these members' opinions about the lack of artistic element in current stamp design, but I don't think it is so bad as to label it 'trash!' There is room for improvement, both in Canadian design and in many foreign issues, including my own country's philatelic efforts coming out of Washington. By the way, I quit collecting U.S. a year ago.

Finally, I wish you all the best in your term as editor of The Canadian Philatelist.

Michael T. Brolly (RPSC 9665)
New York, N.Y.

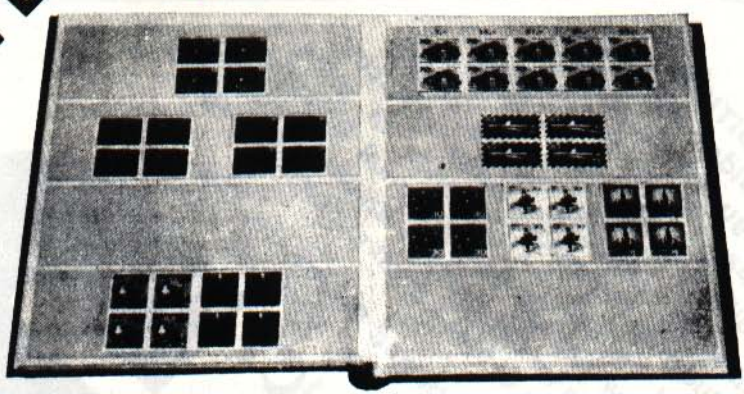
ED. NOTE: For the views of another American concerning Canadian Philately, see page 295.

Dear Sir:

I wish to inform you that I will be participating in INDIPEX '73 which is an International meet here (in India) for the first time. I shall be extremely happy to contact any of your members who would be attending and shall be only too delighted to play host for them during their visit to India for INDIPEX '73.

Yours sincerely,
S. P. Luiz, R.P.S.C. #10197
Kalamassery P.O.
Alwaya - 4, S. India.

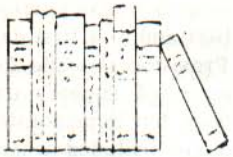
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THE BOOKSHELF



—Philatelic Photographics, Toronto

This year the collector of Canadian stamps has more publications at his disposal than ever before. Besides the regular listings of Scotts, Gibbons and Harris, he has four others that are geared especially to the specialist Canadian collector. The concept of each of these is similar. Thus, the reviews of them will be comparative. They will be dealt with in the order received for review.

* * * *

THE CANADIAN BRITISH NORTH AMERICA STAMP CATALOGUE —Gandley

This catalogue is published by the Canadian Wholesale Supply, P.O. Box 841, Brantford, Ontario and is compatible with the "Parliament" series of catalogues and albums that this publisher also produces. The contents are completely illustrated and the listings are easy to read. There are two numbering systems — Scotts, and one based on the year of issue. Improvement, especially in the numbering system is noted over the previous issue. Prices, especially those pertaining to the better items, do not reflect the market as sensitively as some of the other catalogues do.

The strength of this catalogue comes from its simplicity in both listing and appearance as well as its price. It is available @ 95c. from the publisher and some stamp dealers.

* * * *

THE GUIDEBOOK & CATALOGUE OF CANADIAN STAMPS — 2nd Edition by Glen Hansen

Actually, this publication does not belong with the others. Although it contains the illustrations, the listings and the prices as do the others, it goes considerably beyond this and gives much more collateral information about the issues, hints on collecting, use of the ultra-violet light, some Canadian history and other valuable and informative material.

This book contains 320 pages and although few dealers will use it as their standard for pricing, it deserves a place on the bookshelf of every Canadian collector for the wealth of general specialized information it contains. It is a more than adequate replacement for the

now dead Holmes Specialized Catalogue and should rightfully be regarded in this light.

Price is $8.95 and can be obtained through most dealers or from Regency Publishing Company, Lindsay Building, Winnipeg, Manitoba.

* * * *

LYMAN'S BRITISH NORTH AMERICA POSTAGE STAMP RETAIL CATALOGUE

This is the 22nd edition of what has turned out to be the pricing standard of most Canadian dealers. This year has seen not only major price changes that, for the most part, reflect the average retail market but also change in type, format and general appearance - all for the better. The type and illustrations are clear and much easier to read. Personally, I feel that the blue colour is attractive and adds to the overall appearance. The "new look" will no doubt go a long way towards maintaining "Lyman's" position with collectors and dealers.

It is available from most dealers @ $1.25 or from Robert W. Lyman (Canada) Company, Box 23, Station D. Toronto, Canada.

* * * *

THE CANADA SPECIALIZED POSTAGE STAMP CATALOGUE
Philatelic Publishers Company.

This is the initial issue of what is intended to be an annual publication and, as such, demands a more comprehensive review. The pocket size, 96 page book contains an amazing amount of information for its size. Not only does it illustrate and list all the stamps of Canada and the Provinces, it pictures the significant varieties of most of the 20th century issues. In addition, it lists and prices these, and the earlier ones as well. It is, without doubt, the most comprehensive listing of B.N.A. material available today.

The pricing of stamps seems to reflect the market better than most of the catalogues and is stated, for the most part for singles (mint and used), blocks of 4 (mint and used) and the stamp used singly on cover to 1931 and as a first day cover thereafter. Provision is made for determining the price of superb, unhinged copies. Prices for imperforates and part perforates are included where applicable.

The general overall appearance is good and it is easy to read. The format allows it to be used as a checklist and the smaller size could well prove to be a convenience for many.

For years all new catalogues have been compared with "Lyman's" and have, for some reason or other, not been able to challenge its general acceptance. It is more than possible that this one may do it.

It is available from most dealers @ $1.50 or direct from the Philatelic Publishers Company, Box 714, Station Q, Toronto Canada. M4T 2N8.

* * * *

OFFICIAL CATALOG OF CANADA PRECANCELS (ninth edition)
Edited by H. G. Walburn

This publication, for a long time considered to be the authority on the precancelled stamps of Canada, still holds its exalted position with this ninth edition. The general format remains the same and the major changes are in the prices. Most of the common items remain unchanged (or merely reflect the normal inflationary appreciation). However, almost all Victorian issues are significantly higher as are the more elusive modern precancels.

This 56 page, soft cover (this time blue) book is a must for all collectors of Canadian pre-cancels and is available from most dealers or from the editor H. G. Walburn, Box 70, Okanagan Centre, B.C. Canada @ $2.00.

* * * *

UNITED STATES STAMPS, UNITED NATIONS, CANADA AND PROVINCES
H. E. Harris & Co.

Activity continues at unprecedented levels in the extremely volatile US/BNA market, and H. E. Harris & Co., Inc., the World's Largest Stamp Firm, have kept pace with more than 2500 price changes

in the new 1973-74 edition of their authoritative US/BNA Catalog. This comprehensive 216-page work is now available at stamp dealers coast-to-coast, or direct and postpaid (in the U.S.) from the publishers. Cost is $1.00.

* * * *

SCOTT STANDARD POSTAL STAMP CATALOGUE - VOL. I.
Scott Publishing Company.

Again the new Vol. I is a bit thicker than its predecessor, with 621 pages of listings as compared with 602 in the 1973 edition, and there are 13,913 new prices for the stamps of the U.S. and affiliated territories, the United Nations and British Commonwealth postal administrations, past and present.

Once more, the bulk of the new prices are higher values inspired by the continuing active demand in this country and overseas for consequential philatelic material.

In the U.S. listings there are 2,645 price changes and these new (and higher) quotations are found in the listings of recent issues as well as for the perennially popular 19th century classics and older commemoratives.

The more than 600 price changes in the U.S., affiliated territories listings include 220 in Danish West Indies, 111 in the Philippines, 69 in Hawaii, 67 in Cuba, 58 in Canal Zone, 41 in Puerto Rico and 30 in Guam — where only 15 major and minor varieties are catalogued.

The British Commonwealth section occupies more than 500 pages in the new Vol. I and there are 10,672 price changes in the listings.

Canada has 1,018 price changes, all advances and affecting 20th as well as 19th century issues. No. 4 moves to $250 unused and $55 used and No. 13 to $35 mint and $7.50 used. Commemorative Nos. 382 through 400 advance to 25c. each and 5c. used. There are comparable increases in the 19th century issues of the provinces and 204 new prices in Newfoundland, which seems to be retaining its popularity with collectors although its existence as a stamp-issuing entity ended in 1949.

Only Ajman, Bangkok, Batum, Bushire, East Africa and Uganda Protectorate, Fujeira and about a score of similar stamp-issuing entities show no price changes in the new Vol. I which, like other volumes of the 1974 **Scott Catalogue** is priced at $9.

Vol. II, listing "A through I" countries of the world, appeared in September and Vol. III is scheduled for publication in November.

* * * *

STANLEY GIBBONS BRITISH COMMONWEALTH STAMP CATALOGUE. 1974 Edition
Stanley Gibbons Publications Ltd.

Part One of this famous British Commonwealth Catalogue has 806 pages, 41 of which are devoted to new issues. It has put into effect a host of general improvements in the listings, revising whole sections of numerous countries and, perhaps the most important, recording the innumerable price changes which

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have resulted from the exceptional demand for most British Commonwealth stamps in recent months. There are many more alterations in this edition than can be remembered for some years, and steady increases are being well-maintained in the most popular countries—Great Britain (of course!), Canada, Falkland Islands and the older issues of Rhodesia.

Among the countries which have been editorially improved and revised are Bechuanaland, Falkland Islands, Labuan, Newfoundland, New Guinea, New South Wales, New Zealand, North Borneo and Turks Islands. There is evidence of renewed interest in the long-dormant countries such as the Australian States, Heligoland, India and the Indian States. Pakistan, although no longer a member of the Commonwealth, is retained in the new edition for the convenience of collectors.

Copies are available from most dealers @ £3.00 or equivalent.

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THE FIRST PHILATELIST? - Bileski

This interesting booklet (32 pages plus soft cover) deals with story of Samuel Lord, Junior who appears to be an early philatelist, if not the first one. I will not go into the story of this English gentleman because this is more than adequately covered in this book. Illustrations are profuse and of excellent quality. In fact, the entire publication is tastefully done and well executed.

Copies are available from K. Bileski Ltd. Station B, Winnipeg, Manitoba @ $2.00 (add 25c. for cheques).

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