CANADIAN PHILATELIST



Journal of the
ROYAL PHILATELIC SOCIETY of CANADA

VOLUME 26 MAR.-APRIL, 1975 NUMBER 2

Winter Holiday???

March 1, 1975

Dear Friends:-

January was not the most pleasant month to take a trip out to Western Canada, however, stamps buying waits for no man.

My trip took me to Thunder Bay, where I met a Mr. Murrell who had a very fine collection of British Colonies. This was in 11 large albums, practically all mint complete sets, with a catalogue value in excess of $55,000.00. An offer was made, and Mr. Muller had a few days to consider the matter and I left on the same day for Winnipeg. There I met a friend of long standing, Mason Merrihew, who was a stamp dealer and also had a book store in Winnipeg for many years. Ill health has forced him to give up the stamps, and I spent two days there going through hundreds of stock books, albums, boxes, covers, etc. My offer was accepted, and it was then necessary for me to rent a car in order to get down to Eatons and buy a trunk, lock, tape, labels, pencils etc. I then had to go to the liquor store and pick up 32 cartons (empty) and use these for getting the lot ready to ship back to Toronto. This was sent by Express to the office, and I then proceeded on to Calgary.

This is where I had rather a frightening experience. I had $2,500.00 worth of stamps with me, and for safekeeping placed these in my shaving kit, which was then put into my suitcase. Previous to this I had been keeping these in my coat pocket, but with all the packing to be done in Winnipeg I thought this was a safer place. When I checked my baggage in at Winnipeg to go to Calgary, I forgot about the stamps and let the bag go through to the baggage department. When I arrived in Calgary and finally picked up the bag, lo and behold, it was the wrong bag. Someone else had walked off with my case, and unfortunately my case had not been locked. I didn't sleep very much that night, but the next morning I did get a call from the person who had picked up my bag in error. They brought it back to me at my hotel, and fortunately my stamps were safely inside the case, all $2,500.00.

In Calgary, I met Mr. Wyllie, a very fine gentleman who had been actively collecting stamps for 50 years. He had formulated a collection of Canada and British Colonies, which were just beautiful. These were all mounted on loose leaf pages in Favourite Albums, about 30 in all. He collected according to the Stanley Gibbons, and had his catalogue all marked up, which certainly facilitated the valuating problem. Again, I was able to make a generous offer which he accepted, and another 6 cartons of stamps were on the way to Empire. At this point I telephoned Mr. Murrell in Thunder Bay, and he accepted the offer that I had made a few days earlier, so I flew back there, picked up that collection and came home.

While in Calgary, I had the pleasure of meeting Mrs. Kathleen Lane, who is an enthusiastic collector of Canada and New Zealand. I purchased a fine lot of mint New Zealand complete mint sets from Mrs. Lane.

After all this, I am still anxious to buy and if you have anthing for sale, I am waiting for your letter or telephone call.

Philatelically yours,



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THE CANADIAN PHILATELIST

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THOUGHTS & THINGS ..... FROM THE EDITOR



—Philatelic Photographics, Toronto

ITS A MATTER OF TIME

Law enforcement, in defeating the criminal, must maintain inviolate the historic liberties of the individual.
—J. Edgar Hoover.

One day a few months ago, an auctioneer was preparing for a sale that was to take place later that day. The normally tense atmosphere that accompanies an imminent auction was intensified by the arrival of officials from Canada Post accompanied by the police. They asked that a certain lot be removed from the sale and then took possession of it. This lot consisted of plate proofs of the 5 cent and 6 cent values of the 1969 Christmas stamp.

This incident, which can in no way reflect on the integrity of the auctioneer, was extraordinary if not unprecedented. To the best of my knowledge never in Canada have proofs already on sale to collectors been claimed as property of the Crown.

The reason given for this unusual action was that, whereas printing irregularities such as imperforates, missing colours, inverted centres are found in post office stock and can reach the public through regular transactions, these proofs had never been available for public purchase. Thus their presence in the philatelic marketplace could only be the consequence of an illegal act. One must admit that this reasoning is difficult to refute.

Certainly many of us would like to feel that because philately gains dimension from occasional lapses in manufacturing, so should it also gain from occasional lapses in security. However, deep down we realize that if things continue to go from the back door of the post office to the front door of the stamp store, our hobby will eventually emerge as a loser. Even if we could ignore the impropriety, yes even illegality, the regular appearance of these

items would undermine the ethical integrity of the philatelic division of Canada Post — and of Canadian philately.

However, no matter how justified the seizure of this material may seem, there are implications that could have widespread repercussions.

Very few of the many proofs and essays (proposed designs) of Canadian stamps were ever officially sanctioned for sale. Could these now be regarded as "stolen property"? We all know that they have been traded without restriction for many years, but now that the legitimacy of private ownership has been challenged, the entire subject of seizure is open to question and suspicion. It seems as though something more is called for and time enters as a significant factor.

An official statement of policy as to what point in time proofs and essays can be considered legitimate collectables, free of the possibility of confiscation, would certainly give collectors and dealers the needed feeling of security. Also, we must recognize that this must be done **now** or the whole thing may be forgotten only to surface at a future date as a precedent for more extensive action.

R.P.S.C. TIES

A small quantity of Royal Philatelic Society of Canada ties are still available at the R.P.S.C. Headquarters, P.O. Box 4195, Station C, Ottawa, Canada, K1S 5B2. Price is $6.50 each and includes mailing.

INDEX TO VOLUME 25

Again we are indebted to Jacques J. Charron of Longueil, Quebec who has compiled the index to Volume 25 (issues of 1974) of the CANADIAN PHILATELIST which is included in this volume as an insert.

DEADLINE FOR COPY FOR NEXT ISSUE APRIL 1, 1975

HE WILL BE MISSED



—Philatelic Photographics, Toronto

On January 12, 1975 Walter Fergus Anderson passed away at his home in Ottawa. He was in his 62nd year.

It would certainly not be an exaggeration to say that most of the present members of this society had their membership processed by Walter during his years of service in the position of Secretary. Last year he was told that he would be required to undergo extensive surgery to correct a walking problem and, realizing that the convalescence would be a lengthy one, submitted his resignation which was accepted with reluctance at the Annual Meeting at Winnipeg. Following a successful operation and a good recovery, Walter was just starting to talk of becoming actively involved in the Royal again when he died quietly in his sleep.

Those of us who have had the priviledge of meeting him personally have gained from his warmth as a person and his efficiency as an administrator. Everyone of us has benefited from his association with the Royal Philatelic Society of Canada. He will be long remembered and missed.

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STILL MORE ABOUT WOMEN COLLECTORS

A woman has to do twice as well as a man to be considered half as good.
—Charlotte Whitton

When John Alden's commentary on "Women as Stamp Collectors" was published in the past issue of the CANADIAN PHILATELIST, the editorial office braced itself for a deluge of mail. The 'extensive' response turned out to be one single letter. It is hard to say whether this apathy is because women collectors still suffer from an inferiority complex, whether they do not care what men think or whether they do not read editorials.

However if the women of the "Royal" were to chose a single spokesperson, they could not have chosen one better than Sally Tunnicliff of Lachine, Quebec. Her comments follow.

A WOMAN SPEAKS OUT

by Sally S. Tunnicliff

I read with a great deal of amusement the guest editorial by John Alden entitled "Women as Stamp Collectors." I feel that he has very little understanding of men and women and I can't help but get the idea that he strongly feels that men are intellectually superior to women.

Isn't it a bit patronizing when he states that "the truth may well be that women are too sensible to give weight to such a foible?" John Alden certainly doesn't really believe that stamp collecting is a foible. for if he did, he simply would not be a philatelist.

He goes on to suggest that men disparage women because men are uncomfortable when women assume the "inappropriate" prerogative of becoming philatelists. Does John Alden feel uncomfortable amidst women philatelists? I haven't yet met a male philatelist whom I thought felt uncomfortable around me. Perhaps some of you male philatelists could write explaining how uncomfortable you feel around women philatelists and then we

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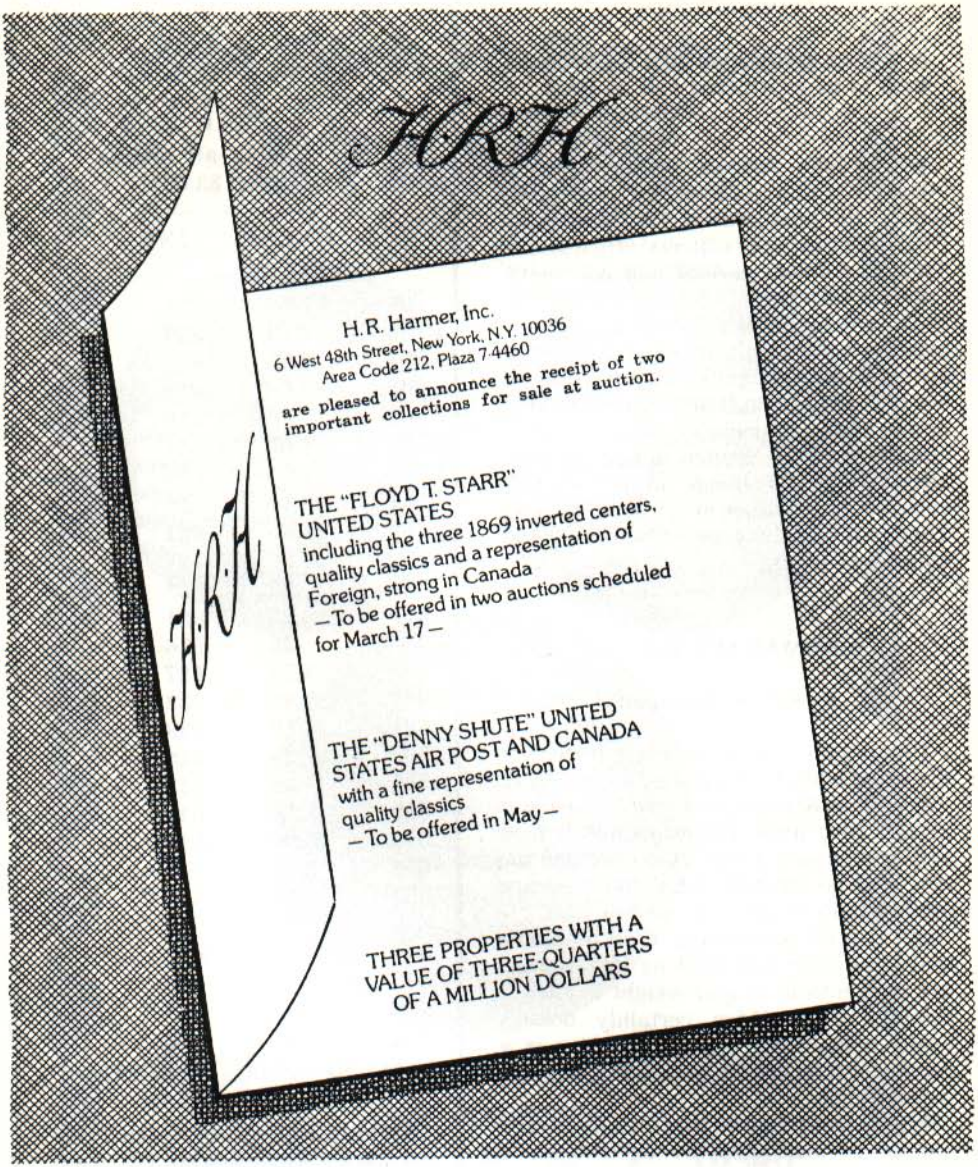
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could all be enlightened.

Next John Alden states that one should not prejudge women as philatelists, but "one can only wonder why they have been attracted to the hobby". Perhaps women are attracted to the hobby for the same reasons as men. After all, philatelly can provide endless hours of enjoyment and it has so many different facets, ie. scholarly research, investment, topical collecting, etc. that it naturally would appeal to people of wide interests and personality types.

There is one point on which I will agree with John Alden and that is that there are differences between men and women. It is here that the real explanation lies, I believe, for the preponderance of men in the hobby. Men have been told for years and years that their role was to earn a living. The money earned, of course, belonged to them and they decided how it would be spent. If the money was spent on stamps that was fine because they worked hard to earn it. Housework and child raising were women's activities.

On the other hand, women have been told that to be successful they must spend a great deal of time and money to make themselves beautiful. And, Heaven forbid, if the woman was intelligent she had to hide it because no man would want a woman who ever appeared as smart as he. After she "hooked" her man a woman was expected to keep a spotless home and raise numerous children. No wonder there are not more women collectors. They have spent the last 20 years making themselves beautiful, cleaning house and raising children. If, on the off chance, a woman was able to find the time to collect stamps she probably still would not avidly pursue the hobby because "her brains might show" or she would feel like she was spending too much of her husband's money.

But all this is changing. In the future I expect to see more women philatelists. Men and women will be sharing housework, child rearing, and wage earning roles. Women (or men) who choose to work at home raising their children will be legally and morally entitled to one half the family income. If women realize they earned this money they will feel less guilty about spending the money on stamps.

Intelligence and original thinking by women will be considered an asset rather than a liability. Women will gradually discover that philatelly is a very good hobby for a woman because it can be pursued on a parttime basis in one's own home. Membership of women in philatelic societies should increase as women become more aware of the advantages. This in turn will help more women to become advanced philatelists.

When husbands and wives discuss stamps in the future the topic will be hairlines on the admirals or RPO cancellations not why he spends so much time and money on "useless" little pieces of paper. And who knows? When a RPSC convention is held there may no longer be a special ladies' program which itself suggests that, of course, women wouldn't be interested in stamps. Instead this will be replaced by a special spouses program which will be designed to entertain husbands as well as wives who are not interested in stamps.

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Left to Right: G. Sinclair, Assist. D.P.M.G.; Carl Mangold; J. Kinsella, Director of Public Affairs; George Gunderson.

TWO STAMP DESIGNERS ARE HONOURED

Late last year, when the 1974 issue of the Canada U.P.U. stamps was launched, a significant philatelic happening occurred. At a brief ceremony at the National Postal Museum, for the first time in the history of the Canadian Post Office (Canada Post), two designers of related commemorative stamps of two different eras, were present and honoured. These two men were Carl Mangold and George Gunderson.

Carl Mangold was responsible for the designs of the 1957 U.P.U. stamps. Besides being a stamp designer, he is a member of the Stamp Advisory Committee, the National Postal Museum Advisory Committee and is a director of the Royal Philatelic Society of Canada.

George Gunderson is the art director for the British American Bank Note Co. Ltd., Ottawa and he designed the 1974 U.P.U. stamps. He has designed at least two other Canadian stamps — the David Thompson stamp and the Pierre Laporte stamp. The World Meteorological Stamp of the United Nations is also his work.

Both men know and admire each other. Mr. Mangold said of Mr. Gunderson "George is one of the last good engravers we have in Canada." Mr. Gunderson said "I like Carl's work."

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Thoughts On Topical Philately

A SPECIAL FEATURE

Betty Killingbeck

There has been much written about topical and thematic collections, a great deal of it uncomplimentary. In some circles a topical collector is barely considered a philatelist, and at that, a poor one. In open shows at the higher levels one sees few topical exhibits winning Gold or "Best in Show" awards.

Two questions then arise, "Is this attitude to the 'new' philately justified?", and secondly, "Are the traditionalists too conventional in the way they view and evaluate topical collections?"

Having attended shows at all levels and observed the collection and display habits of many people, one arrives at the conclusion that unfotunately, both questions must be answered in the affirmative.

There are three main features to a topical collection: choice of philatelic material, presentation and display, write up. It is the approach to each of these aspects that distinguishes the collectors from the philatelists.

How often are we asked to admire a collection cluttered up with drawings, art work, postcards, newsclippings and the like, wherein the stamps have become secondary to the extraneous non-philatelic material? It is easy to become so engrossed in the subject that we lose sight of the reason for the collection, the stamps themselves.

Then there are topical collections mounted in sets by countries. Their owners cannot be considered true topicalists because they are still bound by traditional ideas of political boundaries and completeness of sets, and are not developing a theme. A set of animals, not native to the country of issue and not all to be found in the same climatic regions, certainly does not belong on one page. It should be split up and arranged by genus, geographic habitat or other categories, possibly mixed with related stamps from other sets, and written up with intelligent scientific comments. This is true of many topics: insects, vintage cars, flowers, to name a few. When this kind of material is presented in sets as issued, the observer can only assume that the owner knows little about his topic and less about topical philately.

All too often it is difficult to tell the scope of a collection or understand the story being told. A general title such as "Art on Stamps", "History on Stamps", etc. tells very little, and implies too much. There are so many aspects, approaches and sub-sections to every subject. that the title must be more specific, especially if the display is to be exhibited. This problem is

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easily solved by a good title page defining the scope and sequential development of the material being shown.

Topical collectors must be more discriminating in their choice of materials if they wish to become recognized as philatelists. Here they have one advantage over the traditional collector inasmuch as completeness (of stamps) is not a must. However, the story must be complete and this is achieved by selecting those stamps which best tell the story and which are philatelically sound.

There is a multitude of material available on almost any subject, but not all of it is desirable. The discriminating philatelist should ask, "What is shown on the stamp and is it essential to the theme?" "Why was the stamp issued and was the issue justified?". The reason for issue has a great deal to do with the topic, (particularly in the case of commemoratives), and is often an essential part of the write-up.

A stamp showing a painting only has philatelic meaning if issued by the artist's native country, a country in which he lived and worked, or the country now in possession of the original. It would probably be issued to honour the artist or to publicize national treasures. Yet frequently we see "Art on Stamps" displays which contain poor reproductions of masterpieces issued by small countries who neither produced the artists or own the paintings, who often do not see the designs before issue and who do not sell enough copies in their own post offices for them to be considered as issued primarily for postal use.

Can one justify a set of American Indians being issued by a small European country, or a highly priced Olympic Games issue from a non-competing country? Stamps printed also in gold or silver do not tell any more than the normal stamp, but they do put money in someone's pocket. Do they actually get used on letters?

As in conventional collections, there are usually certain key items which are essential to the theme if one desires be known as a philatelist or to win prizes. No collection of Famous Women would be complete without the one penny black

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from Great Britain; even casual viewers with limited knowledge of the topic would expect to see it included. Another classic addition giving distinction to the collection would be the Empress Jingo issues of Japan. A good collection of ships could be expected to contain the 50c. Bluenose. In a collection of Mammals of North America a judge would look for a 3 penny Beaver or, at the very least, a 5c. Beaver.

The question of collecting mint or used is difficult for some to decide. Mint stamps pose problems with curling, gum cracks and discolorization, and have not been postally used of course. On the other hand, a stamp honoring Winston Churchill doesn't tell anything if the face has been obliterated by a heavy cancellation. When collecting used material, one should select only those copies which leave the essential part of the design clearly visible. As far as the writer is concerned, CTO's are neither mint or used, and detract rather than add to any collection. (They are ferequently undesirable stamps from unjustified issues too.) Scott does not list the majority of these and the ATA has blacklisted many of them. Many judges ignore or disqualify exhibits containing such material.

In selecting the designs to be included, one should aim for as many different pictures as possible. A set of five identical stamps shows the same detail five times, is repetitive and dull. Five different portraits of the same person adds interest and variety. It is possible to portray the life of Elizabeth II without using the same portrait twice.

However, there are occasions when the use of a set of stamps of identical design may be considered justified, or even necessary. When the subject has appeared in only one issue which contains only one common design, the inclusion of some or all of the stamps will make for a more pleasing well balanced page. One small stamp shown with a fair amount of write up does not make an attractive display as the write up tends to overpower the stamp.

The indiscriminate use of Maximum cards and FDC's is another pitfall to be avoided. These items may be used to solve the single stamp problem, but should be chosen with care. If simply used to fill up space, they add nothing to the topic and may possibly detract from the stamps because of their size and high degree of coloring. The piece must add something to the story. For example, St Isabel of Portugal's emblem was a crown of thorns. A maximum card with a crown of thorns cancellation adds something essential to the topic. A FCD cancellation at the place of birth of a notable person is also a suitable item, eg. Elizabeth I - cancelled at Greenwich.

The inclusion of flaws, varieties, artist's or die proofs should also be very carefully considered. While these may be important additions to a conventional collection by country, they are extraneous to a topical collection unless they add importantly to the topic. If they do not contribute to the story they merely indicate that the owner has a little more money to spend on his hobby than many people do.

The write up is perhaps the main areas where topical collectors do the most to lower their own prestige. All too often we

C-S D-A

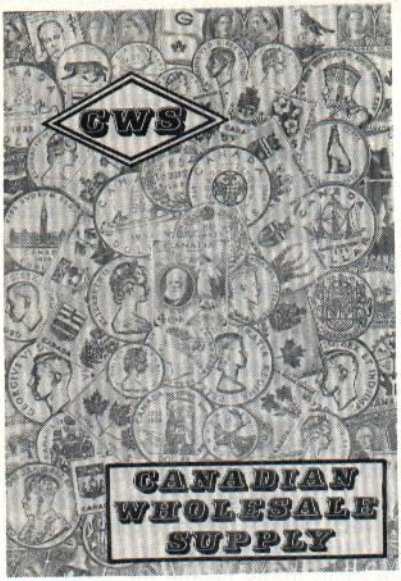
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see stories illustrated by stamps instead of told by stamps.

Obviously there must be sufficient topical comment to help the stamps tell the story and show that the writer is informed about his topic. However, the stamps are the most important features of the collection, the reason for its being. Therefore, some philatelic knowledge is also essential and must be included, and this poses the question of what kind of philatelic knowledge is necessary and suitable. Once again this decision should be governed by how relevant this information is to the topic itself. Information regarding watermarks and perforation adds nothing to the theme, so why include it? The type of gum or paper add little to the subject either. The method of printing may be interesting in that it accounts for the appearance of the finished product and may have some effect on the quality of colour reproduction of paintings and so on.

The date of issue is important, especially of commemoratives, and, as mentined earlier, the reason for issue. The source of the design is also related to the topic, eg: (engraved from a portrait by ..... in the ..... Gallery). The format of the issue can sometimes add interest and information. Some stamps are only issued in booklet form, with the cover devoted to the subject of the stamps. This is common practice in Sweden and Australia. GDR issued a souvenir sheet honoring a number of WW II heroes, which could only be purchased in its entirety, but the stamps were only valid for postage if used singly. With some regular issues and most semi-postals the use to which the revenue was put is relevant infomation. a very limited period of validity may also have some bearing on the topic, eg: state visits, expositions, etc.

Topical collecting can be fascinating, and the topical collector can be as much an expert as his friends specializing in one country collections provided he approaches it intelligently and above all, philatelically. We can all add to the prestige of topical collecting if we consider carefully the following points:—

a. Choose the designs that best tell the story and purchase the best copies obtainable.
b. Be discriminating in the issues selected, leave out any that are questionable.
c. Make the story as complete as possible, omitting decorative and non-philatelic material.
d. Split sets, mix sets, regroup by topic areas and aim for variety of design.
e. Balance topical and philatelic write-up. Balance amount of stamp filled area and write up on each page for pleasing effect.
f. Have a title page and ensure that it has really indicative objectives

To those criticizing and possibly judging topical collections I would suggest the following criteria:

a. Are the objectives positively stated?
b. Are the objectives reached, what is the degree of continuity and completeness? (ie: Is the story or story segment complete and developed logically as opposed to are all the stamps and their varieties present?)
c. Is knowledge of the topic demonstrated?
d. Is philatelic knowledge shown and is this demonstrated knowledge relevant to the topic?
e. The quality and condition of the material, neatness, general presentation should be of the same high standard expected in a good collection of any kind.

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WELL WHERE?
I HAVE IT ON GOOD WORD THEY'RE MOVING TO 1819 J.F. KENNEDY BLVD. IN THE PENN TOWERS OFFICE BLDG.
HEY, THAT'S GREAT, RIGHT NEXT TO THE PENN CENTRAL STATION
YEA, AND REAL CLOSE TO GOOD PARKING AND HOTELS. AND ONLY A BLOCK FROM THE AIRPORT LIMO.
I HEAR THEY ARE VERY FRIENDLY... YOU KNOW JUST LIKE THE CITY OF BROTHERLY LOVE.
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POST-SCRIPTS

A REGULAR FEATURE

BY MAX ROSENTHAL



—Philatelic Photographics, Toronto

From Bath To Kingston — 1835

THE FIRST POST OFFICES IN LENNOX AND ADDINGTON COUNTY - Part 1

BATH

"I was gratified by an article in your paper mentioning that the village at Myer's Creek is erected into a Town by the name of Belleville and has a Post Office established in it. Ernest Town is entitled to a similar establishment. That beautiful village was depressed by the occurrences of the war, but it appears to be emerging from its depression, and rising again in business and prospects. For the convenience of the immediate inhabitants, and the accomodation of the public at large it ought now to become a post town and a port of entry."

So wrote "Impartialis" in a letter published in the Kingston Gazette on October 12, 1816. The village of Ernest Town was later to become Bath, in Ernesttown Township, Lennox and Addington County, in lot 10, on the Bay of Quinte. The village dated back to the beginning of the settlement in the county in 1784 when the townships on the Bay received their first United Empire Loyalist settlers. From Kingston Township west the townships were numbered from one to five. Those in Lennox and Addington were Second Township which became Ernesttown; Third Township which became Fredericksburgh; and Fourth Township which became Adolphustown. Fredericksburgh was later to be divided into South and North.

Ernesttown was settled by the 2nd Battalion of Sir John Johnson's regiment - the King's York Royal Rangers. When the original road from Kingston to York was laid out, it followed the shore from Kingston to Bath continuing through to Young's Point, then known as Dorland Point. There a ferry carried traffic across to the Lake-on-the-Mountain in Prince

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Edward County. By 1816 Bath had made so much progress that Samuel Purdy established a stage line between it and Kingston. This proved to be so profitable that the following year he inaugurated a line between Kingston and York, leaving every Monday morning, and York every Thursday morning.

On July 8, 1817 the Kingston Gazette printed this letter from "Publius". "I was highly gratified by seeing it stated in one of your last papers that Ernest Town is proclaimed a port of entry and delivery. The accomodation of a village Post Office has become very desirable and appears to be required by the increasing business and intercourse of the place. It would probably be granted upon a proper representation to the head of the Post Office Department in these Provinces. A daily stage, I perceive, has lately commenced running between Ernest Town and Kingston. Another Steam-Boat, on smaller scale, adapted to the navigation of the Bay of Quinte and the River St. Lawrence, is about to be put on the stocks at the same yard where the Steam-Boat Frontenac was built."

On August 12, 1817 the gazette was able to announce "A Post Office is now established in the Village of Ernest Town, James Rankin, Esq., Post-Master."

Although the name 'Bath' is not mentioned, the post office at Ernest Town was probably called that right after its inauguration. In the lists provided by the Post Office Department for almanacs, the postmaster's name was spelled Ranken. In 1826 R. G. Wharffe became postmaster. In 1829 post office operations appear to have been temporarily suspended to open the next year with John Dean the postmaster at Bath.

In 1836, Dean was replaced by William J. McKay as Bath's postmaster. In the Baldwin Papers, in the Toronto Reference Library, is a letter written on April 1, 1843 by John Stevensen, Bath to Robert Baldwin, head of the government at Kingston. It reads: "I believe the present Provincial Government has the power of nominating the Post Masters throughout the province and as it is reported that the present incumbent of the office in Bath is about to remove from here, I beg should another appointment become necessary to offer my name for your consideration. At the time the present Post Master here W. J. McKay, Esq. was appointed three-fourths of the inhabitants of this village unsolicited by me got up and signed a petition to the Deputy Post Master General recommending me as a suitable person for the situation in preference to the appointment afterwards made, but I did not belong to the Tory Party and upon representation to that effect did not receive the appointment. The office here since McKay's appointment has never been conducted with regularity or safety and been the subject of loud complaints by the very party that assisted his appointment."

McKay, However, continued as postmaster of Bath until 1847. That year William J. Fairfield became postmaster. John Burley of Kingston, writing to Robert Baldwin on July 17, 1849 apparently on other than post office business, remarked "I have nothing to say against Mr. Fairfield. He is a very desirous man, but he has recently received the appointment of Post Master of Bath."

(Next will be Napanee)

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Canada Post Postes Canada **NEWS**

REVISED POSTAGE STAMP PROGRAM FOR 1975

OTTAWA — Postmaster General Bryce Mackasey announced a number of changes in the 1975 postage stamp program and the addition of one new subject to the programme which was announced on September 24, 1974.

The new stamp, to mark the centennial of the founding of Calgary, will be issued on July 3.

Different dates have been announced for the issuing of two Olympic Action Stamps and the Olympic commemorative stamps. The first Olympic Action Stamps (Water Sports) were previously scheduled to be issued on January 22, but have now been issued on February 5. The Olympic commemorative stamps, featuring the sculptures of Dr. Tait McKenzie, will be issued on March 14, instead of March 21. The second Olympic action Stamps (Combat sports) will come out on August 6, instead of August 4.

The 1975 special Christmas stamps, to be issued on October 22, will feature children's drawings and paintings on the subject "What Christmas Means To Me".

The new Calgary stamp recognizes a revision of previous Government policy by virtue of which postage stamps may be issued to honour the centennial celebrations of major cities other than the national or provincial capitals.

Originally known as Fort Brisebois, Calgary began in 1875 as a Mounted Police post. In 1883, the railway passed through the centre, thus assuring the town's future.

The 35 stamps to be issued this year have a total face value of $6.82.

PROGRAMME REVISE DE TIMBRES POUR 1975

OTTAWA - Le ministre des Postes, M. Bryce Mackasey, a annoncé quelques changements au programme d'émission de timres de 1975 annoncé le 24 septembre dernier et l'addition d'un nouveau timbre.

Le nouveau timbre ajouté à la liste est celui consacré au centenaire de fondation de la ville de Calgary qui sera émis le 3 juillet.

Certaines dates d'émission ont également été modifiées. Les premiers timbres-Jeux olympiques de l'année, qui devaient être émis le 22 janvier, le seront le 5 février et les timbres commémoratifs olympiques, montrant des sculptures du Dr. Tait McKenzie, seront émis le 14 mars du lieu du 21.

La deuxième série de timbres-Jeux à surtaxe, consacrée aux sports de combat, sera émise le 6 août lieu du 4 août.

Quant aux timbres de Noël, ils seront émis le 22 octobre et porteront des dessins soumis par des enfants dans le cadre d'un concours.

Le timbre consacré à Calgary est émis en vertu de la nouvelle politique du Ministère qui permet l'émission de timbres-poste pour marquer la célébration du centenaire de fondation de villes importantes autres que les capitales nationale ou provinciales.

D'abord connue sous le nom de Fort Brisebois, la ville de Calgary a vu le jour en 1875 comme fortin de la Police Montée. Le chemin de fer, construit en 1883, devait passer tout près et assurer aiinsi la survie de la ville.

Les timbres émis en 1975 auront une valeur faciale de $6.82.

Feb. 5 Olympic Semi-Postals (Water Sports)
3 Stamps. 8c.+2, 10c.+5, 15c.+5.

Mar. 14 Olympic Sculptures (Dr. Tait McKenzie)
2 Stamps. $1.00 & $2.00.

Apr. 4 Subarctic Indians
4 Stamps. 8c. each

May 15 L. M. Montgomery
Robert Service
2 Stamps. 8c. each.

May 30 Marguerite Bourgeoys
Alphonse Desjardins
2 Stamps. 8c. each

Samuel Chown
John Cook
2 Stamps. 8c. each.

June 11 Olympic Track and Field
3 stamps. 20c., 25c., 50c.

July 3 Calgary Centennial
1 Stamp. 8c.

July 14 International Women's Year
1 Stamp. 8c.

Aug. 6 Olympic Semi-Postals (Combat Sports)
3 Stamps. 8c.+2, 10c.+5, 15c.+5.

Sept. 2 Supreme Court Centenary
1 Stamp. 8c.

Sept. 24 Canadian Ships
4 Stamps. 8c. each.

Oct. 22 Christmas (Children's Design Project)
6 Stamps. 2x6c., 2x8c., 10c., 15c.

Nov. 10 Royal Canadian Legion 50th Anniversary
1 Stamp. 8c

5 février Timbres-Jeux olympiques (sports nautiques)
3 Timbres. 8c.+2, 10c.+5, 15c.+5.

14 mars Timbres commémoratifs olympiques
2 Timbres. $1.00, $2.00.

4 avril Indiens des régions subarctiques
4 Timbres. 8c. par pièce.

15 mai Lucy Maud Montgomery
Robert Service
2 Timbres. 8c. par pièce.

30 mai Marguerite Bourgeoys
Alhponse Desjardins
Samuel Chown
John Cook
4 Timbres. 8c. par pièce.

11 juin Timbres olympiques - Piste et pelouse
3 Timbres. 20c., 25c., 50c.

3 Juillet Centenaire de Calgary
1 Timbre. 8c.

14 juillet Année internationale de la femme
1 Timbre. 8c.

6 août Timbres-Jeux olympiques (sports de combat)
3 Timbres. 8c.+2, 10c.+5, 15c.+5.

2 septembre Centenaire de la Cour suprême
1 Timbre. 8c.

24 spetembre Navires canadiens
4 Timbres. 8c. par pièce.

22 octobre Timbres de Noël
6 Timbres. 2x6c., 2x8c. 10c., 15c.

10 novembre 50e anniversaire de fondation de la Légion royale canadienne
1 Timbre. 8c.

Postmarked OTTAWA

...HANS REICHE

A REGULAR FEATURE



Self Adhesive Stamp of the U.S.A.

It appears that the end of the Postage Due stamps is in sight in the USA. Letters with no postage or insufficient postage will be simply returned or if no return address is given, sent to the Dead Letter Office. This presumably means that no Due stamps will be used. The use of these stamps adds not only to manpower and time but to cost. New automatic mail rate identification systems to be introduced soon, will eliminate any additional handling of such mail by rejecting it.

* * * *

Not many collectors will have heard about espionage stamps. Recently a talk was given about such stamps. These were used in some countries for propaganda or espionage mail against an enemy country. Actual stamps were either duplicated. overprinted or changed in their design for use on such mail. Duplicated stamps were normally used to mail propaganda information or espionage agents carried such stamps. Stamps with design changes were used for propaganda purposes. A number such stamps were produced during WW1 by England against Germany and in WW2 by England or Germany against each other and also by France.a very interesting historical part of philately.

* * * *

Maybe the time for gum collectors will soon be over. How would you like it if, from now on, stamps would be issued with self sticking gum. You can not mount them in your album unless you stick them in; you can not soak them off paper; you can not bring them near any other stamp as they would stick together; you can not leave them long on a page facing another stamp as the gum migrates through the paper and forms an oily spot. Well, the U.S. Post Office Department started to issue such stamps and who knows who will be next? But what could be the delight of collectors, may be plight of dealers. How could they exist without two different price structures for hinged and unhinged, and all the accessories made especially for the preservation of gum.

* * * *

Auction prices have made news for some time and with every auction over the last few years new record prices were achieved. These prices did not reflect simply the inflationary trend but exhibited a far greater valuation. One wonders how long this trend will continue and when normal collectors would not be willing to pay so much for a stamp. A lot of attention has been paid to the recent auctions in order to determine the trend. There may be as

many interpretations as people being asked but this does not prevent us from expressing our opinion.

During the last auctions a "hold the line" attitude appears to have emerged. Prices, although high, showed no overall spectacular rise above that of the inflation rate. This may mean that the speculators are much more cautious and the collectors are more in control. Dealers appear to be more content with this type of situation than the one before. This is not a recession but appears to be more a stabilization! How long this will last and what further changes in this trend will materialize will probably be seen when the big February actions are over.

* * * *

The Philatelic foundation in New York issued some statistical information regarding their experience in expertizing certain U.S. stamps. They listed the number of stamps expertized and the percentage of each one found to be forged or, in some cases, reperforated. The statistical figures are almost staggering because the percentages of some submitted and found to be forged are reaching the 90 per cent mark. There are, of course, others where the ratio is much lower but these appear to be those stamps which can normally be identified by the collector himself. It would be very interesting to hear what kind of experience other committees have, especially on Canadian stamps.

* * * *

We noticed recently a very fine publication of the Canadian Tobacco stamps. This comprehensive work, issued for a ring binder, allows for simple ammendments and contains about 120 pages with good illustrations of all tax paid tobacco stamps. The list was compiled by Lee Brandom a member of the Revenue Study Group of the BNAPS. We had never seen this list advertized or even mentioned before.

* * * *

We know of a collector who collects precancels only in blocks of four. To obtain the earlier issues in this form is not an easy task but even the modern ones such as X262 are almost impossible. Of course he owns blocks of the Edward VII 1c. green type T 74, as these are reasonably common. He pasted one vertical marginal pair together with another pair and mailed it to an expertization committee, suggesting that this strip may be one of the so called rare coils which appeared to have come on the market some time ago in some quantities. The committee replied that they could not give an opinion. He then mailed the strip to a friend in Toronto who in turn showed it to a dealer, who immediately congratulated him for this nice find of rare coils. We leave the rest to your own imagination.

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Society Reports

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(*) Has requested that street address be omitted

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Loignon, Rejean, Canadian Embassy, P.O. Box 16129, 103 23 Stockholmn 16, Sweden.
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Lum, Sgt. Stanley, CFB Toronto - BPSO, Downsview, Ont.
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Maher, James J., 2117 Courtland Dr., Burlington Ontario L7R 1R7
Marfell, Terry, 2956 Preston Ave., Saskatoon, Sask.
Marshall, R. V., Romany Ranch, R.R. #1 Cameron, Ontario
Martin, A. P., 649 Penbroke Dr., S.E. Calgary, Alta. T2A 3S6
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MacMillan, Don S., 2510 Epworth St., Victoria, B.C. V8R 5L1
McGuirl, Stan, 2850 Cedarwood Dr., Apt. 701, Ottawa, Ont., K1V 8V4
McLachlin, E. S., 6811 Cherrygrove Rd., Niagara Falls, Ont. L2E 5M8
McLeod, Donald E., Post Office Box 144, Everett, Ontario. L0M 1J0
Nelles, Howard D., 27 Edith Road, Framingham, Mass. 01701, U.S.A.
Niepke, Barry R., P.O. Box 27343, San Antonio, Texas, 78224, U.S.A.
Park, Capt. D. G., 3455 Avon St., St. Hubert, P.Q. J3Y 5A7
Perry, Dr. John Ralph, P.O. Box 455, McLennan, Alta. T0E 1E0
Pizzuti, Dr. Elio, Gruppo G. F. - V. Dogana - 5, 72100 - Brindisi, Italia.
Plachta, M. V., 16 Rosedale Rd., Apt. 615, Toronto, Ont. M4W 2P4
Premont, Jacques, 2220 Chapdelaine #706, Quebec 10, P.Q. G1V 4G9
Raffaele, Norm L., 3 Kelson Ave., Grimsby, Ont. L3M 4G3
Ramsey, Robert G., Apt. 1923, 70 Cambridge Ave., Toronto, Ont. M4K 2L5
Reid, John, 10 Waldbank Rd., R.R. #1 Lantzville, B.C., V0R 2J0
Ribble, Gordon L., 2060 Worthington Dr., Unit 3, Oakville, Ont.
Richmond, Robert A., 354 Manitoba St., Bracebridge, Ont. P0B 1C0
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Robinson, Mrs. Wm. B., 3005 Old Alice Rd., #1500B, Brownsville, Texas, 78520. U.S.A.
Rolling, Willima, Trans-Canada Hwy., Spragge, Ontario.
Rosenthal, Max, 160 Woodfield Rd., Toronto, Ont. M4L 2W7
Ross, John A., 2 Chemin des Erables, Abercorn, Quebec, J0E 1B0
Roth, Dr. William G., R.R. #1, Ennismore, Ontario.
Sadley, Charlene A., 6411 South 76th Circle, Ralston, Neb., 68127, U.S.A.
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Samson, Roger, C.P. 39, St. Nicolas Quebec. G0S 2Z0
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Senecal, Major J. L., 28 Golightly St., Point Lonsdale, V1C 3225, Australia
Sharp, Robert, Box 629, La Ronge Sask., S0J 1L0
Shea, Philip B., 2 Evelyn St., Brantford, Ont. N3R 369

Shepherd, Frank R. #320 - 3225 Eldon Place, Victoria, B.C. V8Z 6R7
Sheridan, P. J., 46054 Lake Dr., R.R. 2 Sardis, B.C. V0X 1Y0
Sillak, Carl F., 4812 - 48 Ave., Wetaskiwin, Alta., T9A OM8
Simonds, Charles R., 39 Hampstead Heath, Kingston, Ont., K7M 3J1
Skweir, Dr. Michael J., 2805 Falcon St., Tyndall AFB, Fla., 32401, U.S.A.
Slute, R. A., 69 Leacrest Rd., Apt. 5, Toronto, Ont. M4G 1E5
Smith, Fernand J., 130 de La Barre, Apt. 911, Longueuil, Que., JaK 1A4
Stevens, Mrs. D., 72 Richelieu, St. Charles sur Richelieu, P.Q., J0H 2G0
Taussig, Dr. Andrew, 2215 Seneca Rd., Town of Mt. Royal, Que. H3P 2N4
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Tozeland, Jack H., % Mr. J. Herb Tozeland, Ste 2, 1162 Grosvenor Ave., Winnipeg, Manitoba, R3M 0N9
Traves, Capt. P. J., R.A. Park, 1575 Queen St., Halifax, N.S.
Tremblay, Perre, C.P. 903, Sept. Iles P.Q.
Turnell, Dr. Roger W., 537 Blvd. Jacques Cartier Est., Apt. 3, Longueuil, P.Q. J4L 4A5
Turner, J. Morgan, P.O. Box 283, Killarney, Man., R0K 1G0
Tweedy, A. C., 210 - 1020 Park Blvd., Victoria, B.C. V8V 2T4
Walsh, Tim R., P.O. Box 5178, Ft. McMurray, Alta., T9H 3G3
Waltoo, Mrs. J., 817 - 10th Ave., South, Castelgar, B.C.
Wanless, Gerald A., 1051 Scenic Drive, Hamilton, Ont., L9C 1H8
Wegg, George, 36 Victoria St., Toronto, Ont. M5C 2N8
White, L. D., 105 DeNormandie St., Aylmer, Que., J9H 2T7
Wickson, Dr. R. D., 1145 Regent Crescent, Calgary, Alta. T2E 5J6
Williams, P. J., P.O. Box 1734, St. Johns, Newfoundland
Wood, Mrs. Jane L. E., 5 Old Sheppard Ave., Unit 302B, Willowdale, Ont. M2J 4K3
Wyatt, William D., 1025 Valmire Drive, Chesapeake, Virginia 23320, U.S.A.

Resignations

Philipp, Robert, Birtle, Manitoba
A. Lampman, Woodstock, Ont.
Howard D. Wendell, Rregon City, USA
Dr. Douglas F. Green, Dunedin, U.S.A.
George Gutkowski, Montreal, P.Q.
E. B. Jubien, Montreal, Que.
A. A. Montgomery, Toronto, Ont.
Dugal G. McQuarrie, Spragge, Ont.
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Colette Morin, Montreal, P.Q.
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Guy Lamorie, North Bay, Ont.
C. A. Hull, Montreal, P.Q.
Maurice Legard, Ville Saint-Laurent, Que.
J. K. Rink, Vernon, B.C.
Daniel R. Stewart, Seattle, Wash. USA
Harold F. MacDonald, Walnut Creek, Calif. USA
Jean-Girovard, Trois Rivieres, Que.
Mme Almede L. Messier, Co. Drummond, P.Q.
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H. Vernon Ryerse, Port Dover, Ont.
Mrs. Mary Davidson, Cobourg, Ont.
Mrs. Murray Cameron, Huntsville, Ont.
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Resignations

Dr. E. L. Gosano, San Francisco, Calf. USA
Allan W. Bruce, Toronto, Ont.
Ian M. Macaulay, Port Dover, Ont.
R. Myer, Guildford (Surry), England
Capt. H. L. Cadieux, Lantzville, V.C.
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Miss Janet Beins, Kitchener, Ont.
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William G. Ridgway, Akron, Penn. USA
Morton J. Herman, Detroit, Mich. USA
William J. Assad, Ottawa, Ont.
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Robert J. Lavallee, Winooski, Vt. USA
K. E. Stringer, Bath, Somerset, England
Raymond E. Endres, Effingham, Ill. USA
Gary Hitchcock, Pulaski, N.Y. USA
E. M. Boulter, Cranbrook, B.C.
Donald W. Cook, Halifax, N.S.
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Leland A. Whitmore, Evans Mills, N.Y. USA
H. Winston Johnson, Charlottetown. P.E.I.
Dr. Hugo Hollinger, Toronto, Ontario
Dick Gullion, Niagara Falls, Ont.
Martin L. Cohen, Cote St. Luc, Quebec. P.Q.
Dr. Douglas F. Green, Dunedin, Fla. USA
Wm. H. Saunders, Peterborough, Ont.
A. S. Durocher, Ottawa, Ontario
Thomas P. Campbell, Waban, Mass. USA
Bernard F. Jezewsky, Edmonton, Alta
Mrs. Frank L. Baer, Washington, D.C. USA
Margaret A. Atchison, Surrey, B.C.
Robert J. L. Zsadanyi, Milton, Ont.
Louis M. Brownell, Jr., Beach Haven, N.Y. USA

Change in Chapter Listings

Regina Philatelic Club, No. 10
% Lorne Aston, 10 Forest Place,
Regina, Sask. S4S 4M2

R.C.M.P. (Ottawa Area) Stamp Club, No. 115
% Mrs. D. Sedgwick, Secretary,
2134d Blue Jay Cr., Ottawa, Ont. K1J 6B1

Stratford Stamp Club, No. 92
Oswald P. Dietrich, R.R. 4,
Stratford, Ontario

Sudbury Philatelic Society, No. 85
William R. Campbell, 1369 Roy Ave.,
Sudbury, Ont., P3A 3N1

Canadian Armed Forces Exchange Club, No. 91
% W. McLoughlin, 837 Unit 106,
Eastvale Drive,, Ottawa, Ontario. K1J 7T6

West Toronto Stamp Club, No. 14
% F. Alusio, 15 La Rose Ave.,
Apt. 1215, Weston, Ont. M9P 1A7

Deceased

Reside McCallum, Pointe Claire, P.Q.
Dr. ing O. G. Savelli, Roma, Italy
Walter F. Anderson, Ottawa, Ont.
Herbert S. Bogert, Montreal, P.Q.
Dr. Erich Pieper, St. Catharines, Ont.
Robert A. Moore, Toronto, Ontario
Walter Norval McPhee, Vancouver, B.C.
Albert E. Kreger, Rainy River, Ont.
Alfred H. Kessler, Ocean City, N.Y., USA
Charles H. Greene, M.D., San Francisco, Calif USA
Mrs. Merle A. Legg, Needham, Mass. USA
Jack Grant, Henderson Harbour, N.Y., USA
Anthony Ruta, Scarboro, Ontario

THE SALES CIRCUIT

By the time this appears in print we will be well into the new year and if the past few months are a true indication, this year will be a record for sales barring unforseen incidents such as postal strikes, etc.

At present circuits are being supplied to 40 chapters, in most cases twice a month or every second week. This means that at any given time approximately 600 books are in circulation and, as a rule, the next lot has to be mailed prior to receipt back of the previous one. SO PLEASE BE SURE TO SEND YOURS BACK PROMPTLY.

Many of these chapters are located in areas where dealers and stamp stores are not readily available and the circuits are a big highlight of their meetings. Both these chapters and the ones located in or near the larger cities are purchasing not only larger quantities of relatively cheaper stamps but also many stamps in the $2.00 to $20.00 range.

I hope that by the time this is published I will have caught up on the backlog of correspondence and most of the requests by individuals for circuits. The big problem is lack of books of the main request - CANADA.We need all shapes, sizes, colours etc. so get rid of your duplicates, triplicates etc. by sending in books to the Sales department. Also required is GOOD G.B., Austria, Germany, U.S.A., B.N.A. Where possible, confine each book to ONE country or allied countries so they can be sent to individuals who are not interested in finding only one page in a whole book that applies to their needs.

PLEASE NOTE THAT GORDON FROST IS NO LONGER IN CHARGE OF THE SALES CIRCUIT. Correspondence addressed to him results in considerable delay. All inquiries regarding the sales circuit should be addressed to:-

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CHAPTER MEETINGS

Vancouver Island Philatelic Society
Meets monthly on the Second Thursday, Room 112, Provincial Museum at 8 p.m. Sec'y: Chas. W. Marshall, 2612 Victor St. V8R 4E2 Your Joint Host for 'PIPEX 75' with a hearty welcome to all.

Nova Scotia Stamp Club
Halifax, Nova Scotia. Est. 1922. First Affiliate of the R.P.S.C. (1934). Meets 2nd Tuesday of the Month, Nova Scotia Museum. Corr. Sec'y: Mr. George Penchard, 3749 Kencrest Ave., Apt. 8, Halifax, N.S. Visitors Welcome.

Canadian Association of Israel Philately (CAFIP)
Meetings every 3rd Monday of the month (except July & August) at 8:00 p.m. Juniors at 7:00 p.m. Place: Coleman's Delicatessen, 2085 Bathurst St. near Lawrence Avenue, Toronto. Visitors Welcome. Information: Sarah Chernick 425-1346.

Edmonton Stamp Club
Touring Stampers Welcome. Meetings on alternate Mondays in the basement of McDougall United Church. Pres. - Keith R. Spencer, Phone 455-0894. Membership - Ruth Bishop, Phone 469-7231. Address all mail % the Club, P.O. Box 399, Edmonton, Alberta T5J 2J6.

Kitchener Waterloo Philatelic Society
(Chapter 13 of the R.P.S.C.). Meets at 7:30 p.m. on the 2nd Thursday of each month .except during June, July and August) in the Library of St. Andrews Presbyterian Church (Queen Street Entrance). Visitors Welcome. Pres. Gil King, Tel. 648-2716. Notre Dame St., Maryhill, Ont. N0B 2B0.

Lakehead Stamp Club
R.P.S.C. Chapter No. 33. Meets second Wednesday and last Friday of each month in Confederation College, 8 p.m. Visitors always welcome. Jan Van Geem, Secretary-Treasurer, 230 Peter Street, Thunder Bay "P", Ontario P7A 5H9.

La societe philatelique de Quebec
(Chapter No. 40). Meets in The Quebec Hilton, Beaumont-Belair Hall, Quebec. First & Third Wednesdays of the month at 8:30 p.m. Postal Address: P.O. Box 2222, Postal Terminal, Quebec 2, Que.

North Toronto Stamp Club
Chapter 5 of the Royal. Meetings at 7:30 p.m. on Second and Fourth Thursdays (except in July and August) at Dewi Sant Welsh United Church, 33 Melrose Avenue. Visitors Welcome.

East Toronto Stamp Club
Cedarvale Park Building, Cedarvale Ave., First East of Woodbine, at Cosburn, North of Arena. 1st & 3rd Wednesdays. Sec'y: Raymond Reakes, 188 Woodmount Ave., Toronto 13. Phone: 425-1545. Visitors Always Welcome.

R A Stamp Club - Ottawa
(Chapter 41, RPSC). Meets 7:30 p.m. Every Monday at The R. A. Centre, 2451 Riverside Drive, Ottawa, Ontario. (Except June. July and August). Visitors Welcome - Phone 733-5100.

North York Philatelic Society
Meets on the 1st and 3rd Wednesdays of each month (July & August excepted) at the North York Memorial Community Hall. 5090 Yonge St. Willowdale, Ontario. Sec'y: Mrs. M. Summerfield, Phone 221-0375. Visitors Welcome.

Calgary Philatelic Society
(Chapter No. 66). Regular Meetings: First Tuesday of the month, Calgary Central Library, 616 Macleod Trail, 7:30 p.m. Auction: Third Tuesday of the month, CUPE Hall, 104 - 13th Avenue S.E., 7:30 p.m. Secretary: J. R. Taylor, 5328 Lasalle Cres. S.W., Calgary, Alberta T3E 5Y5. Visitors Always Welcome.

Winnipeg Philatelic Society
Meetings: 1st & 3rd Thursdays 7:30 p.m. Planetarium Bldg. P.O. Box 1425, Winnipeg, Man. R3C 2Z1.

Ottawa Philatelic Society
(R.P.S.C. Chapter No. 16). Meets Thursdays at 8:00 p.m., Sept. through May, in the Chateau Laurier. Secy: J. G. Glashan, 76 Queensline Drive, Ottawa K2H 7J5. Visitors Welcome.

B. C. Philatelic Society
Meets every Wednesday 8 p.m. (except July) Burns Room of the Stry Bowling Alley, 7th Ave. just west of Main St. Visitors always welcome. Plan to exhibit in our Annual 400 frame show—Vanpex '75 in March. For information write:- P. O. Box 67723, Stn. "O" Vancouver, B. C. V5W 3T1.

Hamilton Philatelic Society
Chapter Fifty-one. 2nd and 4th Mondays Sept. to May inc. Jewish Community Centre, 57 Delaware Ave. Hamilton. Peter Hope, Sec'y, 80 Irene Avenue, Stoney Creek, Ont. L8G 2B2.

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THE PARLAIMENTARY FREE FRANKS OF CANADA – PART 1

A SPECIAL FEATURE



—*Philatelic Photographics, Toronto*

Free From E. McDonald, M.P. - November 15, 1867

By William Pekonen

This article is the first part of a two part series which will attempt to explain this fascinating sideline and, hopefully, arrange the material into a pattern. The pattern could be used by other collectors to help identify certain periods of proper useage by means of a simple code which has been developed and will be included in the second article.

My interest in these items developed from the OHMS-G officials of Canada. When these were discontinued in 1963, my interest turned to the Official Stampless. These are still my main interests. While collecting the Official Stampless, various parliamentary free franks came my way. Information on these was very scant. It was necessary to turn to other sources to find something meaningful.

The parliamentary free franks are a result of our democratic system of elected officials. In the early days before Confederation, elected representatives in the legislative assemblies gave themselves the right to free mailing privileges in order to keep in touch with the voters. The Provincial rights of free mailing disappeared with Confederation in 1867, but was maintained by members of the Federal Parliament.

No doubt the usual psychological reasons were given to show that this was not privilege to be enjoyed only by a lucky few, but it was really a benefit to all of the tax-payer voters. The voter could write to his member FREE if he had any complaint or wanted a question answered. Remember that this was a time before radios, television, telegraph, and local daily newspapers. The fact that all kinds of electioneering could be conducted FREE by the elected politician was not mentioned. It is easy to assume, keeping in mind the way a politician thinks, that this

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—*Philatelic Photographics, Toronto*

Free From M. Bowell, M.P. (Prime Minister of Canada, 1894-96)

was a method to communicate at public expense. Similar counterparts of today are the number of advertisements in newspapers and magazines which prominently display the name of the Cabinet minister. The object, of course, is to keep their name in front of the voters. This practice gives a tremendous advantage to those in power over those who aspire to power. Quite naturally, the politicians in Parliament today would be very reluctant to let go of such a privilege.....if for no other reason than economics. With pressure groups sending politicians mountains of mail and realizing that an MP cannot ignore letters for fear of losing votes, it is easy to understand that an MP would have to be a very rich man to pay postage on every reply mailed from Ottawa.

Now, you might say, what has all this got to do with postal history? Well, first: you will note that most of the letters originating from an MP have his initials in the LL corner; i.e. "JR-MP" - representing the name and signifying proper useage. Second: the various House of Commons hammer and meter markings themselves are most interesting. These covers are genuinely used in the postal system and are therefore legitimately collectable even though no postage has been paid.

You may well be asking yourself the obvious question: "If the MP used only his initials, how can I tell who he is?" Well, that information is available in book form at a cost of $10. If you are interested in pursuing this area further or obtaining a copy of the book, please write to me at P.O. Box 1175, Station A, Surrey, B.C. If enough replies come in, it may be possible to do something further with this particular aspect.

Some of the politicians have been in Parliament for many years; while others come and go - usually victims of defeated governments. An interesting collection could contain one cover from each of the 115 sessions of the 28 parliaments elected since Confederation. Another interesting collection could contain covers of a politician who sat as a member of parliament for several sessions before he became a Cabinet Minister or Prime Minister. If you

A JEWEL OF A COVER!

In 1974 Winnipeg celebrates its 100th year. I have been putting out special Christmas First Day Covers for Winnipeg ever since 1964, and very appropriate too, as up to 1972 Winnipeg was the only city in Canada to have its own tagged Christmas stamps. In fact, for the first several years Winnipeg was the first and only city in the world to have tagged Christmas stamps good for postage, by the way, anywhere in Canada.

To mark the 100th Anniversary I've had the artist R. G. Pollock design a special cover. About all one can say about Mr. Pollock is that once one sees some of his paintings there arises an immediate and overwhelming craving to own one of his creations.

The four 1974 Canada Christmas stamps are beauties, definitely the finest stamps issued this year. All 4 on the Pollock cover, which also bears his autograph: for $2.00.

Remit in any convenient way, currency or mint Canadian and U.S. postage at face value. Add 25c. if remittance is by any form of check.

LIBERIA

Great good news. First we had Colonel Henry Harper Rogers "A Century of Liberian Philately" and now there will appear very soon a first rate priced specialized Liberian catalog by Lothar Von Saleski of Reisterstown, Maryland. Before me are the proofs of the first section. All who collect Liberian stamps are in for a treat as here in easy to follow form is most valuable information. Naturally we will be handling this catalog and invite orders at $32.00, which will include one year's membership fee in the Liberian Philatelic Society.

I do send out approval selections of Liberian stamps. My stock covers mainly the first 100 years and includes all phases. Even have a few letters written by Joseph Jenkins Roberts, who in 1847 became the first President of the Republic of Liberia. Most are to his great and good friend Benjamin Coates of Philadelphia and reveal the first president as a highly intelligent articulate man with a total command of the English language.

Give me some idea of the size of your collection and I'll assemble suitable groups to look over. If you have none, by all means take up Liberian stamps.

CANADA

My main business is Canadian stamps and nearly everything I can buy is sold by way of approval selections; very seldom specific offers. Still, for those who want one, let me introduce you to a Canadian booklet that must be the only one of its type ever issued in the world.

Sometime in 1968 the British American Bank Note printers become tired of printing vast quantities of 6c stamps and then tagging part of them for Winnipeg use. Why not mix the tagging substance with the orange ink and do the job in one stage. A very logical idea, but the experimental stamps did not work at all. The few stamps so printed were mixed up with usual general printings. No publicity whatsoever and most of the mint stamps vanished to be used by the public. It took several more years for collectors to discover the odd copy and to realize the significance of this major Canadian rarity. It exists only in 2 forms:

1. Printed in panes of 100. At present have no mint to offer (want to buy). Have a few used singles at $5.00.
2. Booklet panes of 5 - 6c orange + 1c brown. Have a few superb mint booklets complete with covers at $30.00.

K. BILESKI LTD., STATION "B", WINNIPEG, MANITOBA, CANADA.



—Philatelic Photographics, Toronto

From the Office of the Prime Minister - 1940

are lucky enough (?) to live in Ottawa, then you can add another interest by collecting the covers received by a Member of Parliament. There is lots of room for individuality. You can try for completion by having one cover for each session or one for each of the twenty-eight parliaments, or try for one cover for each of the Prime Ministers, or collect one for each of the MP's during the Elizabethan period or whatever strikes your fancy. All kinds of freaky things could show up because of individuals making free use of mail addressed to the MP in Ottawa. Keep the fact in mind that these are the history makers. Some of the covers will be rare because of short sessions of Parliament, Cabinet shuffles, and other reasons. The possibilities of forming a variety of interesting collections are almost limitless.

The scarcity of the items make some more desireable than others, therefore they should hold and even increase in value, especially if the collection is well organized and carefully arranged. It seems to me that they have more value than some of the paper and tagged varieties of stamps that exist today.

One thing can be said for sure. As people in Canada become more interested in history, and as the population increases and people generally become more aware that this country has a great history, then watch the interest in covers and autographed letters grow by leaps and bounds. Evidence of this growing interest is showing up in many ways. Therefore, an investment in postal history seems like a good idea to me. Others must think so also, because there is a rapidly growing interest in the philatelic world in regards to postal history.

As an illustration, how would you like to try the following suggestions as a challenge? Mount a used copy of each of the following stamps on an individual album page. Then try to find a free franked cover initialled by the person depicted on the stamp and mount it underneath the stamp.



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Here are the Scott numbers: 141, 144, 146, 147, 190, 303, 304, 318, 319, 349, 350, 357, 358, 393, 515, 539, and there are a few others. Look them up.....and have some fun for yourself.

So.....now you can see what can happen. You might ask - has anyone saved these covers? Well, I can only guess....."Yes," they must be lurking around somewhere undiscovered because no one has bothered to organize them. At least, that is my impression. Hopefully, some will come to the surface as a result of these articles.

How does one organize these covers? The results of what I found for a starting point is the subject of the next article to be published in a forthcoming edition of the **Canadian Philatelist**. In the second part, each session of Parliament will be coded with a number for easy identification. The dates of allowable useage will be given as well. It is important to know the dates: for example the Fifteenth Parliament had only one session, whereas the Twenty-first Parliament had seven sessions. The other Parliaments had varying number of sessions. The dates will be adjusted, as near as possible, to meet the various requirements of the day. For instance, at present, the MP has free mailing privileges during sessions and for ten days prior to and immediately after a session.

You can have a lot of fun just collecting the Free Franks. A word of caution however - if the "mad passion" seizes you, there is no turning back! However, the reward is in the delight of finding a treasure that makes you happy.

The writer would be glad to correspond with other collectors of Parliamentary Free Franks: OHMS-G on cover, Official Stampless covers and postal stationery.

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COMING EVENTS

1975

MARCH 15 & 16 - KAPEX '75 19TH ANNUAL EXHIBITION AND BOURSE OF THE KAWARTHA PHILATELIC SOCIETY at the Holiday Inn, George St., Peterborough, Ont. Chairman is Harry Van Oudenaren, 36 North St., Bobcaygeon, Ontario.

MARCH 22 - 23 — ANNUAL EXHIBITION OF THE NORTH TORONTO STAMP CLUB at North Toronto Memorial Gardens, 180 Eglinton Ave. W., Toronto.

APRIL 4 to 13 - SPAIN 1975 - WORLD STAMP EXHIBITION to be held in Madrid, Spain. Information and brochure can be obtained from the editor, Canadian Philatelist.

APRIL 5 - ANNUAL STAMP SHOW OF THE CALGARY PHILATELIC SOCIETY will be held at the Kirby Memorial Building, Seventh Avenue at Eleventh Street, Southwest, Downtown Calgary, Chairman: TOm Lemon, 402-815 First Street, SW, Calgary, Alberta.

APRIL 5 - THIRD ANNUAL EXHIBITION OF THE PORT HOPE PHILATELIC SOCIETY will be held at the Historical Centre, Walton Street, Port Hope, Ontario, 11:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m. Chairperson; Gwen Wilkinson, 90 Elgin St. North, Port Hope, Ont. L1A 2M1.

APRIL 5 - LONPEX '75: 84th ANNUAL EXHIBITION AND BOURSE OF THE LONDON PHILATELIC SOCIETY at St. Paul's Cathedral, Richmond Street, London, Ontario. Chairman: George Ross, 590 Highburn Avenue, London, Ontario, N5W 4K9.

APRIL 12 & 13 - EXHIBITION AND BOURSE OF THE NORTH YORK PHILATELIC SOCIETY will be held at the Towne and Countrye square, Yonge Street and Steeles Avenue, Willowdale, Ontario. Chairman: Wilf Cowin, 123 Tower Drive, Scarborough, Ontario.

APRIL 12 - ANNUAL EXHIBITION AND BOURSE OF THE BARRIE STAMP CLUB at St. George's Anglican Church Hall, Burton Avenue and Granville Street, Barrie, Ontario. The POSTAL HISTORY SOCIETY OF ONTARIO will be holding its Spring Seminar and Annual Meeting in conjunction with this exhibition.

APRIL 25 - 27 - 3RD ANNUAL STAMP - EX, TORONTO'75, Four Seasons Sheraton Hotel, Toronto. Information from Toronto '75, 157 Clifton Avenue, Downsview, Ont., M3H 4L6.

MAY 3 & 4 - ORAPEX '75, ANNUAL EXHIBITION AND BOURSE OF THE RA STAMP CLUB will be held at the RA Centre, 2451 Riverside Drive, Ottawa, Ontario. Information from Lorne Bentham, 184 Mafeking Avenue, Ottawa, Canada, K1K 2V5.

MAY 3 & 4 - STAMP DAY. Annual Exhibition & Bourse of the Edmonton Stamp Club. Information from K. R. Spencer, 10631 - 148 Street, Edmonton, Alta., T5N 3G9.

MAY 9 to 11 - 12th ANNUAL EXHIBITION OF THE LAKESHORE STAMP CLUB in the auditorium of the Fairview Shopping Centre, Pointe Claire, P.Q. (Montreal area). Information from Wayne R. Curtis, P.O. Box 1, Pointe Claire Dorval, P. Q., H9R 4N5.

MAY 29 - 31 QUEPEX, THE 47th ANNUAL CONVENTION OF THE ROYAL PHILATELIC SOCIETY OF CANADA will be held in Quebec City. Chairman: Guy des Rivieres, P.O. Box 2222, Terminus Postal, Quebec, Que., G1K 7N8.

JUNE 6 to 16 - 'ARPHILA 75' PARIS. INTERNATIONAL PHILATELIC EXHIBITION to be held in Paris, France. Canadian Commissioner: Mr. M. R. Rasic, 172 Hillhurst Boulevard, Toronto, Ontario.

SEPTEMBER 18 to 20 — B.N.A.P.S. ANNUAL CONVENTION at the Guild of All Arts, Toronto. Chairman: George S. Wegg, 37 Victoris Street, Toronto, Ontario. M5P 1K5.

OCTOBER 4 - GUELPHPEX '75. Annual Exhibition, Bourse & Banquet of the Guelph Stamp Club.

1976

MAY 28 to JUNE 6 - INTERPHIL '76 — INTERNATIONAL PHILATELIC EXHIBITION to be held in Philadelphia, Pa., U.S.A. Canadian Commissioner is J. N. Sissons, Suite 27, 37 King Street East, Toronto, Ontario. M5C 1E9.

CAPEX'78

— Toronto International Stamp and Postal History Exhibition. Secretary — Kenneth Rowe, Apt. 403, 90 Warren Road, Toronto 7.

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UNDER THE LOOKING GLASS

BY KEN PUGH

These past few months have produced few columns under this biline. By no means have I lost interest in this area, for the opposite is true. The situation was that the time finally came to organize all the reports of varieties which have been sent to me over the past few years. Having no system for recording these varieties, many reportings had become lost in the pile of correspondence. Although every letter was kept, it was stored in an archaic filing system - a 1.5' x 2' cardboard box. To find a specific reporting entailed at least an hour of searching. Thus I came to the conclusion that something had to be done.

At the sacrifice of producing a series of articles, time was spent in organizing all the reportings submitted to date. The end result, to my own astonishment, was a system for recording almost all available data on almost every constant, semi-constant, or freak variety of the Queen Elizabeth Era which has been reported.

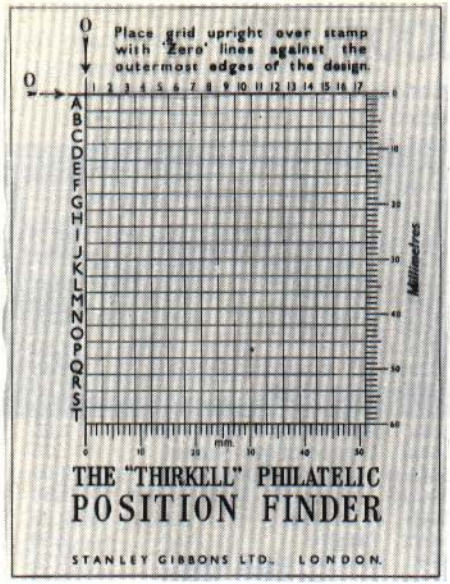
There are presently hundreds of listings, submitted from over one hundred and eighty contributors. Undoubtedly there are hundreds of varieties which will never be recorded for collectors to study.

A number of times in the past I have received, after listing some varieties found on a particular issue, a letter demanding why I had not listed another item which should have been included. The letter usually would state that the variety exists for it is in the correspondants' collection. Upon inquiring if the collector had ever reported his variety to either myself, a journal, or stamp newspaper, the answer is almost invariably - "Well . . . no". Get the point . . . . I can only list what you record.

It became apparent to me while sorting through the hundreds of reporting submitted, that a uniform method of reporting is required, before I can properly procede.

For example, if a dot or line is observed, it should also be noted what colour the mark is, where it is located, and how many were observed. One member, J. W. Hollway suggested a more accurate method of describing the exact position of the varieties on the stamps, other than a word description. His advice was to use a

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An example of what information is necessary when recording varieties is given below. If you could try to follow the guide as accurately as possible, a lot of time and effort will be saved. The information used in the variety examples is authentic.

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A. Constant. Semi-constant Varieties
1) year — 1965
2) Scott — 422
3) issue — Prairie Crocus
4) description — dot above centre crocus
5) colour — purple
6) T.P. (Thirkell Position) — C8-UC
7) P.Pos. (Plate Position) — R10-3
8) constancy — A
9) sample enclosed —
10) diagram enclosed —
11) photo enclosed —
12) recorded by — Stonehouse, L.

Note: C8-UC means the upper central area of square C8.
R10-3 Denotes the 10th row down, third stamp from the left
Constancy A—found on all or most panes.
B—definitely constant, numerous examples observed.
C—semi-constant, constant for a short time only.
D—only one or two copies seen—more research required.

B. 'G' Varieties
1) year — 1955
2) Scott — 039
3) issue — 10c. Eskimo
4) description — overprint doubled (kissprint freak)
5) T.P. — N-A (not applicable)
6) P.Pos. — Plate 1 UR - R1-4,5
7) constant — no

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In the last five years the interest in Canadian Booklets has increased tremendously. Below we have a selected list of the popular 1967-72 definitive Series. Some are in very short supply, thus we advise early ordering; others, we need to buy. For example all the miniature sheets are required, and we would like to buy. Please advise of any offerings.

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488ai	pane only	1.35
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502q	pane only	1.35
502ai	tab right	1.25
502qi	pane only	1.35

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C-D-A

8) sample enclosed —
9) digram —
10) photo —✓
11) recorded by — Averill, J. E.



C. Shade Varieties
1) year — 1965
2) Scott — 421
3) issue — purple violet
4) normal shade — purple
5) variety — a) light purple
b) dark purple
6) No. recorded — 2
7) sample enclosed —
8) recorded by — Prowse, Rev. D.

D. Paper Varieties
1) year — 1962
2) Scott — 397
3) issue — Red River Settlement
4) dull —✓
5) low flourescent —✓
6) flourescent —
7) high flourescent —
8) hibrite —
9) flourescent flecks —
10) recorded by — Hansen, G.

E. Freaks (These are usually one time only varieties and are important if only to provide a more complete record as to what exists with any particular issue.)
1) year — 1972
2) Scott — 608
3) issue — 10 Cent Xmas
4) description — horizontal blue strip, an inking problem
5) colour — blue instead of green
6) T.P. — N-A
7) P.Pos. — R7,8,9 - 1-5
8) sample enclosed —
9) diagram enclosed —
10) photo enclosed —
11) recorded by — Church, D.



F. Colour Shifts
1) year — 1966
2) Scott — 426
3) issue — Wild Rose
4) description — pink shift upwards
5) No. recorded — 1
6) sample enclosed —
7) diagram enclosed —
8) photo enclosed —✓
9) recorded by — Prowse, Rev. D.



G. Paper Creases
1) year — 1959
2) Scott — 387
3) issue — St. Lawrence Seaway
4) variety — crease
5) effect — 1 mm vertical white line
6) P.Pos. —
7) sample enclosed —
8) diagram enclosed —
9) photo enclosed —✓
10) recorded by — Jones, B.
— Stulberg, Dr. F.

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your report, please indicate that wish to me.

The headings given above are not intended to be final. As time goes by, more re-organization is likely to occur. In future articles the charts above will be in a horizontal rather than a vertical format, permitting the listing of many varieties in a short space.

It is important that as many Royal members as possible search through their collections and record their findings. I would appreciate your use of a stamped self-addressed envelope if a reply, or return of diagrams or photos is requested. If return by registered mail is required, please enclose the necessary extra postage.

The number of letters answered by me these few years has reached into the thousands, with two or three coming in every day. Please take this into consideration when expecting a reply in considerable detail.

Glossy black and white photos reproduce the best, while Xerox copies unfortunately are unsatisfactory. Items can be sent to me for photographing, but as I do not have the equipment myself, a little delay is understandable.

Use of accurate recording instruments such as the Thirkell Position Finder, millimeter gauge, Instanta perforation gauge, and Stanley Gibbons colour charts are recommended.

If you notice any new varieties listed in other stamp publications, please report them to me giving also the name of the publication, issue, date of issue and page No.

Starting next issue then, the deluge of varieties begins.

My mailing address is 134-20th Street, Brandon, Manitoba, R7B 1L4. CHEERS!



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1975

April 25-26-27

FOUR SEASONS SHERATON HOTEL Toronto

WHAT'S NEW IN OLD CANADA

BY FRED STULBERG

A REGULAR FEATURE



Philatelic Photographics, Toronto

TWO FLAGS — ONE COUNTRY

A little over seventy-five years ago Canada was confronted with the same postal problem that it faces today. The volume of mail, in the larger urban areas especially, had reached such proportions that processing it by hand was no longer satisfactory. Then, as now, the Post Office Department turned to mechanization.

In 1896, the first letter cancelling machine to be used in Canada was set up at Montreal. By the turn of the century Ottawa, Toronto and Hamilton had machines of their own. For the most part the postal markings of these machines were flags or banners incorporating the Union Jack as part of the design. The post office dater was to the immediate left of the flag canceller.

The year 1897 saw Queen Victoria in her sixtieth year of reign and all countries of the Empire treated it as a year of celebration. One of the many ways that Canada chose to mark the event was with the introduction of three special machine flags with "1837-1897" as part of the design. Almost all known examples of usage of these marks came from Montreal or Ottawa and were used for a relatively short period of time.

We have come to learn that postal machines are seldom without problems and these were no different. In the absence of electronic scanning, letters had to be fed by hand and if, by chance or error, the letter was positioned with the stamp in any other place but on the upper right corner, the machine marking would miss the stamp. When discovered, the postage would then be cancelled by hand (usual) or fed through the machine a second time.

The envelope illustrated is an example of the latter situation. What makes this unusual is that, although both flag cancellations are the same date, they are different designs. What makes this cover unique is that both flag cancellations are the Victoria Jubilee types (two of the three) which are not overly common even as single strikes on cover.

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A REGULAR FEATURE



—Philatelic Photographics, Toronto

Fig. 1: Return from the Harvest Fields

THE STAMP AS ART VERSUS THE ART STAMP

Last November I went to the National Gallery of Canada in Ottawa for the first time and was very much impressed by the painting "Return from the Harvest Fields" by Aurele de Foy Suzor-Cote. Of course it attracted my attention because in 1969 it had been reproduced in full colour by photogravure on a 50 cent stamp (fig. 1) to commemorate the centenary of the artist's birth. It was the first attempt in Canada to render a work of art in full colour on a stamp.

The stamp was quite ugly with indistinct detail and murky colour. So ugly that it misled me to think that Suzor-Cote was not much of a painter. However, seeing the "Return from the Harvest Fields" itself instantly changed my mind. Suzor-Cote was certainly worth commemorating even though his stamp did not do justice to his painting.

Perhaps it is a matter of scale; the painting reproduction is only 25 by 20mm. while the painting itself seemed more than a meter square. Perhaps it is a matter of medium; the printing process was just not able to capture the depth and warmth of Suzor-Cote's colouration. Whatever the cause, this stamp proves my point: An art stamp is not necessarily an example of the stamp as a work of art.

In fact, in most cases, so called art stamps both betray the real work of art depicted and are negligible in their own right. Prime examples of this are the myriad painting reproductions printed for the sand dunelets and for the philatelically disreputable Latin American countries. Goya's "La Maja Desnuda" has been a popular subject for such attention, no doubt because of the topical interest in

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—Philatelic Photographics, Toronto

Fig. 2 & 3

nudes on stamps and the controversial history of this painting and of its stamps. At any rate, this souvenir sheet issued by Ajam (fig. 2) and stamp by State of Oman (fig. 3) are at best mediocre reproductions disfigured by gaudy frames and graphics.



—Philatelic Photographics, Toronto

Fig. 4

This is not however to say that all art stamps are failures. The first of the "Maja Desnuda" stamps, those issued by Spain in 1930 (fig. 4) which scandalized the world, stand on their own as artistic productions. This is because the engraver and designer reinterpreted the painting to suit the format of a postage stamp rather than trying to attain a precise reproduction. A large work of art simply cannot be cut down to a few square centimeters without suffering.

Similarly the high values of the 1967 Canadian definitives were, on the whole, successful reinterpretations of paintings by the Group of Seven. Ashton Potter Ltd., printers of some recent Canadian stamps, have even been able to do some excellent full colour painting stamps — for example, the 1974 Christmas set. The magnitude of their accomplishment is obvious if you

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By Horace W. Harrison (of Maryland)

(A Member of the Royal Philatelic Society of Canada)

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compare their work with United States painting stamps or with other Canadian printers.



Philatelic Photographics, Toronto

Fig. 5

The Canadian Marconi commemorative (fig. 5) issued last November seems to have aroused the scorn of nearly everyone. It got the most votes for the worst designed Canadian stamp of 1974 in David Gronbeck-Jones's contest in Linns. However, the level of criticism of the stamp has been amazingly low. All its detractors have said is that the colours are not realistic. But so what if he has a bilious green face and St. Johns' harbour is red? Who says that art must slavishly reproduce nature? By such standards van Gogh was an incompetent painter.

The artistic merit of stamps should be judged by standards appropriate to the medium. Are the elements of the design harmoniously balanced? Is the engraving or other printing method skillfully executed? Does the colour suit the subject and is it clear and bright? Does some sort of emotional impression of the person or event depicted come across? In my opinion, the Marconi stamp would score higher using these criteria than most art stamps.



—Philatelic Photographics, Toronto

Fig. 6

One of my favourite designs is that of the 1849 first issue of France, the Ceres series (fig. 6). It is a beautiful and serene rendering of the goddess, one of the greatest typographed stamps of all time. Of course. in the 25 centime value illustrated, her face is blue. If Ceres can be blue and beautiful, why can't Marconi be green?

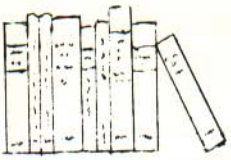
Thanks to Ken Pugh for the loan of his nudes.

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THE CANADIAN CATALOGUE DILEMMA

Hans Reiche

Three Canadian catalogues are now out and a fourth is to be issued. We have now LYMAN'S, CANADA SPECIALIZED and HANSEN'S, and a SCOTT'S SPECIALIZED will be released shortly. There can be little doubt that the average collector is confused as to which to turn to when buying stamps.

When we speak of the "average" collector we envisage one whose contact with a stamp club or society is, at best, minimal; who does not read a stamp journal; does not bid at auctions; uses printed album pages for his collection and whose philatelic library has only one book — a catalogue. The majority of collectors with whom I have come in contact fall into this category.

The Scott numbering system, which is followed strictly by Lyman's and partially by Hansen's, obviously appeals to many. Others attach no significance to it. Some even consider it erroneous, especially for the earlier issues. Canada Specialized makes use of Scott numbers only when they are convenient and has added to and re-arranged many of the earlier issues much to the satisfaction of some collectors. Also, this catalogue lists more specialized items than the other two. The 'to be issued' Scott's Specialized will probably list most of the items (plus additional ones) found in the other catalogues with their own numbering set up. This, of course, raises the question "Is the AVERAGE collector best served by this multiplicity and confusion?"

When we consider pricing we find the dealers using one catalogue and the average collector, more often than not, using another. Each new catalogue merely compounds the confusion. If the price differences were small, so would be the problem. However differences of over 50 per cent can now be found in the three catalogues presently in widest use.

This price differential was not caused by the various publications appearing at different times, nor because the profit margin is so much different from dealer to dealer. It is because each author has his own opinion of what an item is worth irrespective of the actual market value. Obviously, dealers will tend to use those publications that give them the most profit or, at least, show the highest prices.

For example, suppose we take a 1964 issue stamp, mint, never hinged priced in three grades at $6.00, $5.25 and $5.00. If you think that dealers will be unable to supply it, try them. You will likely find that not only is the stamp readily available but also at any of the price levels. However, when you go to sell that same stamp to a dealer you find that he is overstocked, he is not really interested in buying and, if perchance he is prepared to do you a favour and take it off your hands, a percentage of the lowest catalogue price is most often the usual offer.

This leads me to ask "Do any of the catalogues represent actual market values? Are any more sensitive than the others? Do catalogue prices actually do more harm than good? These are the questions that you must answer.

* * * *

STANLEY GIBBONS ELIZABETHAN STAMP CATALOGUE - 11TH EDITION.

This excellent publication continues to increase in size and scope, with nearly 1000 pages, and upwards of 4,500 varieties listed. More than 1,500 stamps have been added to this year's edition. It is much more specialized than the standard Gibbons British Commonwealth Catalogue and should satisfy even the most ardent

collector of modern Commonwealth issues.

Great Britain of course receives special coverage and this section includes a detailed listing of the numerous issues of stamp booklets. The booklets of Canada and other Commonwealth countries also receive careful attention. In addition to the 'new' countries such as the Grenadines of Grenada, and of St. Vincent, together with Penrhyn Island, the post independence issues of Ireland, Pakistan, Rhodesia and South Africa, belonging to the present 'Elizabethan era are listed in this catalogue.

Collectors of Australia, Malta, and South Africa, should be particularly pleased with the coverage given to the numerous varieties of the Queen Elizabeth issues. For those who are not familiar with this catalogue, we should stress the comprehensive information given such as date of issue, date of withdrawal, plate numbers, imprint position, sheet sizes, quantities issued, etc. Prices have been thoroughly revised since last year's edition in an effort to keep pace with today's stamp market.

We have no hesitation in recommending this publication to the serious Elizabethan collector and it may be obtained from most dealers for £3.50 or the equivalent.

W. O. B.

STANLEY GIBBONS FOREIGN STAMP CATALOGUE, EUROPE SECTION VOLUME 2, G-P. SECOND EDITION

Stamp collectors will welcome the second volume of the traditional Green Gibbons Catalogue for Europe. This volume covers the letters G-P and includes Germany and German States but not German colonies or Occupation stamps. It is the second edition, the first edition being published in 1972.

As usual the editors have done an excellent job and the work is highly recommended. It is noted that the listings have been thoroughly revised and updated and incorporate numerous suggestions by specialized correspondents.

This is available from most dealers and is priced at £3.50 or equivalent.

H. S.

CANADA AND B.N.A. CATALOGUE - Jim F. Webb

This is the 1975 edition of a catalogue and price list showing, in basic form, the stamp issues of Canada and the Provinces, Revenues, Stationery, Semi-Official Airs, Booklet Panes, Souvenir Cards and Perforated O.H.M.S. Each item is for sale at the prices stated (subject to the usual restrictions) and can be ordered from the author at 22 MacKay Drive, Thornhill, Ontario, Canada, L4J 1R8. Price is $1.00 which is refundable with your initial order.

F. G. S.

AUSTRO-HUNGARIAN A.P.O.'s, 1914 to 1918; Keith Tranmer.

One of the attractions of collecting Austrian postal history material must surely be the immense variety of handstamps and cachets from regiments which were old when the Netherlands formed part of the Austrian Empire.

This is hard cover, 115 page, illustrated revised edition of the catalogue first published in 1957. It received a silver award at IBRA, Munich 1973. It lists 1856 field and base post office numbers and in many cases, gives locations of the army units to which the Austrian Post Office numbers were assigned. The illustrations are sharp and clear. There is a useful list of abbreviations found on A.P.O.cancellations together with explanatory notes.

The chapter on the seige of Przemysl and its flown covers is particularly comprehensive, covering eleven pages. The world's first international air mail service was inaugurated March 20, 1918 with the flight from Vienna to Kiev via Krakow and Lemberg. This became a regular daily service accepting civilian mail after March 30. The service was suspended October 15, 1918 having carried 35,286 pieces of mail.

Under Foreign Legion Operations, we find various Polish, Ukrainian, Roumanian, Albanian and Turkish units with their special regimental postal cachets. It also covers Austrian Military postal services in Turkey, the middle East and during the Boxer Rebellion in China.

Each item is given a point value based

on the valuation of 20 points — £1.0 — $2.60. This is helpful in deciding the worth of a given cover. Limited quantities of the book are available from the author, 8 Billet Lane, Hornchurch, Essex RM11 1XP, England. Price is $8.50 (U.S. Funds).

M. A. K.

THE POSTAL HISTORY OF AUSTRIA, 1938 to 1946; Keith Tranmer.

Popular demand has brought forth this 99 page, illustrated paperback reprint of the original volume printed in 1972. It deals with a period of Austrian philately having wide appeal to both the philatelist and postal historian. Much of the material discussed is still reasonably priced.

The last days of the Republic and the subsequent takeover by the Nazi's are briefly outlined. The stamps, post marks and slogan cancellations of this interim period are very interesting. German military occupation mail, including air-mail, is well covered, also Prisoner-of-war camps and the notorious Mauthausen concentration camp.

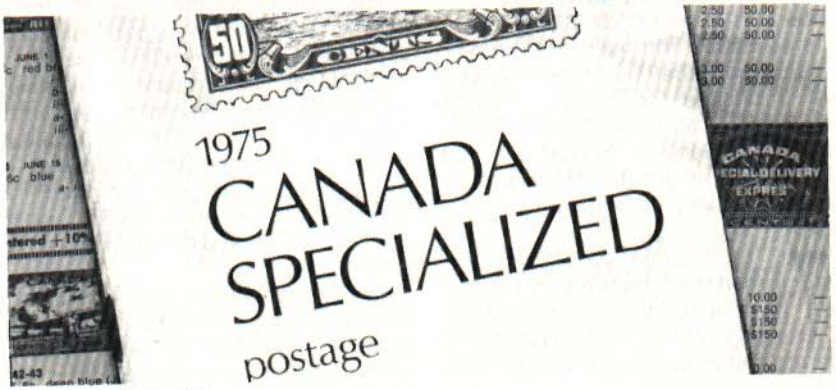
The Allied Armies arrived May 1945 and organized four occupation zones. Postal services gradually re-opened and mail moved throughout Austria and to the rest of the world, except Germany and Japan, by December 1945. This is a fascinating period for the collector with its wealth of provisional overprints, cash prepayment markings, new stamp issue, post paid. censor marks and postage dues. Two maps are included.

The last allied soldier left Austria in 1955. Lists of Army Post offices are given, with postal markings, for the British, French and American zones. Lists for the Russian zone are unavailable. Even after 25 years, all enquiries to Russian museums and archives regarding postal information of this period go unanswered.

The author provides a further service to the collector in the point valuation system he has devised, 20 points = £1.0 = $2.60, each item described is given points. Available from the author, 8 Billet Lane, Hornchurch, Essex RM11 1XP, England. Price is $8.50 (U.S. Funds).

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THE MAILBAG

LOUIS M. BROWNELL, Jr. of BEACH HAVEN, N.J. objects to the WATERGATE PHANTOMS:

The WANDERS OF THE WORLD article in Volume 25, No. 4 entitled Phantom Philately and dealing with labels related to Watergate has me, as a citizen of the United States, very upset. It has nothing to do with philatelic activities and has no place in a philatelic publication.

I do believe that Mr. Nixon, as President , made mistakes but the many good things that he has done for the world earns him more respect than you showed by running this article.

EDITOR'S NOTE.

This article was printed with the full realization that some people with intense political sensitivities would object to it. However, the decision to publish was based on two philatelic precepts. Firstly, these labels had alredy been used to mail letters and had been reported in both the general and philatelic press. Secondly, many stamp collectors also collect "phantoms" and it is desirable to let these people know that they can be obtained now at reasonable prices rather than later at higher prices.

The letters received concerning this article have, in fact, not been many. One other person objected and one wanted to know where these labels could be obtained. All three letters came from the United States.

HARRY LUSSEY, ATLANTIS FLORIDA answers a querie on MODERN BARRED CIRCLES.

In Volume 26, No. 1 of the CANADIAN PHILATELIST, Hans Reiche asked about a "modern barred circle" cancellation. The illustration is the upper part of a Railway Station postmark in use, at least, from mid-1915 to late in 1916. It could be either a partial strike of the Bonaventure or Windsor Station postmark. There is also a possibility that a Place Viger station marking may exist. It was one of the three rail terminals in Montreal at that time. At the top of each is Montreal Post Office and at the bottom is the name of the station. The lines shown in his inquiry differ from those in my collection. The top line is shorter than the one beneath it. There is no third line but there is a rectangular box enclosing the date which appears in a single line. The upper line of the box could appear as a third horizontal line on a partial strike. It would be longer than the middle line and almost twice as long as the top line. Full strikes of this large circle postmark are rarely seen.

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JACK COOMBS, HAMIOTA, MANITOBA speaks IN PRAISE OF THE R.P.S.C.

I noticed in the past issue of the CANADIAN PHILATELIST that the membership of the "Royal" has increased by over 3,500 members since I joined just a few short years ago. This is a significant number and certainly speaks well for our Society.

It is a 100 mile round trip to the nearest stamp club (Brandon) so I depend upon the R.P.S.C. for most of my philatelic information. I also receive Ken Pugh's column in the Brandon Sun and Glen Hansen's in the Winnipeg Free Press and appreciate the work of these gifted writers.

Please extend my best wishes for continued success to those in the Royal Philatelic Society of Canada who give so freely of their time so that those of us in outlying areas can still keep in touch with what is happening.

MRS. E. WILLIAMS of BURLINGTON, ONTARIO gives THANKS.

I wrote to the MAILBAG late last year asking help to identify the person on the one dollar Revenue stamp of the Republic of Hawaii. I received several lovely notes along with a lot of help.

Please accept my thanks for printing my inquiry and extend my thanks to those who wrote me. As I am unable to walk and cannot do my own research, I appreciate your help and those of your readers. I am very pleased that I joined the R.P.S.C.

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