CANADIAN PHILATELIST



Journal of the
ROYAL PHILATELIC SOCIETY of CANADA

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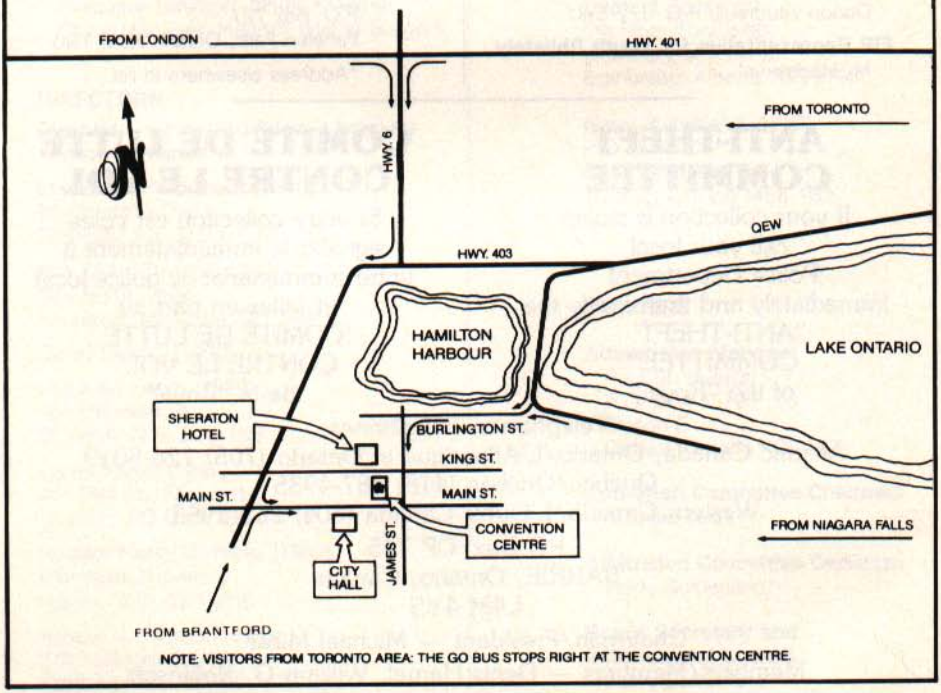
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EDITOR'S NOTES

by Jim Haskett

ROYAL '88

Royal '88, the Royal Philatelic Society of Canada's national exhibition and annual meeting was held in June in Winnipeg MB. We hear from those who attended of the excellent quality of the show and the incredible hospitality of the host Winnipeg Philatelic Society.

Not only did the event attract RPSC members from across the country and the U.S., it also served to introduce and expand the hobby among Winnipeg and area residents. Seminars at Royal '88 included ones aimed at beginning and intermediate collectors and to introduce the fascinating world of postal stationary to 'stamp' bugs. Other events of both public and philatelic interest included a Canada Post stamp launch (the Marquis wheat stamp of the four-stamp Science and Technology set issued June 17) and a fashion show featuring clothing of the 1830-1930 eras.

The WPS's Royal '88 committee – Beverlie Clark, Dave Pritchard, Ted Mayo, Norm Gordon, Ross Feeny, Theo Gordon, Alf Eason, Irvine Rosborough, Don Fraser, Alice Rosborough, and Stuart Clark – deserve the congratulations of all for their efforts in producing a fine show.

ANNUAL MEETING

Part of the function of the yearly gathering RPSC members is the annual meeting of the Society. This year's meeting was particularly important as it saw the approval of a bylaw change that affects the way in which directors of your Society are elected.

The slate of directors from 1987-88 was re-elected for 1988-89, with one important difference. As outlined in the bylaw changes, half the directors (eight of 16) will be elected each year for two-year terms. In this, the changeover year, directors drew lots with half serving a one-year term and the others serving two years. At next year's annual meeting, part of Royal '89 in Hamilton, ON, the half now serving one-year terms will be re-elected or replaced for a two-year term. Those serving for two years will face re-election or replacement at Royal '90 in Regina.

Serving one-year terms are Harry Sutherland, Samuel Horton, Frank Feero, James Kraemer, Senator Henry Hicks, Bernard Lavalee, Michael Millar, and Arthur Leggett. Serving two-year terms are C. Fred Black, Alan McKanna, Michael Madesker, David Dixon, William Robinson, Beverlie Clark, Denis Hamel, and Keith Spencer.

For details on nomination and election procedures for the 1989 annual meeting, please see the notice on Page 355 in this edition.

There was only one major change in the executive slate as a result of the subsequent meeting of the board of directors. William Robinson replaces Alan McKanna as second vice-president. James Kraemer remains as president, Michael Madesker as first vice-president and David Dixon as Treasurer.

NEW FELLOWS

Another part of the annual Royal gathering was the meeting of RPSC Fellows to mull over possible additions to their ranks. This year in Winnipeg, four were added to the august body of Fellows: Allan L. Steinhart of Toronto, E.R. (Ritch) Toop of Ottawa, Peter M. Mann of Guelph and Henri Gautheir of Ottawa.

Being named a Fellow is a tribute to an individual's contributions to philately in general and to the RPSC in particular. Beverlie Clark, herself an RPSC Fellow and a former president of the Society, will introduce two of the new Fellows in her continuing series on the men and women how have contributed much to the hobby and its national organization in the next editions.

OTHER NOTES

Another honor of distinction was voted to two long-serving RPSC members. Doris and Ted Lyon of Gravenhurst, ON were named honorary life members of the Royal by the board of directors. This husband-and-wife team served for many years as the RPSC's chapter co-ordinators, handling the many slide programs requested for chaper meetings and generally looking after the needs of the scores

of affiliated stamp clubs across the country. They were (and still are) tireless promoters of the Royal, attending stamps shows to hand out information about the RPSC and promote Royal membership. While they officially 'retired' at CAPEX '87 in Toronto, they still continue their interest in the Society and stamp collecting.

Honorary life memberships are rare awards indeed. Only four have been voted previously.

Another part of the annual meeting concerned upcoming annual shows. Vern March outlined plans for Royal '89 set for May 5-7 in Hamilton, ON, the 61st annual convention to be hosted by the Hamilton Philatelic Society RPSC Chapter 51.

Dr. Frans Rummens was on hand to invite RPSC members to the 62nd annual convention in Regina, SK. Royal '90 will be held in the Saskatchewan capital June 7-9, 1990.

And Ralph Mitchener, the R.P.S.C.'s historian, received the Geldert Medal for his 1987 series on the history of philately and organized collecting in Canada. The Geldert Medal is awarded annually for the best article or series of articles appearing in *The Canadian Philatelist.*

TOP STAMP

The 36-cent two-stamp steamship commemoratives paying tribute to the HMS Segwun and the SS Marguerite were voted the most popular stamps of 1987 in the annual Winnipeg Philatelic Society poll. The pretty pair was the runaway winner among the 18 issues of last year.

Second through fifth places were close with the four-stamp Historic Shipwrecks nudging out the three-stamp series and souvenir sheet of historic post offices issued for CAPEX 87. Tied for fourth were the 34-cent Exploration/ Investigators commemorative block and the 36-cent Charter of Rights and Freedoms design.

Finishing at the bottom of the heap were the 31 through 72 cent Christmas designs. The 36-cent Volunteers commemorative finished second last.

The editor of *The Buffalo,* the Winnipeg Philatelic Society's newsletter, notes that the Historic Artifacts 25-72 cent definitive series finished well down in the voting (14th place actually). D. Robin Harris comments that: "By their very nature of being used on mail to destinations outside of Canada, these mid-value definitives should be of a better quality."

We note that with postal rate changes, a much more colorful series featuring Canadian fauna has been issued this year.



RARE BIRD

Speaking of definitives, one of our correspondents points out that the short-lived 36-cent Queen of 1987 may become one of the rarer (and higher-priced, we dare say) definitives of the modern era.

Issued on Oct. 31, 1987, the 36-cent Queen paid the first-class letter rate for just two months – November and December last year. It was replaced in January with a new design, the result of yet another increase in the postal rates, the 37-cent portrait of the Queen based on a photograph by Yousef Karsh of Ottawa.

While the 36-center was initially scheduled for release on May 6, 1987, the British-American Bank Note Company, its printers, apparently had press problems which delayed its production. With its short period of use and its



The Princess Marguerite and Segwun se-tenent pair was voted the top Canadian stamp design of 1987 in the annual Winnipeg Philatelic Society poll.

quick replacement with a new design, it is quite likely the 36-cent Queen definitive will become increasingly difficult to come by in the future in both used and mint condition.

PRECANCEL ROSTER

A new roster of Canadian Precancel Collectors is being assembled by Geof Walburn. If you have an interest in Canadian precancels, and have not already done so, please send a report to Mr. Walburn indicating the number of Canadian precancels in your collection as follows: bars, third class, towns, numerals and total.

A roster will be printed in The Canadian Philatelist at a future date. You may write: H.G. Walburn, P.O. Box 279, Kelowna, B.C. V1Y 7N5

NEW EDITOR

Francois Brisse has been appointed editor-in-chief of *Philatelie Quebec*, the magazine and journal of the RPSC - affiliated Federation Quebecoise de Philatelie. He replaces Dennis Cottin who recently resigned as editor and director general of the federation. During Mr. Cottin's years with the magazine and the Quebec federation, *The Canadian Philatelist* enjoyed a warm and fruitful relationship which benefitted both. The two publications have an arrangement to exchange articles and other information and all indications are this will continue under Mr. Brisse. Our congratulations to him on his appointment.

Incidently, Richard Gratton, the French-language editor of *The Canadian Philatelist*, is also the president of the Quebec Federation.

SEAWAY UPDATE

We can't think of an article that's generated as much interest as Larry McInnis's January-February one on Canada's major modern-era error, the 1959 Seaway invert.

In addition to a letter to the editor from Mr. McInnis in this issue, he also sent copies of two of his columns which appear in *The Gazette* of Montreal recently dealing with new information on the Seaway invert that came to him as a result of the article in *The Canadian Philatelist*.

I'll try to summarize them. In *The Canadian Philatelist's* May-June issue, two letters were carried concerning the Seaway invert, from George Wegg and Dan Mercer, referring to a previously unreported find of inverts in Southampton, ON, a pretty resort community on the shores of Lake Huron about 35 km west of Owen South. (Mr. Wegg referred to it as a find in the Goderich, ON. area).

Mr. McInnis heard from A. Ross Walker of Frederickton, N.B. who outlined the circumstances of the Southampton find. Mr. Walker said two years ago he met, through a friend, a woman who showed him a Seaway invert tied to a postcard by a circular date stamp. She also told the story of how she same in possession of the card and stamp.

She and her husband were living in Sarnia, ON, in 1959 and went to Southampton to vacation on the Labour Day weekend that year. She went to the post office there and purchased 20 Seaway stamps for $1 and remembers they were torn off a full pane.

That day and the next, she used seven of the stamps, six to pay bills and one on a post card to her son. That left 13 stamps in a block of eight, a strip of three and a pair, all attached.

A day or so later, her husband noticed the stamps on the dresser of their motel room and that they were "different" – upside down. Recalling she'd heard something on the radio about Seaway inverts, the woman returned to the Southampton post office and asked if there were more, shocking the postmaster.

After returning to Sarnia, she tried to recover the letters she had sent, without much success. She did get the post card from her son and eventually, for $500, got one stamp torn off an envelope from one of the recipients.

A native of Winnipeg, the woman's father had been a stamp collector and she recalled the name of Kasimir Bileski, a well-known dealer there. She contacted him and Sissons, eventually selling the block of eight to Bileski at $800 a stamp. She sold the used stamp on piece in New York in 1963 and 10 years later sold a mint single to a "young army officer". In 1975, the remaining block of four was sold to a St. John, N.B. collector for $5,000. There, in a nutshell, is the story of The Southampton find.

What's not known at this point is the whereabouts of the other 30 from the sheet in the Southampton post office that Labour Day weekend in 1959. Were those stamps sold to the public or were they returned to the post office, perhaps eventually ending up in the hands of the National Postal Museum?

We now know via a letter from David Sessions

of the Canadian Philatelic Society of Great Britain (*Canadian Philatelist*, July-August 1988) that there are no Seaway inverts in Queen's Royal Collection.

Mr. McInnis's article and the follow-up by him and others has led to the discovery of a new find and additional details on others. It's almost 30 years since the Seaway inverts were first discovered and the complete story remains untold. But thanks to Mr. McInnis, his correspondents (he's also been in contact with the bank clerk who came up with the Picton, ON, find) and letters to *The Canadian Philatelist*, some more pieces of the puzzle are now falling into place. With a few more, perhaps the entire story will yet unfold and Mr. McInnis will have it to tell to the readers of *The Canadian Philatelist*.



CONTROVERSIAL POSTMARK

Wilno, ON., a hamlet of 200 about 180 km west of Ottawa, has a special postmark paying tribute to its Polish settlers. Designed by a local artist, Martin Shulist, the postmark features an eagle around a stylized flag flanked by an axe and shovel, tools used by settlers to clear the Wilno area's rocky and hilly land. The eagle comes from the Polish coat of arms

While the postmark is supposed to honour the country's oldest Polish settlement (more on that later), it is causing controversy among Wilno residents.

Some view it as an attempt to mollify them after they fought long and hard (and unsuccessfully) Canada Post's move to privatize their 102-year-old post office. Many small communities such as Wilno have been targets for Canada Post's privitization policy, abandoning long-standing post offices for privately-operated outlets. Wilno's post office was privitized last November and now operates out of Whitehead's General Store.

While the postmark pays tribute to Wilno area's Polish settlers, it may not be the oldest Polish settlement in Canada. Our sources tell us that honor may belong to Kitchener, ON. (originally Berlin). During the wave of immigration of Poles in the 1800s, the country did not exist as an independent nation. It was under the control of several nations, primarily Germany and Russia.

At the time, many Poles travelled on German passports and although they didn't speak German, they were directed by immigration authorities to Berlin, the prime destination of all German emigrants during that period.



Canadian butterflies

NEW ISSUES

Canada Post issued a number of new stamps through the summer and fall.

On July 4, a series of four 37-cent stamps issued in a block format featuring four butterflies native to Canada, the short-tailed and tiger swallowtails, the northern blue and Macoun's arctic.

In our opinion, these stamps, designed by Toronto graphic artist Heather Cooper and printed in five colour lithography by Ashton-



St. John's commemorative



4-H anniversary

Potter Ltd., are among the most beautiful of Canadian stamps issued this decade. They'll also be a hit with topical stamp collectors.

But we wonder about the choice of subjects for the butterfly stamps, issued to coincide with the 18th International Entomology Congress in Vancouver July 3-9. Not that we have anything against swallowtails, blues and Macoun's aretics, but of the 272 papilio (butterfly) species found in Canada, surely the monarch is the widest spread and best-known.

On July 22, a 37-cent stamp was issued to commemmorate the 100th anniversary of St. John's, NF. as a city. The stamp itself mainly grey, reminiscent of the fogs the Newfoundland capital is famous for though design, by Louis-Andre Rivard of Montreal, is a stylized view of the harbour entrance and the St. John's skyline at dusk.

Aug. 5 saw a stamp launch in Roland, MB for a 37-cent commemmorative celebrating the 75th anniversary of 4-H clubs in Canada. The 4-H movement grew rapidly in rural areas across Canada following the founding of that first club in Roland in 1913.

The stamp, designed by Debbie Adams of Toronto, features a farm scene, an illustration of young people involved in a 4-H project and the 4-H motto, Learning To Do By Doing.

Four Canadian dog breeds – the Newfoundland, the Tahitan bear dog, the Nova Scotia tolling retriever and the Canadian Eskimo dog – are portrayed on a set of four 37-cent commemmoratives issued Aug. 26 to coincide with the 100th anniversary of the Canadian Kennel Club and the World Congress of Kennel Clubs in Toronto Aug. 27-30. The designs are by Mia Lane of Bath, ON. Again, this is a set that will hold much interest for topical collectors in Canada and abroad.

WHAT DO YOU THINK

We've recently begun noting new Canadian stamp issues in this column, reviving a practice that was once part and parcel of *The Canadian Philatelist* but dropped several years ago by a previous editor. At one time, this journal carried extensive information about new Canadian stamp issues, albeit repeating information that was widely distributed by Canada Post and available to patrons of Canada Post's new issue service in Antigonish, NS.

In reviving notes on new issues, we've been brief but we'd like to hear from Royal members on what they would like. Is it enough to just note new issues or would you like more details? Certainly it can be provided if members would like it. Please drop a note to me, Jim Haskett, Editor, The Canadian Philatelist, 23 Seneca Place W., Lethbridge AB, T1K 4M7 on what you would like to see about new issues.

ON LINE

The RPSC's national office recently installed a new IBM compatible computer and a laser printer for such things as preparing the mailing labels for issues of *The Canadian Philatelist*. All names and addresses of members were transferred from the old system, we hope, without any problems. However, if there were errors made in the transfer process in addresses etc., please let the National office know. As well, if members aren't receiving their *Canadian Philatelist* (or if you know of someone who isn't), please notify the Office Manager, RPSC National Office, P.O. Box 5320, Station F, Ottawa, ON, K2C 3J1 as soon as possible.

OLYMPEX '88

The Winter Olympic Games in Calgary included much more than downhill skiing, skating and hockey. Calgary welcomed the Olympic athletes and visitors from around the world with

a plethora of events under the umbrella of the Olympic Arts Festival, including a stamp exhibition. The exhibition was thematic in nature; not surprisingly choosing the Winter Olympics and its sports as the topic.

Well-known Calgary philatelists Jim Brown, Ed Harris and Jon Johnson co-chaired the committee which produced the Olympic stamp exhibition.

A major highlight was the Court of Honour which featured pages from the stamp collection of Juan Antonio Samaranch, president of the International Olympic Committee.

The exhibition included displays from several postal administrations as well as three exhibit classes.

In conjunction with the exhibition, a 52-page bilingual book was produced that includes articles that almost any philatelist would find interesting. Ralph Mitchener, the RPSC's Geldert medal recipient this year, authored an introduction to winter sport and winter Olympic philately; Ed Harris produced a fine article on Calgary's postal history; John Van Standen Jr. featured some of the many philatelic souvenir's of the Calgary Games; Dale Speirs presented illustrations of Calgary covers and stamps; and Glenn Estus produced a piece on the Lake Placid Olympics.

As well, the book contains information on Canada's major philatelic organizations, study groups devoted to Olympic and winter sport philately, and suggestions for additional reading about Olympic and sport topical collecting.

The book concludes with a listing of entries in the Olympex exhibition.

The Calgary Philatelic Society has copies of the Olympex '88 book available at $6 a copy postpaid. To order one, write the Calgary Philatelic Society at Box 1478, Station M, Calgary AB, T2P 2L6. □

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Much can be said about these wonderful collections, but suffice it to say that the *greatest piece* in all of Canadian Philately (the 12d pair) resides in Sam's Pence Collection.

Rosemary's Quebecs are complete. *Period!* In addition, the sale will include a wonderful assemblage of the essays for the 1914 Macdonald-Cartier Issue, which are seldom offered.

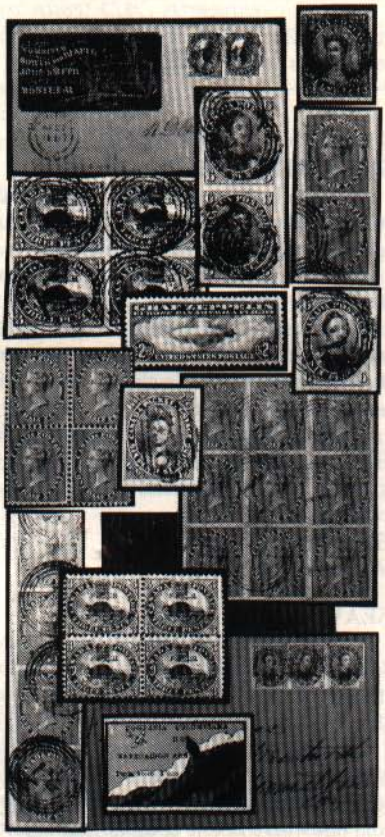
The Second Annual Rarities of Philatelic Literature Monday, August 29, 1988

With approximately 2500 lots, this sale is highlighted by the library formed by Roger Koerber, the noted Philatelic literature dealer. (Our 1987 sale was acclaimed as the "Year's Major U.S. Auction..." — and the 1988 sale will be *three times as large!*)



World Wide Stamps and Covers Monday, August 29, 1988

This sale will include a broad range of material including country collections as well as specialized material as diverse as the Columbian 1920 Airs Complete (Scott #C2-10, CV $26,000), etc. This set is seldom seen complete and, with other items, was consigned by the grandson of the company's founder. It has never before been offered to the public. A truly "something for everyone" auction.







Wouldn't you like your collection in such company? June 25th is the deadline for accepting consignments to the August sales. *6*

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Letters to the Editor

AN OPEN LETTER TO ALL SUPPORTERS OF ROYAL '88

On behalf of the ROYAL '88 Committee I would like to pass along our sincere thanks to all who supported our convention.

Due to the C.S.D.A. booking on the previously booked dates of our convention, creating unexpected problems and concerns, we were more than grateful and appreciative for the support received. To the dealers, exhibitors and attendants – one and all – thank you.

This committee worked very hard, under difficult circumstances, and I sincerely congratulate them for a wonderful and successful convention.

Beverlie Clark
Winnipeg, Man.

SEAWAY RESPONSE

The response to my Seaway invert story (CP, Jan. Feb. 1988) shows there is tremendous interest in Canada's only invert error, even after three decades.

Dan Mercer of Southampton, Ont. asked about inverts found there in 1959 and later sold to Kasimir Bileski of Winnipeg. That story is told elsewhere in this edition. It's important to note, however, that this new information may never have come to light had it not been for the CP article. It also confirms the rumor heard to long ago by George Wegg.

Hans Reiche and George Wegg allude to a Smith's Falls find, and Hans refers to one in Eastview, Ont. (now Vanier)

No one seems to know much about these. In my article, I referred to an Ottawa collector turning in a block of six to a postal official. From Eastview? From Smith's Falls? As I said, there's no block of six in postal museum stock.

Historian Ralph Mitchener can have a busy time, not only correcting the typographical errors in the article, such as reference to a pane of 5.

I wrote in "Opus" that Pat Herst had said in a letter to me that he had been approached during a meeting of the "British North America Society" at North Hatley, Que.

Actually, Pat's reference was obscure – he Was quite ill at the time, and I was grateful he took the time to correspond with me – and I assumed he meant BNAPS. Later, browsing through old philatelic publications, I saw his name as a proposed member in 1961, and again I assumed it was BNAPS.

I was wrong in Opus and perpetuated the error in my text for CP, which was edited to read "British North America Postal Society."

No doubt Herst attended an RPSC meeting at North Hatley in 1961.

I was more interested in establishing the date of Pat's purchase, which was nearly two years after the Seaway issue and more than a year after news stories were current about discoveries of the invert.

I hope historians support the adage, "to err is human; to forgive is divine," no matter what corrections must be made to files.

That's the glorious aspect of philately: knowledge is **never** complete.

Larry McInnis
Beauharnois, Que.

MORE ON PRECANCELS

Vol. 38 No. 1 included a short article on Combination Overprint Precancels. The article outlined the four different combinations which exist, all of them very rare. It is now possible, after further research, to list some of the differences between some of the copies found.

Ottawa 2-89-WM

One copy off - centre to left with damaged perforation at bottom. Top two bars extend into left margin.

One copy slightly off - centre to left with no perforation damage. Top two bars extend just to the oval at left iside but not into margin.

Windsor 1-89-WM

One copy off – centre to bottom. All four bars are strong and clearly visible and separated.

One copy as above but top bar is thin and second one is on top of another bar, appearing as only three bars.

Winnipeg 3-104-WID

One copy off - centre to right. 'G' of Winnipeg just touches left outside frame line.

One copy off - centre to right. 'G' of Winnipeg is half across left frame line into left margin. All four bars end short of the right margin.

Windsor 1-89-WD

One copy with top two bars ending inside oval design. Bottom two bars end just past the left frame line in the margin.

One copy with top two bars end just past the left frame line into the margin. Bottom bars go across completely. Right corner of stamp torn.

Hans Reiche
Ottawa, Ont.

PRENFIL-88

Prenfil-88 is an international exhibition of philatelic literature, sponsored jointly by the Argentinian Association of Philatelic Journalists and ENCOTEL (The Argentinian Postal, Telephone & Telegraphic Services) and to be held at Buenos Aires G.P.O., Argentina from Nov. 25 to Dec. 2, 1988.

A special set of four stamps, featuring locomotives and with a surtax to subsidize the exhibition went on sale June 4. Enquiries about these stamps and the associated FDC's should be addressed to ENCOTEL, Gerencia de Explotación – Filatelia, Correo Central, 1000 Buenos Aires, C.F., Argentina.

Entries closed on May 31, 1988 and there were 15 applications from Canadian authors and publishers.

Andrew Cronin
Toronto, Ont.

A PROTEST

I saw in Hans Reiche's column, Postmarked Ottawa, that the post office wants to charge more for using stamps on parcels than for using a meter. This is absolutely indefensible. It is money they should not have.

I have written to my Member of Parliament to protest and I think the Society should officially protest against it; every individual member of the Society should write to their Members of Parliament. For the service they provide, they're getting too much as it is!

R.C. Wiley
Espanola, Ont. □

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1988

SEPT. 19-28 — OLYMPHILEX '88, Seoul, Korea, an FIP exhibition limited to sports topicals. Canadian Commissioner: Ralph Mitchener, 1253 Sherman Dr., Ottawa, Ont. K2C 2M7.

SEPT. 22-24 — PHILEX in the Metro Toronto Convention Cente, Toronto, Ont. Hours: Thursday 2-9 p.m., Friday 10 a.m. - 8 p.m., Saturday 10 a.m. - 6 p.m. Information: David B. Bastedo, PHILEX Canada, P.O. Box 980, Station 'K', Toronto M4P 2V3, Telephone (416) 489-3759.

SEPT. 24 — COPEX '88, the annual show and bourse of the Cobourg Stamp Club, 10 a.m. - 5 p.m. in St. Peter's Church Hall, Cobourg, Ont. Admission free, 8 dealers, Canada Post, show cover and cancel. Information: Harry Knapper, P.O. Box 470, Cobourg, Ont. K9A 4L2.

OCT. 29 — GATEPEX 88, the seventh annual exhibition and bourse of the North Bay and District Stamp Club will be held at the Northgate Square Mall, Highway 11, just off the North Bay, Ont. bypass, 9:30 a.m. — 5:30 p.m. with 10 dealers, Canada Post and exhibits. Information: John Fretwell, PO Box 812, North Bay, Ont. P1B 8K1.

OCT. 14-16 – CALTAPEX 88, the annual exhibition and bourse of the Calgary Philatelic Society, will be held in the Marlborough Inn, Calgary, Alta. No exhibitor's fees, free admission, 20-plus dealers, and awards banquet. Information: Calgary Philatelic Society, PO Box 1478, Station M, Calgary, AB, T2P 2L6.

NOV. 5 — HAMILTON-BUFFALO STAMP EXHIBITION, will be held in the Westdale Secondary School cafeteria, 700 Main St. West, Hamilton, Ont., 10 a.m. – 5 p.m. Information: Mel Campbell, 58 Purvis Dr., Hamilton, Ont. L8S 2S4.

NOV. 19 – THE TRENTON STAMP SHOW will be held in the Dufferin Centre, 344 Dufferin Ave., Trenton, ON., 10 a.m. - 5 p.m. featuring exhibition, table auction, 10 dealers, door prizes, and a club-run stamp information table. Information: Trenton Stamp Club, Box 894, Trenton ON, K8V 5R8.

NOV. 25-26 — UKRAINPEX-88 FALL, a stamp exhibition being held in conjuction with the celebrations of the Millenium of Christianity in Ukraine, at the Convention Centre of the Harbour Castle Hotel, Toronto, Ont. Hours: 11 a.m. - 9 p.m. Nov. 25 and 9 a.m. - 4 p.m. Nov. 26. Information: Dr. R. Zelonka (Chairman, Exhibiting Committee), 1274 Monks Passage, Oakville, Ont. L6M 1R4.

DEC. 13 – STONEY CREEK STAMP CLUB'S 13th annual show Saturday, Dec. 3 at the Fiesta Mall, Highway 8, Stoney Creek, ON, 9:30 p.m. - 5:30 p.m. with 10 dealers, exhibits, club circuit books, youth booth. Free parking and admission. Information: Stoney Creek Stamp Club, PO Box 9343, Stoney Creek, ON L8G 4S1.

1989

JAN. 3-5 — PHILEX in the Sheraton Centre, 123 Queen St. West, Toronto, Ont. Hours: Friday 10 a.m. - 8 p.m., Saturday 10 a.m. - 6 p.m., Sunday 10 a.m. - 5 p.m. Information: David B. Bastedo, PHILEX Canada, P.O. Box 980, Station 'K', Toronto, M4P 2V3. Telephone: (416) 489-3759.

JAN. 20-29 — INDIA '89, FIP - sponsored world philatelic exhibition to be held in New Delhi, India. Canadian commissioner: David Dixon, P.O. Box 1082, Oakville, Ont. L6J 5E9.

APRIL 19-23 — IPHLA '89, an international Philatelic literature exhibition to be held in Frankfurt am Main, German Federal Republic. Entry forms, which must be received by Sept. 15, 1988, are available from Harry Sutherland, P.O. Box 100, First Canadian Place, Toronto, Ont. M5X 1B2.

MAY 5-7 — ROYAL '89, the 61st annual convention and exhibition of the Royal Philatelic Society of Canada at the Hamilton Convention Centre, Hamilton, Ont. Host club is the Hamilton Philatelic Society, R.P.S.C. Chapter #51. For information, contact Vernon G. March, 200 Charlotte St., Hamilton, Ont. L8K 4V6.

MAY 21-31 — BULGARIA '89, a world philatelic exhibition held under FIP patronage in Sofia, Bulgaria. Canadian Commissioner: Andrew Cronin, P.O. Box 5722, Station 'A', Toronto, Ont. M5W 1P2.

JUNE 23-25 — PIPEX '89, the national exhibition and show of the Northwest Federation of Stamp Clubs will be held in Edmonton, Alta. Host club is the Edmonton Philatelic Society, R.P.S.C. Life Chapter #6.

JULY 7-17 — PHILEXFRANCE '89, a world philatelic exhibition held under FIP patronage at the Parc des Expositions (Porte de Versailles), Paris, France. Canadian Commissioner: James E. Kraemer, 17 Commanche Dr., Ottawa, Ont. K2E 6E8.

JULY 26 - AUG. 6 – BRASILIANA '89, in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil under the patronage of the FIAF. Canadian commissioner is Andrew Cronin, PO Box 5722, Station A, Toronto, ON, M5W 1P2.

1990

MAY 3-13 — STAMP WORLD LONDON 90, a World Philatelic Exhibition under F.I.P. patronage celebrating the 150th anniversary of the Penny Black, at the Alexandra Palace, London, England. Canadian Commissioner is David Dixon, PO Box 182, Oakville, Ont. L6J 5E9.

JUNE 7 - 9 – ROYAL '90, the 62nd annual convention of the Royal Philatelic Society of Canada to be held in Regina, SK.

JULY 12-17 — DUSSELDORF 90, an International Exhibition for Youth under F.I.P. patronage, to be held in Dusseldorf, Germany. Canadian Commissioner to be appointed.

AUG. 24 - SEPT. 2 — NEW ZEALAND 1990, a World Stamp Exhibition under F.I.P. patronage in Aukland, N.Z. For information, contact the Canadian Commissioner: W.L. (Bill) Percy, 8 Hyland Ave., Georgetown, Ont. L7G 3A2.

OCT. 19-29 — WEIN '90, a thematic stamp exhibition, including literature and youth collections in the thematic field (not F.I.P. - sponsored). Canadian Commisioner: Major R.K. Malott, 16 Harwick Crescent, Ottawa, Ont. K2H 6R1.

□

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EXCHANGES WANTED

Since the Royal Philatelic Society of Canada is the national society of philatelists in Canada, many requests for exchange partners are referred to us. As a service to our members, we are pleased to present these names so that those who wish to do so can make overseas contacts. We have no way of checking the credentials of the individuals who write to us asking that their name be published, therefore we urge that caution be taken when answering these requests.

Mezlout Samir
Cite Abane Ramdane
Btg No. 61
Ain Benian (Tipaza)
ALGERIA

An Algerian collector wishes to exchange stamps. Writes in French.

Ibrahim Aji
JL. SMP 285/K
Cimahi 40523
INDONESIA

Indonesian collector will exchange mint and used stamps, FDCs and view cards of his country for similar Canadian material. Writes in English.

Luiz Gonzaga Camargo Maia
Rua Dr. Candido Espinheira, 29-Ap. 52
CEP: 05004 - Sao Paulo - S.P.
BRASIL

Very interested in exchanging Brazilian stamps for Canadian stamps. Writes in broken English.

Bartosz Nowik
02-759 Warsaw
Warnenska 2/30
POLAND

A Polish philatelist who would like to correspond with Canadian philatelists and exchange stamps. Writes in English.

Benkhemnouf Mahdi
16231 Gue de constantine
Kouba, Alger
ALGERIA

Would like to correspond with Canadian philatelists. Writes in French.

DEMANDES D'ECHANGE

La Royal Philatelic Society ne s'occupe pas normalement des échanges entre philatélistes, mais comme elle est la société philatélique nationale du Canada, on lui transmet de nombreuses demandes de philatélistes désireux de trouver des correspondants pour échanger des timbres. Ainsi a-t-elle décidé, pour rendre service à ses membres, de publier les noms des intéressés d'outre-mer, afin que ceux qui désirent établir des rapports avec eux puissent le faire. Je vous signale toutefois que nous ne savons rien des personnes qui nous demandent de publier leur nom, c'est pourquoi je vous conseille d'être prudent en répondant à ces demandes d'échange.

Mr. Liang
LKE, P.O. Box 1145
C-100007, Beijing, PR
CHINA

Seeks mint stamps Pacific Islands, Africa, etc. Is curious to know if there is anyone who would be willing to pass on recent used copies of The Philatelist. Writes in Chinese, is a pen friend of Mrs. J.E. Smythe who wrote to us.

Milan Bucko
94108 Rastislance 185
CZECHOSLOVAKIA

Would like to exchange Czechoslovakian stamps with a Canadian philatelist. Is interested in mint Canadian stamps, souvenir sheets, blocks of four and singles and First Day Covers. Writes in broken English. □

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PRESIDENT'S PAGE

by
James E. Kraemer

ROYAL 88 – WINNIPEG

Royal 88, our convention in Winnipeg has come and gone. It was a friendly convention, well planned with many interesting events and seminars. CONGRATULATIONS to Beverlie Clark and her committee. They did a lot of work. The result was an excellent convention enjoyed by everyone.

We are now looking forward to ROYAL 89 in Hamilton, Ont. May 5-7, 1989 and ROYAL 90, June 7-9, 1990 in Regina, Sask. Plan to attend now. Members are urged to send in hotel reservations as soon as possible. Now is the time to complete that special exhibit that you have been working on and enter it in our National exhibition. The number of frames at our Royal shows is always limited. Send your entry in at an early date and avoid being disappointed.

VOLUNTEER TRANSLATOR NEEDED

In a previous column we asked for volunteers to translate articles from French to English and from German to English. Kenneth Campbell, Montreal and W.C. McCullogh, Kingston have offered their help and in translating French to English are now doing work for us. Likewise J.G. Doehler, Toronto is translating an article from German to English. We are very grateful to these gentlemen for their help. On behalf of our members I wish to express our thanks to them.

Recently an article written in French has been submitted to us for publication in English. Do we have any volunteers who could help translate this article to English for us? Please drop me a line.

STAMPS WANTED

We have always been amazed at the number of members who write the office inquiring were they can purchase specialized material such as used British Colonies, recent Canadian varieties, thematic items etc. Generally they are looking for specialized items, many are not expensive but often are elusive to find. We recommend our advertisers and our Sales Department. Probably one reason why the R.P.S.C. Sales Department keeps setting new records each year. We are certain our dealer advertisers benefit as well.

PHILATELY A YEAR ROUND ACTIVITY

There was a time when we looked forward to September/October as the time when stamp collecting activity resumed. Many clubs were inactive during the summer months.

Times have changed. Probably its our way of life that has changed our attitudes. Nowadays stamp collecting activity goes on month after month without any let-up. The summer months are as busy as any other time of year. The "ROYAL", receives as many new membership applications during the summer months as at any other time of year.

For this reason and to even out the work load at the office your Society does not have a date when all membership are up for renewal. A members renewal comes up on the anniversary of his joining the society, unless too much money or too little is enclosed with his application. In these cases the office computer automatically computes the equivalent membership period and indicates when renewal is required.

The same applies to those remitting in U.S.A. funds, – the computer calculates the equivalent Canadian funds and credits the member accordingly. (Cheques in U.S. funds drawn on U.S. bands are accepted by the Royal. The official rate of exchange on the date of receipt is always used in calculating the equivalent Canadian funds.)

Any time is the right time to join the Royal Philatelic Society of Canada. □

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If you are not on our list and would like to receive a sample copy of this bulletin, please write. We believe that you will be pleased to see the variety of material offered.

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Vincent Graves Greene

Canada's Grand Old Man Of Philately Is Gone

by Ian S. Robertson

One of the best-known Canadian philatelists – a veritable dean of collectors and researchers – has died.

Vincent Graves "Vinnie" Greene, died on July 22 in a Toronto hospital. He was 95.

"He was the example everyone aspired to," said Mike Madesker, a friend of Mr. Greene's since they worked together on CAPEX 78.

"He was a unique personality and age didn't matter. I'm 32 years his junior but I never felt the difference. The moment you met him, you were at ease".

Apart from Mr. Greene's extensive collection, "he had a unique facility for getting along with people totally out of his generation," said his long-time friend and lawyer, Harry Sutherland, Q.C.

When I visited him at his Avenue Road apartment just over a year ago, Mr. Greene met me at the door with a warm smile and handshake. Several hours passed as we talked.

He talked about his early collections of British North America material, much of which he had sold long ago. But like most people bitten by the stamp bug, he still retained several collections and willingly showed them to me.

While he then rarely entered a bid, Mr. Greene enjoyed poring through mail auction catalogues to keep up with the hobby he began as a boy.

And his telephone provided a continuous link with friends making dates for a visit, or consulting his encyclopedic knowledge. Advice was sometimes firm, sometimes gentle.

Anecdotes from more than 50 years of collecting and associating with some of the world's top hobbyists were always readily at hand. For Mr. Greene, the people behind the stamps were the heartblood of his interest.

And if someone had a particularly appealing project, Mr. Madesker said his late friend would help finance it.

"But he didn't seek the limelight. He spurred people intellectually and financially."



Vincent (Vinnie) Graves Green

Born in February 1893, the future self-employed insurance salesman, soldier, philatelist and numismatist was educated at Upper Canada College.

Like many boys, young Vinnie followed the example of his father and took up stamps, collecting just about any type that appealed to him. At age 11, he took out an advertisement in Brown's Advertiser, offering to exchange Canadian, Newfoundland and United States stamps for foreign stamps.

In his teens, his stamp interests faded as he prepared for his future at school. The First World War interrupted his civilian pursuits,

however. On Aug. 9, 1918, he was wounded in the right arm by a machine-gun bullet at the Battle of Amiens.

During the Second World War, he stayed in Canada as a recruiting officer.

Mr. Greene renewed his stamp interest in 1925 when an uncle in London, Ont. showed him 25 covers he was selling for an estate. Most bore Cape of Good Hope triangle stamps from the mid-1800s.

He turned down his uncle's offer to by them for $20 and forgot about the covers until his uncle told him sometime later that he'd sold them for $500.

The idea of missing such a good opportunity bothered him and he bid on the three best examples in a New York mail auction – only to see them sell for twice what he bid.

"It was a valuable lesson," he said, one which launched his lifelong pursuit of knowledge about stamps and, more important, about postal history.

In 1929, he joined the first of many clubs and launched lifelong friendships with such people as Fred Jarrett, the noted Canadian philatelic writer.

Mr. Greene also met C.M. Jephcott and John H.M. Young, with whom he wrote the limited-edition, *The Stamps of New Brunswick and Nova Scotia*. His associations also brought him in touch with Alfred Lichtenstein, the great U.S. collector, and noted British philatelic author and dealer Robson Lowe.

Through his contacts, Mr. Greene began to study the importance of postal rates as represented on covers. He began compiling a collection of covers back into the late 1700s – at a time whem most people were primarily interested in stamps.

But when it came to stamps, appearance counted above all else. Compared to the current trend to collect full gum, never-hinged stamps, Mr. Greene said: "I'd rather have a Large Queen perfectly centred, with no gum, to an off-centre stamp with perfect gum."

For his service to philately – he judged exhibitions in Toronto, London, New York and Mexico – he received many philatelic honors: a signatory of the Roll of Distinguished Philatelists; Fellow of the Royal Philatelic Society of London; and in 1964, received the Alfred F. Lichtenstein Memorial Award, the top such award in the U.S.

In 1951, 1978 and in 1987, Mr. Greene was chairman of CAPEX, the only international exhibitions held in Canada – all in Toronto.

"That role is unique in philately," Mr. Sutherland said.

He was past-president of the British North American Philatelic Society, the Toronto Stamp Collectors' Club, the Canadian Numismatic Association and was a member of the distinguished Collectors' Club of New York City.

Concerned that Canada is one of the few western countries without a centre for philatelic studies, Mr. Greene in 1975 used $50,000 from the proceeds of the sale of his major collection to form the Vincent Graves Greene Philatelic Research Foundation in Toronto.

One of the foremost expertising services in Canada, it operates under the guidance of Mr. Sutherland. Mr. Madesker is a director of the foundation, representing the Royal Philatelic Society of Canada.

Until recently, Mr. Greene still visited the wood-lined insurance office on downtown Victoria Street, which he moved into in 1922. And a Yonge Street cafe was a favorite spot to meet non-collector friends, to discuss subjects ranging from politics, good books, to the status of the Toronto Blue Jays baseball team and the Toronto Maple Leafs hockey team.

Collectors from around the world attended his last birthday party this spring, held for a man RPSC past-president Beverlie Clark once described as "truly a gentleman."

Vincent G. Greene is survived by his sister, Elsie Sise, of Kilmacolm, Scotland, three nieces and three nephews. □

R.P.S.C. LAPEL PINS

In 1987 the 100th anniversary of organized philately in Canada will be observed by CAPEX '87. Show that you are a proud member of the RPSC by wearing a RPSC pin - now available with two types of clasps: snap (clutch) lock or safety pin (cloison) clasp for the ladies. Price for either type, including mailing is $5.00 Canadian each. Orders should be sent to the R.P.S.C. National Office, P.O. Box 5320, Station F, Ottawa, Ontario, K2C 3J1, Canada.

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Brantford Stamp Club Marks 50th Anniversary

Anniversaries are always times to reminisce about the past, to be aware of the present and to look to the future. In looking back to the beginnings of the Brantford Stamp Club (BSC), an interesting tale unfolds.

In the summer of 1938 two men, Elmore D. Taylor and Harold Cusden, sat across from each other on a Brantford streetcar. One of them carried a Gibbons Stamp magazine and the other expressed a desire to know the other stamp collector. So the conversation began: "You must be a stamp collector."

"You betcha," said the other.

"So am I. There ought to be a stamp club – surely Brantford has plenty of stamp collectors."

Of course there was complete agreement.

A few evenings later the man with the magazine, Harold Cusden, along with several other collectors, visited Elmore D. Taylor, and that night the BSC took shape. A constitution was drawn up, dues were established ($1 per year) and an executive set up with Everett Roberts being the first president (1938-39). The first meeting was held in September 1938, at the Y.M.C.A. with 17 members present.

From its inception, the BSC has been aware of being attuned to its members needs in regards to philatelic matters and events. Consequently, it has been actively engaged in a number of events over the years.

In 1944 we became affiliated with the Canadian Philatelic Society (CPS). Brantford joined with clubs from Guelph, Kitchener, Galt, Waterloo, Paris and Preston, to form the Grand River Valley Philatelic Association (GRVPA) in 9146. The Brantford Club very ably assisted the CPS in 1947 in servicing 140,000 First Day Covers commemorating the 100th anniversary of Alexander Graham Bell's birth. The BSC became a life member of CAPEX in 1950. While acting as Co-ordinator of Chapters in 1952, Mae Hanselman, a long-time member and former president, secured for the BSC the designation Chapter #1 of the CPS. In 1959 the CPS was changed to Royal Philatelic Society of Canada (R.P.S.C.).

The E. Pauline Johnson stamp was issued in 1961 and 40,000 stamps were processed by BSC in Brantford. A special die was used in the cancellation machine for this first day issue. In 1969, Peter Mann of Guelph became the editor of *The Bulletin*, listing the activities of the member clubs of the CRVPA. The following year *The Grand News* replaced *The Bulletin* and is still being published today.

In 1971 the Ontario Postal History Society was formed in London, Ont. The BSC hosted a stamp show in 1972. The BSC was asked to provide a public display at the Lynden Park Mall in the fall of 1976 for a week. The Club has been doing this ever since and has found it an effective means of meeting the public and also of gaining new members. Brantpex, an outstanding stamp show and auction, took place in 1977. It was duly noted by the club that the Post Office became a Crown Corporation in 1981. In keeping with government regulations, the Ontario Sales Tax was charged for any purchase over 20 cents starting in 1982. In the same year postage due stamps and precancels were withdrawn from the Philatelic Centres. All these events certainly had an affect on the club's activities and its efforts to stay up-to-date with the happenings in the stamp world.

On a more personal basis, the constitition of the BSC has been amended numerous times to meet the changing needs of the club over the years. For example, an auditor now checks the books each year, the second and third vice-presidents were dropped from the executive, directors were appointed to cover Membership, Publicity, Programs and Social. The executive is now elected for a two-year term rather than one, which provides greater continuity and stability for the club's activities.

It is interesting to note that the meeting places have had quite varied venues over the years ranging from the YMCA, Brant Historical Museum, churches, schools, to the present

location at the Woodman Park Community Centre.

Finances have also played an important role in the BSC's history. The premise of the club has not been to make money but to provide a service to the community. Initally rentals were reasonable but with rising costs rents were increased to a point where the club had difficulty functioning. As a result, dues have been increased from $1 per year in 1938 to the present rate of $6 per year. Revenue is also generated from general admission, sales circuit books and three major auctions each year.

The early charter members and executives served the club well. Many served as president for three, four or five years and were always available to do other tasks. From the beginning to the present day, there have been 23 presidents. From the inital informal meetings of people wanting to get together because of their interest in stamps to the more structured meetings of today, the same underlying interest in matters of philately is still alive and well. Over the years the club has presented quite a number of life memberships to the original few members who set the stage for the club as it exists today. The club is still strong, active and vital because of the executive continuing the tradition of working closely with its membership.

The Brantford Stamp Club has celebrated its 10th, 15th, 20th and 25th anniversaries. Now the big 50th anniversary is here and we are ready to celebrate in style on Oct. 1, 1988, at the Woodman Park Community Centre. There will be exhibitions, displays, bourse, sales circuit books, draws, refreshments topped off with a banquet in the evening. This promises to be a gala event.

To that long ago meeting between Elmore D. Taylor, the founder of the BSC, and Harold Cusden, we take off our hats and say thank you gentlemen for starting our club. If the next 50 years are anything like the past 50 years, The Brantford Stamp Club can look forward to the future with anticipation and pleasure. I think Messrs. Taylor and Cusden would have liked that. Z

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September 28, 1988



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American Bank Note Co. To Sell Proof Materials

by Robert H. Pratt

On June 20th, Christie's of 502 Park Avenue, New York, announced that it would sell at auction, various compositions of the proof renditions of postage stamps, revenue stamps, paper currency and border art work. This is the first time that an American producer of security material has made some of its previous creations available to the collecting public. It is indeed an event that should be greeted with appropriate praise and enthusiastic response.

Before this, all that has been available has been selected material from engravers scrap books, from the recipients of unreturned approval proofs and color trials proofs, from sales inspired gifts, and in some cases from imperforate sheets retained for record purposes or used in displays. Now we are to be treated to the possibility of acquiring some more of this fabulous material, this time officially. there will be something for both the philatelist and numismatist.

The material will come from two books of 'collages' created by students in the company's art school for apprentices, probably during the period 1897 to 1899. While being billed as 'collages', it is believed that a better expression would be 'compilations'. Within the books are pages of proofs, trimmed close to the outline of the stamp, most probably cut from imperforate plate proof sheets as they would provide an adequate supply in case of damage or other accident during preparation. These duties are usually from a set or related sets issued at about the same time, and carefully inserted into recepticles in pages artfully created from the proofs and engine turning border material (lathework) from bank notes and bonds. In addition some decorative vignettes are included. Each page is approximately 8 7/8 inches by 11 7/8 inches, and the books are about 11 5/16 by 13 3/4 inches.

There are two books. Volume 1 is titled "Postage Stamps" and Volume 2, "Revenue Stamps". Thirty one pages in all grace the two books. The books are labeled American Bank Note Company / New York 1899" stamped into the spine in gold. A varying number of proofs will be on each page, depending on the issue or issues to be shown. For instance there are 20 proofs and 2 vignettes on the Newfoundland 1897 page; 14 proofs and 2 vignettes on the United States Newspaper Stamp page; 40 proofs and no vignettes on the United States Department Stamp page; and 34 proofs and 1 vignette on the Canadian Jubilee and Queen Victoria Maple Leaf issues of 1897 - 1898 page. As other pages were not available as this is being written, the total number of proofs, etc. cannot be known. Possibly, in total, there may be about 800 proofs of various countries, issues and denominations available. These two books were the personal pride of the chairman of the company and are said to have remained in his office since their creation. It is obvious they would form a distinctive and exceptional manner of demonstating the artistic and productive capabilities of the company.

For the paper money collector, a special treat is in store. There are 11 large wall frames, appearing like pictures within handsomely designed hardwood frames. These special frames were originally hung in the company's Design and Engraving Division at the Bronx Plant, Hunt Point. Included within the frames are compositions of paper currency, security paper specimens, proofs, etc. all embellished with complementary designs created by hundreds of stamp proofs arranged in an unusual decorative manner. The contents of each 'picture' is unknown at this time.

There was however, a display created by the American Bank Note Company and used for an exibition in Australia around 1900, which was not returned to the States and was believed

dismantled in Australia. A picture of it indicates that it was about 41 inches wide by 57 inches high. It contained 10 to 12 Bonds (security paper), 25 to 30 articles of currency, (some whole, and some cut to conforming shapes) probably to devalue the note, several vignettes, and a double border made up of strips cut vertically and horizontally from page proofs of the stamps of Newfoundland and Nova Scotia. The imperforate stamps were in a deep green color, not the color of issue or of any known color trials for the values. There were 236 individual stamps of the 1873 Blue Newfoundland 3 cent and 226 individual stamps of the Nova Scotia 8 1/2 cent 1860 stamp. Until this picture became available the provenance of the plate proof strips was unknown. If the 11 large wall frames are like this one, there will be a deluge of plate proofs and currency notes and bonds on the market, presupposing that the wall frames fall into the hands of dealers rather then collectors. It is difficult to see how such a melange of different country currency notes and bonds would interest a collector of a given country. Let us hope that the catalogue will indicate otherwise. It would also be helpful if the pictures in the catalogue were so detailed and clear that an inventory of the material on each frame could be prepared. □

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Modern Machine Cancellations

by Tony Shamon

Cancellations produced by some of Canada Post's current mail processing machines are one of the most intensively collected Canadian postal history sub-specialties. What is surprising about the popularity with collectors of these modern-day strikes is the intensity with which they are pursued as for the most part, with one or two exceptions, cancellations of the last 60 or so years have been largely ignored.

It was the German-built Klussendorf (K) mail cancelling machine that catapulted modern mail cancels to the postal history collecting forefront. Postal history collectors were attracted by the dies' eye-catching designs when their use became widespread in 1984. But, the introduction of the initial K machines into post offices across Canada was only the beginning for the resurgence of a somewhat neglected facet of our hobby. Greater challenges awaited machine cancellation collectors with the introduction of competing postmarking machines and with Canada Post's "balancing act."

Collectors who had been drawn to the attractive but somewhat odd-appearing strikes consisting of a complete outer circle enclosing a truncated inner ring to provide space for the two-letter provincial abbreviation in current vogue began to notice that the supply of cancellations from offices where the K machine was known to have been in use would abruptly cease. Equally as mysterious, K cancellations suddenly began to appear from post offices where K machines were previously not known to be in use.

The phenomenon of these unexpected K covers from post offices that until then were not known to be using the K machine was dubbed "balancing." Collectors eventually learned that



One major feature distinguishing the Klussendorf cancel from other circular date stamps is its lower dater bar which truncates the bottom of the inner circle. A parallel-running bar above the date gives the design its unique appearance.

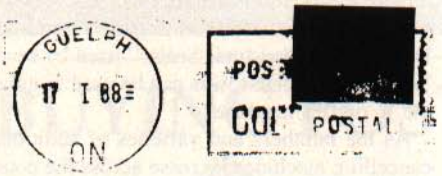
Canada Post was attempting to balance the local postal facility's volume of outgoing mail with the machine's processing capacity by placing the K machines into post offices where this criterion would be met.

According to postmasters who have had extensive experience with the machine, processing about 6,000 pieces of letter mail per day is the optimum number for a smoothly flowing operation.

"Anything more will strain the machine's limit while a much lower volume will result in the machine sitting idle," explained one postal employee.



IPS ring dies make use of a numbering system to identify locations where more than one machine canceller is in use. The number 1 on this Moncton, NB, die denotes that it is the first die that was slated for use at a Moncton post office.



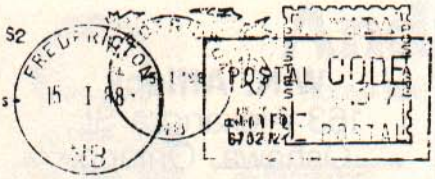
The lack of an engraved numeral on this die prepared for Guelph, ON, tells collectors that only a single ring die was destined for use at this specific postal facility.

The "balancing" has continued since the machines' initial installation into about 325 post offices. By 1988 the roster of towns still using, or those that have in the past used, K cancelling machines has increased to 340. While most transfers, about 10 so far, have taken place in British Columbia, reports of reassigned machines have also come from other provinces, with the latest two reports of transfers having taken place at St. Zotique, Quebec, and at Swan River, Manitoba, respectively.

Given the intense interest in K collecting, it was only a matter of time before a couple of dedicated individuals would offer to head study groups to facilitate the gathering, storing, and dissemination of the vast amounts of data being gathered by collectors.

Dr. Brian Plain, leading one contingent, has christened members of his group "Klussendorf'ers." For the nominal fee of $3, members of the study group receive several chatty newsletters including updates on new time marks (denoting mail despatching times), reports of previously unreported advertising slogans, and other relevant information of interest to K enthusiasts.

A Quebec-based study group's mandate goes beyond the immediate K canceller. Headed by Geoff Newman, the group's newsletter, *The Machine Canceller,* deals with the myriad aspects of machine cancellations in general. No charge is levied for membership in this group. It is a participatory group with two prerequisites for continued membership: members are expected to contribute information or data pertaining to Canadian machine cancellations accompanied by a stamped, self-addressed number 10 or larger envelope.



The numeral 2 indicated that Fredericton, N.B. uses more than one machine. What the numbers themselves do not reveal is the total number of machines in operation at any one specific location.

Both, Dr. Plain and Mr. Newman, do a tremendous job in producing informative newsletters and, while it is not the intent of this article to publicize these two study groups, credit should be given to both individuals for giving so unstintingly of their time and expertise to further this particular aspect of postal history study.

Despite Canada Post's best efforts in assigning the K machines to make optimal use of their processing capacity, these semi-automatic concellers have been found to be too slow for the volume of mail at some post offices. Machines at these facilities have had to be replaced by a newer and faster U.S.-manufactured mail cancelling machine. Called 180 MS models and built by International Peripheral Systems, Inc. of Lewistown, Pennsylvania, these were delivered to Canada Post in 1986 and some of these machines have replaced several K cancellers.



With the introduction of the Klussendorf mail cancelling machine came Canada Post's announcement that it would make advertising slogans available for use with their newly introduced cancelling machines. According to one recent study, Klussendorf advertising slogan dies are interchangeable with daters used by IPS cancellation machines.

According to IPS Inc. president, J.H. Jiranek, the MST model is capable of processing up to 24,000 pieces of sorted and edged mail per hour. In addition to applying the cancellation, the versatile postmarking machine also has the capability of separating unsorted mail which it "automatically feeds, singulates, cancels, counts and stacks."

A further obvious advantage the machine enjoys over its competitors is its optional features.



This double-ring Sechelt, British Columbia, dater hub, while similar in appearance to a Klussendorf dater die, comes from an IPS, hand-operated canceller now undergoing fields trials. Used with the HD-2 model machine, it is the only known cancel of its kind to be in use in Canada.

These options include: dies for special application, barrel dater, die hub with stylus-set dating wheels with detachable printing plates, and six or seven digit mail counters. These additional available features were perceived by Canada Post as giving the machine a competitive edge over other models.

While the MST models are the most numerous of all the IPS postmarking machines in operation in Canada, the Post Office is making use of two additional models built by IPS Inc. but neither has so far seen extensive use in local postal facilities. The HD-2 model, the smaller of the two, is a hand-operated machine suitable for very small post offices: the HDM model is being used as a pre-production unit and is still being field-tested in Sechelt, British Columbia.

These different models make use of a wide variety of dater/slogan combinations and provide a fertile field of study for postal historians and cancellation collectors alike. One obviously specialized area requiring further investigation is the interchangeability of advertising slogan dies between the K and IPS machines. For instance, the May 2, 1988 issue of *The Klussendorf File* refers to Greg Hutton's research indicating that the Christmas slogan "Fight Lung Disease/Use Christmas Seals," used by seven Western Canadian towns can be used in either the K or IPS machines.



Several local towns have taken advantage of advertising slogans made available for use with the IPS mail cancelling machine. More than a single slogan are known from several local offices, adding variety for machine cancellation enthusiasts.

As the numbers and varieties of additional cancelling machines increase across the country, the opportunity for widening, what until recently has been a limited field for study, will increase tremendously. Cancellation collectors and postal historians will become the beneficiaries of the legacy of Canada Post's expanded use state-of-the-art postmarking and mail processing equipment.

(Editor's note: Collectors interested in joining Dr. Plain's (Klussendorfs) or Mr. Newman's (Machine Cancels) group may write to them care of the R.P.S.C. National Office, P.O. Box 5320, Station F, Ottawa, Ontario K2C 3J1) □

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Early Rural Routes

by Dean E. Miltimore

Government plans for the elimination of rural post offices, curtailment of rural mail delivery, and installation of 'super mail boxes' as a replacement present an opportune time to review our rural mail delivery service.

The father of Canadian rural mail delivery was George Wilcox, a private citizen of Springford, Ont., whose untiring efforts for several years writing letters to newspapers and politicians, were eventually crowned with success on Oct. 10, 1908, when a short delivery service between Hamilton and Ancaster commenced, in Ontario.*

Rural mail delivery did not come to the Brome-Missisquoi area of the Eastern Townships of Quebec until later.

As my maternal grandfather, Lorenzo Call, was the postmaster at Call Mill, as it was officially called, and who also met the local train at West Brome for transportation of the mail bag, there is some information, as well as momentos of that era, in my possession.

The Call Mill "post office" was not very large, as one may see from the picture. The slots, or pigeon holes, for letters were smaller than boxes used today, probably because envelopes then were smaller than the standard envelope now in vogue. Residents of that neighbourhood came for their mail at his home.



A Scottsmore, Que. split ring cancel was used as a receiver cancel on Jan. 14, 1986 postcard.



The Call Mill post office was not large as 11 pigeon holes sufficed to handle the mail for residents in that area in the late 1800's.

The same state of affairs existed at Scottsmore, where my other grandfather had a farm. Scottsmore was a name compounded from the Scott and Miltimore names and the post office was at the residence of Marvin Scott. His grandson, Wendell Scott, resides at the same ancestral home and it is his wooden Post Office sign which appears with this article.

The post office sign, boxes and a special lantern were provided by the government.

According to Mr. Scott, the first mail courier in this area was a Mr. Bryce. He also served the Dunboro and Farnam's Corner post offices. This service started in 1908 and continued for a brief period of five years when the present "door-to-door" service was instituted in 1913.

Scottsmore was divided at the county line between West Brome in Brome County and Sweetsburg in Missisquoi County. Call Mill, along with several other community post offices, were attached to West Brome.

The late Ned Soles of the Sherbrooke post office laid out the official routes in this area.

May it be stated that most of the rural route



This post office sign marked the post office in Scottsmore, Que.

carriers were, and still are, very faithful and dedicated officials, who worked on a low wage scale, and provided their own transportation. No matter how bad the storms, they did their best to deliver the mail from door to door, often in the old days with horse-drawn rigs over very poor roads. Today, the service is still very good.

Part of the charm of country living will disappear when this door-to-door service is eliminated.

(*In appreciation to *"History of Rural Mail in Canada"* by George Wilcox.) □

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Small And Large Shield Issues Of Germany

by Hans Reiche

In December 1871, new stamps were distributed in Germany for official release on January 1, 1872.

A few of these stamps were used in Baden and Alsace prior to 1872.

The stamps features were characterized by an embossed eagle and crown, a so-called Achen crown and were designed by H.G. Schilling.

Each stamp was perforated by a comb measuring 13 1/2 by 14 1/4. The first issue was embossed with a small eagle and on June 1, 1872 the same stamps were embossed with a large eagle. The embossing was colourless.

Two additional values were first issued April 1, 1872 and on January 1, 1874 two values were overprinted.

Each value was printed from plates containing 150 stamps. The printing was done as the last step.

Specialists separate a rough type of perforation from the normal as well as the "small and large" sized stamps which have less or more perforation holes than the regular stamps.

The stamp values range from a 1/4 Groschen to a 5 Groschen and from 1 Kreuzer to 18 Kreuzer, the highest denomination issued. The Prussian State Printing Office printed the stamps.

One plate was used for the small shield 1/4 Gr., 5 Gr., 2 Kr., and 18 Kr. Three plates were used for the 1/3 Gr., 1/2 Gr., 2 Gr., 1 Kr., 3 Kr., and 7 Kr. The 1 Gr. was printed from six plates. The usage period was until the end of 1875 when a new set of stamps were issued.

A few shade variations can be noted on some values and these are listed in specialized catalogues. The 1/4 Gr. small shield exists in a violet and a dark violet shade. The 1/3 Gr. exists in green and in dark green. The 1/2 Gr. value comes in brick red and orange. The 2 Gr. is listed in a ultramarine and blue shade.





Small shield



Large Shield

A 1 Kr. can be found in green and dark green. The 2 Kr. in brick red is a scarce stamp while the yellow orange shade is more common. The 7 Kr. exists in ultramarine and blue.

In the large shield issue, the 1/3 Gr. exists in a less common shade of blue green. The 2 1/2 Gr. in lilac brown is scarce and the red brown shade is more common. The 1 Kr. is printed in green and in blue green and the 9 Kr. in a red brown and lilac brown which is the better shade. The two overprinted values, issued to avoid confusion with other values, come only in the red brown shade.

A few odd varieties have been listed. Double-embossed stamps exist in many values of the large shield issue but all of them are very rare. A few imperforated values are found on the 1/3 Gr., 1 Gr., 2 Gr. and a 5 Gr. of the small shield. The 1 Gr. and 5 Gr. of the large shield are listed imperforated.

The issue date of the large shield was made dependent on the need to have certain values available and one of the earliest known dates for the stamps is June 13, 1872. Not many large multiples of either issue remain intact. Mint complete sheets are still known of some values but used multiples are seldom found and bring good prices when auctioned off.

One interesting but not constant variety is the "nail-head". The plate was fastened to a base by screws and these screws became loose and sometimes protruded from the plate. When this happened colour dots appeared on the stamps which came from the heads of the screw. All values show this feature. One other variety mentioned in most catalogues is on the overprinted 2 1/2 Groschen stamp. Two stamps in the sheet show a misplaced 1/2, the positions on the sheet are 114 and 141.

Because of the existance of two issues practically at the same time it is not surprising to find the two different issues on a single mail item. These mixed frankings are a nice addition to any collection. In a few cases, the Groschen value was used together with a Kreuzer value. Some covers exist with the shield issue together with stamps from the North German Postal District.

The same design was also used for postal stationary. Envelopes and postal bands were manufactured with the shield issue. The envelopes are of the 1 Gr. and 3 Kr. values and come in two main sizes with variations of the height of the numerals. The bands are in the 1/3 Gr. and 1 Kr. values. A few special envelopes were printed for invalids and other private organizations. These types are very rare as just a few hundred were printed in some cases.

The Old German States made use of a large number of special cancelling devices and many post offices in the states kept these devices for the cancellation of the shield issue. These postdated cancels can be found from such states as Baden, Braunschweig, Bremen, Hamburg, Hannover, Lubeck, Mecklenburg-Schwerin, Mecklenburg-Strelitz, Oldenburg, Prussia, Saxony, Schleswig-Holstein, Thurn and Taxis. In addition, cancels from Constantinopel come from the post office established March 1, 1871. Some details of these cancels follows.



BADEN:

The majority of cancels are two ring-types. The small coat of arms at the bottom of the cancel is a giveaway for the Baden cancels. The cancel usually shows the date and the months only. One interesting cancel is the Postablage, an oval type of cancel with two city names; 85 different cancels are known and all of them are in black with three in blue colour. A few single line cancels have been found, such as Badenweiler and Adelsheim.







BRAUNSCHWEIG:

Three major types are a box type cancel, a double ring one and a fancy numeral in bars. The double ring shows the full date in the centre and the time period at the bottom. The double ring has an outside diameter of 24 mm and inside one of 13 mm.



BREMEN:

Most of the Bremen cancels are rather crude double rings and not common on the shield issues. Three of them carry the coat of arms of Bremen, namely the key in the cancel. Only the day and the month appear.





HAMBURG:

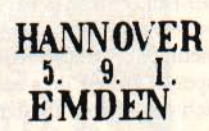
Two and one-ring cancels are the major types that can often be found. A special one-ring cancel reads "St. P.A. Hamburg Lub.Bhf." which is the railway station in Hamburg. It is a very rare one. The most expensive cancel is the single line boxed Ritzebuttel, a small place near the city of Hamburg. Other cancels have not been found on the shield issue but do exist on North German Postal District stamps.











HANNOVER:

There are a large number of postdated Hannover cancels on the shield issues. With few exceptions, the majority cancels are double rings with the day and the month in the centre. The name of the city is usually in large letters and a time period sometimes at the bottom. The day and the month are often divided by a horizontal line which is typical of the Hannover cancels.

Box cancels in two lines and the day and the month below the city name exist from Achim, Bevensen, Diepholz, Dorum, Esens, Gifhorn, Lehe, Lehrte, Lesum, Luchow, Papenburg, Stolzenau, Uslar, Winsen, Wittmund, Wunstorf.

A small size single ring cancel of about 18 to 20 mm in diameter has just the day and the month in the centre and comes in a grotesque and an antiqua script. The railway cancels are of the type with two cities and in between the date. It should be noted that the time periods are usually abbreviated by an A for evening, N for afternoon, V for morning.





LUBECK:

The free city of Lubeck made us a double ring and double line cancels. The city itself and its

railway station had their own cancel devices. There is one more, a horseshoe cancel, which will be described later. The cancels show the day and the month in the centre and the letters are usually strong and thick. The name of the city is spelled with the Umlaut or with UE.

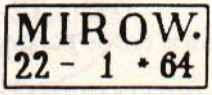




MECKLENBURG-SCHWERIN:

This State made use of double ring and straight line cancels. The double rings have the day and month in the centre but no time period added. The straight line cancels are in two lines with the day and month below the name. All are in very thick lettering. Some of the more common cancels are from Boitenburg, Gadebusch, Grabow, hagenow, Krackow, Malchin, Plau, Schwaan, Schwerin, and Waren.





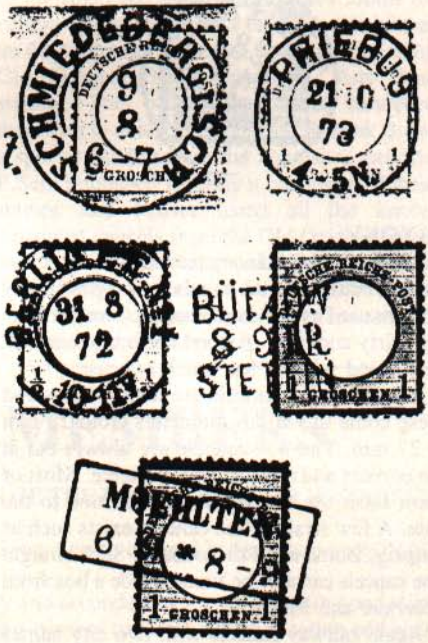
MECKLENBURG-STRELITZ:

A few peculiar cancels remained to be used on the shield issues. Single ring and segment cancels plus a box type were used. Basically, just 10 cities made use of them. The segment cancel has the full date below the name and so has the box type of Stargard and Mirow. With only 10 names, these are easy to identify and separate from others.



OLDENBURG:

With the exception of eight double-ring cancels, all others are of the box type. The box shows the name on top and the day and month below with a line between day and month. This is a characteristic of Oldenburg cancels. Only the city of Varel has a straight line cancel with thick letters.



PRUSSIA:

A large number of areas belonged to this State – East Prussia, Posen, Silesia, Brandenburg, etc. It is therefore not surprising that Prussian cancels were used extensively long after the State was incorporated into Germany.

One particular box cancel which was used on

Prussian stamps even survived to the Second World War from the city of Peitz.

The cancels come in almost all possible forms with single rings, double rings, boxes, railways, and a segment from Konigsberg. For the capital of Berlin alone, over 80 different cancels are listed by some catalogues. Care must be taken to identify. Many Prussian cancels from those which were used after the postdated cancels.







SAXONY:

Although the Saxony cancels are not far behind Prussia in the number of types, many of them used as postdated cancels from the State are fairly common. A good collection can still be formed without too much expense.

All of the ring cancels are double rings and these come in various diameters from 22 mm to 27 mm. The box cancels are always cut at the corners and are easily identifiable. Most of them show the time period in addition to the date. A few straight line cancels exists such as Leipzig, Borna and Reichenbach. Such straight line cancels can also be found inside a box from Meerane and Meissen.

Again railway cancels with two city names were used.

One peculiar cancel with double rings does not show the name of the city but only Stadtpost, the date and time. This Stadtpost cancel came only from the city of Dresden. It also was used in a boxed format.

One more cancel type must be listed. Saxony made use of numeral cancels inside a grid. The number represented a city. Number 7 is known on the shield issue from the railway Riesa-Zwickau. It is a rare cancel.





SCHLESWIG-HOLSTEIN:

Although this State was already incorporated into Prussia at the end of 1866, some cancels were kept and used. A variety of cancels were used but none have clearly distinguishing features and only the names from which they come from identify them. The cancels include a number of railways from Altona to other cities as well as Kiel. A few Danish type cancels, which are single ring types in very thick lettering can be found of which Gluckstadt and Itzehoe railway station are two of them.











THURN AND TAXIS:

Two parts accounted for a northern and a southern Thurn and Taxis district and each had its own stamps. Cancels which were used for Thurn and Taxis remained in use for a length of time and the shield issues show a number of such postdated cancels.

Most ring types are single ring with a couple of double rings. The rings measure from a small 18 mm to 26 mm in diameter.

Straight line cancels without a box or inside a box are not common on the shield issues. The smallness of many of the rings is often a giveaway for Thurn and Taxis cancels. A few of the cancels have an ornamental design at the bottom – a diamond, a circle or stars.



HORSESHOE CANCEL:

What must be considered as one of the most attractive cancel is the horseshoe type. This cancel was a cut-down double ring type which eventually developed into the typical horseshoe.

This type has actually many sub-types which consist of various endings of the horseshoe. As an example, the city of Cologn alone has 17



sub-types with many showing a small posthorn at the ends of the cancel. Hamburg has 12 subtypes with stars, dots, diamonds or crosses at the ends of the cancel. Because these cancels are fairly large, a full impression can only be seen on a cover or multiples. One strange type among them is the Kiel "sausage" cancel which, for one reason or another, is always listed with the horseshoes.

The preceeding outlines the major features of the small and large shield issues. Some excellent specialized books have been published on the subject of these two issues. Grobe in his Old German States handbook, lists these stamps. The well known Kohl handbook describes in detail these stamps. Spalink issued a special catalogue on the horseshoe cancels. P.Sem published recently a catalogue of these stamps and Feuser listed all the known postdated cancels from the Old German States in his specialized handbook. The specialized German Michel catalogue lists the major stamps but does not go into as much detail as some of the other publications do. □

NOTICE TO MEMBERS

A CALL FOR NOMINATIONS OF DIRECTORS OF THE ROYAL PHILATELIC SOCIETY OF CANADA is hereby setforth,-

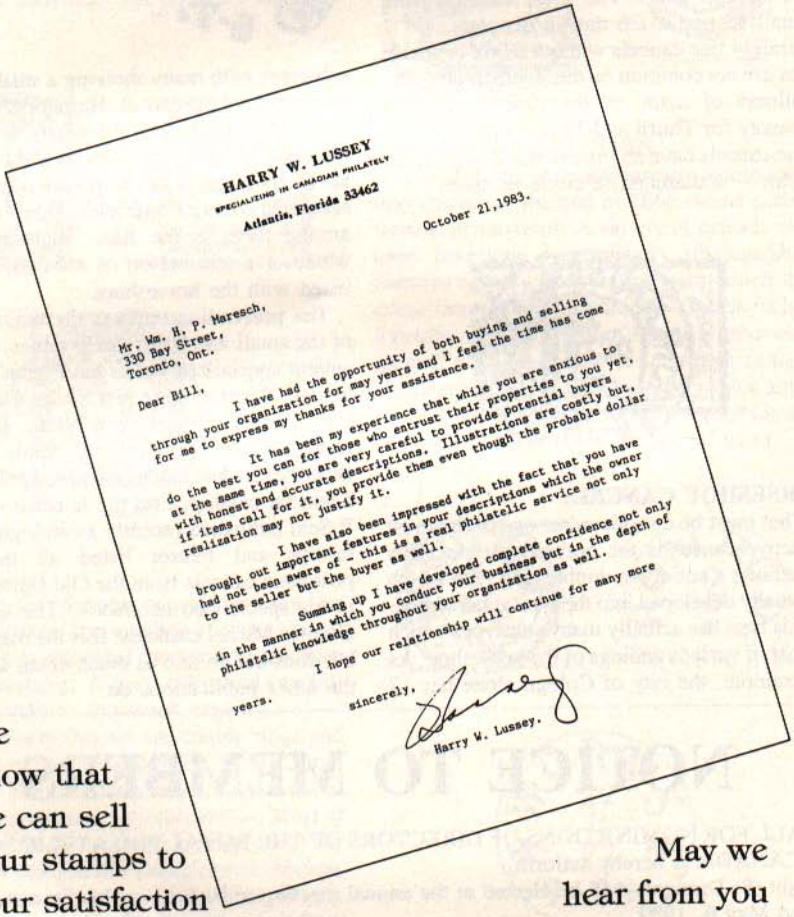
Eight (8) Directors will be elected at the annual meeting to be held in Hamilton at ROYAL '89 on May 6, 1989.

"Nominations must be in writing and be made by and seconded by the members in good standing of the Corporation. The person nominated must consent to his or her nomination and such nomination to be valid must be received by the office in Ottawa or by the President by January 1, 1989. All nominations will be placed before the Nomination Committee who will prepare a slate of Directors of those nominated to ensure national representation based on levels of membership."

The proposed slate of Directors will be published in the March/April issue (1989) of the Canadian Philatelist along with a short biography of each nominee.

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DEALERS IN RARE STAMPS SINCE 1924

Silas Robert Allen

par Jacques Nolet (A.Q.E.P.)

III – SON OEUVERE DE GRAVURE

Durant les trente-cinqu anées qu'il a passées au sein de la Canadian Bank Note Company d'Ottawa, Silas Robert Allen a gravé environ 80 poinçons qui deviendront des timbres-poste ou des givnettes postales canadiennes. Pour réaliser l'étendue de son travail, il convient de préciser ici quelques éléments d'information qui feront ressortir plus clairement l'importance de son oeuvre de gravure réalisée pour notre pays.

a) Le premier graveur canadien

Avant son arrivée à la CBNC d'Ottawa en mai 1922, il n'y avait pas eu à proprement parler de véritable graveur canadien en poste au sein de la Canadian Bank Note Company d'Ottawa.

Toutes les gravures étaient réalisées sans exception à l'American Bank Note Company, de New York, pour le compte de la Canadian Bank Note Company: en effet le contrat qui liait le ministère des Postes canadiennes à la CBNC stipulait seulement que les poinçons devant servir au Canada devaient obligatoirement être durcis dans la ville d'Ottawa. On comprend aisément pourquoi la CBNC donnait des contrats de gravure de timbres-poste canadiens à sa compagnie-mère: il n'y avait aucun graveur digne de ce nom au Canada!

Ce qui revient à dire que tous les timbres-poste émis par le Canada avant 1922 furent gravés à New York, et après 1922 jusqu'en 1948 la grande majorité le furent aussi: on continuait simplement la tradition qui avait toujours existé au niveau de la gravure de nos timbres-poste canadiens.

C'est avec l'arrivée de Silas Robert Allen à la CBNC que certains timbres canadiens avant 1946 furent gravés au Canada: exactement onze sur trois-cent-treize vignettes postales (267 de poste ordinaire, huit de poste aérienne, deux de livraison exprès par avion, dix de livraison exprès trois d'enregistrement, seize timbres-taxe et sept d'épargne de guerre).

Quand la Canadian Bank Note Company prendra la décision de confier à des graveurs canadiens le soin de réaliser à Ottawa les poinçons devant servir au Canada, Silas Robert Allen devint le maître incontesté de la taille-douce dans notre pays. Sur les 94 timbres-poste émis entre 1946 et 1955 (90 vignettes de poste ordinaire, une de poste aérienne, deux de livraison exprès par avion, une de livraison exprès), il en grava quarante-huit: ce qui constitue plus de la majorité des timbres-poste émis au Canada durant cette période.

Voilà pourquoi nous devons le considérer véritablement comme le premier grand graveur en taille-douce que le Canada ait produit dans la première moitié du XXe siècle, et par conséquent le fondateur réel de notre école nationale de gravure en taille-douce.

b) Son oeuvre de gravure

Nous détaillerons dans la section suivante de cet article la production postale de Silas Robert Allen comme graveur spécialisé en portrait de la Canadian Bank Note Company d'Ottawa.

(1) Administrations étrangères

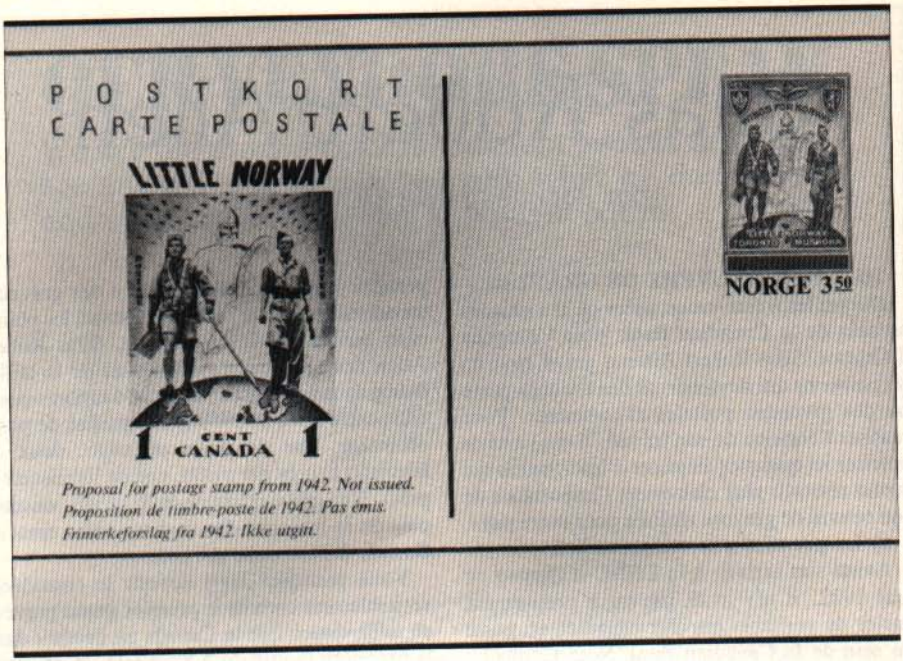
Réglons immédiatement la question des poinçons qu'il a réalisés pour le compte de certaines administrations étrangères et qui se résume effectivement à deux pays.



Cliché #2

(a) Bahamas

Il semble qu'il ait gravé tous les poinçons de la série de timbres émise par les Bahamas en



Cliché #3

1948 pour célébrer le 300e anniversaire de l'établissement de cette possession britannique: Sc. 132-147 (cliché #2).

Ci-après nomenclature des sujets constituant cette série commémorative: clinique pour enfant (1/2 p), agriculture moderne (1 p), sissal (1 1/2 p), artisanat de la paille (2 p), laiterie moderne (2 1/2 p), flotille de pêche (3 p), établissement colonial (4 p), pêche au thon (6 p), Plage du Paradis (8 p), hôtel moderne (10 p), yacht de course (1 shilling), ski nautique (2 shilling), chantier naval (3 shilling), transport moderne (5 shilling), usine de sel (10 shilling) et l'hôtel du parlement (1 livre).

D'après le style de la gravure (selon l'opinion de la plupart des artistes consultés à la CBNC) et certaines indications trouvées dans le catalogue Michel (taille-douce et impression des timbres par la Canadian Bank Note Company), nous pouvons en conclure qu'il est probablement l'auteur de ces poinçons.

(b) Norvège

En 1942, on a envisagé la possibilité d'une émission conjointe Norvège-Canada pour souligner la collaboration internationale manifestée entre les deux pays pendant le conflit (cliché #3).



Cliché #4

Silas Allen grava le poinçon du timbre norvégien (XG 3895) qui devait être imprimé par la Canadian Bank Note Company dans le cadre de ce projet conjoint (cliché #4).

Malheureusement il ne fut pas donné suite à ce projet d'émission conjointe: toutefois le poinçon gravé par S.R. Allen allait servir, puisque la Norvège émit une vignette postale intitulée "Little Norway" au cours de l'année 1946.



Cliché #5

(2) Timbres d'épargne

Durant la Deuxième guerre mondiale (1939-1945), le gouvernement fédéral a encouragé l'épargne chez les Canadiens afin qu'ils puissent contribuer à l'effort de guerre du Canada.

Pour appuyer cette campagne, il a fait imprimer des "timbres d'épargne". Les Canadiens qui économisaient dans ce but déposaient certaines sommes d'argent à la banque ou à la caisse populaire de leur choix: à chaque fois qu'ils déposaient un certain montant, on leur remettait une ou plusieurs vignettes fiscales équivalentes à la somme déposée qu'ils n'avaient qu'à coller dans leur livret d'épargne personnel (cliché #5).

La série des timbres d'épargne de la guerre comprenait huit figurines de couleur rouge (infanterie, aviateurs, marine, tanks, avions, infirmières, avions et soldats) et une valeur en bleu (comprenant uniquement la valeur nominale). Le cliché #6 nous la présente dans son ensemble.

L'examen attentif de ces vignettes nous indique qu'elles correspondent parfaitement au style de gravure manifesté par Silas Robert



Cliché #6

Allen et que nous pouvons par conséquent lui en attribuer la paternité malgré qu'il n'y ait rien dans les archives de la CBNC qui l'atteste formellement.



Cliché #7

(3) Affaires extérieures

Ouvrons rapidement une petite parenthèse pour traiter des vignettes fiscales gravées par Silas Robert Allen pour le compte du ministère canadien des Affaires extérieures.

Il grava d'abord un poinçon-maître illustrant la feuille d'étable (XG 868) qui servira ensuite aux cinq vignettes crées par notre graveur pour cette commande et utilisées à partir de l'année 1948, et ensuite le poinçon du "1 dollar" (cliché #7) qui constitua la première vignette de la présente série fiscale.

S'attaquant immédiatement au "2 dollars" (XG 872) qui fut émis aussi durant la même année, suivi chronologiquement par le "5 dollars" (XG 873), le "50 cents" (XG 874) et enfin par la plus petite valeur, le "25 cents" (XG 875). Le huitième cliché nous fait voir la série complète des cinq figurines fiscales imprimées par la Canadian Bank Note Company pour le compte du ministère des Affaires extérieures.

Ces vignettes fiscales, apposées dans les passeports canadiens, sont relativement rares et atteignent des cotes très élevées dans le secteur de la philatélie fiscale.

(4) Timbres-poste canadiens

Toutefois il ressort de cette analyse détaillée que notre graveur exécuta exactement quatre-vingt-un poinçons différents, dont soixante-seize servirent concrètement à l'impression de timbres-poste canadiens.

Cette production artistique s'étala sur ses trente-cinq années de service comme graveur à la Canadian Bank Note Company: ce qui peut paraître peu pour un graveur de sa trempe, une moyenne de 2,3 vignettes par année de travail!

Mais il devient nécessaire de situer exactement son oeuvre artistique. D'abord il faut noter que l'apprentissage d'un graveur en taille-douce spécialisé dans le portrait, requiert environ dix années; de plus, il convient de rappeler que le Canada émettait fort peu de timbres-poste à l'époque où il travaillait: environ 158 vignettes ou 4,5 timbres annuellement; enfin la CBNC confiait aux graveurs de New York presque automatiquement les poinçons qui serviraient au Canada.

Sachant ces choses, nous pouvons mieux apprécier l'importante production artistique réalisée par Silas Robert Allen pour le compte du ministère canadien des Postes.

c) Nos Paramètres

Nous nous sommes basés sur les principes suivants afin de déterminer avec exactitude l'oeuvre de gravure réalisée par Silas Robert Allen durant sa carrière artistique.

(1) Son travail

Notre graveur a évidemment travaillé sur une grande quantité de poinçons réalisés en taille-douce par la Canadian Bank Note Company, mais nous avons éliminé de notre liste tous ceux où il n'a eu qu'une part très modeste: par exemple, ceux qui ont été faits à New York et sur lesquels notre graveur n'avait qu'à rajouter un cadre ou un arrière-plan, changer la valeur faciale, ou exécuter tout autre changement mineur.

En second lieu, nous avons également écarté tous les poinçons qu'il a pu graver et qui ont servi à des administrations postales étrangères: comme par exemple celui de "Little Norway" (XG 3895) qui a été émis en 1946 pour le compte de ce pays scandinave ou encore ceux gravés pour le compte des Bahamas (Sc 132-147).



Cliché #8

(2) Son oeuvre

Nous n'avons retenu ici que ceux qu'il a gravés entièrement (la très grande majorité des poinçons qu'il a réalisés) ou ceux dans lesquels il a mis une part substantielle de travail (une petite partie).

Cela signifie qu'en raison de l'importance de son travail à effecteur, la Canadian Bank Note lui donnait un morceau d'acier et par conséquent lui attribuait un numéro de poinçon commençant par les lettres XG (ce qui signifiait une commande du gouvernement canadien).

Voilà pourquoi nous considérons dans cette étude comme véritables oeuvres de Silas Robert Allen que les poinçons qui comporteront uniquement un numéro de matrice spécifique et nous éliminerons de notre liste tous ceux qui n'en porteront point ou qui ont été réalisés à New York par l'American Bank Note.

d) Les numéros de poinçons

Le lecteur remarquera sans aucun doute que chaque poinçon attribué à Silas Robert Allen dans cet article comporte habituellement un numéro de poinçon officiel commençant par les lettres XG.

(1) Numéro

Nous avons dit précédemment que chaque poinçon réalisé pour le compte du gouvernement fédéral comporte un numéro officiel qui lui a été attribué par la Canadian Bank Note.

Cette règle ne souffre qu'une seule exception: quand un poinçon gravé est refusé, il ne porte pas de numérotation officielle. Cette exception confirme la règle, comme on dit en grammaire française...

Ainsi pour les quelques projects gravés par Silas Robert Allen mais refusés ultérieurement par le ministère des Postes, il n'y aura pas de numéro de poinçon: le projet du bison (1953), l'industrie métallurgique (1953), le masque iroquois (1956).

A ces derniers il faut ajouter évidemment celui du mariage de la princesse Elisabeth (XG 843) et de la fondation des provinces de l'Alberta et de la Saskatchewan (XG 1104) qui se sont rendus à l'étape finale de la production mais furent refusés par après.

(2) Sources

Certains lecteurs pourraient nous demander quelles ont été les sources qui nous ont permis d'obtenir avec certitude le numéro de poinçon qui fut attribué par la Canadian Bank Note Company à chacune des matrices gravées en taille-douce par silas Robert Allen.

Nous nous sommes d'abord fiés sur les dossiers officiels relatifs à la fabrication de ces timbres-poste conservés maintenant à la Société canadienne des postes; puis sur les nombreuses épreuves d'artiste ou de couleur qui circulent abondamment dans les ventes spécialisées ou dans les collections privées; enfin sur d'autres sources officielles ou privées qui nous ont permis de compléter l'information accumulée sur l'ensemble de l'oeuvre artistique de cet éminent graveur d'origine canadienne.

(3) Conclusion

De cette façon, nous pouvons maintenant affirmer que la liste des poinçons attribués à Silas Robert Allen dans cette étude, peut être considérée comme définitive.

Seulement une vérification complète des archives de la Canadian Bank Note d'Ottawa pourrait compléter d'une façon significative les éléments constituant la liste définitive que nous proposons ici des poinçons réalisés par notre maître-graveur.

e) Ordre des timbres

Toutefois notre recerche personnelle sur l'oeuvre artistique de gravure réalisée par Silas R. Allen ne nous a pas encore permis de déterminer abec certitude le calendrier d'exécution de ces divers poinçons.

(1) Chronologie

Pour atteindre la plus grande vérité possible, il aurait fallu questionner le graveur concerné pour qu'il nous indique avec précision les dates-limites (début et fin) de son travail ainsi que le temps consacré à chacun de ses poinçons.

Ce qui malheureusement n'a pas été possible, puisque que Silas Robert Allen est mort depuis déjà près de trente ans, au moment de la rédaction de cet article.

Par conséquent, nous sommes dans l'impossibilité de fixer une chronologie précise, à savoir les paramètres (début et fin) exacts du travail réalisé par Allen relativement à une gravure, des divers poinçons a été réalisé l'année même de l'émission du timbre-poste correspondant ou l'année précédente. Ce que nous regrettons vivement.

Voilà pourquoi dans la troisième section de cette étude, nous procéderons en suivant la date

d'émission des timbres-poste canadiens qu'il a gravés au fil du temps tout en respectant l'ordre numérique (voir le point suivant) des poinçons qui lui ont été confiés par la Canadian Bank Note Company.

(2) Ordre numérique

Toutefois nous sommes en mesure de déterminer avec précision l'ordre exact dans lequel se trouvent les divers poinçons travaillés par Silas Robert Allen tout au long de sa carrière de 35 ans à la Canadian Bank Note Company.

Il suffit, pour en retrouver la séquence numérique précise, de consulter le numéro du poinçon en question: en partant du nombre le moins élevé (XG 192) et suivant un ordre ascendant jusqu'à son dernier (XG 1162).

De cette façon, nous pouvons déterminer avec certitude l'ordre des commandes qui lui ont été faites par le ministère canadien des Postes à cette époque.

Rarement la séquence des commandes de timbres-poste provenant du ministère des Postes suit l'ordre indiqué par les divers catalogues consacrés aux timbres émis par le Canada. Ce qui nous donne par conséquent une autre information précieuse: soit le désir exprimé par le ministère des Postes dans on choix de maquettes définitives, soit l'agenda même du graveur qui ne pouvait graver en même temps sur des poinçons d'acier doux tous les projets de timbres-poste provenant de ces maquettes définitives.

(3) Mémoire

En donnant le numéro de poinçon attribué par la Canadian Bank Note Company d'Ottawa à chacune des matrices gravées par Silas Robert Allen, nous croyons faire oeuvre utile pour toute recherche ultérieure dans l'histoire postale du Canada, mais aussi étayer d'une façon décisive ce que nous avançons dans la présente étude.

Nous estimons aussi rendre enfin justice à un éminent graveur pourtant si méconnu dans son propre pays, malgré le fait qu'il ait gravé environ soixante-quinze timbres-poste canadiens.

Nous permettons finalement à la Canadian Bank Note Company d'Ottawa de compléter de façon significative ses propres archives demeurant toujours secrètes et fermées aux chercheurs philatéliques, et trouver le fil d'ensemble de l'oeuvre de gravure magistrale réalisée par l'un des siens durant la période de 1920 à 1960 environ.

f) Conclusion

Tous ces éléments d'information nous permettront de mieux comprendre l'oeuvre artistique magistrale réalisée par Silas Robert Allen et l'importance que celui-ci devrait occuper dans notre école nationale de gravure au cours du XXe siècle.

IV – SA CARRIERE

Silas Robert Allen entra donc comme graveur à la Canadian Bank Note Company, d'Ottawa, le 1er mai 1922, et se mit rapidement au travail.



Cliché #9

a) Ses débuts (1922-1929)

Après seulement six ans à la CBNC, il commença à travailler des poinçons d'acier doux qui allaient devenir des timbres-poste canadiens.

Sa première gravure principale fut celle d'un timbre de poste aérienne émis le 21 septembre 1928 et intitulé "le courrier voyageant" (XG 192). Il semble qu'il ait été le graveur principal de ce poinçon (cliché #9).

Puis il s'attaqua à deux figurines de la série courante "Banderole" émise durant les années 1928-1929: la scène de l'Ouest (XG 194) et le pont de Québec (XG 196) mises simultanément en vente le 6 janvier 1929.

Enfin il grava les timbres-poste suivants (sauf la figure principale qui a été gravée par Robert Savage de New York): le 1 ct (XG 197), le 3 cents (XG 198), le 5 cents (XG 199) et le 8 cents (XG 200).

Nous pouvons par conséquent considérer ces débuts de Silas Robert Allen comme une entrée fracassante dans la philatélie canadienne.

b) Retour (1941-1943)

Suivit alors une assez longue absence qui dura presque quatorze années complètes. Cette situation s'explique assez facilement: le contrat qui

liait le ministère des Postes et la CBNC exigeait seulement que les poinçons devant servir au Canada soient durcis à Ottawa et laissait à la compagnie chargée de l'impression des timbres-poste canadiens la liberté totale quant à la gravure. Voilà pourquoi la Canadian Bank Note s'adressait en pratique toujours à New York pour la gravure de ses poinçons.



Cliché #10

Silas Robert Allen se remit par conséquent au travail uniquement en 1942 quand il s'attaqua à la vignette nommée "Tour de la Paix" (XG 745) mise en vente le 1er juillet de la même année (cliché #10).

Il grava aussi dans la même série intitulée "Effort de guerre" la vignette de 10 cents consacrée à la livraison spéciale (XG 752) émise elle aussi le 1er juillet 1942.

Son travail le conduisit à graver enfin le timbre-poste relatif à la livraison par exprès de 1942 et comportant la valeur faciale de 16 cents (XG 792). Suite à une augmentation de tarif, il grava aussi le 17 cents (XG 793) émis au cours de l'année 1943.

c) Reprise (1946-1949)

Un événement important à cette époque surgit au sein de la Canadian Bank Note Company: la décision interne de faire graver à Ottawa tous les poinçons qui serviraient à fabriquer des timbres-poste canadiens. Notre graveur émérite profitera évidemment de cette nouvelle orientation de la compagnie canadienne.

A partir de ce moment-là, Silas Robert Allen joue un rôle capital dans la gravure des timbres-poste canadiens pendant la décennie suivante (1946-1957).

(1) Série courante

Pour la série courante dénommée "la Paix", Allen grava six poinçons différents sur les neuf



Cliché #11

créés pour cette série courante émis en 1946, tout juste un an après la fin de la Deuxième Guerre mondiale.

Il s'attaqua en premier lieu à la valeur postale consacrée à la livraison exprès par voie aérienne et portant la valeur faciale de 17 cents (XG 617).

Puis ce fut au tour du timbre-poste comportant une moissonneuve-lieuse d'une valeur de 20 cents (XG 818) émise le 16 septembre 1946 en même temps que la plupart des autres valeurs de cette série courante.

Consacrant ensuite ses efforts au timbre de 10 cents dévolu à la livraison par exprès (XG 819) qui symbolise la Victoire et la Paix, Silas Robert Allen travailla, après, sur la vignette de poste aérienne toujours émise à la même date et illustrant une bernache (XG 820). (Cliché #11)

Enfin il revint à deux autres scènes typiques de la vie canadienne, soit celle du Grand Lac de l'Ours (XG 821) et un ferry boat (XG 822) qui faisaient partie de la même série courante.



Cliché #12

(2) Commémoratifs

Sans doute parce que ses supérieurs immédiats à la CBNC estimaient que Silas Robert Allen était capable de graver des portraits, il s'attaqua à ses premiers timbres-poste commémoratifs comportant un portrait.

Il commença d'abord par graver la vignette

à l'effigie d'Alexandre Graham Bell (XG 831) qui fut émise le 3 mars 1947 à l'occasion du 100e anniversaire de sa naissance (cliché #12).

Puis il s'attaqua au poinçon destiné à souligner le mariage de la princesse royale Elisabeth au lieutenant Philipp Mountbatten (XG 843) qui fut célébré le 20 novembre 1947, mais dont la vignette ne sera mise en vente que le 16 février 1948. Toutefois ce fut le poinçon gravé à New York qui sera finalement utilisé. Voilà pourquoi nous devons considérer ce poinçon gravé par Silas Robert Allen comme son premier non émis durant sa longue carrière.



Cliché #13

On lui confia aussi le poinçon que devait honorer le 80e anniversaire de la Confédération canadienne et l'établissement de la citoyenneté nationale (XG 833), qui fut mis en vente le 1er juillet 1947 (cliché #13).

Enfin Silas Robert Allen grava le timbre-poste célébrant l'avènement du gouvernement responsable dans la province du Canada en 1848 (XG 870), qui fut mis en vente aux guichets postaux le 1er octobre 1948.

(3) Année 1949

L'année 1949 marqua une étape importante dans la carrière de notre maître-graveur puisqu'il réalisa pas moins de dix gravures (huit pour la série courante, et deux commémoratifs).



Cliché #14

Réglons immédiatement le cas des vignettes commémoratives: Allen réalisa en premier lieu le timbre soulignant le deuxième centenaire de la fondation de la ville d'Halifax en 1749 (XG 883) et la vignette commémorant l'entrée de Terre-Neuve dans la Confédération canadienne en 1949 (XG 885): cliché #14.

Le reste de l'année fut consacré à la série courante comportant le portrait de Georges VI sans les mots "Postes Postage" mais émise seulement le 19 janvier 1950: le 1 cent (XG 877), le 3 cents (XG 887) et le 5 cents (XG 888). Puis il grava en deuxième lieu la série courante comprenant cette fois-ci les mots "Postes Postage": le 1 cent (XG 892), le 2 cents (XG 893), le 3 cents (XG 894), le 4 cents (XG 895) et enfin le 5 cents (XG 896).

(4) Controverse

Une question se pose en ce qui concerne la gravure de cette double série courante: deux graveurs (John Hay et Silas Robert Allen) revendiquent la paternité des poinçons des deux séries courantes émises en 1949 et 1950.

Nous croyons que John Hay, un graveur de l'American Bank Note à cette époque, a gravé les divers portraits de Georges VI tandis que Silas Robert Allen a gravé tous les autres éléments de ces timbres-poste courants .

Sur quoi basons-mous cette affirmation? Si la Canadian Bank Note a donné un numéro de poinçon pour ces gravures, il faut que notre artiste y ait travaillé d'une façon significative: comme ce ne pouvait être le portrait, ce fut donc le reste!

d) Age d'or (1950-1955)

Nous abordons maintenant la grande période durant laquelle Silas Robert Allen donna toute sa mesure et qui fit de lui le premier véritable graveur en taille-douce canadien du XXe siècle.



Cliché #15

(1) Année 1950

Le premier timbre-poste émis en 1950 fut réalisé sous la responsabilité d'Allen: l'industrie pétrolière canadienne (XG 983) d'une valeur faciale de 50 cents, émis le 1er mars.

Il grava de même le 10 cents émis le 2 octobre et honorant l'industrie de la fourrure (XG 943) en tant que ressource naturelle importante pour le Canada (cliché #15).

(2) Année 1951

L'année 1951 consacre définitivement le talent de graveur de Silas Robert Allen puisqu'il réalisa la série commémorative du centenaire du premier timbre-poste dans la province du Canada: d'abord le 7 cents (XG 933), puis le 5 cents (XG 938), le 4 cents (XG 939) et enfin le 15 cents (XG 942).

Il réalisa de même la haute valeur de la nouvelle série courante inaugurée à la fin de 1949, celle de 1$ consacrée aux pêcheries canadiennes, ressource naturelle importante (XG 945).



Cliché #16



Cliché #17

(3) Année 1952

Silas R. Allen commença à travailler la série des premiers ministres canadiens qui débuta en 1951 pour se terminer à la fin de 1955 et compta huit figurines au total.

Les premières gravures de cette série commémorative virent le jour en 1951: le 4 cents consacré à Mackenzie (XG 959) et le 3 cents dédié à John Abbott (XG 962). Le cliché #16 nous présente la gravure de Mackenzie.

Il travailla aussi le poinçon comportant l'oie canadienne (XG 976), émis le 3 novembre de la même année.

(4) Année 1953

Année importante pour notre graveur puisqu'il verra cinq de ses poinçons gravés qui seront émis par les Postes canadiennes.

Il grava en premier lieu le timbre-poste illustrant un totem de la Colombie-Britannique (XG 980) et comportant la haute valeur faciale de 1$.

Puis il travailla un poinçon d'après un dessin illustrant un bison canadien (XG 981) qui ne fut jamais émis: voilà donc un second non émis dans la carrière de Silas Robert Allen.

Il consacra ensuite ses efforts à une nouvelle série postale illustrant des animaux caractéristiques de la faune canadienne: le mouflon des Rocheuses (XG 982), l'orignal (XG 984) et l'ours polaire (XG 985) qui seront émis le 1er avril 1954.

Immédiatement après ce fut le timbre-poste du couronnement d'Elizabeth II (XG 994) d'après un dessin d'Emmanuel Hann qui fut tant décrié à l'époque (cliché #17).

Enfin il grava un poinçon destiné à commémorer l'industrie métallurgique canadienne (XG 1000), mais qui ne fut jamais émis par notre ministère des Postes: il s'agit du troisième non émis dans l'oeuvre de Silas Robert Allen.

(5) Année 1954

Allen connut une véritable apothéose durant l'année 1954, puisqu'il verra quinze des ses poinçons gravés émis sous forme concrète de timbres-poste canadiens.

Parlons d'abord des vignettes consacrées à la faune canadienne: le morse (XG 1005) et le castor (XG 1017), deux valeurs postales qui furent émises le 1er avril

En deuxième lieu, il grava en totalité la nouvelle série courante présentant le portrait d'Elisabeth II à l'intérieur d'une surface ovale: le 1 cent (XG 1043), le 2 cents (XG 1044), le 3 cents (XG 1045), le 4 cents (XG 1046), le 5 cents (XG 1036) et le 6 cents (XG 1053).

Toujours dans cette nouvelle série courante, il réalisa les divers poinçons qui serviront à l'impression des cartes postales: le 1 cent (XG 1211), le 2 cents (XG 1060), le 4 cents (XG 1051) et le 5 cents (XG 1091).

Il s'occupa également du 15 cents émis le 1er avril et qui fait partie aussi de la nouvelle série courante, illustrant un fou de Bassan prenant son envol (XG 1006).

Enfin il avait gravé depuis longtemps les vignettes consacrées au premiers ministres canadiens Thompson (XG 960) et Bowell (XG 963) qui furent émises le 1er novembre de la même année.

(6) Année 1955

Il compléta en premier lieu son travail sur la faune canadienne en gravant le boeuf musqué (XG 1098) et les grues blanches (XG 1101) qui furent émis le 4 avril 1955 pour souligner la

semaine nationale de la faune.

Il grava aussi un poinçon pour le 50 e anniversaire de la fondation des provinces canadiennes de l'Alberta et de la Saskatchewan qui fut toutefois refusé par les Postes canadiennes à cause du visage des personnages et remplacé par un poinçon gravé par son apprenti, Yves Baril, qui avait voulu simplement s'essayer sur le sujet pour son propre plaisir (XG 1104). Il s'agit là du quatrième non émis conçu par notre graveur émérite.

Enfin il réalisa la gravure consacrée au 8e Jamboree international des scouts tenu à Niagara sur le Lac (Ont.) durant le mois d'août 1955 et portant le numéro de poinçon XG 1062.

e) Le déclin

Notre maître-graveur commença réellement son déclin durant l'année 1955 quand il vit sa gravure consacrée à la fondation des provinces canadiennes de l'Alberta et de la Saskatchewan refusée par les Postes canadiennes.

(1) Début

A partir de ce moment-là il sentit qu'il ne serait plus jamais le même et s'aperçut que son apprenti le supplanterait plus rapidement que prévu dans sa formation de graveur spécialisé en portrait.

Voilà pourquoi il n'a pas cessé de faire des difficultés à son apprenti malgré le fait qu'à part ce poinçon, celui-ci ne commencera effectivement sa carrière artisique que deux années plus tard.

(2) Année 1956

Il vit encore une fois un autre de ses poinçons gravés refusé par les Postes canadiennes au début de cette année-là, celui qui représentait un masque amérindien d'origine iroquoise (XG 1135).



Cliché #18

Puis ce fut au tour de la vignette postale consacrée au hockey (XG 1139), notre grand sport national, qui fut mise en vente aux guichets postaux le 23 janvier (cliché #18).

Il compléta son travail sur la faune canadienne en gravant la vignette consacrée aux chèvres de montagnes (XG 1141) et celle du caribou (XG 1143), deux valeurs mises en vente le 12 avril.

Il s'occupa aussi du poinçon illustrant l'industrie de la pâte et du papier (XG 1144) qui fut d'une valeur nominale de 20 cents et émis le 2 juin de la même année.



Cliché #19

Enfin il grava la vignette consacrée à la prévention des incendies (XG 1156) qui fut émise en deux couleurs le 9 octobre 1956: une vignette qui eut un immense succès (cliché #19).

(3) Année 1957

L'année 1957 marqua définitivement le déclin de la carrière artistique de Silas Robert Allen puisqu'il ne grava que deux poinçons: la pêche (XG 1160) et le ski alpin (XG 1162) qui furent émis dans le cadre d'une série de quatre timbres-poste honorant les sports de plein air pratiqués par les Canadiens.

Après ces deux vignettes notre maître-graveur prit sa retraite après trente-cinq années de travail pour le compte de la Canadian Bank Note Company, d'Ottawa.

V – OPINIONS D'ALLEN SUR SON OEUVRE DE GRAVURE

En dépit du fait que Silas Allen nous ait quitté depuis déjà plus de trente ans, nous avons conservé les opinions personnelles de ce graveur émérite relativement à sa production postale pour le Canada. Nous allons diviser cette cinquième section en deux points précis: les vignettes dont il était particulièrement fier (premier élément) et celles dont il était le moins fier (deuxième élément). Précisons enfin que ses opinions portaient essentiellement sur le dessin et non pas sur le style qui demeurait toujours le même.

a) Ses meilleurs gravures

Sur une production d'environ quatre-vingt vignettes postales canadiennes, nous pourrions résumer les timbres qui constituent ses meilleures gravures de la façon suivante en trois séries bien distinctes: (1) la série des anciens premiers ministres fédéraux; (2) la série courante de 1954; (3) et certains spécimens de la faune canadienne.



Cliché #20



Cliché #21

(1) Premiers ministres

En se référant à la section précédente, nous nous rendons compte que Silas Robert Allen a gravé six poinçons sur les huit timbres constituant cette série postale commémorative.

Rappelons brièvement les poinçons dont il était très fier; le MacKenzie (XG 959), le Thompson (XG 960), le John Abbot (XG 962) et le Bowell (XG 963): le cliché #20 nous présente sa gravure de John Abbott.

C'est durant son apogée comme graveur spécialisé en portrait que Silas Robert Allen a gravé ces poinçons: nous comprenons pourquoi il les a tant aimés. Peut-être s'agissait-il des poinçons qui matérialisaient davantage sa maîtrise parfaite de cet art difficile.

(2) La série courante de 1954

Nous avons déjà parlé de cette série courante de 1954 quand, dans la deuxième partie de cette étude, nous avons constaté le style "doux" conçu par notre graveur.

Il semble que la gravure du portrait de la reine Elisabeth II (cliché #21) dans une forme ovale ait rempli d'aise son auteur puisqu'il l'a classé parmi ses plus belles réalisations et qu'il en était particulièrement fier.

Effectivement si l'on regarde objectivement cette gravure, nous somme obligés de partager l'opinion personnelle émise par Allen face à cette gravure courante de 1954 (XG 1036).

(3) La faune canadienne

Parmi tous les poinçons qu'il a gravés sur la faune canadienne (une dixaine, si nos informations sont bonnes), il en admira particulièrment cinq (sur les onze émis réellement).



Cliché #22-24



Cliché #25

Nous procéderons par ordre chronologique des poinçons pour indiquer ceux dont il était particulièrement fier: ce qui ne correspond aucunement à un ordre de valeur quelconque.

Encore une fois il s'agit de poinçons gravés durant son âge d'or (période comprise entre les années 1950 et 1955): le mouflon (XG 982), l'ours polaire (XG 985), le morse (XG 1005), le castor (XG 1017) et les grues blanches (XG 1101). Les clichés #22 à 25 nous en fournissent des illustrations concrètes.

Peut-être que ces timbres-poste répondaient-ils à sa passion profonde pour la nature et les animaux. Il était membre d'un club de chasse à Ottawa.

b) Les pires gravures

En contrepartie, cinq poinçons seulement ne lui ont définitivement pas plu: la citoyenneté canadienne (XG 833), le couronnement de la reine Elisabeth II (XG 994), le hockey (XG 1139), la chèvre des montagnes (XG 1141), et la prévention des incendies (XG 1156).



Cliché 26

Il demeure remarquable que parmi les vignet-

tes dont il était le moins fier se trouve le dessin d'Emmanuel Hann (XG 994) qui avait été si décrié à l'époque de sa mise en vente en 1954.

Exception faite du premier (XG 833) et du second (XG 994), les trois autres poinçons font partie de la période que nous avons appelée son "déclin" dans la production postale canadienne. Enfin, on nous a dit récemment que le poinçon (cliché #26) consacré à la chèvre des montagnes (XG 1141) lui a donné tout particulièrement un ulcère, signe concret des graves problèmes rencontrés à cette occasion!

VI – SON IMPORTANCE DANS LA PHILATELIE

Malgré le fait que Silas Robert Allen soit jusqu'à présent un des ces grands "méconnus" de la philatélie canadienne, il ne faut pas sous estimer le rôle capital qu'il a pu jouer dans notre histoire postale.

a) Début de notre école nationale

Jusqu'à son entrée à la Canadian Bank Note Company d'Ottawa, tous les graveurs de timbres-poste canadiens étaient d'origine américaine ou étrangère et faisaient partie de l'American Bank Note de New York.

D'ailleurs, tout chercheur intéressé à la production des vignettes postales canadiennes entre les années 1851 et 1951, ne peut que constater avec étonnement l'entière dépendance du ministère des Postes canadiennes au niveau de la gravure des ses timbres-poste: toutes les figurines sans exception ont été réalisées à New york par des graveurs américains à l'emploi de l'American Bank Note Company, la compagnie-mère de la CBNC d'Ottawa.

Voilà pourquoi le 1er mai 1922 constitue une date importante pour notre école de gravure nationale quand Silas Robert Allen a été engagé par la Canadian Bank Note comme graveur à un âge respectable de trente-quatre ans (ce qui est assez avancé pour un graveur en taille-douce).

Ce furent deux graveurs américains, Messieurs Copeland et Smilie que ont initié pendant sept années Silas Robert Allen à ce métier fort difficile de la gravure en taille-douce.

Ce dernier a sans aucun doute manifesté beaucoup de talent puisqu'il a commencé vers 1928 à graver des poinçons (ou du moins une partie substantielle des matrices) pour la nouvelle série courante canadienne dite "Banderole": les petites valeurs (sauf évidemment le portrait du roi qui avait été réalisé par Robert Savage de New York), deux valeurs moyennes)le pont de Québec et la moissonneuse-lieuse) et le premier timbre de la poste aérienne (émis le 21 septembre 1928).

Parmi tous les graveurs spécialisés en portrait de la Canadian Bank Note d'Ottawa depuis le début du XXe siècle (Allen, Bedingfield, Copeland et Smilie), la palme revient automatiquement à Silas Robert Allen qui manifesta le plus grand talent et assuma le leadership de notre école nationale de gravure à cette époque.

Voilà pourquoi nous n'hésitons aucunement à croire que l'engagement de Silas Robert Allen à la Canadian Bank Note d'Ottawa constitua une étape majeure dans le développement de notre école nationale de gravure durant la première moitié du XXe siècle (dans la mesure où elle existe réellement, ce qui est encore une autre question à débattre ultérieurement).

b) Ses apprentis

Après avoir atteint la quitessence de son art ou une certaine maturité au niveau de la taille-douce, Silas Robert Allen a entrepris comme il se doit de former d'autres artistes à ce difficile art de la gravure en taille-douce.

Par conséquent la Canadian Bank Note lui confia logiquement un certain nombre d'apprentis-graveurs: en particulier John Hay (qui a quitté la compagnie en 1945), Jim Boyd (entre les années 1944 et 1952), Yves Baril (entre 1953 et 1958), etc.



Cliché #27

Mais ce fut Yves Baril (cliché #27) qui, parmi ses apprentis-graveurs connus, persévéra le plus longtemps et devint le successeur de Silas Robert Allen comme "graveur spécialisé en portrait" quand ce dernier quitta la Canadian Bank Note Company en 1957 pour pendre une retraite bien méritée.

A partir de ce moment-ci il convient de noter la difficulté pour un apprenti-graveur d'apprendre parfaitement les techniques de la taille-douce: celle-ci exige une formation minimum de dix années avant d'atteindre réellement une compétence acceptable. Ce qui explique le fait que de nombreux "apprentis-graveurs" n'atteignent jamais la fin de cet entraînement parsemé d'embûches.

D'ailleurs Silas Robert Allen n'a véritablement commencé à graver des portraits sur les poinçons d'acier doux qu'à partir de 1947 (Alexandre Graham Bell), soit ving-cinq années après ses débuts officiels à la CBNC, et il a connu cetaines difficultés avec son poinçon illustrant la princesse Elisabeth (XG 843).

Nous pouvons donc comprendre l'extrême difficulté que doit affronter tout apprenti-graveur qui veut devenir un spécialiste du portrait en taille-douce.

c) Son rôle

Durant la décennie qui s'étend de 1947 (date où il a commencé réellement à graver des commémoratifs et des portraits) jusqu'en 1957 (moment de sa retraite à la CBNC), Silas Robert Allen a joué un rôle capital dans l'histoire postale canadienne, du moins en tant que graveur de nos timbres-poste.

Car il a été, jusqu'à cette date, l'unique graveur canadien spécialisé en portrait qui a travaillé des poinçons devenus par la suite des timbres-poste du Canada.

Malgré le fait qu'on ait dû recourir à certains autres graveurs de New York pour réaliser des poinçons, Silas Robert Allen a été au centre même de la gravure de nos timbres-poste canadiens. C'est durant cette période que le ministère canadien des Postes n'a pas été très satisfait de la gravure américaine de certaines valeurs de la série courante illustrant Georges VI de divers profils, que les relations entre l'American Bank Note de New York et la Canadian Bank Note d'Ottawa se sont envenimées à un point tel que monsieur Coolican, alors président de la CBNC, a décidé que les timbres-poste canadiens seraient désormais gravés au Canada.

Sans doute cette dernière décision a dû être facilitée par le fait qu'on reconnaissait en haut lieu à Silas Robert Allen les aptitudes voulues pour graver n'importe quel sujet (allégorie, portrait ou scène) afin d'en faire un timbre-poste.

A partir de 1949 ce fut donc Silas Robert Allen qui fut chargé de réaliser la plupart des poinçons qui serviraient à créer des timbres-poste canadiens.

Notons toutefois quelques exceptions: Robert Borden et Mackenzie King (émis le 25 juin 1951), Visite royale en 1951 (émis le 26 octobre), Industrie textile (émis le 2 novembre 1953), Esquimau (à l'époque, maintenant Inuk) en kayak (21 février 1955), Organisation internationale de l'aviation civile (1er juin 1955), et enfin l'industrie chimique (7 juin 1956). Peut-être que ces exceptions s'expliquent par le fait que notre graveur émerite était débordé de travail et ne pouvait réaliser à lui seul tous ces poinçons!

d) Conclusion

Sans la présence de Silas Robert Allen, nous pourrions croire qu'il n'y aurait jamais eu d'école de gravure au Canada et que l'American Bank Note Company aurait continué longtemps à fournir les poinçons des timbres-poste canadiens.

Grâce à la présence de Silas Robert Allen et de sa compétence reconnue, la Canadian Bank Note Company a pu se charger elle-même de la gravure de tous les timbres-poste qui devaient servir au Canada.

Il devint alors facile de comprendre que Silas Robert Allen a joué un rôle "capital" au niveau de la gravure canadienne des timbres-poste et qu'il demeure le fondateur réel de notre école nationale de gravure qui malheureusement risque de s'éteindre à plus ou moins brève échéance faute de...protagonistes compétents!

EPILOGUE

Au terme de cette étude sur ce grand maître de la gravure en taille-douce au Canada, comment concevoir la présente situation qui le rend presque totalement inconnu non seulement des philatélistes canadiens en général, mais surtout des spécialistes de l'histoire postale?

Cette interrogation soulève évidemment l'état de connaissance dans lequel se trouve la philatélie canadienne du XXe siècle: il demeure beaucoup plus facile d'obtenir des informations complètes sur les graveurs des timbres-poste canadiens du XIXe siècle que sur ceux de notre siècle! Est-ce une situation normale et logique pour un pays si jeune au plan philatélique?

Nous avons levé dans cet article une partie du mystère entourant Silas Robert Allen et avec une autre étude sur Yves Baril, son apprenti-graveur, (Cahiers de l'Académie, Opus V, PP.

A1à, A26), nous espérons réaliser une histoire complète des principaux membres de notre école nationale de gravure dont les sujets peuvent se compter sur les doigts d'un seule main. Pour atteindre ce noble objectif, il faudrait qu' une fois pour toutes, les compagnies chargées de l'impression de nos timbres-poste acceptent de collaborer aux recherches philatéliques sérieuses et ouvrent surtout leurs archives aux spécialistes de l'histoire postale canadienne.

C'est uniquement à cette condition que les chercheurs en philatélie canadienne pourront retrouver le patrimoine philatélique national qui appartient à tous les Canadiens et pas seulement à quelques compagnies privées! □



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Winnipeg's "Royal '88" A Great Success

by Keith Spencer

In an exhibition rated as one of the most competitive in years, Guy des Rivieres captured the Grand Award at the 60th Convention of the Royal Philatelic Society of Canada. His exciting exhibit of France 1849 - 1862 first issue stamps and covers was rated by the jury as top of the class and des Rivieres was present to accept his gold medal and major award.

A total of four gold medals were awarded with Sam Nickle for Franco-Canadian Mail Before 1878, Stewart Kenyon for Pioneer Mail in Western Canada and A. Selby for Canadian Rate Covers 1880 - 1930 garnering the others. Selby also went home with the Reserve Grand while Kenyon earned the Postal History Society of Canada certificate to go along with his gold medal.

The Kenyon exhibit was of particular interest because it had earlier earned lesser awards at Calgary's Caltapex show and later at Pipex '88, held at Eugene, Ore. The jury – including chairman Harry Sutherland and judges Bill Robinson and Michael Millar – obviously liked Kenyon's reworking of his material and it was one of many which attracted considerable attention.

In keeping with the western theme of the show, exhibits chairman Ted Mayo built the Court of Honour around exciting and really overpowering exhibits by Allan Steinhart and the venerable Ed Richardson of League City, Texas. Steinhart's Pre-1865 Western Canada Covers are the stuff of history and Richardson's showing of North-West Rebellion material was well suited to its Winnipeg venue.

At Winnipeg, while the real class was on the exhibition floor, the organizing committee went all out to successfully overcome the problem of a conflict of dates with the Topex-CSDA event in Toronto. Winnipegers have a long history of winning first place ribbons for hospitality and this year was no exception. A full schedule of seminar and social activities, including a Thursday evening barbecue at the well known Hitch N' Post, kept collectors busy and the Royal hospitality suite stocked with goodies baked by committee members, was a dangerous and popular place, worth well over 1000 calories a visit!

Bourse chairman Dave Pritchard put together a small but nicely varied bourse and show visitors were able to salt away new collection additions. If leaving a bourse floor dead broke is a definition of success, this writer would have to give full marks to the dealers in attendance!

Canada Post maintained a high profile at Royal '88, operating a popular sales counter and playing host to a well-attended Friday evening stamp launch and reception. Speaking before the large crowd present at the Westin Hotel launch of the four Science and Technology stamps, Royal President James Kraemer thanked Canada Post officials George Wilton and Brian Garigan for their support of the Winnipeg Philatelic Society and commented on the excellent R.P.S.C.–Canada Post relationship collectors in this country enjoy.

While it is perhaps unfair to single out one item for comment at the expense of other fine entries, Daniel Eaton's *The Stamps and Postal History of Vancouver Island and British Columbia* took a gold medal in the Literature event and really was in a class of its own. The book features the well-known Gerald Welburn collection which is to be sold at auction by the Eaton firm in the near future.

Saturday night's Royal '88 banquet proved once again that Winnipegers know how to do things up right. The meal was excellent and the proceedings were great fun. The banquet program was attractively done up in royal blue and white, carrying on the show theme which saw all the printing, signage and banners similarly done up and including the Royal logo in blue. It was another class touch which helped make Royal '88 a super success and Winnipegers

Alice Rosborough and Dave Pritchard deserve special thanks.

Special banquet guests were Mr. and Mrs. Kasimir Bileski. Mr. Bileski, of course, is Canada's best known stamp dealer whose interesting ads are well known to collectors everywhere. In his usual style, he surprised those in attendance by presenting gifts of a Cinderella set of the seven final Saskatchewan law stamps, overprinted with the provincial flower – the Tiger Lily. The gift was much appreciated by all – and who can turn down having a $50.00 face value mint stamp for his album free! Given Kasimir's generosity, it was only fair that he should have won the top prize drawn for at the banquet, a classy briefcase. And, believe it or not, Harry Sutherland has become a collector of first day covers, those being needed to fill the first day cover album he won.

Royal President Jim Kraemer and Canada Post's Brian Taylor brought greetings and Sutherland, chairman of the jury, presided over the presentation of Royal '88 awards. An additional banquet highlight was the announcement of the names of newly elected fellows for 1988: Henri Gauthier, Peter M. Mann, Allan L. Steinhart and E.R. (Ritch) Toop.

Royal '88 was a great success and Beverlie Clark and her Winnipeg committee deserve every congratulation received. Visitors from across Canada – from Halifax to Victoria – and the United States enjoyed themselves immensely and look forward to meeting again next year when the Royal moves to Hamilton, Ont. for Royal '89 which is set for May 5-7.

ROYAL '88 AWARDS

Grand Award
France 1849 - 1862, G. des Rivieres

Reserve Grand Award
Canada Rate Covers 1880 - 1930, A. Selby

Gold
Franco-Canadian Mail Before 1878, S. Nickle
Pioneer Mail in Western Canada, S. Kenyon
Canada Rate Covers 1880 - 1930, A. Selby
France – 1849 - 1962

Vermeil with Felicitations
Prisoner of War Mail, World War II, E.R. Toop
Newfoundland 1865 - 1880, A. Selby

Vermeil
1893 Issues, 20 and 50 Ct. Widow Weeds, R.H. Jamieson
Hong Kong and The Treaty Ports, F.R. Stubens
Indian Stamps used in Iraq between 1868 and 1918 and their Post Marks, J. Powell
Registered Post Cards, C.R. Guille
Road Safety (La Securite Routiere), J. Carbonneau

Silver with Felicitations
Birds of Prey (Les Rapaces), M. Mercier

Silver
Victoria Large Queens 1868-97, J.A. Pageau ("Gerry Post")
The Medallion Issue, D. Pritchard
Canada Free Franks, M. Fortin
Newfoundland First Cents Issue 1865 - 1898, P. Burega
Malta – George V Low Values, H. Gosney
Netherlands Indies, K. Moorlag
Our World of the Cetaceans, R. Powell
Shoebox Philately and the Postal System, E.R. Toop
Christmas Stamps of Canada, J. DesLongchanps

Silver-Bronze (Small Silver)
Canadian Aerogrammes, R.K. Malott
Hong Kong and Certain Treaty Ports, A. Rosborough
The Overprinted Stamps of Iraqi Republic Revolution 1958-59, J. Powell
Minerals and Mining on Stamps of U.S.A. and British Commonwealth of Nations, M.N. Collison
The Beauty of the Competition Horse, H. Powell

Bronze
World Cup Soccer, T. Dryman

Literature Class

Gold with Felicitations
The Stamps & Postal History of Vancouver Island & British Columbia, D. Eaton

Silver
Canadian Military Post Office to 1986, E.R. Toop
Catalogue of Canadian Duplex Cancellations, Robert A. Lee

Silver-Bronze
The Stamp Corner, P.J. McCarthy □

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WHY COLLECT STAMPS?

The great teachers and world renowned thinkers have all emphasized the need to enjoy living. Fortunate is the person who has found his place in life, a career or a job, where he finds true satisfaction and joy in his daily work. Unfortunately a great percentage of the world's population who are employed are unhappy in their work. But work they must to feed and clothe themselves and their family, to buy the other necessities of life, and those things which make for a more enjoyable existence.

Boys and girls, as you grow up you will be thinking about what you are going to do in life, asking yourselves, "Should I be a scientiest, a nurse, a mechanic, an airline pilot...?" Such planning requires a great deal of thought on your part; you will need to seek guidance of others to make the most important decision of your life. The greater part of your life is going to be devoted to your career.

PASTIMES

However, everyone needs a diversion, or a pastime, to help maintain a balanced and well-rounded happy life. As you grow older there will be increasing pressures or times of stress, something like what some of you experience before and during the writing of examinations, but much greater, and for longer periods of time. So, happy is the person who finds other activities to offset his or her daily working routine. Some of you will discover things you like doing early in life which carries over into your adult life, such as one of the many fields of sports, or music, art, dancing, scouting, guides, 4-H and so on. Later, as adults, you may take up gardening, travelling, photography, computers, nature study, and some of the many other enjoyable undertakings.

COLLECTING

Another activity with an ever-growing appeal is collecting – collecting anything. Most people at some time in their lives develop a craving to collect something or other. You probably know someone who collects coins, spoons, books, records, hockey cards or stickers. Some people spend hundreds and thousands of dollars collecting painting, statues, carvings, chinaware.

STAMP COLLECTING

Collecting has been a habit of human beings from early times, but there has been nothing which has achieved the popularity of stamp collecting. This has been the hobby of kings and presidents, of boys and girls of all races, of adults everywhere numbering in the millions around the world. Its appeal reaches out to those interested in every form of transportation, of national world history, geography, science, culture, and almost everything imaginable.

ADULT COLLECTORS

Most older collectors of stamps can remember becoming interested in stamps when they were very young. Perhaps they let their interest fade in their late teens when other important matters left little time for stamps. Schooling, the pursuit of their career, or the development of their skills in athletics, music, to name a few, were fully time-consuming. Then there came a period again when they are able to adjust their priorities and time becomes available to really concentrate on their latent interest in the hobby.

This is usually, and hopefully, a time in one's life when there is a need to relax and just spend some time away from the busy world of work. Many a stamp collector, knowingly or not, has added years to his or her life when they were smart enough to realize they needed to slow down and start to take it easy. Perhaps it was a case of digging into that shoebox full of stamps which has been added to occasionally over the years. Some of our readers are right now in that very situation. Well, we hope this series will prove to be very timely and will give some real help in your search to find meaningful enjoyment.

CAREER AND HOBBY INTERESTS

It is not always wise to think of hobbies as potential career opportunities. Too often the value of a hobby loses its charm and purpose. However, the habits gained from a hobby or the development of characteristics so significant among serious collectors can be all important in the career we choose. The hobby may uncover hidden traits or signs which might not otherwise become apparent or known to us.

Here are a few examples. Stamp collecting requires an eye for detail. (If that quality is not a natural part of one's makeup the interest in stamps as a hobby soon disappears). Many careers demand a highly developed ability to follow through – in minute detail – with a concentrated perseverence the completion of a project. Careers such as electronics, architecture, electrical engineering, accounting, demand it.

Another characteristic, so fundamental in stamp collecting, is an ever present sense of keen observation, a tendency to be a perfectionist – seeing what others do and then aiming to improve your own ways of doing things to the best of your ability – to the point of super-excellence. A good attitude, embracing these features, is what an employer looks for above all else as they endeavour to select the top candidate from a number of applicants for most positions. Many professional persons such as doctors, clergymen and teachers are avid stamp collectors, finding that their love for their hobby gives expression to their desire to live a balanced lifestyle. They need a free time activity with its private moments, broadening their horizons to minimize tunnel vision, that is, thinking only about their respective occupational responsibilities.

There are those who find their employment tedious and unrewarding and are hoping to find the job that provides promise of enjoyment and the hope of promotion and recognition of their special abilities. In the meantime they find in stamp collecting a heart-warming standby avocation.

STAMP CLUBS

In the quest for happiness our hobby finds outlets for our several talents, be they an artistic bent, including the skill of a variety of lettering, an analytical flair, a writing aptitude, a faculty for research, public speaking, photography, and a perpetual appetite for acquiring knowledge in such a wide field of subjects. Being an active member of a philatelic (stamp) club provides the opportunity of expression of many of the above exercises.

EDUCATIONAL SCOPE

As young collectors and as adults we are becoming better acquainted with the many countries of the world, all of which issue their own stamps. We learn of their history, patriots and other famous people, their scientific achievements, religious and other celebrations, currency, their birds, animals, fish, insects, and other natural distinctions.

Much can be discovered of their respective contributions in the world of art, music, sports, health sciences, building techniques, and the many other developments to their credit.

How encouraging it is to a collector to see real signs of peaceful and international cooperative endeavours. We see various countries giving recognition to outstanding statesmen such as Churchill, Gandhi, Kennedy; celebrated scientists like Marconi, Alexander Graham Bell, Pasteur, Banting and Best, Christian Barnard; Einstein, the theoretical physicist; famous composers Beethovan, Bach, Wagner; writers like Shakespeare, Dickens, Voltaire; discoverers such as Columbus, Cook, Bird, Amundsen and the modern astronauts.

TOPICAL COLLECTORS

The many subjects mentioned previously and many more account for the growing number of collectors who find thematic or topical collecting an interesting and challenging form of stamp collecting. Then there are those who collect stamps with postal cancellations. Others collect "BOB" (referring to the 'Back of Book stamps in some catalogues) types which include postage due, airmail, officials, registrations, semi-postal, special delivery, booklets, plate blocks, postal stationery, first day covers and many others, some of which are to be found listed in their own specialized catalogues.

WIDE SELECTION

Is there any wonder that stamp collecting is so popular and fascinating, with such a variety of ways to collect? As you get older you may want to narrow your interests, specializing in collecting just a few of the many choices at your disposal. In the meantime you may wish to continue to collect just Canadian, United States, British Commonwealth, or your world-wide ac-

cumulation of all stamps which come your way. Just let it happen and it due time you will learn what interests you most and what gives you the greatest FUN.

TABLE AUCTION

A variety of activities is important for the success of a junior stamp club if you are to hold the continuing interest of the members. The table auction idea isn't as new one, but it can be an item on your agenda which can involve a high degree of participation, home preparation and an excellent way for the members to dispose of duplicates while obtaining stamps for their collection. It becomes an effective means of teaching the careful expenditure of the usually meagre funds of the youngsters; it must be controlled by the leaders/consultants (a useful function for senior club members), to make sure that in their enthusiasm to be the winning bidder the participants don't go overboard and bid beyond the reasonable value of the stamps or other items available.

To get organized it is necessary to have an 8 1/2 x 10 inch auction sheet duplicated (by the cheapest means possible – such as by using an old Gestetner machine). Under the name of your club the following wording (double spaced or more) should include: Country/Topic, description, catalogue value, minimum bid, used, mint, NH (Never Hinged), LH (Lightly Hinged), HH (Heavy Hinged), with a lined space for the filling in or checking off of the items.

The "Bidding Scale" is noted: "If minimum bid is less than $1, member must bid two cents or more higher than previous bid. If minimum bid is more than $1, the bid must be five cents more."

Off to one side set up two columns under "Bids", one for "Amount" and the other for "Initials" of the bidder, with a dozen horizontal lines below. An open space allows for the placing of items up for auction, either on a small piece of paper covered with see-through material or placed in a glassine envelope for display. A space at the bottom is provided for the name (or number) of the member who has prepared the auction submission.

The table auction can be an occasional agenda item or as preferred by the members (if sufficient members prepare sheets), a regular event, in which case it is a good opener for the first half hour of your meeting time. (This allows for the late-comers, who might otherwise miss some of the other meeting happenings.) Utilize a set of tables off to one side of your meeting room, so that after "Time" is called, some of the leaders can do the tabulating of amounts owned by the winning bidders, and of amounts due to the originators, while the meeting contineus. HAVE FUN!

ABBOTSFORD JUNIORS

"Thank you for teaching us about stamps," wrote a ten-year-old, in a note to the leader at the final Junior Stamp Club get-together of the year in June. On a card to "Members, Senior Stamp Club", one of the families wrote: "We sincerely appreciate all the time and effort all of you donate to make this such a successful and worthwhile club for our children." These tributes to the first year of activity will be long-remembered by the Youth Committee. (This is the second youth club the FVPC has sponsored, the first being organized a few years ago by Geoff Horner.)

The enjoyment of senior members and enthusiasm of the juniors promises well for continuation of the Club. The Committee included Bill Cann, Cec Coutts, Julius Hayek, Art Holmes, Jack Scott and Tom Southey, with Agnes Cann, Rita Southey and Hazel Verhaag providing refreshments for all meetings. They were also assisted by the parents at the June picnic. Thanks are also due to FVPC members who attended meetings, and the many who contributed stamps, catalogues, binders and cash donations.

The Club has held monthly meetings on Saturday mornings in the Abbotsford Senior Secondary School. The Superintendent of Schools, Harry Sayers, was greatly supportive by encouraging teachers of grades 3 to 6 in the District to recommend to their students that they join the junior club as an appropriate complement to their school activities.

Average attendance at meetings was 15, with an active membership of 27 composed of an almost equal number of boys and girls. Michael Kellough and Sara Jensen each attended nine meetings with Devin Rowell, Sam Garandza and Jennifer Nicholson close runners-up. The winners of Exhibit (one album page) Competition, with excellent first efforts were: Devin Rowell, First; Charity and Sam Garandza, second and third. All three were invited to show their prize-winning exhibits at the june meeting

of the FVPC, receiving high praise from the senior philatelists.

Other club activities have included demonstrations in washing stamps, use of perforation guages, catalogues, watermark detectors, ultra-violet lamps to show fluorescent tagging, and other stamp accessories. The juniors were also shown different types of stamps and how to mount them. A popular half-hour each meeting was the table auction.

Members are preparing exhibits for the junior section of "AMPEX '88" to be held October 22. Last year, after only two meetings, Sam Garandza, Jennifer Nicholson and Sarah Jensen were awarded the top prizes in their class.

The Club is indebted to Norm Holden, FVPC publicity chairman and editor of the senior club's *"Newsletter"*, for regular submission of articles and notice of meetings in the local press, radio and TV. The Stamp Club Center, a service of *"Linn's Stamp News"*, has been very helpful in providing junior club publications and membership cards.

The activities of the Junior club will resume in September.

(From the Fraser Valley Philatelic Club *Newsletter* – July, 1988)

HIDDEN DATES

The Hidden Dates On Some Canadian Stamps by J.J. "Jack" Johnston of Langley, B.C.

Did you know that the date of engraving of most stamps issued in Canada is hidden in a secret hiding place in each design? Yes, since 1935, except for the period from 1971 to 1973, starting with the definitive issue of June 1, it has been the practice of the engravers of Canadian stamps to show a hidden date, unless, as on some early commemoratives, the date was part of the main design.

This unique distinction has created much interest among collectors the world over. In addition to dates some issues from 1952 to 1963 also carried the "hidden" initials of the designer. This is no longer carried on as the designer's name has been added to the information on the sheet margin. Beginning in 1974 the international copyright symbol, the letter "C" enclosed in a circle, appears on almost every stamp.

Most of the hidden dates are quite easy to find with an ordinary magnifying glass. However, it will require a fairly high power lens to detect others. As an example of one of the easier dates to be found look for the date "1988" on the 37 cent issue depicting a recent portrait of Queen Elizabeth II. You will find it in the lower right hand corner, on the sleeve of the queen's dress.

As a close friend of mine, Garret Satfield (author of *"Canadian Secret Mark Stamps"* – now out of print) wrote, "The 'hidden dates' are (now) revealed and are 'secrets' no more".

Editor's note: If you would like a copy of Jack Johnston's recent publication *"Canadian 'Hidden Date' Stamps"*, write to him at #27, 2315 198th Street, Langley, B.C. V3A 4P4, enclosing a cheque or money order for $5 which includes cost of mailing.)

DON'T FORGET...

Pen Pals – see Series 1 for details of how you can link up with someone who wants to write to you and become your pen pal friend and stamp collector.

News from your club will be published in this your special column.

Write to your Juniors' editor – for answers (hopefully) to your stamp questions

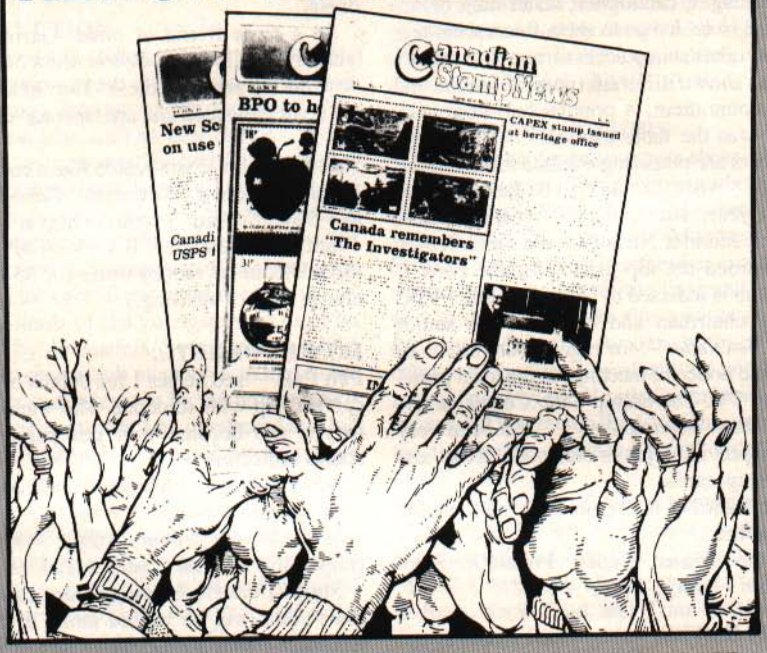
Suggestions for helping junior collectors or their clubs will be passed along to the many Canadian Junior stamp clubs many of which are sponsored by affiliated R.P.S.C. clubs.

Table auction ideas, or other ways, of how to provide extra cash for juniors to help them buy supplies will always be welcomed by the juniors.

Articles for this column, or suggestions, should be forwarded to the Juniors' editor. Such support from R.P.S.C. members will be appreciated. Our Juniors are the philatelists of tomorrow. □

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UNI

Postmarked OTTAWA . . . HANS REICHE

A REGULAR FEATURE

We are told that Canada Post's mail delivery has improved considerably in recent months and to improve it further, postage has been increased once again.

Have you noticed any improvements? A letter from Toronto to Ottawa takes three to four days. A letter from Zurich to Ottawa six days.

Well, you decide.

•••

Maj. Guy Grenier died recently in Montreal. When he was with National Defence, he started to collect the 1859 stamps of Canada, and concentrating on the 5-cent Beaver. His collection contained almost all the study of Maj. Chapman and Senator Calder. With more than 12,000 5-cent Beavers, it must have been the largest collection at that time. It was included most known re-entries, flaws etc. and over 450 covers with varieties. His studies resulted in new information and a much improved update of the original identification system.

•••

Finally, the first volume of Canadian Revenues, the Federal Bill and Law stamps, has been issued with an added glossary of selected philatelic terms. The effort by Maj. E. Zaluski is an outstanding example what can be done in philatelic research. Much new and very interesting information is included in this first volume and his writing style makes this volume fascinating, even if one does not collect just revenues.

A new identification system has been developed with may be a little difficult at first glance as it takes almost all stamp characteristics into account in an alpha-numerical system. It is unfortunate that references require the reader to turn to the final pages every time as only a name and date is given in the text. Some photos could have been improved but we hear that this will be done for the next six volumes still to be published.

•••

A small booklet has been published by this writer which deals with the constant plate varieties of the Admiral issue. These varieties have not been listed before in a single publication and the well known book by G.C. Marler does not cover any of the varieties.

The booklet defines a flaw and then illustrates over 220 such constant plate varieties. These are not simply fly specks but varieties which appear in the same position on a particular plate every time until a correction to the plate was made.

Some of these flaws can lead to interesting new information. For example, the 7-cent brown Admiral, printed from two plates, whose in almost all copies certain short lines in part of the bottom inscription. Slight differences in location of these lines led researchers to believe that these two plates could be plated.

Finally, it was discovered that these lines came from the transfer roll and were constant. The slight difference in location was due to a very minor difference in laying down each subject on the plate. This resulted in the lines entered by the transfer roll prior to laying down the subject itself differed slightly in their location from subject to subject.

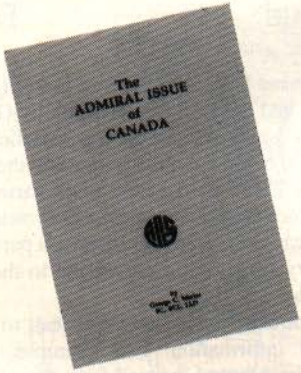
Certain other previously reported 'flaws' have now been identified as plate layout features and are not flaws.

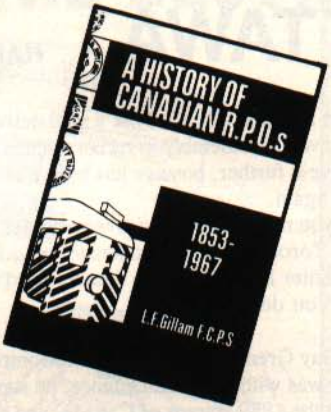
Plate layout features may be in the form of lines, arrows, dots, curved lines etc. Usually such features are burnished off prior to printing or they are covered up by the actual design and can not be noticed.

The Admiral issue is full of such layout features and one must be careful in the identification of such because some which appear to be flaws are not.

•••

Although coil jumps have not been seen for some time on the recent Canadian coil or roll stamps, the 37-cent coil does exist with a jump. Alignment appears to be much better than some of the early jumps but they do exist. Coils from the Admiral period can be found with the jump but, for some reason, these are not listed in specialized catalogues. □





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Literature Reviews

COLLECT BIRDS ON STAMPS (Second Edition 1988) by Jens and Hanne Eriksen, published by Stanley Gibbons Publications Ltd., Parkside, Ringwood Hampshire BH24 3SH England, 14.5 cm by 21 cm, 394 pages, black and white illustrations, softbound, IBSN 0 85259 182 9, £8,95 plus £2,25 overseas surfact mail, available from the publisher from stamp dealers in Canada.

According to Stanley Gibbons, a 1986 survey revealed that bird stamps is the number one theme among topical collectors.

As this catalogue reveals, there's plenty to choose from. In all, just over 7,500 bird stamps are listed covering about 1,860 birds species from Abbott's Booby to the Zenaida dove. Since the first edition, 1,860 stamps and 300 new species have been added. The listings have been extended to cover extinct birds from prehistoric times to the dodo.

The catalogue, of the usual fine Sanley Gibbons quality, lists bird stamps by country in chronological order, giving the common English name as well as any local or Latin name which appears on the stamp.

It is followed by a comprehensive listing of birds by their English and zoological (Latin) names, allowing collectors to easily find all stamps showing a particular bird or species.

While Canada isn't among the leading issuing nations of bird stamps in the world, 19 varieties are listed. Canadians, though might be hard-pressed about the 1955 'white-billed diver' stamp – it's better know to most Canadians as a loon, a fact noted in the English name listing.

The stamps are primarily those which feature birds as the main part of the design though there are a few inconsistencies. For example, the emu, a flightles bird of Australia, is included as part of the George V head series of 1913 – it's part of the coat of arms frame for the Australian stamps. But the ubiquitous Mexican eagle used in a similar fashion is not listed nor is a dove that's part of Canada's civil aviation commemmorative.

All-in-all, though an excellent catalolgue and one that points out, in financial terms, one of the reasons for the popularity of topicals and thematics among collectors. With a very few exceptions, most of the birds stamps catalogue at under £5 (about $12.50 Cdn.), a far cry from the catalogue values many collectors in traditional areas face in trying to put together a complete showing.

Incidently, the Birds on Stamps catalogue is a first for Stanley Gibbons in a new production method – direct from computer disc supplied by the catalogue compilers.

JPH

UPU SPECIMEN STAMPS by James Bendon, self-published, 14.5 cm by 22.5 cm, 260 pages, hardbound, black and white illustrations, IBSN 9963 7624 1 7, $60.50 Cdn., available from James Bendon, PO Box 6484, Limassol, Cyprus.

This finely printed book is a detailed reference catalogue, worldwide in scope, based on original research of the distribution of specimen stamps by the International Bureau of the Universal Postal Union (UPU).

The UPU is an international organization which monitors and organizes exchanges of mail among virtually every nation in the world. As part of its mandate, it receives and distributes specimen stamps of its member nations so they can keep up to date on what are the real stamps of issuing nations. In its early days, these stamps were often overprinted or perforated with 'specimen', opening up a major collecting area.

Every nation which issued specimen stamps is covered, from Aden to Zululand. While many nations at one time or other prepared specimen stamps, the bulk were done by Great Britain and its overseas colonies. Canada, for example, issued only a few – the high values of the Queen Victoria jubilee set and the 20-cent Edward.

Very comprehensive in scope, this reference catalogue contains a price list (in pounds sterling) and a wealth of information about specimen stamp quantities, as well as data about the UPU and its past and present members.

While not for every collector, it should prove a valuable reference source to those whose collections are related to UPU activities as well as those interested in the specimen overprints.

JPH

THE CANADIAN MILITARY POSTS, VOLUME 2, BETWEEN THE WARS AND WORLD WAR TWO, 1920 - 1946 by W.J. Bailey and E.R. Toop, edited by Edward B. Proud, Published by Proud Bailey Co. Ltd., Heathfield Towers, Sussex, England, TN21 8PY, 17.3 cm x 24.8 cm (6 3/4 x 8 3/4 in approx.), 367 pages, black and white illustrated, hardbound, $60 Canadian from dealers. Available in Canada from G.S. Wegg Ltd., Toronto, and F.E. Eaton & Sons Ltd., Vancouver, in U.S.A. from G. Alevizos, California, R. Koerber, Michigan and Lt. Col. J.T. Johnson, Oklahoma.

This is the second of a series of three books on The Canadian Military Posts. Volume 1, the Colonial Period up to 1920, was released in 1985 at a cost of $42. It is now selling for $77. Volume 3, covering the period 1946 to date is expected to be published 1990.

Nicely printed on high quality stock with superb illustrations, this book is hardbound in brown buckram with a multi-coloured illustrated jacket. Part 1, consisting of nine chapters with a total of 131 pages covers the historical part of the military posts. Part 2, eight chapters, 214 pages in total, illustrates the various postal markings and includes pertinent data such as period of use, when sent to the unit, returned dates etc. In addition there are three appendices. Appendix one contains Canadian military abbreviations, World War Two. Appendix two consists of five pages of important dates and appendix three is a bibliography.

While detailed historical data has been purposely curtailed, postal activity has received a broad treatment. The R.C.A.F. air mail service introduced in World War Two is described in detail. Tables linking the numbered units of World War One with the named units of World War Two as well as the units and squadron lists of World War Two will be of special interest to military historians as well as to postal historians.

A value is shown for each military post office marking. It is important to know that values are expressed in points and are for clear-dated examples on card or cover. The preface notes that one point is equal to 10 pence. For example an item with a value of 100 means that this item would be worth 1000 pence or £10, about $24 Canadian. The preface goes on to state that "for groups of covers the — price would be reduced to two-thirds, at least —" and "Covers with adhesives are worth from twice the normal valuation."

Although there is the odd typographical error this is nevertheless a quality book. Until another military postal historian comes up with additional information, this is the best book on the subject printed to date. With a fairly small printing you would be wise to order your copy at an early date.

JEK

THE STAMPS AND POSTAL HISTORY OF VANCOUVER ISLAND AND BRITISH COLUMBIA - formed by Gerald E. Wellburn, published by F.E. Eaton & Sons, #1860 - 505 Burrard St., Vancouver, B.C. V7X 1M6, 24 cm x 34 cm, 164 pages, colour illustrations, hardbound, available from the publisher at $195 Canadian.

The collection on which this book is based is no stranger to Canadian philatelists. It was exhibited at the CAPEX international exhibitions, and last year received the Grand Prix National. Mr. Wellburn has spent a lifetime gathering the gems it contains, and writing up the pages in an original and interesting style. It is now virtually impossible to obtain such material, and the editors are to be congratulated for preserving the collection and making it available in book form to the philatelic public.

The colour photography and reproduction — done by a Vancouver printing house — are exceptional. The illustrations are clear, and the colours, with few exceptions, are true to the actual items. The price may be considered high but genuine craftsmanship doesn't come cheap. The product compares very favourably with similar books published in Europe and Japan, and the price is comparable.

An edition limited to 1,000 copies has been printed, and when these are sold the book will be virtually impossible to obtain.

We undersand that the collection on which the book is based will be sold at auction in Toronto during October 1988, so the editors should be congratulated for having the foresight to prepare such a record. Gerry Wellburn is one of the most distinguished collectors in Canada, and both the philatelic and historical communities owe him a great deal for preserving these records of early west coast history, and then allowing the publication of this book.

At the recent ROYAL '88 exhibition in Winnipeg, the judges thought highly enough of the book to award it a National Gold Medal – with the Felicitations of the Jury for the original research it contains.

If the early history and postal history of Vancouver Island and British Columbia are among your interests, this book is a necessity. Cut your budget in other areas if you must, but be sure to obtain a copy before it is out of print.

WGR

ST. HELENA AND DEPENDENCIES – COMMONWEALTH TWO REIGNS STAMP CATALOGUE (George VI and Elizabeth II), first edition by Stanley Gibbons, 14.5 cm x 21 cm, 50 pages, black and white illustrated, softbound, copyright 1988, IBSN; 0 85259 188 8. £4.50 from the publishers, Stanley Gibbons Publications Ltd., Parkside, Ringwood, Hampshire, ENGLAND, BH24 3SH. Postage 30p. U.K. and 75p overseas surface mail.

The first edition of Gibbons Commonwealth Two Reigns Stamp catalogue of St. Helena and Dependencies was published and released on February 12, 1988. Ascension and Tristan da Cunha being dependencies of St. Helena are of course included. This group of colonies are very popular with collectors. They and collectors of Modern Commonwealth will find this catalogue very handy particularly since it is pocket size. Inverted watermarks, shades, specimens, booklets, major flaws and Elizabethan first day covers are included in the listings. Some new listings that have never been listed before by Stanley Gibbons appear in the catalogue. The George VI stamps are priced, "mounted", "unmounted", and "used". While not a specialist handbook listing all the printings etc. specialists and collectors will want a copy of this catalogue. The first few pages covers watermarks, gum, printing, paper, specimens, colours, etc. A section in the back of the book, making up the 50 pages is good old Stanley Gibbons advertising. This is part of a series of Commonwealth Two Reign catalogues for collectors who require more detail than in the standard Part 1, Stanley Gibbons (British Commonwealth) volume.

JEK

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□

CHAPTER MEETINGS

AJAX PHILATELIC SOCIETY

R.P.S.C. Chapter 163 meets 1st and 3rd Mondays of each month, September to June in St. Bernadette's Hall, S-E corner of Harwood & Bayly, Ajax, from 7 to 10 p.m. All visitors welcome, especially junior collectors. Address: P.O. Box 186 Ajax, Ontario L1S 3C3.

AMICALE des PHILATELISTES de l'OUTAOUAIS

R.P.S.C. Chapter 190 meets every Thursday, September to April in the basement of the Saint Benoit Church, 170 Sherbrooke Street, Hull, Qué. Visitors welcome. For information, P.O. Box 422, Gatineau, Qué. J8P 7A1.

BARRIE DISTRICT STAMP CLUB

R.P.S.C. Chapter 73 meets second Wednesday of each month except July and August, at 7:30 p.m. at the Parkview Centre - 191 Blake Street, Barrie, Ont. Table Auction at every meeting. Visitors welcome. Contact: Sec.-Treasurer Lew Metzger - 164 Wellington St. East, Barrie, Ont. L4M 2C8

BRAMALEA STAMP CLUB

R.P.S.C. Chapter No. 144 meets 1st Sunday (1:30-4:00 p.m.) and 3rd Tuesday (7:30-9:30 p.m.), September to June at Terry Miller Recreation Complex, Meeting Room 2, Williams Parkway (between Dixie Rd. & Bramalea Rd.) Bramalea, Ont. All visitors welcome. Correspondence to: Bramalea Stamp Club, P.O. 2041 Bramalea, Ont. L6T 3S3.

BRITISH COLUMBIA PHILATELIC SOCIETY

Meetings every Wednesday at 7 p.m. at Post House, 1010 Home Street (at Nelson); Vancouver, B.C. Visitors welcome. Mail to the club c/o Mr. Leslie Upton, Secretary. 607 East 6th Street, North Vancouver, B.C. V7L 1R4

CALGARY PHILATELIC SOCIETY

(Chapter 66) Regular meeting: First Wednesday of month, 7:00 p.m. Auctions on third and fourth Wednesday of month, 7:30 p.m. Kerby Center, 1133 7 Ave. S.W. No meetings in July and August. Correspondence to Calgary Philatelic Society, P.O. Box 1478, Station "M", Calgary, Alta. T2P 2L6.

CANADIAN ASSOCIATION FOR ISRAEL PHILATELY

(C.A.F.I.P.) R.P.S.C. Chapter 76 meets every second Monday of the month (except July and August) at 7:30 p.m. at the Jewish Community Centre, 4588 Bathurst Street, Willowdale, Ontario. President: Dr. Mitchell Levine, 159 Willowdale Avenue, Willowdale, Ontario M2N 4Y7.

COLUMBIA PHILATELIC SOCIETY

Chapter 11 RPSC meets 7:30 every fourth Tuesday. Visitors welcome Box 465, Trail, B.C. V1R 4L7 Phone 368-9601

CREDIT VALLEY PHILATELIC SOCIETY - MISSISSAUGA -

Chapter No. 67 meets the 2nd & 4th Monday of every month (except on holidays and in July & August) at 7:30 p.m. at Forest Avenue Public School, 20 Forest Ave., in Port Credit. Visitors always welcome. Further information, contact E.A. Read, (416) 278-4716.

DELTA STAMP CLUB

Chapter No. 138 meets on the second and fourth Tuesdays (except June/August) 8 p.m. at the South Delta Library, 1321A - 56th Street, Delta, B.C. Visitors always welcome. Further information: Bill Heather, (604) 943-5303.

EAST TORONTO STAMP CLUB

Stan Wadlow Clubhouse, Cedarvale Ave., first east of Woodbine, at Cosburn, north of arena. 1st & 3rd Wednesdays of each month (except in July & August). Sec'y: Raymond Reakes, 188 Woodmount Ave., Toronto, Ont. M4C 3Z4. Visitors always welcome.

ESSEX COUNTY STAMP CLUB (WINDSOR)

RPSC Chapter 154 meets on the second and fourth Wednesday of the month (except July, August and December) at Roseland Golf and Curling Club, 455 Kennedy Dr. W., Windsor, Ontario. Meetings are held at 7:30 p.m. All collectors and visitors are welcome, whatever your interests. Information from: The Secretary, Essex County Stamp Club, P.O. Box 1503, Station A, Windsor, Ontario N9A 6R5

ETOBICOKE PHILATELIC SOCIETY

RPSC Chapter 78 will meet for the 1988-1989 season as follows: Wed. Sept. 7; Wed. Oct. 5; Wed. Nov. 2 at Fairfield Senior citizens Centre, 80 Lothian Ave. Etobicoke. then the first Wednesdays of Jan.; Feb.; Mar.; Apr.; May & June 1989 again at Fairfield Senior Citizens Centre. All meetings start at 7:30 p.m. VISITORS ARE WELCOME. Information from President C.E. Allen, 5 Aintree Court, Toronto, Ont. M8W 2E1 Tel: 251-3425.

FENELON STAMP CLUB

Fenelon Stamp Club R.P.S.C. Chapter 176 meets the 2nd Monday of each month in the Fenelon Falls Public Library at 7:30 p.m. President Ron Thoburn, P.O. Box 646, Fenelon Falls, Ont. K0M 1N0. Visitors welcome.

CHAPTER MEETINGS

HAMILTON PHILATELIC SOCIETY

Welcome all visitors to our membership meetings held twice monthly on the second and fourth Mondays of each month except June, July and August when the Society meetings on the second Monday only. We meet at the Hamilton Fire Fighters Club, 501 Concession Street (off Upper Wentworth) in Hamilton at 6:30 p.m. (Entrance and parking at rear of building). A bourse of up to 14 dealers attend every meeting with the Society's Sales Circuit and Library. Admission - Visitors - 75¢.

KAWARTHA PHILATELIC SOCIETY

Chapter 58, R.P.S.C. Meetings 2nd and 4th Tuesdays of months September through June (exclude 4th Tuesday in December and June) 7:30 p.m. Meeting place St. Johns' School, corner of Braidwood and Jane St., Peterborough, Ont. Contact Lloyd Mosher, Pres. Mailing address of Club: 1269 Royal Dr., Peterborough, Ont. K9H 6R6.

KELOWNA & DISTRICT STAMP CLUB

Chapter 90 meets monthly, 1st Wednesday, Sept. to June, from 7 - 10 p.m. in the Kelowna Secondary School Cafeteria, 575 Harvey Ave. Business meeting 8 p.m. followed by an auction - visitors always welcome. Address: Box 1185, Kelowna, B.C. V1Y 7P8.

KENT COUNTY STAMP CLUB

Chapter No. 7 Regular meetings the fourth Wednesday of each month (except July, August and December) in the cafeteria of John McGregor Secondary School, 300 Cecile at 7:30 p.m. Visitors always welcome. Secretary Abie Heersma, 73 Jasper, Chatham, Ont. N7M 4C1

KINGSTON STAMP CLUB

RPSC Chapter 49 meets the second & fourth Monday, Sept. to May, at 6 p.m. for juniors and 7 p.m. for all members, at the Hall of St. George Cathedral, Johnson and Wellington Sts., Kingston, Ont. Correspondence to: Kingston Stamp Club, c/o Ronald Tritton, P.O. Box 1202, Kingston, Ont. K7L 4Y8.

LAKEHEAD STAMP CLUB

R.P.S.C. Chapter No. 33, meets second Wednesday and last Friday monthly from September to June in the Emergency Measures Building. Visitors are welcome. Edith Dombrowsky, secretary, Lakehead Stamp Club, 174 Elron Crescent, Thunder Bay, Ontario P7C 5T5.

LAKESHORE STAMP CLUB

Meets at St. John's Church, 98 Aurora, Pointe Claire, Quebec. Meeting nights 2nd and 4th Thursdays, September till June, at 7:30 p.m. President Ray Ireson. Mailing address: P.O. Box 1, Pointe Claire, P.Q. H9R 4N5.

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 Bedford Park United Church, 100 Ranleigh Avenue, Toronto. Visitors Welcome.

NORTH YORK PHILATELIC SOCIETY

Chapter 21 of the Royal meets on the 1st & 3rd Wednesdays of each month - July & August excepted, at Edithvale Community Centre, Finch at Edithvale (between Bathurst & Yonge). Secretary: P.O. Box 62, Willowdale, Ont. M2N 5S7.

OAKVILLE STAMP CLUB

Chapter No. 135 meets the second and fourth Tuesday of each month at 7:30 p.m. in the "Pine Room", Oakville Arena, Rebecca Street, Oakville. Mailing Address: P.O. Box 524, Oakville, Ontario, L6J 5B4. Geoff Hill, President.

OTTAWA PHILATELIC SOCIETY

R.P.S.C. Chapter No. 16, meets Thursdays at 8:00 p.m. September through May in room 021, Marion Hall, University of Ottawa. Visitors welcome. Information from P.O. Box #9442, Alta Vista Terminal, Ottawa, Ont. K1G 3V1.

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.

SAINT JOHN STAMP CLUB

Meets 2nd and 4th Wednesdays 8 p.m. at St. Malachy's High School with exception of June to August. Auction at each meeting. Secretary, Saint John Stamp Club, Box 6783, Station A, Saint John, N.B. E2L 4S2.

LA SOCIÉTÉ PHILATÉLIQUE DE QUÉBEC

Regular meetings will be held in the basement of The Saint Charles Garnier Church, 1215 Chanoine Morel, Sillery. As in the past, we will hold meetings on the first and third Wednesdays of the month - 7:30 hr., to 10:00.

TORONTO HARMONIE STAMP CLUB

R.P.S.C. Chapter 94 meets every 3rd Thursday of the month at Victoria Park Secondary School, 15 Wallingford Rd., Don Mills. We start at 7:30 p.m. in the Library Seminar Room. Visitors are always welcome and enquiries should be directed to J. Doehler (416-438-4862) at the above address or P. Mustard (690-9711).

CHAPTER MEETINGS

UNION PHILATÉLIQUE DE MONTRÉAL
(RPSC Chapter No. 3) meets every second and fourth Tuesday, September to June, at 7 p.m., 7110 8th ave., Montréal (St. Michel) P.Q. Visitors always welcomed. Postal address: P.O. Box 398, Station A, Montreal, Quebec H3C 2T1.

WEST TORONTO STAMP CLUB
R.P.S.C. Chapter 14 meets 7:30 p.m. second and fourth Tuesdays, except July and August at St. Pauls Runnymede Church, 404 Willard Ave., near Jane and Bloor, Toronto, West Toronto Stamp Club, c/o 331 Rathburn Rd., Islington, Ont. M9B 2L9. Visitors welcome.

WESTMOUNT PHILATELIC CLUB
Chapter 17 of the Royal. Meets every 4th Monday September through May (except December at 7:30 p.m. at the United Service Club, 1195 Sherbrooke St. West, Montreal. President Bernie Margolis. Mailing address: c/o Robert Mirabelli, 9 Dobie Ave., Mt-Royal PQ, H3P 1R9. Visitors very welcome. Information: phone Robert Mirabelli (514) 735-0183.

WINNIPEG PHILATELIC SOCIETY
Meetings: 1st & 3rd Thursdays (except July & August), 7:30 p.m., Veterans Club Room, downstairs, C.N. Union Station, Main St. at Broadway, Box 1425, Winnipeg, Manitoba R3C 2Z1. Visitors always welcome.

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