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Revue de la SOCIÉTÉ ROYALE DE PHILATÉLIE DU CANADA



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Publication Date: November 30, 1994

Volume 45, No. 6 | Whole Number 265 | November-December 1994

REGULAR FEATURES:

403 From the Editor's Desk

405 Letters to the Editor

407 Philatelic News in Brief

412 Auction Calendar

413 Recent New Issues

415 President's Page/la page du président *William G. Robinson*

417 Fellows of the Society *Beverlie Clark*

419 Postmarked Ottawa *Hans Reiche*

421 Under the Hammer *Dean Mario*

423 Definitives/Timbres courants *John Schmidt*

425 Don's Corner *Donald J.LeBlanc*

431 Vignettes of Early BNA Postal History *J.C. Arnell*

435 RPSC Philatelic Research Foundation *James E. Kraemer*

470 The Philatelic Bookshelf

472 New from Canada Post

476 Society Reports

480 Exchanges

481 Coming Events

483 Chapter Meetings

487 Classified Advertisements

488 Alphabetical List of Advertisers

The Cover: Season's Greetings! From Nov. 18 until Jan. 15, Canada Post is offering a special cancellation service at the Christmas Island, N.S. post office. See page 408 for details.

437 Prisoner of War Mail: The Korean War, 1950-1953 *E.R. Toop, FRPSC*

453 Thematics/Exploration Unlimited: *An Update* *Carlo Rasmussen*

455 Thurn and Taxis: A Remarkable Postal System *Hans Reiche, FRPSC*

464 Paper, part 7 *Kenneth D. Campbell*

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From the Editor's Desk

by Steve Thorning

CATCHING UP WITH OVERDUE TASKS

One of the goals I have set for myself as year end approaches is to get caught up with correspondence and all the small tasks that are easily put off and shoved into a corner of the editor's desk.

For the past week I have made it a habit to answer the mail the same day I receive it. I have been averaging five or six outgoing pieces of mail a day. No wonder it quickly piles up if left for a couple of weeks!

There is quite a range in the nature of an editor's mail. There are letters to and from writers concerning articles and regular columns. There is correspondence with advertisers. Readers often have comments about articles that I pass on to their authors, and occasionally another editor will write asking permission to reprint something that appeared in this journal.

Only a small portion of the mail is destined for the Letters to the Editor column. Some are clearly indicated for publication. When this is not the case, I check with the author before running them. My policy is to print only those letters that add something new to a discussion or a debate, or that clarify or correct a point made in something previously published. I believe that this column is a forum for the free exchange of the viewpoints of readers, not for the private correspondence of the editor.

I've noticed that readers seem to think editors are experts on all subjects related to philately. Sometimes I am able to answer questions or ask one of my acquaintances for help. In other cases, I pass a request for information on to someone who might be able to answer more authoritatively than I can.

I do not complain about the volume of mail. In fact, it is one of the satisfactions of this job. I enjoy writing to readers in all parts of the country and outside it. Letters are the best way I can get responses from readers, and they help me in planning for future issues of the journal. Do not hesitate to write to the editor. Your letters are the only contact I have with the readership of this journal. The only items that should not be directed to me are problems with circulation. These should go directly to the Toronto office. I do not have anything to do with membership renewals or the mailing list. Writing to me only delays our efforts in solving your problem.

I wear several hats in addition to the editor's visor. Part of my time is devoted to public life. I was elected for the first time to our local council in 1991. This fall I stepped up to the position of Deputy Reeve, and was elected by acclamation.

I used some of the time I had expected to be campaigning to sort out my collections, which have been largely ignored since I took over this desk. As always, I managed to put something together for our local Guelph Stamp Club show.

This year, the show organizers decided to judge all the exhibits by ballot. As well, the club restricted exhibits to a maximum of six 6-page frames. The results were most interesting. Gord Fulton's Christmas Day Cancellations proved the most popular, followed closely by Jack Keleher's Guelph Postcards. Another popular exhibit, on Netherlands Booklets, used large sheets, rather than album pages, to achieve an attractive layout. My own entry on German Overseas Offices of the pre-WWI period ranked only sixth out of 11 entries. In the past, with qualified judges, I have had similar exhibits take best-in-show awards.

The short exhibits in general seemed very popular with show goers. I have noticed the same phenomenon seems to be occurring elsewhere, with the popularity of one-frame exhibits in the US and at shows in western Canada.

The people who voted at the show were not people randomly selected from the public, but rather, were collectors themselves, and in some cases advanced ones. Are they telling us that the material they see at shows, even local ones, is out of step with their collecting interests?

It is a point to ponder. I believe the collecting public is anxious to see the traditional boundaries of philately pushed back, and new life injected into the hobby. It is a challenge to those of us in organized philately. These are indisputably changing times for philately. •

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AN ADMIRER FOR IRWIN

Sir:

I am certain that other readers of *The Canadian Philatelist* will want to join me in expressing our appreciation to Professor Irwin for his information-packed postal history article in the Sept.-Oct. issue. Even after reading it a second time I still haven't fully grasped how he managed to summarize so succinctly such a complex subject in so few words strung together so enjoyably.

Prof. Irwin certainly proved that technical writing need not put readers to sleep. More importantly, he gives us a glimpse into another fascinating aspect of stamp collecting that awaits the more adventurous among us looking for a new philatelic challenge.

Tony Shaman
Kitchener, Ont.

REACTION TO MILLAR

Sir,

I was quite surprised and displeased at Mr. Michael Millar's comments in the Letters to the Editor section in the July-August issue. My first reaction or question was: What right does any alleged collector have in questioning the particular interest of any particular group of collectors? Since when does one's personal interest have to be scrutinized by anyone else?

Comments like "....the wrath of all those misguided people who collect plate blocks" and "use them up for postage, folks. That's what the Post Office issues them for," tell us more about Mr. Millar's reasoning than about the mentality of plate block collectors.

My second reaction was why would The Canadian Philatelist want to give such exposure to such negative comments? I cannot understand why the journal wants to continue the debate by asking for further opinions. Why give Mr. Millar free publicity?

If Mr. Millar insists that plate blocks are issued for postage, why did he only mention plate blocks? According to Mr. Millar, why should anyone collect singles, pairs, booklets or sheets since all were issued for postage in the first place. If only misguided people collect plate blocks, I wonder what he would call a person who writes about plate blocks.

Donald J. LeBlanc
Caraquet, NB

BOOM IN ONE-FRAME EXHIBITS

Sir:

In the report of the Royal Ogopex show in the July-August issue, there is an omission, likely inadvertent, of reference to the one-frame exhibits. There were eight one-frame exhibits in this show, four of which received high awards of Gold and Vermeil.

In the past couple of years one-frame exhibits seem to have caught on well. Certainly, these provide an opportunity to exhibit high quality but limited material which otherwise would never be seen. Both the exhibitors and the viewing public benefit from this exposure.

Trelle A. Morrow
Prince George, BC

MORE FLAGS ON CANADIAN STAMPS

Sir:

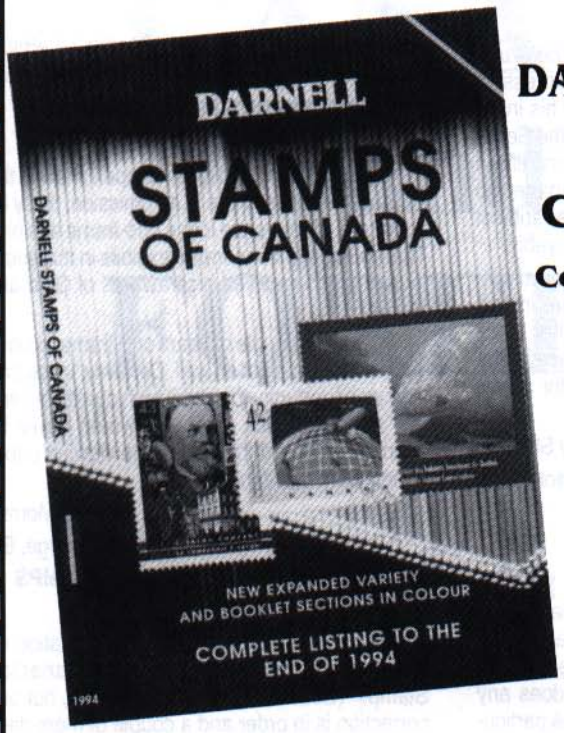
I suppose this is not the first observation on Mr. Michael Nowlan's "Flags on Canadian Stamps" (Oct.-Nov. 1994). A fine article, but one correction is in order and a couple of more flags could be included.

Careful scrutiny will show flags on Scott Nos. 273, 277, 312, 397, and 412 (flags between 1942 and the new one in 1965).

Also, the American flag shows clearly on the lower right blockhouse of No. 1054 (Fort Whoop-Up, 1985 forts booklet). Was the Alberta Fort Whoop-Up under American control at the time of the original fort building? Or did the artist goof?

Ray F. Smith
Delta, BC

Ed. note: Most people who have studied Canadian history should be familiar with Fort Whoop-Up, the notorious outlaw post in what is now Alberta that was taken over by the N.W.M.P. in 1874. Although on Canadian territory, the fort was operated by American whiskey and fur traders, who may very well have flown an American flag there before fleeing back to the U.S. Can any readers offer more information on the accuracy of the depiction of Fort Whoop-Up? •



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Philatelic News in Brief...

PROSPECTS ARE BLEAK FOR THE CANADIAN POSTAL ARCHIVES

Philatelists and researchers have become alarmed in recent months over major proposed changes at the Canadian Postal Archives. The restructuring would see the Archives lose its present accomodation at 344 Wellingston Street in Ottawa. The staff would be reassigned to other duties at the National Archives of Canada. The Canadian Postal Archives would cease to exist in anything like its present form.

The Canadian Postal Archives began with the creation of the National Postal Museum in 1974. In 1988 the Postal Museum was divided into two divisions: the Canadian Postal Archives, which held paper artifacts, stamps, and the library; and a new National Postal Museum under the authority of the Canadian Museum of Civilization. Neither of the new entities had any direct connection with Canada Post, though it did provide start-up grants of $3,000,000.

According to reports, the National Postal Museum, which houses three-dimensional artifacts, will have permanent display space in two years.

Prospects for the Canadian Postal Archives do not appear to be as good. There will be, apparently, a research area at the National Archives for philatelic use, but it is not known how much philatelic material will be available for viewing, or if the library will be preserved. Further, there has been no indication of what the staffing will be, or what qualifications they will have.

Budget considerations are the major reason behind the proposed changes. The National Archives are under financial pressure, and the Canadian Postal Archives may be seen as a dispensible luxury. Unfortunately, members of the philatelic community were not consulted. The Canadian Postal Archives are the most important resource for philatelic researchers in Canada, and all philatelists should be concerned about any reorganization that decreases their usefulness and the accessibility of their resources.

The proposed changes are on hold pending a program review of the services provided by various federal government departments, and decisions may not be finalized until after the end of the fiscal year. There is still time, therefore, for philatelists to make their concerns known.

The National Archives reports to the government through Heritage Minister Michel Dupuy. His address is Room 230, Confederation Building, Wellington St., Ottawa, ON K1A 0M5. The national archivist is Jean-Pierre Wallot. His address is 395 Wellington Street, Ottawa, ON K1A 0N3. It is also useful to raise the matter with your local M.P.

It would be a tragedy if the Canadian Postal Archives are drastically downsized or eliminated because the philatelic community did not raise its voice in defence of this vital resource.

NORTHERN CANADA STUDY GROUP

A number of specialists in northern Canadian philately have formed the Northern Canada Study Group, under the auspices of the Postal History Society of Canada. The group will be studying the postal history of the Yukon, Labrador, and early and modern North West Territories. The early N.W.T. includes the pre-September 1905 territories of Alberta, Assiniboia, Athabasca, Saskatchewan, and Keewatin. Postal service in Rupert's Land and early Manitoba can also be included.

A newsletter, *The Northerner*, will be published six times per year. Modern postal history of Yukon, N.W.T. and Labrador will be included. The newsletter is intended to be an informal medium for the exchange of information. Eventually, major articles and handbooks about this large part of Canada may be published. The first newsletter appeared in late March 1994.

The initial annual membership fee is $10.00 per year. Cheques should be made payable to the treasurer, Ian Mowat. Interested collectors can contact Mr. Mowat at 790 Cuaulta Cres., Victoria, BC V9C 3H3, or the newsletter editor, Dr. Gray Scrimgeour, Apt. 570, 188 Douglas St., Victoria, BC V8V 2P1.



D-DAY POSTMARK

The illustration above shows a strike applied by Machine 076 at the Winnipeg mail processing plant. It is the only one we have seen that commemorates the D-Day landing on June 6, 1944. This strike is dated June 10, so presumably the slogan was in use for several days.

D-Day has powerful emotional resonances for anyone who lived through World War II. It is now well established as one of the pivotal dates in Canadian history. The 1994 World War II set issued by Canada Post has a D-Day theme, but regrettably, and unlike several other countries, there was no Canadian stamp issue on June 6.

We owe a great debt to the anonymous machine operator in Winnipeg who programmed the "REMEMBER D-DAY JUNE 6" slogan. This will surely become the most sought after of the spray-on postal markings.

SPECIAL CHRISTMAS ISLAND POSTMARK

At a ceremony at Christmas Island, Nova Scotia on Nov. 18, Canada Post introduced a commemorative cancel for use on holiday mail. Christmas Island is a small post office on Little Bras d'Or Lake, Cape Breton Island.

Postmaster Margaret MacNeil has received requests for years from people who want a Christmas cancel on their mail. This year, Canada Post is encouraging postal users to send their mail to Christmas Island for processing. The cancel to be used, designed by Steven Slipp of Halifax, consists of a wreath of holly surrounded by the inscription, with the date in the centre. It will be struck in red. An example graces the cover of this issue.

Those who wish to use this cancel on their mail should address and stamp their cards and letters as usual, then package the items securely in an outer wrapper, which should be sealed with sufficient postage affixed. Send to the Postmaster, Christmas Island Post Office, Christmas Island, NS B0A 1C0. The cancel is available from Nov. 18 until Jan. 15, 1995.

The Atlantic Division of Canada Post can provide more information about the cancel by phone: (902) 494-4076 or (902) 494-4043.

CRASH AND WRECK MAIL SOCIETY

Postal historians specializing in disaster mail might wish to investigate a new group for the study of crash and interrupted mail. The Crash and Wreck Mail Society, formed recently, will be issuing a quarterly publication, *La Catastrophe*. The annual membership is £10 for those residing in the United Kingdom. Canadian and overseas inquiries should be directed to the membership secretary, N.W. Hoggarth, 10 Lady Jane Park, Bradgate Road, Newtown, Linford, Leicester LE6 0HD, England.

NEW ISSUE NIGHTMARES

The following commentary appeared in a recent issue of the Edmonton Stamp Club's bulletin over Keith Spencer's initials. We offer it here for the amusement of our readers.

Phil's hobby was collecting stamps.
He licked so many that it gave him cramps,
Which seems to have bothered him rather fatally,
And explains what's happened to philately.

This cute little ditty was passed to me by longtime Edmonton radio personality Irv Shore. And while it's a bit on the light hearted side, it does have a serious twist. You see, Phil was a new issue collector, and just like John Henry, the 'Steam Drivin' Man', he over did it and his poor heart just gave out.

No wonder either! The latest Michel report for 1992 lists a mere 10,505 new issues. That's 28 new stamps every day of the year, including Sundays. Now, when you consider that there were 13 new stamp issuing countries due to the break-up of the Soviet Union and that 20 countries issued no stamps in '92, that means that the rest of the world has really been working overtime to churn out little sticky paper bits.

The worst offenders, you ask? Frustratingly, many of them are former British colonies which were at one time both popular and respectable.

How about St. Vincent with 575 new stamps and souvenir sheets (nearly two per day) with a catalogue value of nearly $2,000.00. Tanzania chips in with 310 new stamps, Grenada with 289, Guyana 259, and Antigua with 222. Some 'banana republic' by the name of the United States of America managed a mere 126 new issues!

Sheer numbers are not the only way in which collectors are taken for a ride. High face value is a great way to empty collectors' pockets. The face value of the 1992 new issues is slightly over $7,174. At this rate, the yearly Scott catalogue will soon require 10 volumes as opposed to five just to list all the new creations. And your friendly banker will own the lot!

The blame gets assigned—the stamp issuers, their agents, the Universal Postal Union. Letters to the editor appear in the stamp press. Will they make any difference? Not likely. Not as long as there are collectors to buy this paper pollution.

CLASSIC ISSUES —THE NEXT TREND?

As a corollary to Keith Spencer's comments above, it is appropriate to note that the Scott Publishing Company has announced the forthcoming publication of a catalogue listing worldwide classic issues—stamps issued between 1840 and 1940.

The American Philatelic Society has responded to the announcement by creating a new category in its sales circuit for only pre-1940 stamps.

Will this trend catch on in Canada and elsewhere? It would certainly mean a boost to club sales circuits. Old long-forgotten collections in attics would become desirable. For many of us, a worldwide pre-1940 collection would offer a return to our original schoolboy collections, and perhaps a chance to recapture the simple joys and excitement that hooked us on stamps in the first place.

PIPEX WINNERS

The 54th annual exhibition of the Northwest Federation of Stamp Clubs, PIPEX '94, came off successfully in Eugene, Oregon, between May 27 and 29.

The Grand Award went to Jon Rose (US 1869 Issue / 1875 and 1880 Re-Issues, and the Reserve Grand was earned by David Torre (Classic State and Local Fish and Game Stamps).

There were five gold medals: E. Landau (6¢ Lincoln Bank Note Issues), F. Vignola (Rectangular Design Sri Pashupati Issues 1907-1940), G. Bowman (Rowe Aero-Achievements), A. Wawrukiewicz (Redirecting System of the US Post Office for First Class Mail, 1801-1959), W. Cole (The 3¢ Presidential Stamp of 1938).

The one-frame class, a recent innovation at exhibitions, proved very popular at this show, with more than a dozen entries.

The Northwest Federation is an association of stamp clubs in western Canada and five northwester states. The 1995 PIPEX will be held in Victoria , June 2 to 4.

MADESKER HONOURED IN KOREA

Michael Madesker, past President of the RPSC and currently the international head of youth philately for the FIP, was awarded a plaque at PHILAKOREA 1994 by the Korean Philatelic Federation. The award is in recognition of Mr. Madesker's contributions to World Youth Philately and for his efforts in promoting Youth Philately at the PHILAKOREA exhibition.

ICAO EXHIBIT IN MONTREAL

In connection with the recent Canadian stamp commemorating the fiftieth anniversary of the International Civil Aviation Organization, an exhibition of aerophilatelic material was mounted at the ICAO headquarters on Sherbrooke Street in Montreal.

The display was put together at the instigation of Albert Pelsser, a member of the Lakeshore Stamp Club and a luminary of the ICAO. Mr. Pelsser called on his fellow collectors to contribute to this innovative way of marking the anniversary of the only United Nations organization with headquarters in Canada.

Collectors who took part in the display included Ray Ireson of Montreal and R.K. Malott of Ottawa.

Mr. Pelsser has set a fine example for others to follow. There are many anniversaries and events that could be commemorated with non-competitive mini-exhibitions that would be seen by people who never visit a stamp show.

NEWS FROM DOWN UNDER

For several years the Australian Post Office has been cooperating with the Australian Philatelic Federation in producing a series of Stamp Replica Cards, depicting Australian stamps and providing some information about them.

The cards measure 134 mm by 94 mm. They bear imprints of classic Australian stamps, but not in their issued colours. They are produced from the original dies, and some collectors consider them to have the status of die proofs. They were printed by E. Whitehead-Printers, Melbourne.



The purpose of these cards was to raise money for the various activities of the Australian Philatelic Federation. With the most recent of these cards, No. 33 (illustrated at right, and portraying the 1/6 airmail stamp of 1934), the series has come to an end. A new arrangement has been reached whereby the Australian Federation acts as a paid consultant to Australia Post, advising on philatelic matters and collectors' requirements. The APF is considering plans to issue additional replica cards in the future to help finance stamp shows, but the Australian Post Office will not be involved in their sale or distribution.

These cards are attractive as collateral material for an Australian collection, and individual cards may find a place in topical collections. The last of the cards is priced at $4.00 Australian, and may be obtainable from Australian new issue dealers. The APF sells them directly, as well as all available older cards. Write to the APF at Box 208, Mitcham, South Australia 5062 Australia.

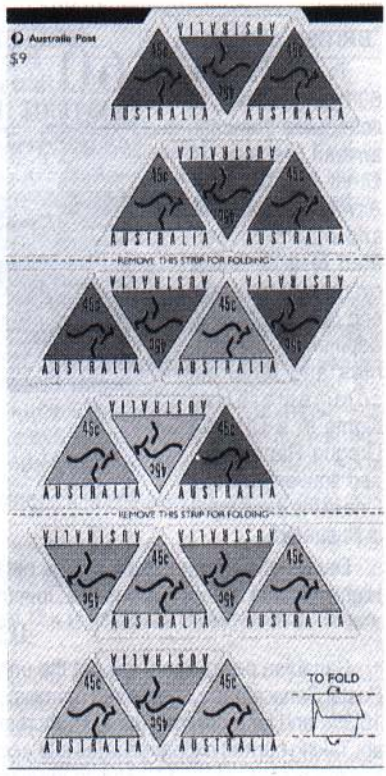
Australia Post embarked on two major technological innovations in 1994 that will have a major impact on philately. On May 12 counter-printed stamps first went on sale on a trial field-test basis. These are stamps that have the value printed on them at the time they are sold.

A more sophisticated counter-printing unit, manufactured by Tritech Electronics of Melbourne, is now available, and new stamps for it go on sale Nov. 17, using designs similar to current definitives. The unit prints values ranging from 45¢ to $100.00, and is connected directly to the post office computer system for accounting purposes.

The new series of Australian counter-printed stamps (CPS). The designs are based on the regular definitive stamps, but the size is larger. The CPS unit can print values on them between 45¢ and $100.00. Initially, the units are in three post offices.



Initially, units are in service in Melbourne, Canberra and Sydney. The new technology will be introduced progressively at other post offices. A unit was scheduled to be in service at the Aeropex 94 Show in Adelaide, Nov. 18-20.



Australia Post's new sheetlet for distribution through automatic teller machines.

Australia Post marked another milestone on Nov. 2 with the introduction of a sheetlet of stamps that is sold only through automatic teller machines (ATM) of the Advance Bank. The sheetlet contains 20 stamps of 45¢ denomination, and sells for $9.00. Co-incidently, these are the first triangular stamps issued by Australia. The self-adhesive stamps are foil-embossed and printed in several colours, though all have the same 'Made in Australia' design featuring a stylized kangaroo.

The sheetlet was initially available at 12 ATMs in Sydney and one in Melbourne. By year end, the stamps are expected to be available in ATMs at more than 200 Advance Bank branches in New South Wales, South Australia and Queensland.

WAR EFFORT & CHRISTMAS ISSUES RECALLED

An increase in Canada's first class letter rate from 43¢ to 45¢ has been anticipated for several months. It appears that Canada Post expected to have the new rate in effect by November of this year, and ordered the War Effort and 1995 Christmas commemorative issues with the new denomination. According to reports, the stamps for these issues had been printed with the 45¢ denomination and shipped to depots across the country when it became clear that the new first class letter rate, which requires parliamentary sanction, would not be approved in time. Both issues were recalled and destroyed. A new printing, with the denominations revised to 43¢, was ordered from the Canadian Bank Note Company, at a reported cost of about $20,000.

So far, there have been no reports that any of the 45¢ versions have reached the public. Presumably, 45¢ versions of the definitives have also been printed and are in storage pending approval of the rate increase. Sharp-eyed philatelists might wish to be alert for early sales of these stamps.

BRITISH RAILWAY LETTER STAMPS

The Mid-Hants Railway issued two more multicoloured letter stamps this past summer, both with World War II connections. The first, which appeared on June 6 to commemorate D-Day, shows a wartime freight or goods train. It will be of interest to collectors forming D-Day or World War II thematic collections. The other stamp, issued on Sept. 3, shows a Standard Class 5 locomotive, No. 73080 *Merlin*. It was used on mail cancelled for a "War of the Line" event on Sept. 10. A special cancel was used. Both stamps were issued in sheets of 6, and are available at face value of 25p plus postage. Enquiries for covers, stamps, and postcards should go to the Postal Co-ordinator, Mid-Hants Railway, Alresford, Hants., England SO24 9JG.



BRITISH AIRMAIL

To celebrate the 60th anniversary of scheduled domestic airmail service in Great Britain, British Airways, Royal Mail, and others cooperated in a series of events over the weekend of May 27-30. In addition to ceremonies and lectures, commemorative flights in a DH 89A Dragon Rapide carried souvenir covers. One of the three types is illustrated.



Details of available covers can be obtained from Hugh Lawson, Secretary, The Fresson Trust, c/o Highlands and Islands Airports Ltd., Inverness Airport, Inverness Airport, Inverness IV1 2JB Scotland.

US RATE INCREASE

Canadian postal users are not the only ones facing an imminent rate increase. The United States Postal Service has just received permission to raise the first class rate from 29¢ to 32¢, an increase of 10.3%, and far more than the 4.3% increase (from 43¢ to 45¢) that Canadians will soon have to cough up. Taking current exchange rates into account, the Canadian and American rates will be almost equal. For the record, the last Canadian increase was in 1993 (42¢ to 43¢). The most recent American increase was at the beginning of 1991 (25¢ to 29¢).

One of the 1995 American issues at the new rate may be a commemorative portraying Richard Nixon. The proposed issue, to honour the only President to have resigned from office, has already enlivened several talk radio shows. It may be more controversial than the "Cowboy" Bill Pickett affair of 1994, particularly with the non-philatelic public. •

Auction Calendar

JAN. 14: **John Sheffield Philatelist Ltd.** Mail auction featuring 400+ lots of British Commonwealth, Canadian plate blocks and postal history. For catalogue: P.O. Box 81R, Lambeth, ON N0L 1S0.

JAN. 20: **Vance Auctions Ltd.** Canada, provinces, commonwealth and foreign mail bid sale. Free catalogue: Box 267, Smithville, ON L0R 2A0; (905) 957-3364, fax (905) 957-0100.

JAN. 21: **Robert A. Lee Philatelist Ltd.** Canada and BNA. For catalogue: 203 - 1139 Sutherland Ave., Kelowna, BC V1Y 5Y2; (604) 861-1106.

LATE JAN: **Eastern Auctions Ltd.** Mail auction. For catalogue: P.O. Box 250, Bathurst, NB E2A 3Z2; (506) 548-8986.

FEB. 20: **Northwestern Philatelic Auctions, Inc.** Auction featuring Canada, Newfoundland, Commonwealth. For catalogue: Box 117, Penticton, BC V2A 6J9; phone (604) 493-0145; fax (604) 493-4076.

MARCH: **Jim A. Hennock Ltd.** Auction featuring Canada, postal history, foreign. For catalogue: 185 Queen St. E., Toronto, ON; (416) 363-7757, fax 365-9932.

APRIL: **Robert A. Lee Philatelist Ltd.** Canada and BNA. For catalogue: 203 - 1139 Sutherland Ave., Kelowna, BC V1Y 5Y2; (604) 861-1106.

Forthcoming auctions and mail sales are noted here as a service to readers. Dealers and auction operators can have their sales listed by advising the editor by mail or by phone at (519) 846-9954.

Recent New Issues

AUSTRALIA:

SEPT. 28: Endangered Species in Zoos, 4 x 45¢ (Cheetah, Orang-utan, Fijian Crested Iguana, Scarlet Macaw), $1.00 (Asian Elephant). Macaw and Cheetah in panes of 100; Iguana and Orang-utan in sheets of 2 panes of 50, Elephant in single panes of 50. Printed by photolithography. The stamps are also in a souvenir sheet 166 mm x 73 mm. Macaw and Cheetah also available in booklets of 10 peel and stick stamps with modified designs and simulated perforations, $4.50. Maximum cards available.

SEPT. 28: Prestamped Envelopes, Australian Zoos, 4 x 45¢. Selling price: 55¢ each. Printed by photolithography.

OCT. 31: Christmas Issue, details from Toscani's 'Adoration of the Magi'. 40¢, 45¢, $1.00, $1.80. Printed by photolithography. Two panes of 50, except $1.80 in single panes of 50; 40¢ also in booklets of 20. Maximum cards available.

OCT. 31: 50th Sydney—Hobart Yacht Race, 2 x 45¢ (se tenant). Printed by photolithography. Two panes of 50; also available in peel and stick rolls of 100. Maximum cards available.

NOV. 18: Facsimile of Australia's first Aerogramme, 70¢.

For further information and standing order service:

Australian Stamp Bureau, 1 Unicover Centre, Cheyenne, WY 82008-0001 U.S.A.; 1-800-443-4225.

GREAT BRITAIN:

OCT. 4: No Value Indicated booklet with revised Postcode warning, 10 x 1st class and 10 x 2nd class.

NOV. 1: Christmas stamps: 19p, 25p, 30p, 35p, 41p. Sheets of 100, perf 15 x 14, printed by photogravure by Harrison. Presentation Pack available, £1.85.

NOV. 1: Christmas Stamp booklets: £3.80 (20 x 19p; £2.50 (10 x 25p).

UNITED STATES:

AUG. 11: Postal Card, Canyon de Chelly, 19¢. Four-colour lithography. First Day: Chinie, Arizona.

SEPT. 1: Popular Singers, booklet format, 5 x 29¢ (Al Jolson, Bing Crosby, Ethel Waters, Nat 'King'Cole, Ethel Merman). Six-colour offset lithography. Sheets of 20. First Day: New York City.

SET. 3: Postal Card, St. Louis Union Station, 19¢. Four-colour lithography. First Day: St. Louis, Missouri.

SEPT. 10: Centenary of the birth of author James Thurber, 29¢. Three-colour intaglio + one-colour offset. Sheets of 50. First Day: Columbus, Ohio.

SEPT. 17: Jazz and Blues Artists, 8 x 29¢ (Bessie Smith, Billie Holiday, Mildred Bailey, Jimmy Rushing, Muddy Waters, Robert Johnson, Ma Rainey, Howlin' Wolf). Five-colour offset lithography, sheets of 35 plus header. First Day: Greenville, Mississippi.

SEPT. 17: No. 10 Stamped Envelope, Professional Football, 29¢. Flexography in brown and black + embossing. First Day: Canton, Ohio.

OCT. 3: National Stamp Collecting Month, underwater life, 4 x 29¢ (se tenant). Four-colour offset lithography, sheets of 24 plus header. First Day: Honolulu, Hawaii 96820-9991.

OCT. 9: Endangered Species, Whooping Crane and Black-Necked Crane, 2 x 29¢ (se tenant). Joint issue with China. Four-colour offset lithography + two-colour intaglio. Sheets of 20. First Day: Washington, DC 20066-9991. For Chinese FDC: Washington, DC 20066-9992. For Combination FDC: Washington, DC 20066-9993.

OCT. 18: Legends of the American West, 20 x 29¢ (Buffalo Bill, Jim Bridger, AnnieOakley, Chief Joseph, Bill Pickett, Bat Masterson, John Fremont, Wyatt Earp, Nellie Cashman, Charles Goodnight, Geronimo, Kit Carson, Wild Bill Hickok, James Beckwourth, William Tilghman, Sacagawea, Native American Culture, Western Wildlife, Overland Mail, American Cowboy). Five-colour gravure, sheets of 20 plus header (one of each design). First Day: Tucson, Arizona 85702-9991; Laramie, Wyoming 82070-9991; Lawton, Oklahoma 73501-9991. A set of 20 19¢ postal cards, printed in four-colour lithography, was issued concurrently, with FDC dates in the same three cities.

OCT. 24: 20-cent definitive in Great Americans series, Dr. Virginia Apgar, pediatrician. One-colour intaglio (brown), sheets of 100. First Day: Dallas, Texas 75260-9998.

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The President's Page / La page du président



by William G. Robinson

As the Canadian Commissioner for the SINGAPORE International Stamp Exhibition, to be held in September 1995, I have just been collecting the preliminary entries and sending them to the Show Committee. If all are accepted, we should have a fair presence at this first International Exhibition to be held in Singapore. I would also like to announce that Canada will have a Commissioner at CAPEX '96, the first time this has been the case at an International Exhibition in Canada. Major Richard Malott of Nepean, Ontario has been appointed to this interesting and demanding job. Contact him if you wish to exhibit at CAPEX.

In the meantime, don't forget to qualify for entering International Exhibitions by earning at least a Vermeil award in one of the National Level Exhibitions next year. These will be ORAPEX '95 at Ottawa in early May, ROYALE '95 at Quebec City in late May, PIPEX '95 at Victoria in early June, and STAMPEX at Toronto in September. Let's ensure that we have some strong exhibits at CAPEX. I understand that one of the themes will be the centenary of the discovery of gold in the Klondike, and that there may be some outstanding exhibits of early Yukon material.

Down the road, there will be a large International Exhibition at San Francisco in late June 1997. This show, entitled PACIFIC '97, will afford opportunities for Canadian exhibitors to show their gems without travelling to the other side of the world. Why not start making your plans now?

Have you recruited a new member for the Society recently? Many of our local clubs—even active chapters of the Royal—have few individual members. Let's get out there and sell them on this fine magazine and on services like the Sales Circuit, Insurance Program, and Slide Program for lectures. Also, if local clubs would like some of the Officers or Directors to speak to them—either about the Society or about their own collecting interests—just send me a letter and we'll arrange something. There are many interesting speakers available if you just ask.

Winter will be upon us by the time you read these words—the time when stamp collectors traditionally do most of their collecting. Let me wish all of you good hunting and the opportunity to develop your collections any way you wish. You can get much enjoyment from any type of collection, and from the friends you meet while collecting. You don't have to spend a lot of money—although some does help —to amass an outstanding display of any stamps or covers in which you are interested. Whether they are ancient or modern makes little difference as long as they offer you and your friends interest and diversion.

May I take this opportunity to wish all of you and your extended families the Compliments of the Season, and Best Wishes for 1995. May your collections increase in size and quality, and may all of you enjoy happiness and prosperity.

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Fellows of the Society

by Beverlie A. Clark, FRPSC

Lorne W. Bentham



Lorne Bentham, membership No. 9234, was elected a Fellow of the Society in 1990, at the meeting of the Fellows in Regina.

Lorne William Bentham was born in Ottawa on January 21, 1921. Upon graduation he joined Canada's Department of National Defence. His career with the Defence Department lasted many years, including a six-year period (1951-1957) in Washington, D.C., attached to the Canadian Joint Staff.

He started his interest in stamps in his early years, and later became a prolific columnist for many philatelic journals and magazines such as *The Canadian Philatelist; Philatelic Magazine* (London, England); *Stamp Collectors Fortnightly* (London, England); *Western Stamp Collector* (later *Stamp Collector*), of Albany, Oregon, in which he appeared for over 30 years; *Stamp Collecting; Weekly Philatelic Gossip* (over a span of 28 years); *Meekel's,* (running over 25 years); and many others. These articles have been read and enjoyed by many thousands of collectors in a number of countries.

In 1950 Lorne Bentham edited and published *The Stamp Collectors' Digest* in Ottawa. Prior to 1956 he was the stamp editor for the *Ottawa Journal,* and later was the stamp commentator on radio station CKOY (Ottawa) from 1958 to 1961.

During 1949-1950 he served as a director of this Society. In 1949 he was instrumental in starting the R A Stamp Club (Government Employees Recreational Association) in Ottawa, serving as its first president. He was later active in the R A Club as publicity chairman from 1959 to 1984.

Lorne Bentham retired in 1980. He resides, with his wife, in Ottawa, where their two daughters also live. •

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by Hans Reiche

MISSING COLOURS

Many modern Canadian stamps have been reported with missing colours. As it turns out, some of these are not missing colours at all, but rather, are either faded colours or deliberately removed colours. Some of course are genuine missing colour varieties, but these are not common. One such stamp is listed in the *Darnell Stamps of Canada* catalogue. This is numbered 1010a, a 48-cent cradle stamp. The colour variety is pictured along side the a normal stamp.

To determine if this really is a genuine missing colour variety, the Canadian Postal Archives in Ottawa was consulted. The various proofs were examined. Four different proofs show the stages that were used to print this stamp. A large plate proof shows the final design.

The four proofs are in the four colours that were used for printing this stamp. The first is a kind of pinkish brown, exactly the shade that is known on a few examples of the colour variety. The second proof is a maroon colour, an overlay on top of the first colour to produce the correct shade on the stamp. The third proof is of a black brown colour to produce the inscription, and the final proof is in black, the colour of the cradle itself. The plate proof shows four large colour dots at the bottom of the sheet, indicating the same colour sequence as the individual colour proofs.

In addition, horizontal stripes, about a quarter inch wide, are in the four colours used for the stamps plus some additional colours. Because the colour of the first proof matches exactly the colour of the variety, it is definitely the case that the second colour was missed in the printing of the stamp, creating the light shade.

PERFORATIONS

The interesting announcement by Scott that all United States stamps will now be listed with their exact perforation is welcome news. For years collectors have noted that the perforations listed in Scott and other catalogues sometimes do not represent the actual perforation of the issued stamps. This is true not only for United States but also Canadian stamps. Canada Post lists perforations such as 13+ which is supposed to mean that the perforation is larger than 13. By how much is not mentioned.

Accurate perforation gauges, such as the Instanta gauge, measure down to 1/10. We hope that the Canadian catalogues will follow the example of Scott.

STAMP PAPERS AND GUM

The selection of paper for printing stamps is a complex matter. Every printing system requires special paper to optimize the quality of the stamp. Many security printers who once purchased papers in their own countries now turn to suppliers in other countries for special types of paper. These companies produce many different varieties of paper for particular purposes and printing methods.

Certain countries have climatic problems that affect stamp paper. Other countries have preferences in their sources of paper for historical reasons. The electronic mail handling systems demand certain types of paper to facilitate automated for sorting and cancelling.

Each paper making company has its individual signature; that is, papers from a particular company can be identified by certain paper characteristics. Not every collector can tell from which company a stamp paper comes, but paper experts employed by the paper makers certainly can tell which papers are theirs and which are not. A number of key features make up modern stamp papers. These are the coating, fluorescence, and phosphors used. In addition, the composition of the gum is significant.

Modern stamp papers are coated. The material used for coating comes from Chinese clay. The clay is used in conjunction with a binder and other chemicals. The coating ensures that the

impression will be clear and sharp, not fuzzy.

Problems such as ink peeling from the printed stamp, as well as small printing bubbles, are well known to collectors of stamps printed by offset methods. These come not from poor printing but from unsuitable paper for the printing method. Paper used for photogravure cannot be used for offset printing. For photogravure, the paper must be of a better quality and any applied coating must be distributed very evenly to avoid problems.

The speed with which paper is made is important. Matte or glossy paper types require different speed settings of the paper making machinery. Some printers or postal administrations specify papers by weight, but the coating adds between 10 and 15 percent to the weight. The gum will add another 10 percent. British stamps are usually on heavier paper than that ordered by other countries such as Canada.

The electronic sorting systems require an additional step in the paper making process. Phosphor or fluorescent materials must be added to the coating. In Canada the phosphor application is done after the coating is applied and forms the tagging for the stamps. Many other countries make use of phosphor coatings or a coating that is applied to the total surface, not just selected areas.

Today synthetic gums are used instead of arabic gum, which was difficult to store and apply. The dextrine gums usually have a glossy finish in appearance, and if not treated, they result in the curling of the paper. The other major gum type used today is polyvinyl alcohol, or PVA. This gum will remain flat and will not stick to other gummed papers stored adjacent to it. PVA gum is colourless unless some additives are added to it. There is another type of gum sometimes called a dry gum. This is a variant of dextrine gum. Many postal administrations use it, and it is also found on many labels.

The above is a very brief comment on papers and gums. A detailed discussion would require the use of a lot of technical terms, especially chemical terminology that would not be easy to understand by most of us normal stamp collectors.



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UNDER THE HAMMER

... with Dean Mario

A new collecting season has begun and auctions are once again in full swing. On September 21, Charles G. Firby Auctions presented an excellent offering of worldwide stamps and postal history. Superb Canadian material once again dominated the sale, and many lots generated considerable competition among eager buyers.

One of these was lot 71, a rare 1860 First Cents Issue cover (ex Jarrett, de Volpi, etc.) with a 10¢ purple brown Consort, and addressed to the Red River Settlement. The catalogue stated it to be one of two such rate covers known. Estimated at $5,000, it sold for $3,025 (prices include the 10% buyer's premium). A similar 10¢ Consort, but with the scarce black brown shade, on an illustrated cover sent from Toronto to New York, sold for $2,475 against a $3,000 estimate (lot 67).

The 1897 Queen Victoria Jubilee issue was well represented with 15 lots. Lot 224 offered a set of the ½¢ to 50¢ values in mint condition. Estimated at $100, the set went to a new home for $187. A $1 value of the series (lot 226A) with "exceptional centering and full gum" reached $198 against a $400 estimate. A never hinged example of the $4 sold for $550, a bit above its $500 estimate (lot 232).

Canada's famous 1928 50¢ Bluenose stamp is still a favourite among collectors. Lot 282 offered an example in fine, never hinged condition and it sold for $55 ($130 estimate). Another copy, but in fine, lightly hinged condition (lot 283) sold for $50 despite a $125 estimate. These prices are very reasonable and should collectors require a copy of this beautiful stamp, now seems the time to buy.

An amazing collection of Canadian city-type precancels, mint and used, was offered in lots 428-431, with a combined estimated value of $9,000. These lots contained hundreds of items with many scarce town types. The combined four lots sold as one at $9,350. A specialized collection of squared circle cancellations on 35 postal stationery entires was offered in lot 499 and estimated at $300. It sold for $209.

Non-Canadian material was also offered in this sale and was equally popular. Lots 694-699 represented a spectacular mounted mint (many never hinged) collection of British Commonwealth countries, Aden to Virgin Islands, on album pages. The collection was sold intact for $2,475, with a combined estimate of $2,950 for the six lots.

This sale also featured a wide variety of material such as topical rocket mail, worldwide lots and collections, stamp supplies, autographs, and philatelic literature. Definitely, this sale had something for everyone. This firm also holds an annual philatelic literature auction. The most recent one was held this past November. Catalogues for future sales can be obtained by contacting Charles G. Firby Auctions, 6695 Highland Road, Waterford, MI 48327 USA; telephone/fax (810) 887-3091. •

Mr. Mario encourages correspondence from readers, as well as catalogues and prices realized lists from auction houses. He may be reached at 933 Dudley St., Saskatoon, SK S7M 1K8.

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DEFINITIVES / TIMBRES COURANTS

with John G. Schmidt

This column is a forum for information on Canadian definitive issues of all periods, and for discussion on the study of these issues. Each column lists new issues in summary, as well as recent discoveries and corrections to previously published information. Mr. Schmidt's listing of modern Canadian definitives began in the July-Aug. 1992 issue; this listing is in reverse chronological order. Correspondence is welcomed, and should be addressed to John G. Schmidt, 2649 Shadow Court, Ft. Collins, CO 80525 USA.

ADDITIONS AND CORRECTIONS TO PREVIOUS LISTINGS

Jul-Aug 1994:

p. 261: Recent information received indicates that Plate #2 of the $2 Quebec City stamp was issued on March 22, 1978, therefore the date of the series should be changed to "1972-1978".

p. 261: Under the 2¢ Sir Wilfrid Laurier stamp, the fourth entry should be deleted (it is the same as the sixth entry).

p. 263: Unitrade's 1994 edition now lists the 20¢ Prairies - Revised Perf., Pl. 3 as 596a (instead of 596i). [However, they are incorrect with their 'Issued' date of 4/-/76; it should be Jan 30, 1976.] The W2B stamp should now be 596i, not 596ii as shown.

p. 264: The second entry under the $1 Vancouver stamp should be 'RIBBED' paper, Sc # 600iii.

p. 265: Do not look for booklets with the stamp configuration shown at the bottom of this page. It is a composite presentation of several booklets and does not exist. The formats for BK 74, BK 75, & BK 76 are shown below.



BK 74 (above left), BK 76 (above right) and BK 75 (below).

May-Jun 1994:

p. 175: The first item in the table, Prod # 94306, should be removed. It is actually the listing for 'Greeting Stamps'.

p. 175 - 177: The following new releases of Edible Berries, Westcot Apricot, and 43¢ Flag should be added to the table:

Item	Printer	Perforations	Paper	Form	FDI	Prod #
1¢ Blue-berry	CBN	13.1 x 13.6	C/P	Sheet (Insp)	Aug 19,'94	94224
2¢ Straw-berry	CBN	13.1 x 13.6	C/P	Sheet (Insp)	Aug 19,'94	94225
3¢ Crow-berry	CBN	13.1 x 13.6	C/P	Sheet (Insp)	Aug 19,'94	94226
5¢ Rose Hip	CBN	13.1 x 13.6	C/P	Sheet (Insp)	Aug 19,'94	94227
6¢ Rasp-berry	CBN	13.1 x 13.6	C/P	Sheet (Insp)	Aug 19,'94	94228
10¢ Kinn-ikinnick	CBN	13.6 x 13.1	C/P	Sheet (Insp)	Aug 19,'94	94229
25¢ Sas-katoon	CBN	13.1 x 13.6	C/P	Sheet (Insp)	Aug 19,'94	94230
88¢ Apricot	CBN	13.1 x 13.1	P *	Sheet (Insp)	late 1994	?
88¢ Apricot	CBN	13.1 x 13.1	P *	Bklt of 5	late 1994	?
43¢ Flag	CBN	13.1 x 13.6	C/P	Bklt of 10	late 1994	?
43¢ Flag	CBN	13.1 x 13.6	C/P	Bklt of 25	late 1994	?

* These stamps now have a combined tagging of both Side Bars and a Centre Bar, OP-2 type tagging, 5 mm wide.

It should be further noted that 1¢ Blueberry was never reissued on April 22, 1994 as were the other stamps in this series.

Don's Corner

Comments on Canadian Plate Blocks

by Donald J. LeBlanc

WHY ARE SOME POSITIONS OF PLATE BLOCKS MORE VALUABLE THAN OTHERS HAVING THE SAME PLATE NUMBER?

I received an inquiry from Mr. Robert Poulin of Victoria, B.C. His last paragraph reads as follows:

> In sixteen years of collecting, I don't recall ever reading an explanation on why one position of a matched set is worth more than the other three; i.e. Scott #287, Plate 5 UL is listed at $60.00 while the other three corners are $20.00 each. This may make an interesting article to submit to *The Canadian Philatelist* some day.

There is no time like the present. Plate blocks that have different catalogue values depending on the position in the sheet ended with the 'Wilding' series in the mid-fifties. Most stamps after this series all have the same value, whatever the plate position.

To better understand the difference in values of plate blocks issued prior to the 'Wilding' series one should discuss three groups of stamps, that is; those issued prior to 1954, those issued from 1954 to the Centennial Series in 1967, and those following the Centennial Series to the present date.

The latter group is the easiest to understand. From 1967 to the present time, with the exception of the Centennial series and a few specific stamps, all sheets of 100, 50, 25 or 20 stamps (depending on the measurements of the stamps) where printed with the four inscriptions in the four corners. If one acquired a sheet, one immediately had the matched set. Easier yet, the Philatelic Section started about that time to prepare matched sets in packets to permit the plate block collector to acquire the matched set through their mail order service. The Post Office Department realized by the mid sixties the potential of increase sales to the collectors, usually in packets.

This was not always the case. In fact the opposite was true in the sense that plate block collectors in the forties and fifties were a nuisance to the department as I will explain a little later.

Prior to 1967, including the Centennial Issue, stamps were mostly printed in sheets of 400 stamps for the small formats and sheets of 200 for the larger ones. These sheets were then cut up by the printer in panes each containing 100 or 50 stamps depending on the format. Each one of these four panes contained only one plate inscription. When an order arrived at the printer, they would usually prepare two plates at a time. It was faster to print a large quantity of stamps with two plates operating at the same time. Sometimes, they would prepare two extra plates to replace one of the others in case one was damaged during the printing. No record was ever kept by the printers as to how many stamps were printed with each plate. Suffice it to say that the printers could use two, three or four plates to complete one order and therefore send 8, 12, or 16 different panes to Ottawa with each pane containing one plate inscription in one corner. (Each plate would also contain the same order number in the lower left plate position, next to the plate number).

To better explain the above, lets take a specific example: Scott #330, issued to commemorate the coronation of Queen Elizabeth 11 on June 2nd 1953. According to the Unitrade Catalogue, Plates 1 and 4 are more valuable than plates 2 and 3. Here is the official explanation issued by the Post Office Department as reported in the June 1953 issue of *Popular Stamps:*

> When the 4¢ Coronation commemorative postage stamp was announced, it was

stated that this stamp would be printed from two plates; No's 1 and 2. Unfortunately, plate No. 1 cracked after a comparatively small number of millions of stamps were printed from this plate. No imperfect stamps printed from this plate were released by the manufacturer. It is expected that examples of this stamp issue printed from plate No. 1 will be found in only limited quantity in the stocks of the postmasters. A good stock of stamps printed from this plate are available however, in the Philatelic Section.

When plate No. 1 ceased to be of value, a new plate, No. 3, was transferred and placed on the press for additional printing of the stamp. After several days of printing, plate No. 2 developed flaws which prevented its further use and an additional plate, No. 4, had to be transferred and applied to the press.

The result is that the Coronation postage stamp required four plates, No's 1, 2, 3 and 4, for the printing of the contract quantity. Stamps printed from all four plates may be purchased from the Philatelic Section provided full sheets of 100 stamps each are ordered. The plate number desired should be specified in orders.

If you have followed closely the above explanation you are probably saying to yourself: this explains why certain plate numbers are more scarce that other plate numbers, but how does this explain why one corner is more scarce than the other three corners? You are perfectly right but let's continue the journey back to Ottawa.

Once the printer has completed the order, having utilized a minimum of two plates but more often three or four plates, he returns the complete order to Ottawa.

Upon receipt, a certain quantity is retained in Ottawa to furnish collectors, but in the fifties and prior to the fifties, this wasn't a priority. Almost immediately the orders are filled and the stamps were sent to the different post offices in Canada.

If Vancouver requested 100,000 stamps, a package of 1000 sheets of 100 stamps each was sent, but these sheets could all be Plate 1 UL. Halifax could receive the same quantity but maybe all UR and LR positions of plate 2. My home town of Caraquet could have received 25 sheets of the LR position of plate 4. No record was kept as to where the different positions were sent across Canada. This is the principal reason that certain plate positions never surfaced in great quantities. These sheets were broken up and used as postage in smaller centers. The eventual scarce positions were probably sent to the smaller, isolated towns and villages throughout Canada. Since some post offices only received one position, this created quite a challenge of finding all four corners.

Consider also the problem of perforated O.H.M.S. stamps and O.H.M.S. overprints. A supply of sheets were reserved and set aside for government use. If a stack of these sheets all had the inscription in the upper left position, this reserve would render that position more scarce than the other positions. One must also remember that the upper margin was often removed on the small-format stamps in order to allow them to pass through the perforation machine. One example to confirm that this reserve could effect the scarcity factor is Scott #C8, Plate 5 UL. The only reported confirmation of this position occurred in the late fifties. Three reports of this position were confirmed but all were perforated O.H.M.S.

One could argue that the plate block collector could always order them directly from the Philatelic section before they were spread out. There were at least three hurdles preventing collectors and dealers from stocking up on all positions during the forties and fifties:

1. The Post Office Department would keep a supply in Ottawa for collectors but the priority was to furnish all of the post office in Canada as quickly as possible. Numerous letters from the Department were published in either *Popular Stamps* or *BNA Topics* confirming this low priority reserved for collectors. Here is one example:

Post Office Department, Canada
Financial Branch
Philatelic Division

Ottawa, Canada
July 24, 1947

Dear Mr. Barraclough:

Referring to our conversation re plate position blocks, I may say that we have experienced a great deal of difficulty in endeavoring to meet the wishes of our philatelic clients in this respect.

There are many reasons why certain plate positions may not be available in the philatelic stock, for any particular stamp. Canadian stamps are manufactured for utility, and the percentage of well-centered copies is small. Our philatelic stock is selected for centering and sometimes one or two corners of the plate will be off-centered and not taken into philatelic stock for that reason. It also happens sometimes that the manufacturers reject certain plate positions because of flaws in the plate or other spoilage considerations.

There is a further consideration which militates against this problem. It is not so bad in the case of regular issues, new supplies of which are coming in steadily from the manufacturers; but in the case of special and limited issues like the Bell and Citizenship stamps, the main stock may remain in Ottawa for only two or three days before it has to be rushed out to the depots. This does not give us time to round up the different plate positions. We managed fairly well in the case of the Citizenship stamps, but the time available in the case of the Bell stamps was so short that it was utterly impossible to round up plate positions.

From the above I feel pretty sure that our philatelic friends will understand why we frequently have to report failure to meet their wishes with regard to plate positions.

Yours sincerely
A.S. Deaville
Superintendent, Postage Stamp Division

2. The collectors had no way of knowing what plate numbers existed. Often the original announcement only mentioned one or two plates, but there were never any announcements for replacement plates. The announcement for Scott #330 is a case in point. By the time the collector discovered the issuance of new plates and ordered them, the Post Office Department was usually sold out. During the Second World War the steel used to prepare the plates was of inferior quality and the plates would easily crack. New plates were used continually without the awareness of the philatelic community.

3. The Post Office Department decided in 1950 to require the collector to order full sheets. Even though there were not that many stamps per year, this represented quite an expenditure to the average collector. To acquire a matched set of a four-cent stamp, the collector had to acquire 4 sheets of 100 stamps each to get the four corners with inscriptions. After paying $16.00 for the sheets, how was he going to utilize the 384 stamps remaining? How many letters can one person write in a year?

The June 1950 issue of *Popular Stamps* summarize the Post Office Department official position as follows:

In order to secure plate numbers, plate number positions or a specific stamp on a pane, the following minimum quantities of stamps must be ordered from the Post Office Department for each item desired:

- 100 stamps (full sheet) each of the 1-cent to 5-cent denominations, inclusive, regular issue.
- 50 stamps (full sheet) of the 4-cent commemorative.
- 25 stamps (half sheet) of each of the 7-cent to 20-cent denominations, inclusive, regular issue.
- 10 stamps of each of the 50-cent and $1.00 denominations, regular issue.

Needless to say that this policy was heavily criticized at the time. One such editorial critic appeared in 1955, again in an issue of *Popular Stamps:*

> We sympathize with plate block collectors who complain about being required to purchase a sheet of 100 stamps from the Philatelic Section in order to get a plate block in the lower denominations. If one was head of large business he might use the surplus stamps for office mailing, but the private individual though he could use the 1¢ to 5¢ denominations, it is hardly reasonable that his correspondence is so large as to be required to use more than say three or four hundred 5¢ stamps in a year. There are five plates of the current 5¢ stamps [#341]. Suppose that runs to 10 or 15 plates or more during its life [eventually 19 plates] to get all the plates from the Agency one would have enough surplus stamps left to post letters for the next ten or fifteen years if he could write that many.

Even with such pressure, this policy continues from 1950 to 1958 when eventually it was modified somewhat. The new policy was issued on February 19, 1958, as follows:

> Plate number blocks which will be available from the Philatelic Section, Financial Branch, Ottawa, may be purchased by philatelists with a minimum number of postage stamps, effective immediately. Following are the reduced quantities to purchase to procure a plate block in each denomination:
>
> 1¢, 2¢ or 3¢, minimum (incl. pl. blk.) 20 stamps;
>
> 4¢, 5¢, 6¢ or 7¢, minimum 10 stamps;
>
> 10¢, 15¢, 20¢, 50¢ or $l.00, minimum 4 stamps.

One can now sense the problems facing the plate block collector of the forties and fifties. Credit should be given to their determination and patience in accumulating these blocks. Their problems continued in the early sixties since a sheet only contained one plate block but there were more collectors and dealers stocking up on these. This resulted that none of the positions became scarcer than the other positions. From 1968 onwards, with four inscriptions per sheet as described in the beginning of this article and with a different attitude on the part of the Post Office Department a corner doesn't carry a different valuation from its counterparts.

I am presently in the process of writing a book which will be an historical look at early plate block collecting. Even though it will concentrate on the 'Impossible' plate blocks of the Royal Visit Issue, it will also be an historical study of the first plate block collectors and authors of the forties and fifties. It is due to their perseverance and efforts that so many plate blocks were put aside for our generation to enjoy. If anyone has any articles on plate block collecting in the forties and fifties, I would appreciate receiving a copy. I am also interested in receiving copies of the Plate Block Study Group that Col. White chaired in the early fifties.

I hope I have answered your inquiry Mr. Poulin, and I appreciate the kind words of encouragement contained in your letter.

Until the next time, good hunting everyone!

Mr. LeBlanc welcomes queries and comments from readers on all matters relating to Canadian Plate Blocks. His new address is: 163 Grande Allée, Caraquet, N.B. E1W 1A5

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Vignettes of Early British North American Postal History

by J.C. Arnell, F.R.P.S.C.

XXXVI. The Collins Steamer *Pacific* and the Blue Riband

In the November/December 1982 issue of *The Canadian Philatelist*, as No. XIX in my series "Highlights from the Early Days of the Cunard Line," I wrote about the development of the Collins Line of American steamers. These provided the first real competition that Samuel Cunard faced in the North Atlantic service. Edward Knight Collins had founded the Dramatic Line (so-called because the original vessels bore the names of actors) of sailing packets between New York and Liverpool in 1836. These set a new standard of comfort, speed and efficiency on the North Atlantic service. While the various American sailing packet lines had dominated the North Atlantic from soon after the War of 1812 until the arrival of the Cunard service, carrying most of the passengers and mails, they were soon relegated to a lesser role of carrying the new immigrants heading west in search of a new life.

The American government resented the sudden dominance of the British contract steamers, which soon had corralled all the high class transatlantic business, and gave thought to initiating a competitive American service. As a result, the U.S. Postmaster General advertised for tenders to provide a mail service between Europe and America in 1845. This spawned first the Ocean Steam Navigation Company, which operated two steamers—*Washington* (1847) and *Hermann* (1848), providing a New York-Southampton-Bremen service for nearly ten years. When this company could not meet its commitments fully, a second contract was granted to the New York & Havre Steam Navigation Company to provide alternate sailings to Bremen and Havre from New York and Southampton, beginning operation in May 1850.

Concurrently, Edward Knight Collins was granted a contract to provide a fortnightly service between New York and Liverpool for eight months of the year and a monthly service during the four winter months. He founded the New York & Liverpool United States' Mail Steamship Company and decided to have steamers which were far in advance of any yet afloat. To that end, four wooden, paddlewheel steamers of between 2,000 and 2,850 tons were ordered—*Atlantic, Pacific, Arctic* and *Baltic*. The corresponding Cunard steamers were 1,800-2,200 tons. Service began in April 1850 with the *Atlantic*. The *Pacific* followed a month later, with the other two steamers joining the fleet in October and November respectively. Prior to the arrival of these vessels, the only challenge to Cunard with respect to the time of crossing was from the pioneer steamer *Great Western*, which, being a single operator, was not real competition.

In terms of average westbound speeds of the successive generations of steamers, these increased from the *Sirius* at 8.03 knots and the *Great Western* at 8.66 knots in 1838, the *Columbia* at 9.78 knots in 1841; the *Great Western* again

in 1843 at 10.03 knots; then later Cunard steamers: the *Cambria* (10.71 knots) in 1845, *America* (11.71 knots) and *Europa* (11.79 knots) in 1848, and *Asia* (12.25 knots) in 1850. Then it was Collins's turn with the *Pacific* setting a new record of 12.46 knots on her third trip from Liverpool in September 1850. The *Baltic* surpassed this in August 1851 (12.91) and again in July 1854 (13.04). In general, eastbound trips were about half a knot faster.

Not content to sit back, Cunard had ordered the *Persia* in 1853, a larger 3,300 ton, iron-hull steamer—the first non-wooden paddlewheeler on the run. The *Persia* made her maiden voyage to New York in January 1856. On her third westbound trip, she took the record with a speed of 13.11 knots, and broke the eastbound record successively on her second, third, and fourth crossings—13.46, 13.89 and 14.15 knots. She held the record in both directions until 1863, when the Cunard *Scotia* bested her mark.

The Blue Riband was only a mythical thing, providing a name for record transatlantic crossings. Striving to wrest it away from the competition meant dangerous overtaxing of engines and hulls, as well as taking risks to maintain speed. Many of the steamers suffered accidents of various kinds—collisions with icebergs, other vessels, and on occasion, shoals and reefs.

The most mysterious of these accidents was that of the Collins *Pacific*. On 23 January 1856, she departed Liverpool on her regularly-scheduled transatlantic crossing to New York, but never arrived. Three days later, the *Persia* left Liverpool on her maiden voyage to New York, arriving on 9 February, several days after expected. Her unusually slow crossing was the result of encountering massive ice fields and suffering damage to her paddlewheels from colliding with floating ice along her path. She brought no news of the *Pacific*.

Days, the weeks, went by with no news of the missing steamer. For a while, there were frequent rumours of wreckage that must be from the *Pacific*, and of the sighting of a steamer in distress along the route supposedly taken by the *Pacific*. One account insisted that she had been positively identified off the Irish coast, near Waterford. But not a single rumour could be verified, and after several months had elapsed, there still was no clear indication of what had happened. Both the American and British governments sent expeditions, which ranged over many thousands of miles of the Atlantic Ocean in search of the missing steamer, without success.

Finally, by default, it was agreed that the *Pacific* must have gone down in mid-Atlantic after colliding with an ice floe. Although the *Persia* had suffered such an accident, she was thought to have survived only because of the iron hull, confining the damage mainly to the large paddlewheels. The *Pacific*, also a sidewheeler, was nearly as large and powerful as the *Persia*, but she was far more vulnerable. The sheathing of her hull, her main frames, even a major transverse bulkhead placed eighty feet back from her bow, were all of wood.

A number of other vessels had encountered unusually large amounts of ice on the North Atlantic during this period, and experienced travellers and vessel commanders remarked on the severity of the weather conditions, as well as the extent of ice. There were frequent reports of vessels seriously delayed, if

not damaged by ice, by contrary winds—of fearful velocity—and tremendous seas.

In March 1993, the Bermuda Maritime Museum hosted a joint meeting of the Conference of American Maritime Museums and the North American Society of Oceanic History. The proceedings of the conference have been published in the BMM's *Bermuda Journal of Archaeology and Maritime History*. A paper presented by Prof. Edward Sloan of Trinity College in Hartford, Connecticut was of particular interest in light of the above. A summary of his remarks follows.

For over 135 years, the tragedy of the missing *Pacific* remained a closed issue. Then, several years ago, a startling discovery reopened the matter both of where and of how the steamship had been lost. Divers who were working off the coast of Wales, some twelve miles north-west of the island of Anglesey, had occasion to examine the site of an unidentified shipwreck. Like hundreds of other underwater vessel remains, it was marked on Admiralty charts, but previously it had been assumed that this wreck was just one of many that had occurred in the Irish Sea over the centuries. Yet it quickly became apparent to the divers that this was no ordinary wreck.

The divers were led by J.L. (Jack) Smart, a man with decades of experience in underwater work. Smart and his colleagues found an unusually large object down about 130 feet below the surface and largely buried in silt. This object measured approximately 110 feet in length and 40 feet in width. An initial examination showed that it was the forward part of a very large wooden vessel. Moreover, as they reported, the distinctive configuration of the bow indicated that it was the remains of a steamship, rather than a sailing vessel. The vessel's forepart stood upright. A large forward winch had collapsed into the wreckage, and there was a transverse bulkhead at about the 80-foot mark. There was no evidence of the vessel's stern section at this site. The exposed timbers were badly worm-eaten and otherwise rotted, although the timbers under the silt appeared to be in better condition. There was cargo scattered about the wreck, some of it being higher off the sea-bed than the wreck itself.

Subsequent investigation in the area resulted in finding, about three miles away and in deeper water, what Smart and his colleagues firmly believe to be the larger aft-portion of the same vessel. The positions combined indicate a vessel well over 250 feet in length and more than 40 feet in breadth. The *Pacific*, with her 3,000-ton carrying capacity, measured 265 feet long at her keel and 275 feet on her main deck, and had a maximum width of 46 feet.

Several preliminary examinations at the site of the smaller and more accessible portion of the vessel permitted recovery of a number of items from her cargo. These items included earthenware—especially plates, pitchers, tureens, and platters of the standard 'Blue Willow' china pattern—that bore manufacturing marks which could be dated with reasonable precision to the early 1850s. There also, more significantly, was an unusual item—telegraph wire of the sort that was commonly shipped to America at this time by a Liverpool firm that had a special interest in this material. This firm was Brown, Shipley & Co., agents of the Collins Line. Itemized cargo lists for the *Pacific's* final voyage include both earthenware and telegraph wire.

The extent of tidal action in this area severely restricts diving operations, so that until now exploratory efforts have taken place only within the brief 10-15 minute periods of slack tide. More extensive underwater exploration and attempts at recovery have to be done during the optimal late summer period from mid-August into early September. At the time of his lecture, it was anticipated that this would be attempted in the summer of 1993. It is not known whether this was achieved.

In discussing these facts, Prof. Sloan raised two possibilities as to how the *Pacific* happened to disappear so close to Wales. One was that there had been too high steam pressure and a massive explosion blew the vessel in half. The other explanation is that she had been at sea for several days—there had been a sighting off the Irish Coast—and had a major breakdown and was making her way back to Liverpool under sail in stormy conditions, when she broke up almost within sight of land. Only further exploration can provide a definitive answer.

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Details about the show and the Royal's Annual Meeting, to be held in the beautiful and historic atmosphere of Quebec City in springtime, will be published in forthcoming issues of the *Canadian Philatelist*.

RPSC
PHILATELIC
RESEARCH
FOUNDATION

SRPC
FONDATION DE
RECHERCHE
PHILATÉLIQUE

by/par James E. Kraemer, President/président

CANADA'S YOUTH PHILATELIST FOR 1994

Charlotte Verge of Ottawa has been chosen Canada's Youth Philatelist for 1994 and the recipient of the Manfred Walther Award.

Manfred Walther was a Toronto stamp dealer noted for his interest in helping young philatelists. He passed away several years ago. In his memory the Harmonie Stamp Club of Toronto, where Mr. Walther was a longtime member, makes funds available to the RPSC Philatelic Research Foundation for an annual award to the youth chosen as Canada's outstanding young philatelist.

At the request of the Philatelic Research Foundation, a special committee of the RPSC selects the Canadian youth judged to be the most deserving of a special award. The RPSC Philatelic Research Foundation then presents the winner with a cheque for $100.00.



The 1994 recipient, Miss Charlotte Verge of Ottawa, is a 15 year old student in Grade 10 at l'École sécondaire de la Salle in Ottawa. Her interest in stamps began as a result of a school project on owls. Her father, a philatelist, suggested that she turn the project into a collection of 'Owls on Stamps.'

She began exhibiting the collection in 1991, and in 1992 she entered it in CANADA 92, the International Youth Exhibition in Montreal, where she won a silver medal. She was further honoured by being one of the two Masters of Ceremony for the opening and awards banquets at the show. She has continued to exhibit her collection, winning a large silver at BANGKOK '93 and a vermeil at PHILAKOREA '94 this past August.

Charlotte Verge, born in 1979, lives in south Ottawa with her parents and two sisters. Having a love for sports, she hopes to get involved in sports medicine as a career.

This is the third year for this award. Previous winners were Guillaume Vadeboncoeur of Gloucester, Ontario in 1992 and Jean-Francois Hardy of Cap-Rouge, Quebec in 1993.

The RPSC Philatelic Research Foundation was incorporated in 1986. It is a registered charitable organization with the right to issue tax receipts for income tax purposes. In 1989 the Foundation received tax exempt status from Revenue Canada.

The organization has a three-year membership term rather than an annual one. The President of the organization is James E. Kraemer of Ottawa, and the Secretary is Harry Sutherland of Toronto. Information on the RPSC Philatelic Research Foundation can be obtained by writing to the National Office, P.O. Box 5320, Station F, Ottawa, ON K2C 3J1.

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Queen Elizabeth Building
Exhibition Place

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Place Bonaventure
November 24, 25, 26
Place Bonaventure

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Friday 11 a.m. to 8 p.m.
Saturday 10 a.m. - 6 p.m.
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ADMISSION TO ALL CSDA SHOWS IS FREE!

For further information contact the CSDA at the address above.

PRISONER OF WAR MAIL: THE KOREAN WAR 1950-1953

by E. R. Toop, FRPSC

Philip Wade is a Canadian citizen presently residing in Ottawa, Canada. The correspondence illustrating this article relates to his service in 1 Bn The Gloucester Regiment of Great Britain. During the Korean War, No. 14431991 Private P. Wade spent almost two and a half years in Korean Prisoner of War Camps. His mother, Mrs. I. Wade, now deceased, was residing in the Isle of Wight during his incarceration in Korea. This correspondence reflects the majority of the letters he was permitted to write during captivity. Unfortunately, none of the letters he received as a POW appear to have survived.

The fact that the letters he wrote survived at all, let alone for forty years after the conflict, makes them a significant historical collection, portraying the life of a soldier who endured abuse and unimaginable hardship for over two years as a prisoner of war. While a great deal has been written about the Korean War itself, little is known about the Korean prisoner of war camps and the life led by the captives inside their compounds.

The Korean War: A Brief Chronology

25 June 1950: North Korean forces attack the Republic of Korea positions south of the 38th Parallel. The United Nations Security Council, in the absence of the USSR, adopts a resolution calling for the withdrawal of North Korean forces to the 38th Parallel. The UN calls upon member nations to furnish assistance to the Republic of Korea. President Truman authorizes the commitment of American troops.

29 June 1950: The first American combat troops arrive in Korea. Great Britain orders the Far Eastern Fleet to give aid.

5 July 1950: The first fight occurs between US and North Korean ground troops near Osan. This results in the first Americans being captured by North Korea.

12 July 1950: The first Canadian aid to the hard pressed UN forces comes from the Royal Canadian Navy. Three Canadian destroyers, *HMCS Cayuga, HMCS Athabaskan* and *HMCS Sioux,* were dispatched to Korean waters to serve under UN Command. These ships supported the assault of Inchon and participated in many other actions. A total of eight ships of the Royal Canadian Navy served at various times with the United Nations Command.

21 July 1950: 426 Squadron RCAF is assigned to air transport duties with the UN, flying regular scheduled flights between McChord Air Force Base, Washington, and Haneda Airfield, Tokyo.

9 Aug. 1950: Great Britain orders the reservist armies to report for duty.

29 August 1950: The 29th Brigade, part of the British Hong Kong Garrison, arrives in Korea.

12 September 1950: British forces from Hong Kong are rushed into the battle lines west of Taegu.

15 September 1950: American forces make a successful amphibious landing at Inchon, enabling UN forces to break out of Pusan and push towards the 38th Parallel.

7 October 1950: US troops cross the 38th Parallel.

1 November 1950: 1 Battalion The Gloucester Regiment, arrives in Korea from England aboard *HMT Windrush,* disembarking at Pusan.

November 1950: UN forces move rapidly northward, recapturing Seoul, crossing the 38th Parallel and advancing toward the border of Manchuria. Communist China then intervenes, sending strong Chinese forces across the frontier and launching a massive offensive which drives American, UN and South Korean armies back across the 38th Parallel to positions well south along the Imjin River.

5 December 1950: Pyongyang, the capital of North Korea, is abandoned by American forces. The American Eighth Army retreats from North Korea.

14 December 1950: Canadian 2nd Bn of the PPCLI arrives in Yokohama, Japan.

February 1951: The 2nd Bn of the PPCLI takes its place in the line as part of the 27th Commonwealth Brigade during the advance towards the 38th Parallel.

April 1951: The battle of the Imjin River begins.

19 April 1951: The remainder of the 25th Canadian Infantry Brigade sails for Korea.

22/23 April 1951: The Chinese commence another large-scale offensive. 1 Bn The Gloucester Regiment suffers heavily in killed and wounded during the battle fought from the ridge above the Imjin River. The overwhelming majority of the Gloucesters' casualties are taken prisoner; 63 are killed and perhaps three times as many wounded. Only 169 of 850 Gloucesters muster for roll call with the Brigade after the battle. Pte P. Wade is one of those taken prisoner.

4 May 1951: The 25th Canadian Infantry Brigade disembarks at Pusan.

10 July 1951: Armistice negotiations begin at Kaesong between representatives of the UN, China and North Korea, and continue on and off until 27 July 1953.

8 December 1952: S/L A.R. "Andy" Mackenzie, RCAF, attached to the US Fifth Air Force, is shot down and held prisoner by China/North Korea until 5 December 1954. Most of his time in captivity is spent in solitary confinement.

20 April 1953: Exchange of sick and wounded prisoners of war (Operation Little Switch) begins at Panmunjom, South Korea.

27 July 1953: Armistice is signed at Panmunjom.

5 August 1953: Exchange of prisoners (Operation Big Switch) begins. A total of 3,597 American prisoners, 1,312 UN prisoners (including 32 Canadians), and 7,848 South Koreans who had been held by the North are repatriated.

Battle Casualties

Twenty-two Royal Canadian Air Force pilots served with the United States Fifth Air Force during the Korean conflict. Altogether, 26,791 Canadians served in the Korean War and another 7,000 served in the theatre between the cease-fire and the end of 1955.

A total of 1,319,000 Americans served in the Korean theatre; 33,629 did not return. United Nations forces (including South Koreans) fatal and non-fatal casualties numbered about 490,000. The United Nations Memorial Cemetery at Tangok, a suburb of Pusan, records the names of 2,367 war dead (excluding Americans). Of these, 1,588 are Commonwealth soldiers, including 516 Canadians.

Mail and the Prisoner of War Camps

Very little is known about the camps or the number of prisoners in them. A number of the camps were moved or relocated at various times. Often they were merely compounds consisting of hutted shelters in varying types of surroundings, including villages guarded by Chinese.

North Korea and China were not bound by the Geneva Convention because they had not signed it. The Communist Chinese took almost total control of the war, including the POW camps, after seeing the North Korean Army crushed, and after the Russian political setback in the United Nations Security Council. The communists decided to use the POWs in a massive propaganda battle launched from the prison camps.

The communists provided the material for the prisoners to write home. However, there was no guarantee that the letters would ever leave North Korea. A prisoner's attitude was a determining factor by the Chinese as to whether his mail reached its destination. It is not suggested that any prisoner who received or sent mail was guilty of collaborating. The dictation of prisoners' letters by the Chinese and comments which the Chinese considered favourable were more likely to get through. Some prisoners wrote over fifty letters with as few as five reaching their destination. While some prisoners received twenty to thirty letters during captivity, those in solitary confinement received little or no mail.

Much of the writing material provided to the prisoners was the blue dove-of-peace letter-sheet. The Chinese attempted to get the prisoners to use the following as part of the return address: "c/o Chinese People's Committee for World Peace Against American Aggression". The prisoners boycotted the use of this anti-American return address which forced the Chinese to return to the standard return address handwritten by the prisoners. There is ample evidence that the Chinese used a rubber handstamp on outgoing POW mail when the prisoners refused to cooperate.

Incoming and outgoing mail was censored by the Chinese, although few letters indicate such action. Most of the outgoing letters did not bear the usual Prisoner of War markings nor indicate they were postage free. Much of the mail was void of any markings other than the prisoner's return address. Little is known of the routing of incoming and outgoing mail, although the American outgoing mail appears to have been handed over to the American authorities at Panmunjom. Other mail was routed through Peking and Hong Kong.

Prisoner of War Camps

The following is a list of POW camps during the Korean War. Very Little is known about the camp populations and conditions in them.

Camp No. 1, Chongsong. This camp was located on the Yalu River about 50 miles northeast of Sinuiju. From January through July 1951, several hundred American prisoners were held, as well as British, Turkish and French. Mail is known.

Camp No. 2, Pi-Chong-ni. This camp was originally part of Camp 5 which held officers. However, Camp 5 was also known as the "Reactionary Compound". This camp was moved into Pi-Chong-ni village. By 26 October 1951, there were 160 captives, made up of American, British and Turkish prisoners.

Camp No. 2 (Branch 1), Pin Chon-ni. About 70 miles northeast of Sinuiju. Officers' camp established October 1951.

Camp No. 2 (Branch 2), Ogye-dong. Ten miles east of the above. Penal camp established August 1952.

Camp No. 2 (Branch 3), Chang-ni. On the Yalu River ten miles north of Ogye-dong. Officers and air crews, established March 1952.

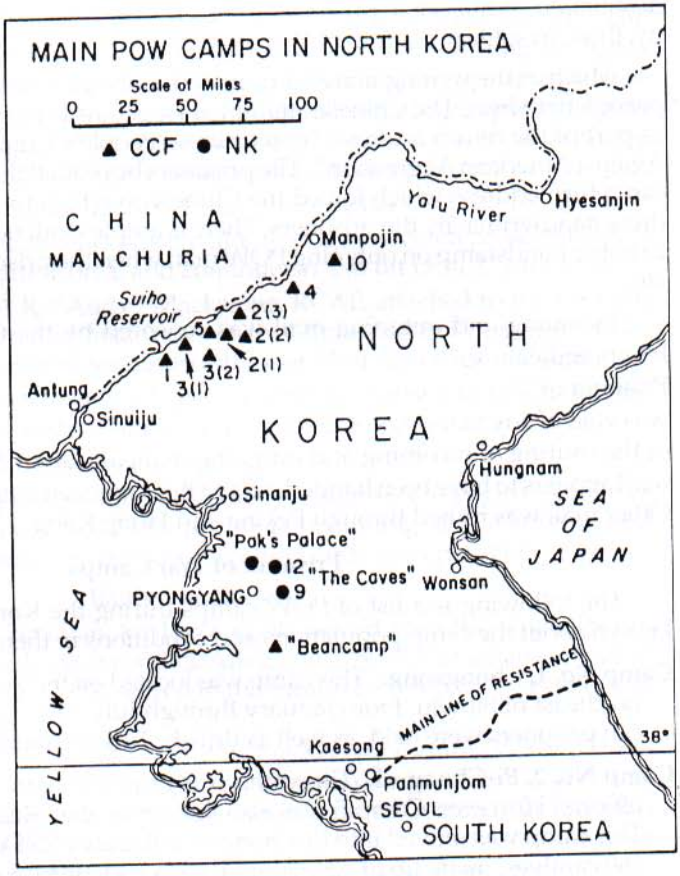
Camp No. 2, Annex, Obul. This camp was also known as "Obul," "No Name Valley," and the "Annex." It was a series of huts used to house prisoners labelled "reactionary." Many of the prisoners were kept in solitary confinement. The British called this "Branch Camp 3." It is unlikely there was mail from this camp.

Camp No. 3, Changsong. This was a large camp that held Americans and other nationalities. There appear to have been several compounds. One compound is known to have held 100 Americans. Prisoners were permitted to write one letter a month. Later the number was increased to three per month.

Camp No. 3 (Branch 1), Changsong. Near the Yalu River, north of Camp 1. Established August 1951. Enlisted men and other ranks.

Camp No. 3 (Branch 2), Songsa-dong. Established August 1952 for new prisoners.

Camp No. 4, Wiwon. Prisoners were separated by the Chinese according to race. The Chinese hoped to gain a propaganda victory by exploiting racial differences. Two hundred white and black Americans, 30 to 40 British and six Turks were confined. Mail was sent and received from this camp.



Camp No. 4, Kuuptong. About 110 miles northeast of Sinuiju. Sergeants.

Camp No. 5, Pyok-Dong. This camp, built on a peninsula in the Yalu River, also was thought to be located in Pyoktong, North Korea. Part of the camp extended into a village. The main

body of men were Army, but there was also a small number of Marines. In January 1951 the men from the "Valley" were transferred to Camp 5. There were then approximately 2,000 UN prisoners in the camp. By the end of the war there were 3,500. It has been reported that Turks, British and Greeks were also in this camp.

In May 1951 the Chinese asked the prisoners if they would like to write home. This was during the time when 1,500 Americans died in this camp. Many of the men had not been reported captured. A British leftist, Miss Monica Felton, was brought into the camp and gave an indoctrination lecture to the prisoners, explaining she would like to take some letters to the families of the prisoners if the men wished her to do so. The Chinese placed a condition on sending those letters whereby the men would have to tell their families to use in their return letters the address: "Peking in Care of Committee for World Peace and Against American Aggression." The prisoners refused to use the last four words in their return address.

The Chinese backed down on their demand. They did, however, use a rubber handstamp on outgoing letters. Many men writing home included such phrases as "well treated," "good food," "in good health," and "wish the war was over." These phrases helped get the letters past the Chinese censors. The American prisoners also told their families to circulate peace petitions in Forest Lawn (which is a cemetery).

Camp No. 6, Py'ong-Yang.

Camp No. 7, Pyok-Dong.

Camp No. 8, Kung-Dong.

Camp No. 9, Kangdong. Known as "The Caves," consisted of tunnels in the hillside.

Camp No. 10, Ch'on-Ma. This camp was near the village of Kodsane. It was known as the "Bean Camp" because of the soybean diet, and as the "Mine Camp" which was located in an old mine. Because of the forced marches and other conditions, the men were generally in poor condition. One such march started with 320 men and ended with 120 still on their feet. When the camp was evacuated, 800 men left camp; only nine survived to return to the United States. Mail is unknown from this camp.

Camp No. 10, Kanggye. Indoctrination centre established October 1950 for UNC troops captured in northeast Korea.

Camp No. 11, Puk-Chin. This camp was used primarily as an interrogation centre. Prisoners were shipped from this location to the camps on the Yalu River. In March 1951 it ceased to be a regular camp. Mail is unknown.

Camp No. 12, Near Pyongang. Established May 1951 for six months; prisoners then transferred to Pyoktong.

Camp Manpojin. This was a transit camp in 1950. At one time there were 700 Americans, English, Turks and Japanese in the camp. Civilian internees were also housed here. Mail is unknown.

Pak's Death Palace, Suan. This was North Korea's chief interrogation centre. It was also known as the "brick yard" because it was located in a brick factory north of Pyongang. Pak's Palace was named after the North Korean commander described as a brutal sadist who loved to torture Air Force prisoners. Information taken from the prisoners was forwarded to the Yalu River camps where it was used against the men.

No Name Valley. This camp (thought to be part of Camp No. 2 Annex) was so named because the prisoners were kept in small isolated groups spread throughout a valley. It was reported that the Chinese were not planning to repatriate the Americans held in this valley. During Operation Big Switch, which commenced 5 August 1953, many prisoners who knew of friends in the valley told the Chinese they would refuse repatriation by sitting down in the middle of Freedom Bridge at Panmunjom if their friends did not join them. This action forced the Chinese to include the prisoners from the valley in the main body of American prisoners on the road home.

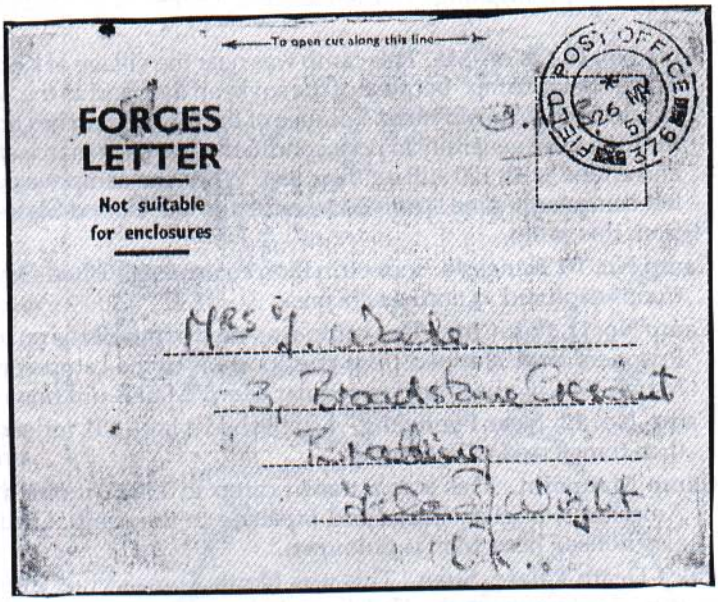


2nd Bn Canadian PPCLI in combat area, North Korea, 24 February 1951. (Photo Courtesy DND, No. SF 679)

South Camp or Mine Camp. These names were given by the prisoners to temporary transit camps located all over North Korea. Mail is not likely.

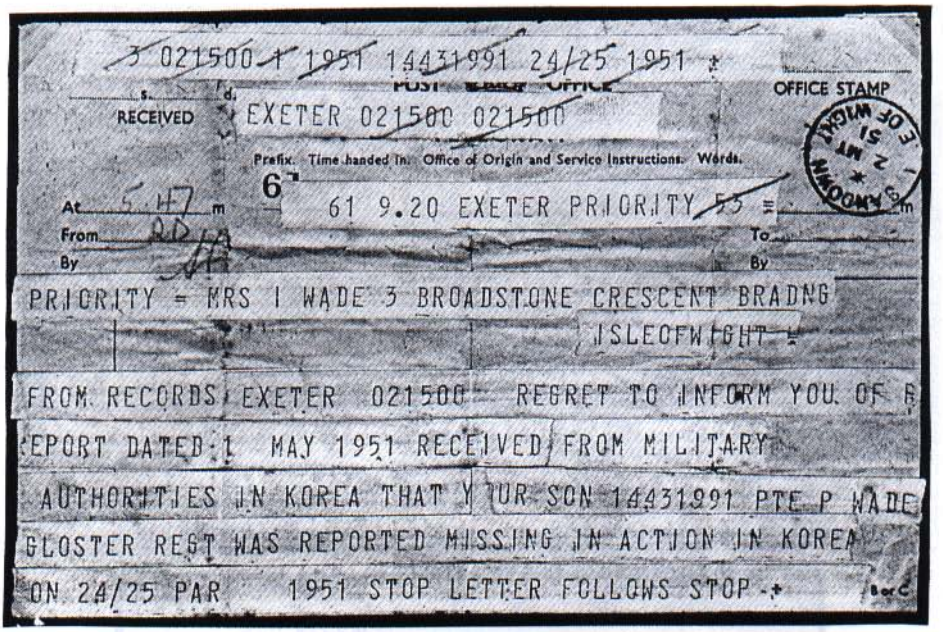
Private Wade's Letters

This Forces Letter above was written by Capt. Ellis, 1st Battalion The Gloucester Regiment, from Korea advising Mrs. Wade that her son Pte. P. Wade was missing in action during an engagement with overwhelming Chinese forces the night of 22/23 April 1951.



Opposite, above: the telegram dated 2 May 1951 reporting Pte. Wade missing in action in Korea.

Opposite, below: The infantry Record Office letter advising Mrs. Wade that her son was missing in action.



3 021500 A 1951 14431991 24/25 1951 =

POST OFFICE

OFFICE STAMP

s. d.

RECEIVED

EXETER 021500 021500

Prefix. Time handed in. Office of Origin and Service Instructions. Words.

6

61 9.20 EXETER PRIORITY 55 =

At 5.47 m

From RD

By

To

By

PRIORITY = MRS I WADE 3 BROADSTONE CRESCENT BRADNG

ISLECFWIGHT =

FROM RECORDS EXETER 021500 REGRET TO INFORM YOU OF R

EPORT DATED 1 MAY 1951 RECEIVED FROM MILITARY

AUTHORITIES IN KOREA THAT YOUR SON 14431991 PTE P WADE

GLOSTER REGT WAS REPORTED MISSING IN ACTION IN KOREA

ON 24/25 APR 1951 STOP LETTER FOLLOWS STOP =

Tel. EXETER 54934

Ref No: 314/54.

Infantry Record Office,
Higher Barracks,
EXETER.

4 May/51

MRS I. WADE.....
3 BROADSTONE CRESCENT,
BRADING, I.O.W.

Dear Madam

In confirmation of my telegram, I regret to inform you that a report has been received from the Military Authorities in Korea, that your Son, 14431991 PTE P.....
WADE - 1ST BN GLOSTER REGT.....
was reported missing whilst in action in Korea on 24/25 Apr 51.

No further details are at present available but any further report received will be transmitted to you immediately.

With an assurance of the sympathy of the Army Council in your anxiety,

I am,
Yours faithfully,

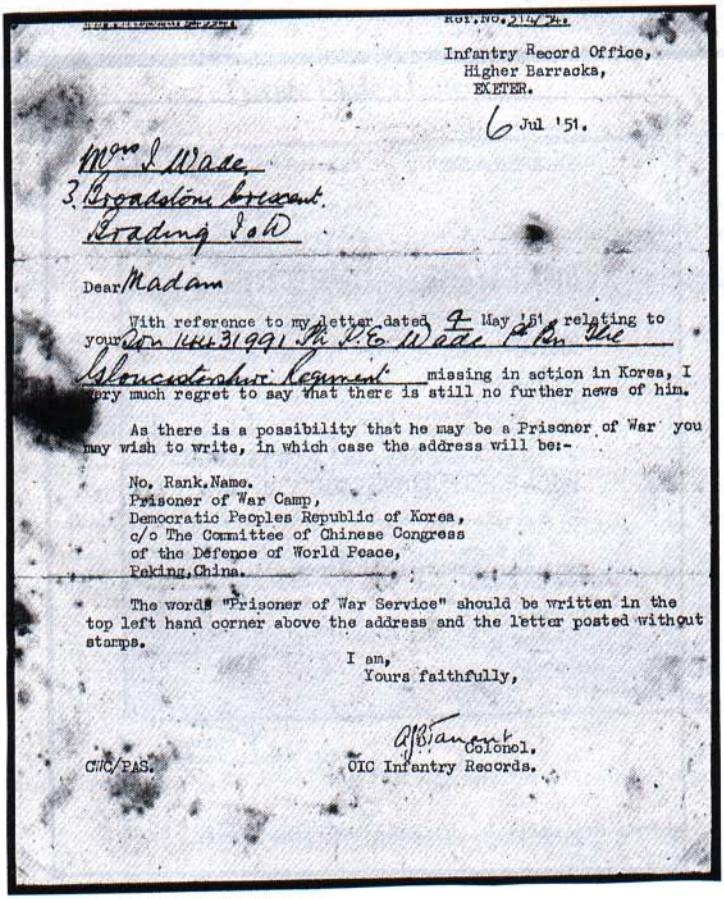
Colonel,
OIC Infantry Records.

/KJ



Official War Office notification that Pte. Wade was posted as missing in action in Korea was sent from Exeter, Devon, on 31 May 1951. The letter requests that the War Office be advised of any communication received from Pte. Wade.

Records Office letter advising the possibility of Pte. Wade being held as a Prisoner of War.



Regt. No. 31491

Infantry Record Office,
Higher Barracks,
EXETER.

6 Jul '51.

Mrs I Wade,
3. Broadstone Crescent.
Brading IoW.

Dear Madam

With reference to my letter dated 9 May '51 relating to your Son 14484 31991 Pte P.E. Wade 1st Bn The Gloucestershire Regiment missing in action in Korea, I very much regret to say that there is still no further news of him.

As there is a possibility that he may be a Prisoner of War you may wish to write, in which case the address will be:-

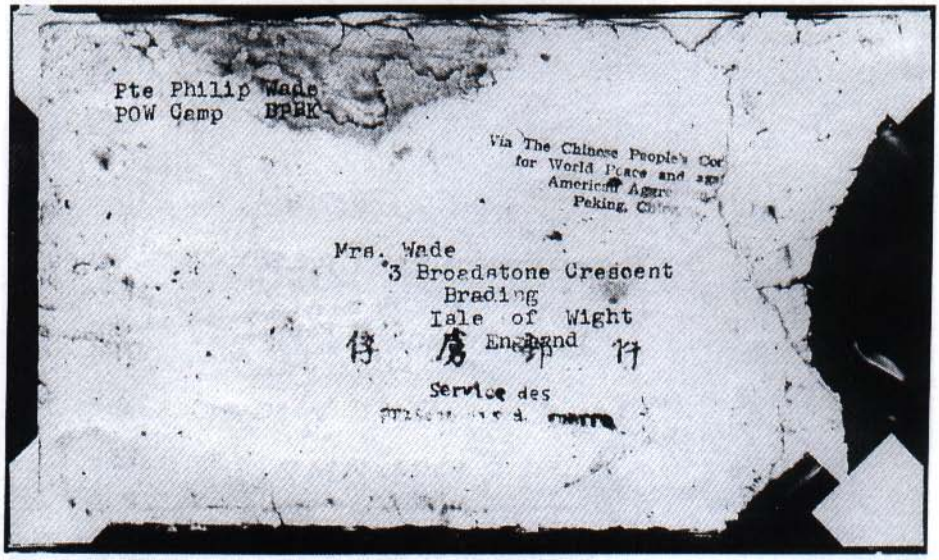
No. Rank. Name.
Prisoner of War Camp,
Democratic Peoples Republic of Korea,
c/o The Committee of Chinese Congress
of the Defence of World Peace,
Peking, China.

The words "Prisoner of War Service" should be written in the top left hand corner above the address and the letter posted without stamps.

I am,
Yours faithfully,

A.B. Beaumont
Colonel.
OIC Infantry Records.

C/C/PAS.

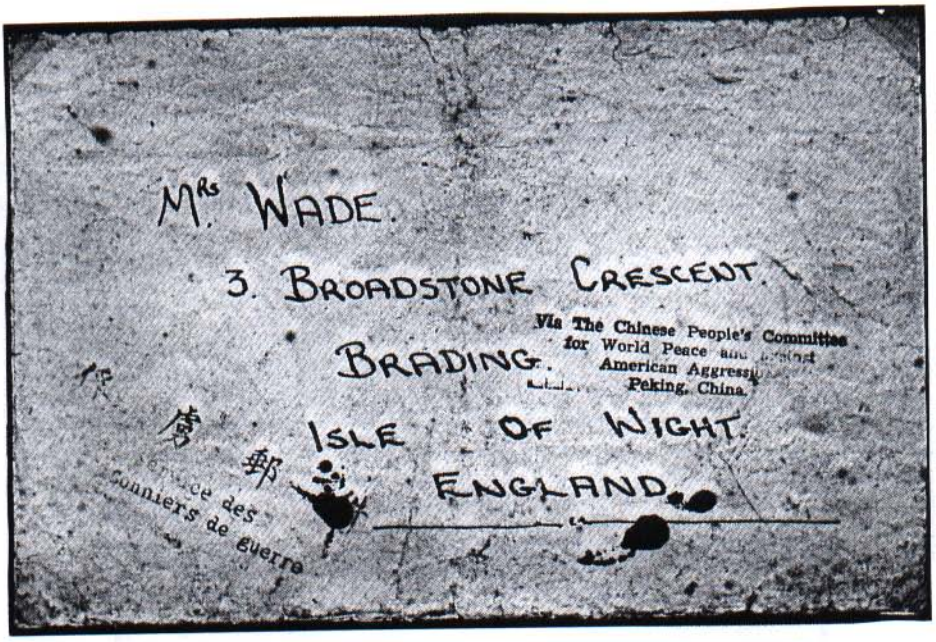


The letter in the above envelope, dated 27 August 1951, was the first Pte. Wade was permitted to write since being taken prisoner 22/23 April 1951. His return address is listed as No. 3 Foreign POW Camp, c/o Democratic Peoples Republic of Korea, c/o The Committee of Chinese Congress of Defenders of World Peace, Peking, China.

While the letter goes on to state he had been well treated with plenty of food such as pork, eggs, fish, potatoes and sugar, together with a generous tobacco ration, it belies the actual conditions he was forced to endure. This statement was dictated by the Chinese, as many letters were, in an attempt to gain favourable world opinion.

None of the prisoners had the use of a typewriter, thus evidence of addressing by the Chinese after censoring and the addition of their anti-American propaganda handstamp in red: "Via The Chinese Peoples Committee for World Peace and Against American Aggression, Peking, China".

The Chinese made every effort to coerce prisoners into using this anti-American propaganda slogan as part of their return address. Its use was, of course, rejected by the POWs. Consequently, many outgoing letters were handstamped by the Chinese after being written by the prisoners.



Tel. EXETER 54934

Ref No: 314/54

Infantry Record Office,
Higher Barracks,
EXETER.

11, Oct, 51

Mrs I. Wade
3 Broadstone Crescent
Brading,
Isle of Wight.

Dear Madam

I am pleased to inform you that information has been received from The War Office that your Son
No 14413199 Pte P.E. Wade

The Gloucestershire Regiment, reported as "Missing in Action in Korea on 26 April 1951", has now been re-classified as a Prisoner of War.

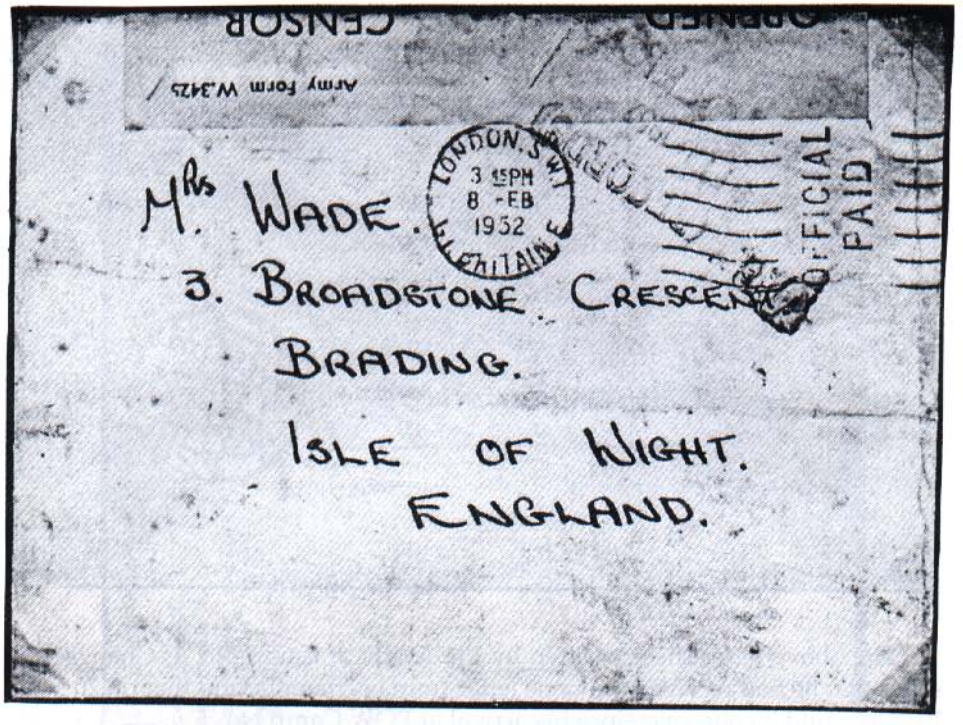
Any further reports received will be transmitted to you immediately.

Yours faithfully,

H. Cumfield MC

Colonel,
OIC Infantry Records

CWC/KJ

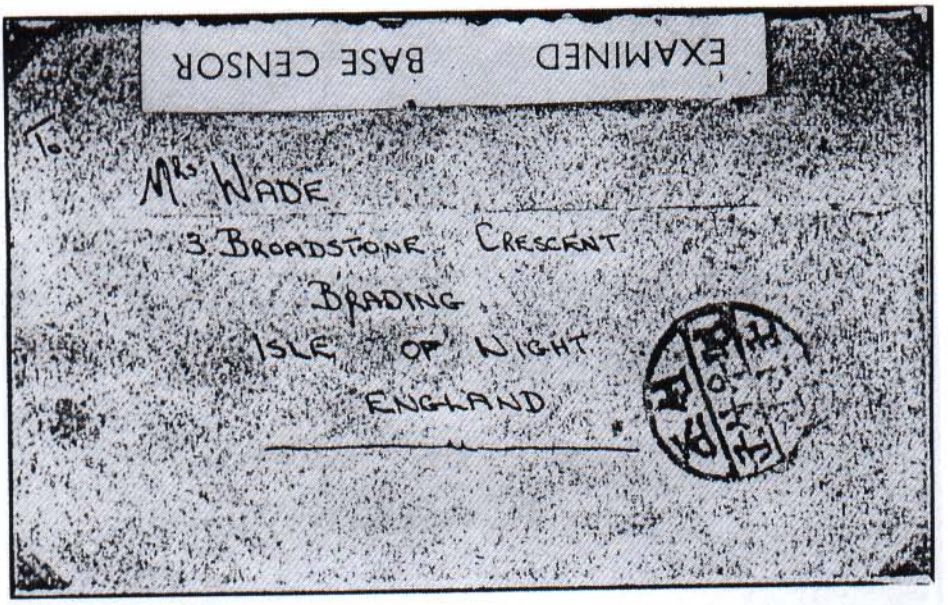


Inside the fold-over letter-sheet shown above, on the upper left, is a "3" indicating that this was Pte. Wade's third outgoing letter since his capture on 22/23 April 1951. He states he received his first letter on September 26 and had been issued with a complete new kit of winter clothing.

The envelope is void of any markings except for the London "Official Paid" machine marking of 8 February 1952, and a War Office handstamp. A British Army censor tape has also been applied.

Above, left: This letter was sent from Camp No. 3, Changsong, North Korea. The reverse bears a double-ring transit marking of Hong Kong (4) dated 26 September 1951. Here again the Chinese anti-American slogan handstamp was applied.

Below, left: Official confirmation of Pte. Wade's Prisoner of War status.



The above letter-sheet, written by Pte. Wade at Camp No. 1, Changsong, states that he had received only one letter from his parents, and that on 20 May 1952 it would be one year since his arrival at POW Camp No. 1.

The routing of the letter, as with many others, appears to have been via Peking, China. Again, censoring was done by the British Army censor. The round black postal marking in Korean characters is divided into three sections, as shown below.



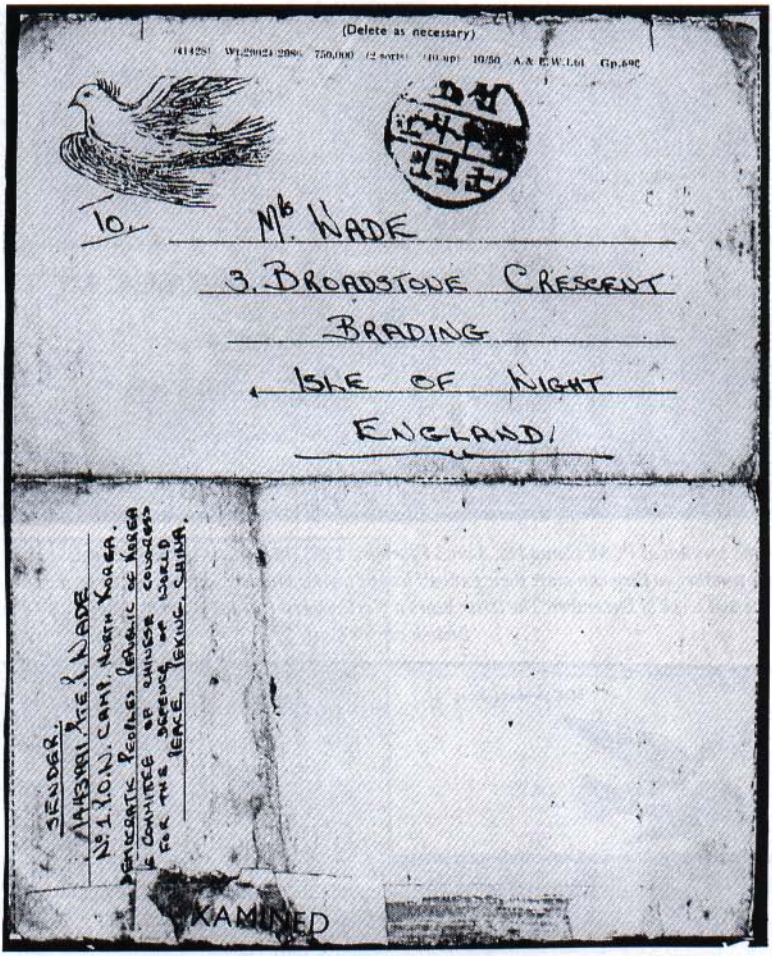
North Korea

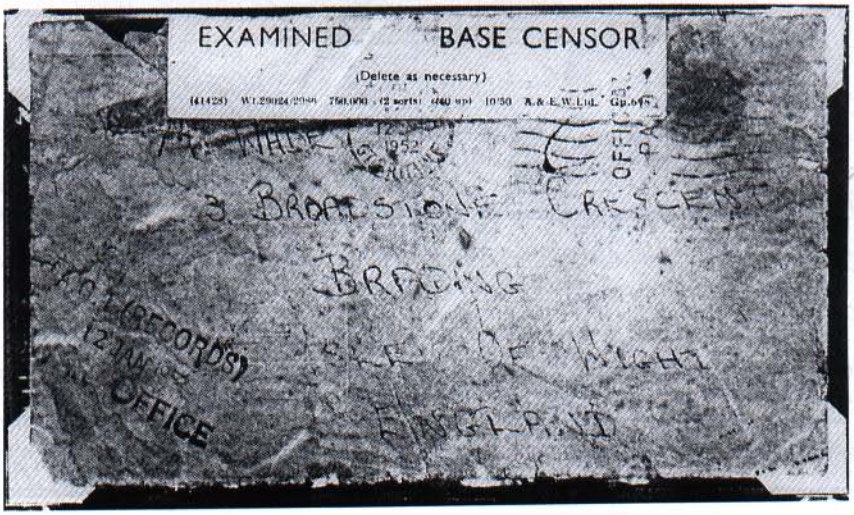
Military Postal Service

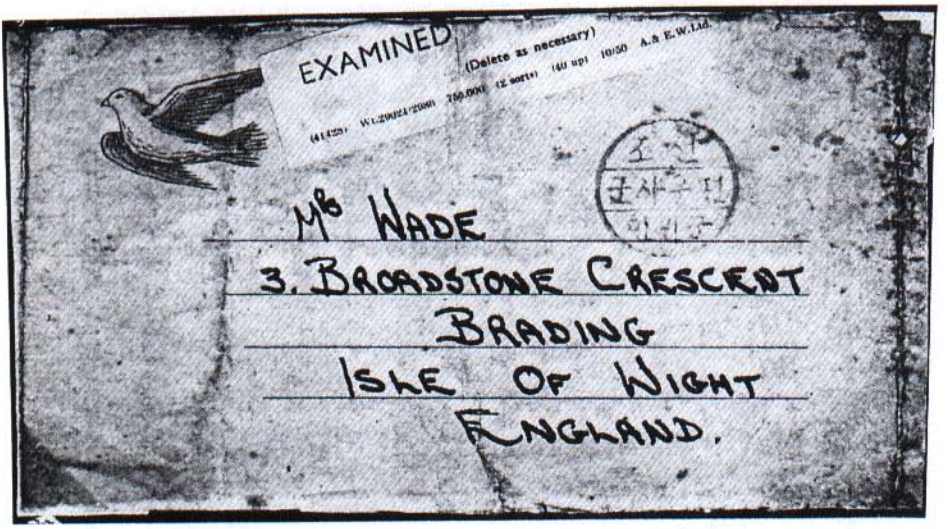
North Korea Armed Forces

Above, right: This fold-over lettersheet, with the Picasso Dove of Peace in blue, was written on 6 July 1952 from Camp No. 1. It also bears a North Korean postal marking in black, and a British censor label.

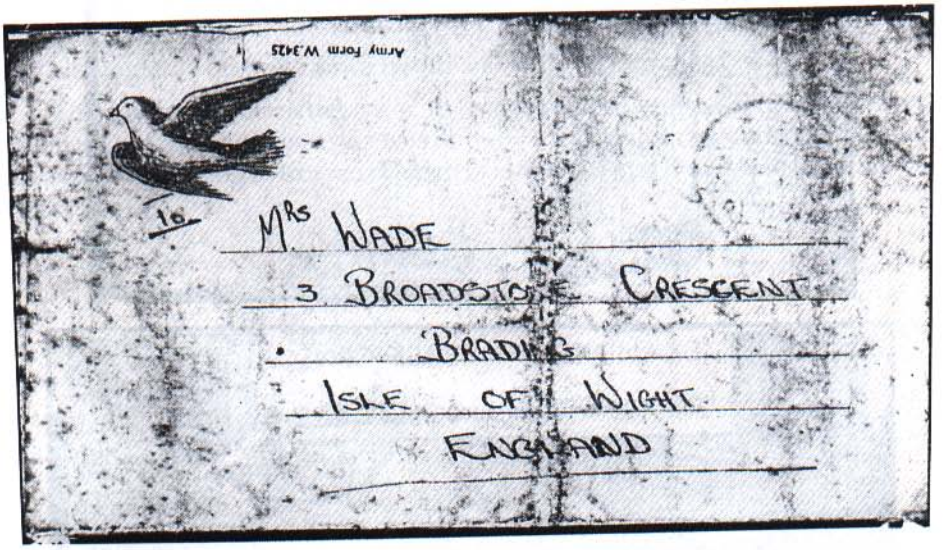
Below, right: Letter written at POW Camp No. 3, 3 December 1952. In addition to the London "Official Free" machine marking dated 12 January 1952 (an error; it should be 1953), there is a War Office handstamp in the lower left confirming processing. In the letter, Pte. Wade states he received three letters in November, dated 8 July, 25 August and 8 October 1952.


(Delete as necessary)
TO
Mrs. WADE
3. BROADSTONE CRESCENT
BRADING
ISLE OF WIGHT
ENGLAND
SENDER.
NAMGARI, Mrs. L. WADE
No. 1 YON, CAMP, NORTH KOREA.
DEMOCRATIC PEOPLES REPUBLIC OF KOREA
IS CONVINCED OF CHINESE COURAGE
FOR THIS SCHOOL OF
PEACE, PEKING, CHINA.
EXAMINED


EXAMINED BASE CENSOR
(Delete as necessary)
3. BROADSTONE CRESCENT
BRADING
ISLE OF WIGHT
ENGLAND
OFFICE



In this letter, written at POW Camp No. 3 on 3 February 1953, Pte. Wade states that he is looking forward to warmer weather so they can start their football league again. He also reports that he received two letters during the last week of December. The letter bears a North Korean postal marking in greenish-blue, and a British censor label.



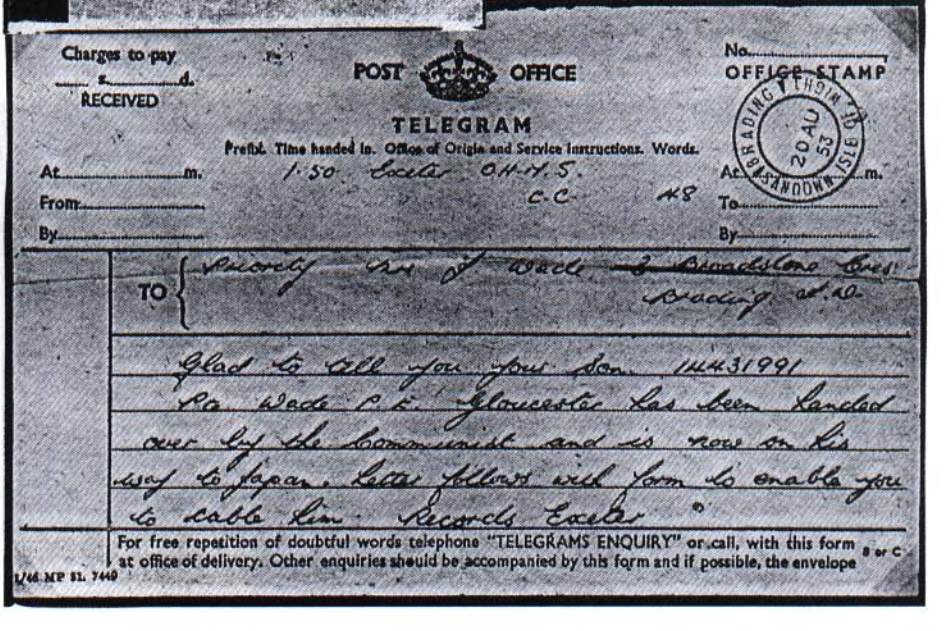
This lettersheet, sent from Camp No. 3 on 25 March 1953, shows an example of the Peace of Dove which differs slightly from the one on the letter of 6 July 1952. The postal marking is in blue.

Above, right: This letter, written at Camp No. 3 on 4 May 1953, makes reference to an exchange of sick and wounded prisoners. Presumably, this was Operation Little Switch on 20 April 1953. Little did he realize that it would be another four months before his own release.

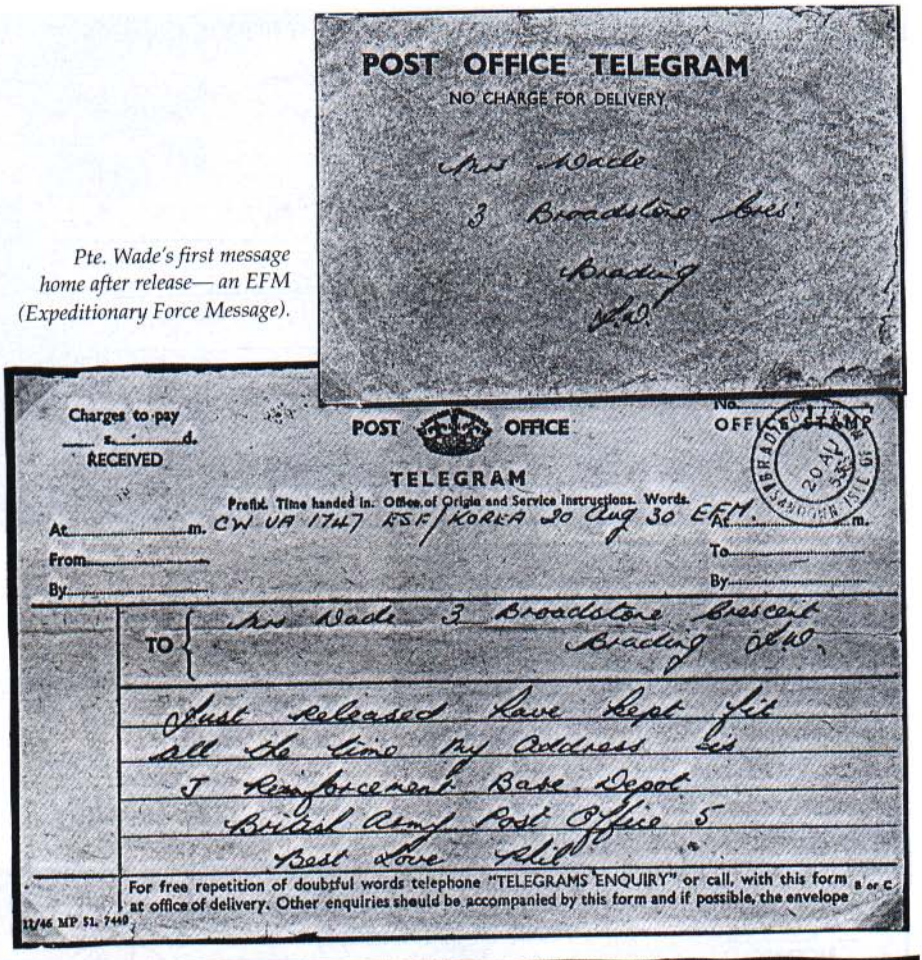
Below, right: A "good news" telegram confirming the release of Pte. Wade from the Korean POW camp. A receiving mark of 20 August 1953 confirms receipt at Sandown, Brading, Isle of Wight.


EXAMINED
1a
Mrs Wade
3 Broadstone Crescent
Brading
Isle of Wight
England


PRIORITY
POST OFFICE TELEGRAM
Mrs J Wade
3 Broadstone Cres
Brading


Charges to pay
s. d.
RECEIVED
POST OFFICE
No.
OFFICE STAMP
TELEGRAM
Prefix. Time handed in. Office of Origin and Service Instructions. Words.
At m.
1.50 Exeter OHMS CC 48
From
By
To
By
TO Priority Mrs J Wade 3 Broadstone Cres Brading IoW
Glad to tell you Son 1144 31991 Pte Wade C E Gloucester has been Landed over by the Communists and is now on his way to Japan. Letter follows with form to enable you to cable him Records Exeter
For free repetition of doubtful words telephone "TELEGRAMS ENQUIRY" or call, with this form at office of delivery. Other enquiries should be accompanied by this form and if possible, the envelope
B or C
1/46 MP 81. 7449

Pte. Wade's first message home after release— an EFM (Expeditionary Force Message).


POST OFFICE TELEGRAM

NO CHARGE FOR DELIVERY

Mrs Wade
3 Broadstone Cres'
Brading
I.o.W.

Charges to pay
£ . . d.
RECEIVED

POST OFFICE

No.
OFFICE STAMP

TELEGRAM

Prefix. Time handed in. Office of Origin and Service Instructions. Words.
At m. CW VA 1747 FSF/KOREA 20 Aug 30 EFM

At m.
From
To
By
By

TO { Mrs Wade 3 Broadstone Crescent Brading I.o.W.

Just Released Have Kept Fit
All The Time My Address Is
J Reinforcement Base Depot
British Army Post Office 5
Best Love Ted

For free repetition of doubtful words telephone "TELEGRAMS ENQUIRY" or call, with this form at office of delivery. Other enquiries should be accompanied by this form and if possible, the envelope

12/46 MP 51, 7440

OPEN by sliding along this edge

ON HER MAJESTY'S SERVICE

OFFICIAL PAID

Mrs. J. Wade.
3 Broadstone Crescent,
Brading,
Isle of Wight.

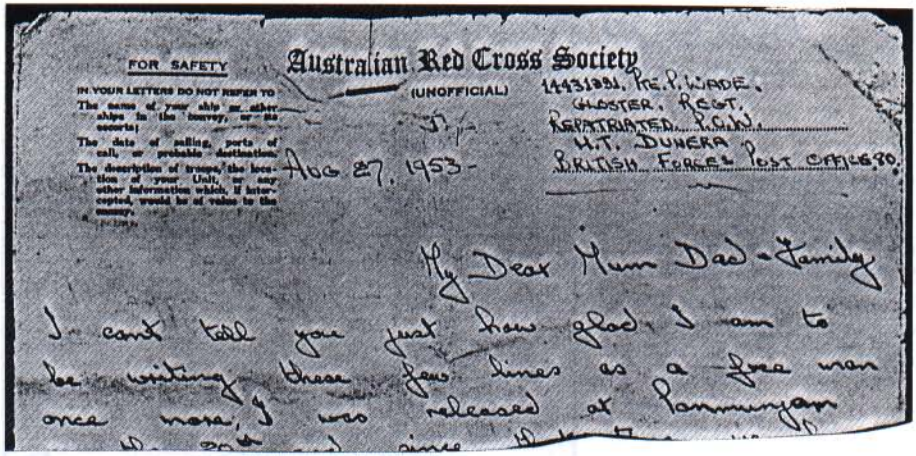
THE WAR OFFICE

ARMY FORM A 2019 E. (Medium)

For use only on letter packets not exceeding 3½" × 4½" in size.

(A6920) W.O.P.

The "Official Paid" letter of 20 August 1953 advising of Pte. Wade's release from captivity, together with advice as to where to cable or write him.



FOR SAFETY

IN YOUR LETTERS DO NOT REFER TO

The name of your ship or other ships in the convoy, or its escorts;

The date of sailing, ports of call, or probable destination;

The description of troops, the location of your Unit, or any other information which, if intercepted, would be of value to the enemy.

Australian Red Cross Society

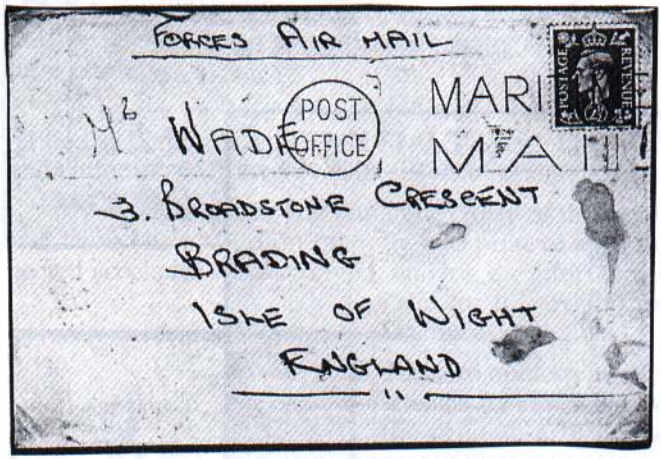
(UNOFFICIAL)

1493331. Pte. P. WADE.
GLOSTER. REGT.
REPATRIATED. POW.
H.T. DUNERA
BRITISH FORCES POST OFFICE 30.

Aug 27, 1953.

My Dear Mum Dad + Family

I can't tell you just how glad I am to be writing these few lines as a free man once more, I was released at Panmunjon



FORCES AIR MAIL

POST OFFICE

MARI MAIL

Pte WADE

3. BROADSTONE CRESCENT

BRADING

ISLE OF WIGHT

ENGLAND

Free at Last!

Elation at being free is evident in this letter of 20 August 1953. Pte. Wade was released 20 August 1953 at Panmunjom during Operation Big Switch which commenced 5 August.

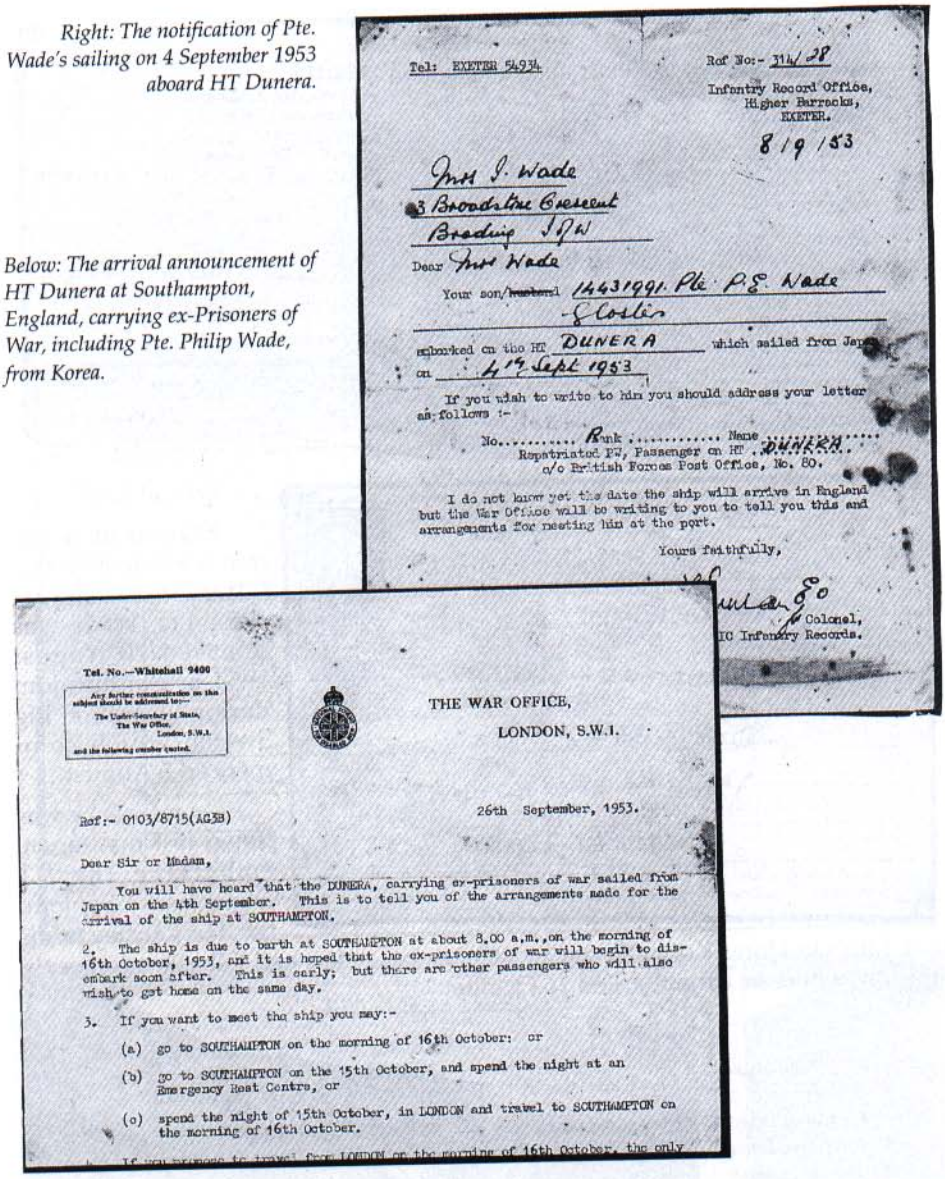
On release he was flown to Kure, Japan, embarking the *HT Dunera* on 4 September. His journey home took him via Hong Kong, Singapore, Columbo, Aden and Gibraltar to Southampton, where he disembarked 16 October.



Sign at the entrance to Freedom Village, Panmunjom, Korea during the prisoner exchange during August 1953. (Photo courtesy DND, No. SF6286)

Right: The notification of Pte. Wade's sailing on 4 September 1953 aboard HT Dunera.

Below: The arrival announcement of HT Dunera at Southampton, England, carrying ex-Prisoners of War, including Pte. Philip Wade, from Korea.



Tel: EXETER 54934. Ref No:- 314/28

Infantry Record Office,
Higher Barracks,
EXETER.

8/9/53

Mrs I. Wade
3 Broadstone Crescent
Bradwip IPW

Dear Mrs Wade

Your son/husband 1443/991 Pte P.E. Wade
-S Cosbies

embarked on the HT DUNERA which sailed from Jap
on 4th Sept 1953

If you wish to write to him you should address your letter as follows :-

No..... Rank ..... Name .....DUNERA.....
Repatriated PW, Passenger on HT
c/o British Forces Post Office, No. 80.

I do not know yet the date the ship will arrive in England but the War Office will be writing to you to tell you this and arrangements for meeting him at the port.

Yours faithfully,

Colonel,
IC Infantry Records.

Tel. No.—Whitehall 9400

Any further communication on the subject should be addressed to:—
The Under-Secretary of State,
The War Office,
London, S.W.1.
and the following number quoted.

THE WAR OFFICE,
LONDON, S.W.1.

Ref:- 0103/8715(AG3B)

26th September, 1953.

Dear Sir or Madam,

You will have heard that the DUNERA, carrying ex-prisoners of war sailed from Japan on the 4th September. This is to tell you of the arrangements made for the arrival of the ship at SOUTHAMPTON.

2. The ship is due to berth at SOUTHAMPTON at about 8.00 a.m., on the morning of 16th October, 1953, and it is hoped that the ex-prisoners of war will begin to disembark soon after. This is early; but there are other passengers who will also wish to get home on the same day.

3. If you want to meet the ship you may:-

(a) go to SOUTHAMPTON on the morning of 16th October: or

(b) go to SOUTHAMPTON on the 15th October, and spend the night at an Emergency Rest Centre, or

(c) spend the night of 15th October, in LONDON and travel to SOUTHAMPTON on the morning of 16th October.

If you propose to travel from LONDON on the morning of 16th October, the only

References:

Farrar-Hockley, Anthony. *The Edge of the Sword.* Frederick Muller, 1954.

Giesler, Patricia. *Commemoration Canadians in Korea.* Veterans Affairs Canada, 1983.

Gruenzner, Norman. *Postal History of American POWs: World War II, Korea, Vietnam.* American Philatelic Society, State College, Pennsylvania, 1979.

McGuire, F.R. *Canada's Army in Korea.* Historical Section, Army Headquarters, Ottawa, 1956.

Melady, John. *Korea: Canada's Forgotten War.* Macmillan Canada, 1983.

Toland, John. *In Mortal Combat, Korea, 1950-1953.* William Morrow, New York, 1991.

Interviews with Philip Wade.

THEMATICS/EXPLORATION UNLIMITED: AN UPDATE

by Carlo Rasmussen

(Editor's Note: Mr. Rasmussen's original article, "Thematics/Exploration Unlimited: Forming a Collection on the Göta Canal", appeared in the January-February 1994 issue. In it, Mr. Rasmussen explained the path that led him to develop this topic, and discussed the various options and problems he faced in putting together the collection and researching it. The following is an account of Mr. Rasmussen's work with the collection since the original article was written.)

Sometime after submitting my article on the Göta Canal, I learned that Copenhagen's philatelic literature exhibition, HAFNIA '94, which was to be held in conjunction with the annual "Tourism and Holiday Messe", would also be featuring open class and mophila stamp exhibits.

The open class competition was to be based on a travel or vacation theme, having at least 50 percent philatelic content and judging by members of the visiting public.

On reviewing my material collected on the Göta Canal, along with that exhibited at London's AUTUMN STAMPEX '93, I decided to enter a single frame and ended up with twenty plus sheets of philatelic material.

My exhibit, titled "The Philatelic cruise of the Sights Along the Waterways and Their History", didn't win the top prize of a trip to Paris, but a few unexpected accolades were received, making the effort worthwhile. The extra study I did for this exhibit provides the information for this update.



First, an apology to mechanically minded philatelists for not mentioning Sven Wingquist in the original article. A portrait of the bearing manufacturer and founder of S.K.F. at Göteborg, surrounded by mechanical drawings, appears of Scott 1181 of Sweden, issued in 1976.



The vignette that first led to my canal study (on Page 41 of the original article, and reproduced at right) may represent Stromkarlen, "God of the Waters". There is a facial concrete plaque of the vignette on the powerhouse bridge at the falls.

However, I was not satisfied with this translation, so I checked with librarians, and they concluded that "Stromkarlen" was also "Necken", shown on Sweden 1340 (page 44 of the article). "Karlen" meaning Elf (Näcken), who with his music could lure one to drown in his waters. My recollection of the old fable is—by promising Necken

your soul you could become a wandering minstrel and thus be able to resist his music's lure. With many versions to pieces of folklore and the doubtful "Ström" translation or meaning, I prefer leaving the vignette's identity as unresolved for now.



The P.K.X.P. 67c cancel shown on the postcard of the falls (page 45 of the article and enlarged at left) is a railway cancellation, used on the Göteborg-Mellerud Railway that serves Tröllhatten.

Soot's Canal (mentioned on page 45) is part of the Norwegian Telemark Waterways. An established trucking service can provide transport of small craft over the few kilometers to the Dalslands Canal system.

I believe Telemark was the location of the heavy water plant that is portrayed in World War II movies.

Pablo Picasso's 15 m. high concrete sculpture "Les Dames de Mougins" is located at Kristinehamn on the north east shore of Lake Väner. It is shown on Sweden 1050 of 1974. There is also overland transport available for small craft between Kristinehamn and Örebro.



I was able to add two more canals to the original 13 on the map showing the Göta Canal and its associated waterways (page 42 of the article). Number 14 is the Taberg-Bergslac Canal, flowing north from Lake Väner, east of Karlstad. Fifteenth is the Säffle Canal, running northwest slightly west of Karlstad. Canada has its Thousand Islands, and Sweden, like Finland, has thousands of lakes, many with connecting links.



At the time of writing the original article I could find no philatelic material pertaining to the Kinda Canal, the Göta Canal subsidiary running from Lake Roxe to Lake Äsunden. This area is noted for its glass industry, which was commemorated on a 1972 Swedish set of five, 923-927.

The Göta Canal theme has been taken up by Legoland in Billund, Denmark, with an elaborate model constructed of Lego building blocks. It features models of 12 ships passing through the locks, all in 1:20 scale. A Lego building block was shown on one of Denmark's 1989 Europa stamps. Some collectors may remember the large Lego display shown years ago at Simpson's store in Montreal.

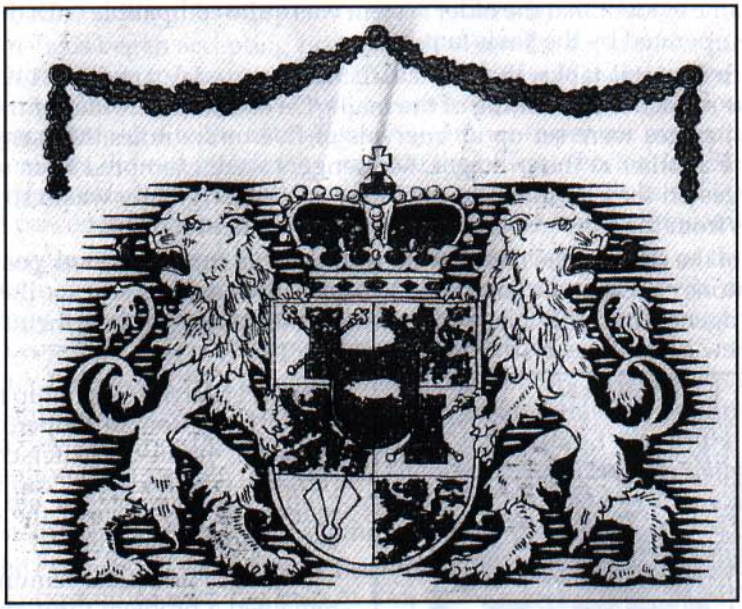


As readers can see, this thematic collection provides much opportunity for expansion, development, and improvement. Two additional books proved useful for research: *Swedish Crosscut* by Eric de Maré (published in English in 1964), and *Kanalfart i Sverige og Norge* by Ole Kofoed-Olsen (published in Danish in 1992). •

THURN AND TAXIS: A REMARKABLE POSTAL SYSTEM

by Hans Reiche, FRPSC

The Thurn and Taxis postal administration was a remarkable achievement. In the Middle Ages, when Germany and central Europe consisted of a large number of principalities, headed by princes who regarded one another with jealously and animosity, a system of messengers, or *Boten-Anstalten*, constituted the only effective communications system.



The Thurn and Taxis Coat of Arms.

The origins of the Thurn and Taxis system go back more than five centuries. As early as the fifteenth century, postal stations were established in France for the servants of King Ludwig XI. These stations were called *Postes* and are still known as that today. The word *Postes* derived from the Latin *Posita atatio equorum.* This was the beginning of a postal system, organized by ancestors of the Taxis family.

Each messenger wore a special uniform and had a box to hold messages. A yellow shield identified the messengers. Yellow remained the colour of the Taxis government post. The Turn and Taxis postal system was noted for its security and punctuality. The first contracts were developed on the assurance that the message would be on time with weather and road conditions taken into account. Many stations were run by members of the Taxis family. This gave added assurance of punctual performance.

Beginning with King Rudolf I (1218-1291), head of the Holy Roman Empire and founder of the Hapsburg dynasty, all Hapsburg empires wanted to enlarge their domains. Friedrich III (King of Germany and Holy Roman Emperor from 1452), arranged a courier service to Italy in 1457 with his senior hunting master Roger de Tassis in charge.

The Taxis family was of Italian origin, and this first route operated between Tyrol and Italy. Its prime purpose was to communicate with neighbouring principalities, and to supply information about the activities of the Turks.

This was the beginning of the formal association of the Taxis family with the Imperial posts. Emperor Maximilian I named Johann von Tassis the first Imperial Postmaster about 1489. After 1500 the name of the family changed to Taxis. There was some effort to suppress the older system of Boten-Anstalten, but it soon became evident that the older system was quite compatible with the Imperial posts operated by the Taxis family.

The first postal tables that are available to us today are from 1495. They record the sequence and timing of the mails. On each of the routes of the Imperial posts, stages were set up at intervals of five or six miles. Messengers relieved one another at these stages. Messengers were exempted from all taxes and charges on their routes. The mail they carried originally was restricted to messages from the Emperor and official correspondence.

One of the messengers named Hans wrote to his superior, "Dear postmaster send us money because we have none left, we cannot eat and we owe the restaurant and agent. They will take our horses for the money we owe them. We can not put new horseshoes on the horses."



A typical Thurn and Taxis letter carrier from Saxony-Coburg-Gotha.

On 1 March 1501, Philip the Fair, son of Holy Roman Emperor Maximilian I, named Francisco Taxis (Francis von Taxis) to "capitaine et maistre de nos postes," the equivalent of postmaster general.

Lack of adequate remuneration remained a problem throughout the early years. This was resolved when von Taxis entered into a contract dated 18 January 1505, and signed in Brussels, to arrange a permanent courier service for a payment of 12,000 livres per year. This arrangement covered the area from the Netherlands to the Emperor's court residence in Germany, to the King of France and into the Spanish kingdom. Under this agreement, von Taxis was able to provide a five-and-a-half-day service between Innsbruck and Brussels, and 44 hours between Paris and Brussels.

A well organized network developed in Europe. Later on, this arrangement was extended to Italy with the stipulation that Franz von Taxis and his nephew Baptista von Taxis would take over some of the major stations. This resulted in the assurance that reliable people were involved. One other part of the contract spelled out that nobody was allowed to buy or keep horses for postal purposes without permission from the Taxis family.

The recognized official data for the start of the postal service from one royalty house to the next was 12 November 1516.

No mention to this point in time was made of private mail. But from 1506 it is known that private mail was carried by the Taxis postal system. This is evident from postal time forms that mention letters to specific private houses. Instructions from the government in Innsbruck asked Gabriel von Taxis to stop private deliveries and to accept only those written by officials.

Von Taxis began accepting private mail when the royal exchequer failed to meet its payments to him in a timely manner. In order to maintain the system, he had to find other sources of revenue, and private mail was the obvious one. The Emperor acquiesced to the extension of the service to private mail, provided the arrangements did not interfere or impede the official service. In 1516 the Taxis post system was extended to Verona, Rome and Naples. Taxis vehicles also accepted passengers on their vehicles as an additional source of income.

Many honours were given to the Taxis family as a result of the excellent services they provided. In 1512 Emperor Maximilian I made several members of the family hereditary nobility. On 31 December 1536 the brother of Franz von Taxis, Leopold von Taxis became Postmaster General.

After Emperor Karl V resigned, many competitors fought for postilions in the postal system, trying to take business away from the well established Taxis system. Income from the Netherlands Post was reduced due to the increased competition from private companies. There was resentment in many quarters about the Taxis monopoly on the postal system, and others did not approve of the system being controlled by a family of foreign origin.

The Postmaster of Cologne, a Taxis employee, broke with them and formed his own post office with the help of Emperor Rudolf II by promising the Emperor extra income. To the advantage of the Taxis family a decree forbid outsiders, such as other postal servants, to establish themselves independently from already existing systems. Many of the principalities established their own postal systems within their own borders.

On 16 June 1595 Emperor Rudolf II appointed Leonhard von Taxis the Postmaster General of the Empire. Leonhard died in 1612. Emperor Matthias appointed Leonhard's son Lamoral to the position, and at the same time made the position a hereditary fief. Leonhard was made a count before he died early in his life and he left his part of the postal industry to his very young son Lamoral Claudius Franz von Taxis.

Emperor Ferdinand II issued a proclamation to oppose all other German competitive postal services. This was not effective and even more competitors established private service deliveries. Alexandria, Countess of Taxis complained, but the Thirty Year War resulted in many people moving. Consequently, they made use of any mail service deliveries that were available to them.

Although Lamoral Claudius Franz von Taxis tried hard to get the business back, regional counts pulled away from the Taxis system for their own benefit. The Count of Brandenburg was reminded that he was acting against the orders of the Emperor, but he replied that he had acquired his own funding and therefore would not abide by the orders.

As early as 1711 the first Prussian post office orders came into effect. Various arrangements were made to allow Taxis services to go through territories that were held by other postal agencies. One such arrangement was with the State of Brunswick. It is interesting that the Catholic Church held firm in its loyalty to the Taxis family and assisted them financially.



Count Lamoral von Taxis.

The 'della Torre' which means 'from the tower' or Turm became the name of the Thurn family in the seventeenth century. The family coat of arms shows the tax and the tower.

Lamoral Claudius Franz was the first one who called himself von Thurn and Taxis. He included in his coat of arms both designs. In 1676 Eugen Alexander von Thurn and Taxis took over the control of the system. The Spanish king made him a count in 1681. Through his excellent and systematic approach he mastered the rising competition well. A newspaper declared that "the Post is a well into which all sources flow."

Despite the problems and competition, the Taxis system continued to expand and prosper. By the eighteenth century the Thurn and Taxis system had a gross income of 20,000 livres per day, generated a profit of 4,000,000 livres per year, and employed 20,000 men and at least 25,000 horses.

In a special all-encompassing order by Eugen Alexander and signed in full by the Kaiser in 1706, the postal system that covered mainly royal houses and servants now became, for the first time, a German Reichpost system to serve everyone. The postal streets and offices were refurbished and improved and so was the transport of persons and goods, including valuables and parcels.

The honours for the Taxis family continued in acknowledgement of their work.The house of Taxis was allowed to join the Board of German Counts in 1754.

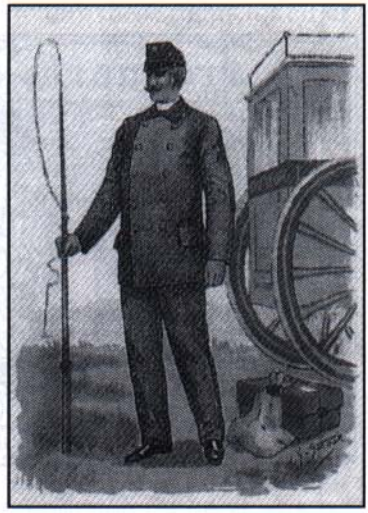
Although the parliament had moved from Frankfurt to Regensburg, the General Post Office remained in Frankfurt.

The revolutionary wars impacted disastrously on the Taxis postal system. Between 1790 and 1810 the area served by Thurn and Taxis shrank by 81%. Territorial posts replaced it in many areas. On 14 December 1801 the postal convention between France and Germany assured Prussia of its postal rights on the east side of the Rhine. The Taxis system lost control of their posts on the west side of the Rhine, but received a grant of land as compensation for the lost revenues. All the complaints by Taxis did not change the situation. Nevertheless, the Prussian King still remained committed to the Taxis system and all correspondence from France and Spain to Germany had to go via the Taxis post.

The Prince of Taxis consequently had to restructure his system in the new order after the Emperor resigned and the Holy Roman Empire collapsed. He attempted to maintain the system by striking new agreements with individual states.

The postal system was divided into four regions. Each region now had, for the first time, an identifiable rayon number in its cancel. The rayon number corresponded to the district. Karl Alexander von Thurn and Taxis ran the system from 1805 to 1827.

Prussia occupied the city state of Hannover in 1805 and its postal service was incorporated into the state-owned Prussian system. The formation of the postal German states had started. The House of Thurn and Taxis succeeded in making alliances with some of the new states. These were Nassau in 1806, Reuss-Greiz in 1809, Schwarzenburg-Sonderhausen in 1812, and Schaumburg-Lippe in 1814. Others followed, among them Hesse, Saxe-Coburg, Oldenburg, and Wurttemburg.



A postilion, or driver of a mail coach, of the mid nineteenth century period, standing at the rear of a coach with a mail bag and package on the ground. The mail coaches of the Thurn and Taxis postal system carried passengers and parcels as well as letter mail.

Napoleon was a protector of the posts and wrote: "All postmasters in Germany who are in the service of the Army are important and the Kaiser takes over their protection."

With the expulsion of the French, the new Germany renewed its commitment to Thurn and Taxis at the Vienna Congress on 8 June 1815. Various connections were established with other German states. During the liberation war Thurn and Taxis took over all services left of the Rhine River and followed the troops, providing services for them. This was decreed by the Minister of Post, Freiherr von Stein, on 20 January 1814.

The last chapter of the Thurn and Taxis story began with the appointment of Count Maximilian Karl von Thurn and Taxis in 1827. The Taxis system continued to recover some lost territory. In most cases the Taxis system paid a rent to the individual state for the privilege of conducting the postal system, and in most cases were given free franking privileges for official mail. The Thurn and Taxis postal rates compared favourably with those principalities with government-operated postal systems. By 1848 the Taxis posts generated an income of a million marks.

On 1 May 1851 Thurn and Taxis joined the German-Austrian postal union, which included Saxony, Mecklenburg, and Schleswig-Holstein. Next to the Prussian system, the Thurn and Taxis post was the largest in the union.

The railways provided a new form of competition for the Thurn and Taxis posts, which utilized postal wagons. Despite the fact that Thurn and Taxis provided a unified and efficient postal system covering a number of separate German states, it continued to be resented and envied in some quarters because of its perceived position of privilege.

On 1 July 1851 Wurttemburg withdrew from the Thurn and Taxis posts, and took over the postal system in its territory. This followed a similar take over by Bavaria in 1849, when Bavaria issued its first postage stamp, which was also the first in the German area.





Although the postage stamps are the best known aspect of the Thurn and Taxis postal system for most collectors, they represent only the last fifteen years of a tradition that lasted three and a half centuries. There were separate currencies for the Northern and Southern Districts: Silbergroschen in the Northern and Kreuzer in the Southern. These two basic designs were used for all stamps.

The Thurn and Taxis system also embraced postage stamps, issuing its first ones on 1 January 1852. These were used until the system was taken over by Prussia.



Typical cancellations on Thurn and Taxis Stamps.

In 1856 Heinrich von Stephan invented the postcard as one of his innovations in the early part of his career as Germany's most important postal administrator. Eleven years later he negotiated on behalf of Prussia for the purchase of the Thurn and Taxis postal system. Since it was clear that the Taxis family had a legal right to the postal system, it could not be taken over without compensation. The Prussian government therefore decided to buy these rights for all of the system within Prussian territory.

Such a sale would have left the Thurn and Taxis system with an area too small to be operated efficiently. Consequently, the family decided to sell the entire system to Prussia. This was the end of 350 years of Thurn and Taxis postal services. Heinrich von Stephan wrote to his mother: "When I signed the contract eliminating 350 years of German `slowly creeping sickness' Prussia paid three million Thaler in compensation to Thurn and Taxis." Three and a half million people had been served by them.

The Thurn and Taxis posts officially ended on July 1, 1867. It was quickly integrated into the state-run postal system of Prussia, and succeeded by the North German Postal Confederation in 1868 and the German Empire in 1872. •

One of Canada's most prominent philatelic researchers and writers, Hans Reiche of Ottawa is perhaps best known for his work on Canadian stamps. Among his specialties are the Admiral Issue and Canadian precancels. His regular column, "Postmarked Ottawa," has appeared in this journal for many years.

PAPER: Its Preservation and the Agents of Its Destruction, Part VII

by Kenneth D. Campbell

Adhesives

Many collectors, for reasons of convenience, have used commercially available adhesives to repair covers. Unfortunately, many of these adhesives are chemically unstable and in time disfigure the covers.

The preferred substance for use with paper, when repairing or reattaching paper to paper, is wheat starch paste. It makes a strong, smooth white adhesive that remains tacky even when diluted to a thin constituency. Wheat starch paste has been used for generations by oriental conservators.

Making Wheat Starch Paste

- Aytex-P, an unmodified purified wheat starch containing 90% starch and 10% moisture. (Available from Technical Library Services, 213 West 35th St., 9th Floor, New York, NY)
- fine mesh screen container or blender
- pyrex graduated beaker, 500 ml capacity
- distilled water
- saucepan, 2 - 3 litre size
- small spoon that can be inserted into the beaker
- hot plate
- small scale
- glass or plastic containers for storage

Weigh out 30 grams of wheat starch. (30 grams will measure to the 50 ml line on a graduated beaker.) Put into a glass.

Measure 300 ml of distilled water . Gradually pour 50 ml of this water into the glass containing the starch, stirring continuously until all the lumps are dissolved. Cover the mixture and let stand.

Bring the 250 ml of distilled water in the beaker to a boil by placing the beaker in the saucepan, surrounded by water.

Stir the starch and water mixture and pour into the boiling water in the beaker, about 25 ml at a time. Continue cooking and stirring for 5 minutes.

Remove beaker and allow to cool. If paste is too thick at room temperature add distilled water. If lumps occur, force through the screen or blend in a blender.

Store paste in a container in the refrigerator. Paste will be good for about 10 days.

To mend a torn cover, use Japanese tissue paper and wheat starch paste. The tissue is used under the tear on the inside of the cover.

Special formulated adhesives such as ethyl hydroxyethyl cellulose, neutral polyvinyl acetate, polyvinyl alcohol (PVA) and methyl cellulose suitable for conservation purposes are available from archival suppliers. These adhesives have been chemically stabilized and should not be confused with commercial products.

The United States Postal Service advises that the following ad-

hesives were used on U.S. postage stamps:

Gum Arabic	from 1860s to 1890
Dextrin	from c.1890 to 1970s
Polyvinyl Alcohol	from 1970 to the present
Polyvinyl Acetate	after 1971

At times silicates and vegetable gums are added to modify certain characteristics of the gum. This was done to overcome tackiness and to obtain durability.

Glue Sticks

One of the handiest inventions of recent times is the glue stick. Production of the first commercial type, the UHU Stic, began in 1969. Containing non-essential alkaline parts and fatty acids, the possibility of a chemical reaction on certain papers cannot be excluded.

The UHU Stic, a product of Faber Castell of Germany, has a distinct amine/amide odour, like rancid peanut butter. Another glue stick is the Pritt Glue Stick, made y Henkel of Germany. The Pritt stick has a fruity odour. This odour, the alkaline nature of the product, and a spectral band of 1550 cm^{-1} suggest the presence of a non-volatile amine or amide. IF spectral analysis shows that the glue sticks are predominantly polyvinyl pyrrolidone with some polyvinyl alcohol components that are quite stable. Glue stick adhesive is solvent with water.

The Dennison Glue Stick, by Dennison Manufacturing Co. of Framingham, Massachusetts, is nearly identical to the Pritt and UHU Stic. All three glue sticks test pH 9 and for this reason should not be used on rare covers that are alkaline sensitive.

While not recommended for conservation use, the collector may decide they are suitable for certain purposes. Personally, I like glue sticks. They are handy and easy to use. With discretion, I use them.

Be certain that the glue stick you use contains white paste and not clear glue. The clear glue is not found too often in glue sticks. It is too acidic and corrosive. The white paste actually contains a paste very close to wheat paste but in stick form, and is fairly neutral.



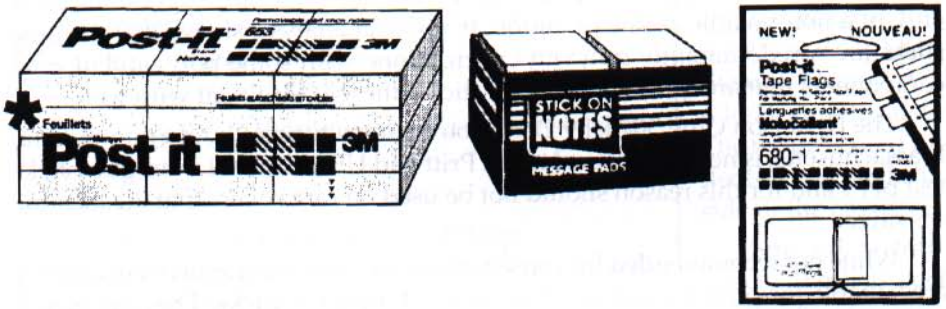
The UHU Stic is one of several glue sticks that is readily available at stationery and department stores. Although they are useful in the stamp den, they should be used with care near valuable philatelic items because their high pH could damage anything that is sensitive to high alkilinity.

Stick Notes ('Post-It')

It did not take long after their introduction in the late 1970s for 3M's Post-It notes and other self sticking note tabs to be used by postal historians and others. To most collectors, this was a means of making notes about the cover on a connecting self-stick tab rather than on the cover itself, and thereby lessening damage to the cover. As a device for holding an idea or making a temporary note, these self stick note tabs rival the paper clip in simplicity of design and ease of use.

These note tabs, though, fail as a means of retaining information for posterity. They have invaded postal history collections and dealers' stocks. They threaten to damage the items that they come in contact with.

The Post-It note came about when Art Fry, a product development specialist at the 3M Company and who also sang for his church choir, had a problem. The paper book marks he used in his hymnal constantly fell out, leaving him searching for verses. He remembered that some years before, his colleague Dr. Spencer Silver, had discovered a high tack adhesive that was easy to remove. Mr. Fry soon produced some self sticking book marks at 3M. After months of testing and market research, the 3M company began to market Post-It notes.



Usually seen in yellow, but available in a rainbow of colours, stick-on labels are one of the accessories found on most desks. The original brand was the Post it, manufactured by the 3M Company. A number of imitators are now on the market. An associated product is the Post it Tape Flag (right), for making temporary index flags in reference books.

Research scientists have carried out tests that show all notes of this type leave some residue adhesive behind when removed from papers. Analysis shows that the adhesive used on Post-It notes is an acrylate polymer. Adhesive left behind will result in pages sticking together. Dirt will accumulate on the sticky surface, necessitating conservation treatment in order to remove it.

A competitor's product uses a polybutylene base adhesive. These adhesives discolour and lose adhesion over time. The adhesive on self stick notes will also lift some typewriter and electrostatic printing inks and text when placed over a printed area, particularly after a prolonged period.

The paper used for these notes is also of some concern. Most have an acceptable pH level of 5.0 to 8.3. However, these papers contain lignin, indicating a low quality wood pulp and/or alumrosin sizing. Both components contribute

to instability and the deterioration of the paper. It is recommended that self stick notes should not be used on covers or objects of importance or value.

Taggants and Chemical Additives

During the early 1960s an electronic machine was developed in Ottawa for the automated processing of mail. Known as the SEFACAN, it was installed in the Winnipeg post office in 1962. In order for this machine to operate it was necessary to use a phosphorescent taggant on the stamps. The stamps for use in Winnipeg were overprinted in one of two ways: with a 4 millimeter phosphorescent band set vertically in the centre of the stamp, and with 4 millimeter phosphorescent bars set vertically and centred over the vertical perforations of the stamp. Short wave ultraviolet radiation caused the phosphorescent tagging to glow, and this glow was detected by the machine, which activated automatic facing and cancelling mechanisms for the handling of the mail.

By 1966 the Pitney-Bowes Corporation had developed a new machine, known as the MK-11 facer-canceller. It worked on a reflected light principle. A light beam reflected from the moving letter into the machine's electric eye sensors activated the mechanism. This machine was installed in several Canadian post offices in the late 1960s.

A third facer-canceller detection system was developed and installed in the Ottawa post office. It operated on a General (Ottawa) phosphor tag recognition system. For this system, two 3 millimeter phosphor bars set vertically on the perforations on each side of the stamp were used. The phosphor glows when exposed to short wave ultraviolet radiation, but only while it is exposed.

During 1973 all existing machines were converted to this system. The stamps, produced by lithography, were tagged with a type of phosphor known as OP-2. A similar phosphor, but with a slightly different formula and known as OP-4 was used on stamps produced by gravure. General Electric Chemical Products of Cleveland, Ohio produced both phosphors. The OP-2 taggant did not migrate, but the OP-4 migrated to such an extent that it travelled through layers of paper. It was completely unsatisfactory, since the storage life of the stamps was reduced, and the phosphor transferred itself from tagged to untagged stamps. Due to the hazards encountered by using the OP-4 taggant, its production was suspended. By 1973 Canada Post began using a modified OP-4 taggant, where the phosphor was formulated with an alcohol reduced acrylic resin. This reduced the migration problem very significantly. The phosphor tagging ink, supplied to the security printers by Canadian Fine Color Ltd., consisted of 20% General Electric Phosphor pigment plus a resin solution made up of about a dozen other components.

The U.S. post office began experimenting with mail processing equipment as far back as 1957. In the 1960s they began using automated equipment that required the postage stamps to be coated or tagged with a phosphorescent material, zinc-ortho-silicate, suspended in a varnish. The varnish created a number of problems. It dulls the brightness of the inks as well as the paper. The varnish also acts as a barrier to the cancellation ink, making it easier to wash off cancellations.

Soon the idea of phosphor materials in the paper led to the development of phosphor papers. No longer was it necessary to print tagged bars on the stamps. The result was stamps that again look sharp and bright.

Before we go deeper into this subject we should understand the meaning of some words associated with tagging:

Luminous: Stamps that glow they are exposed to ultraviolet light.

Fluorescent: When a stamp glows under an ultraviolet light but ceases to glow immediately when the light is removed.

Phosphorescent: When a stamp continues to glow after the ultraviolet light is removed.

In 1957 Great Britain started to use a p-hydroxy diphenyl dispersed in cured urea-formaldehyde polymer resin for tagging stamps. This did not prove very satisfactory since dampness and moisture caused swelling. The result was that the British post office then used Lettalite B-2 pigment, as above but dispersed it in carbazole - 3 - silifonic acid for printing the tagging bars on their stamps.

Some of the materials used in the United States during the early 1960s for tagging were Activated Zinc Sulphide (Zn S), or zinc sulphide in small amounts of copper (Zn S [cu]). The principal tagging agent was a pigment using zinc silicate activated with small amounts of copper (Zn_2 Si O_4 [Mn]). All of these were developed by Sylvania Electric Products Company.

From 1963 to 1978 U.S. airmail stamps were tagged with a Calcium Silicate pigment activated by Manganese.

Under ultraviolet light some stamps will fluoresce blue. Generally this is due to optical bleaching agents in the stamp paper. When zinc silicate is added to the paper stamps will fluoresce from tan to white. Germany used an optical bleaching agent, Lumogen, manufactured by BSAF of Ludwigshafen. Under ultraviolet light these stamps fluoresce a bright gold colour.

To improve appearance and compensate for paper yellowing some postal administrations add an optical bleaching agent, Blankophro, a Salts of Stilbene sulfonic acid solution. High concentrations of optical bleaching agents will produce what is referred to, by philatelists, as a 'High Brite' stamp. It should be explained that bleaching agents can be added within the paper or as a coating.

Tagging Colours and Varieties

Collectors who purchase tagged varieties, such as one tagging bar when there should be two, are advised to be very careful. Zinc silicate and sulfide pigments can be removed when the stamp has a portion boiled in water for two hours. The boiling water will also change the colour of the stamp's ink slightly.

Most postal systems use activated zinc sulfide for tagging. This fluoresces yellow green. Most Swiss stamps and some Belgian stamps use activated zinc sulphide with a small amount of copper. These stamps fluoresce a greenish yellow. When flours (dyes) are added to the bleaching agent the result is a fluorescence in golden yellow colour. A combination of tagging and bleaching agents will give a fluorescence of bright blue. Low concentrations of copper fluoresce pink, while calcium silicate activated by manganese will fluoresce pink to orange.

Alkalis are often present in phosphor inks to prevent polymerization prior to the printing. After printing, the alkali is absorbed by the paper, while the alcohol content evaporates. The alkali should not harm the paper, and it may add to its life by neutralizing acidity.

Changes in Tagging Characteristics over Time

Some collectors see the various bars and coatings in their many sizes and luminous characteristics as varieties. These characteristics change over time. It is impossible to retain them in their original condition. The early tagging, when the use of various components was in its infancy, has already resulted in the degradation of many of the tagging's component chemicals.

The long term effect of these changes on stamps is a major concern to collectors of modern stamps. In addition to changes in the chemical components themselves, the tagging materials can interact with the stamp paper and the printing inks. Collectors must wait and see what the long term effects will be. So far, very few corrective measures have been noted or identified to retard these changes.

(to be continued)

For further reading:

Canadian Conservation Institute, *C.C.I. Report, Note 11/4*, available from Communications Canada, Ottawa, Ont.

Calvin E. Schildkneckt, Luminous Agents in Stamps of the World, *American Philatelist*, July 1992, pp. 644-651.

T.V. Collings and R.F. Schooley-West, *The Care and Preservation of Philatelic Materials*, 1990. ISBN 0-933580-13-4.

The Postal Service Guide to U.S. Stamps, 13th edition (1987), Washington, D.C.

Matthew Poslusny and Kenneth E. Dougherty, Applying Non-destructive Spectroscopic Analysis to Philately, *American Philatelist*, August 1990.

John Grace, Don't Post it on Your ——, *The Archivist*, May-June 1990.

R. Scott Williams, *Analytical Report 2011; Analytical Report 2012*, The Conservation Institute, Ottawa, Ont.

Kenneth Campbell prepared and partially wrote this series before he passed away suddenly in August 1989. Mr. James E. Kraemer has completed the series from Mr. Campbell's research notes.

New on the Philatelic Bookshelf...

In the East

Author: Marc J. Johnson. Publisher: Carlton Press, New York. Hardbound, 175 pp. Canadian distributor: E. Talacko, 1712 Avenue Road, Box 54600, Toronto, ON M5M 4N5. Price: $20.00

Marc Johnson is a postal historian who, for many years, purchased any feldpost cover with contents that had originated on the Eastern Front during World War II. He has had the contents of these letters translated. These form the basis of this book—letters from the Eastern Front written by German soldiers. The book provides easy and enjoyable reading, and while not much of importance is ever said (censors were everywhere almost to the end), the book provides the reader with a good general impression of the front through the eyes and minds of ordinary soldiers. Good reading for those fascinated by military subjects and World War II.

- Steve Thorning

Pictorial Meter Stamps of the United States

Author: Douglas A. Kelsey. Publisher: Meter Stamp Associates, P.O. Box 30, Fishkill NY 01224. Softcover, spiral bound, 124 pp. ISBN 0-941480-12-7.

The author has illustrated more than 1,600 different pictorial meters, representing a broad range of topics, from the United States. Future editions of the publication will include additional items, and the author requests that collectors submit clear photocopies of their pictorial meters to him.

Starting with the first pictorial meter impression in the 1930s for Roosevelt's National Recovery Administration, pictorial meter stamps have been used by thousands of businesses to promote their products. This publication sorts the pictorial meters into 180 topics, and each meter is given an evaluation factor which can be translated into an estimated market value. Included in the book is one preprinted pictorial permit.

Topics include blimps, helicopters, candy, dance, dental, food, keys, mining, photography, toys, chinchillas, kangaroos, billiards, bowling, sailing, wrestling, and the Seattle 1962 World's Fair. For the topical collector, this book is a goldmine of information about material that can be used in a collection or exhibit. For philatelic judges, the book shows the type of material that can be added to an exhibit to improve its coverage.

The illustrations are quite good, but they just don't give justice to the magnificent works of art, available in red, blue and black, on various strips and covers.

- Paul Burega

California Gold

Author: Kenneth J. Kutz. Publisher: Gold Fever Publishing, 7 Whaling Road, Darien, Conn. 06820. Available from the publisher at US $37.50 for the regular edition and US $49.50 for the deluxe edition, postpaid if payment sent with order.

This is another book by Mr. Kutz on the subject of gold mining. His previously published books are *Gold Fever, Nome Gold* and *Victoria Gold.* He is noted for his international exhibit of Gold Fever, and most recently, his exhibit relating to Coal Mining.

The work commences with a very useful and informative historical survey of the War with Mexico, whereby California became part of the United States, the discovery of gold in 1848, the Gold Rush of 1849, routes for travel and mail to California, postal affairs in California. It includes a most useful survey of the California express companies.

The work continues with a description of mining methods, including illustrations of cards relating to mining. This is followed by a most fascinating series of letters from various miners about the gold discoveries and their lives and travels. This series commences in 1848 and goes to 1868— a wonderful description of the mines and work of the gold miners.

The book is fully illustrated with excellent reproductions of the actual letters as well as maps and much collateral material. The book is well

produced and the contents are delightful to read. A useful subject index is included so that a particular topic or area can be readily accessed by the reader.

- Harry Sutherland

Michel Deutschland-Spezial Katalog 1994

Publisher: Schwaneberger Verlag Gmbh, Munich, Germany. Fully illustrated; softcover; 1,556 pages. Distributed in Canada by Lighthouse Publications, 255 Duke, Montreal, QC H3C 2M2, and available through stamp dealers across Canada.

A review of this new edition appeared in the July-August issue. The following is a brief look at the material from the back of the book for the post World War II period.

Prices for the booklets of the postwar period follow the trend set in the regular stamp issues of Berlin and Germany. The latter's posthorn and Heuss issues on cover have gone up. There are even more varieties in the town castles series Booklet 22. DDR booklets show no change.

The Berlin building tax stamp has a few more varieties listed. All the prices have now been filled in.

Generally speaking, the HOP (hand overprints usually on the workers series after the war) of the Soviet Zone are up. Make sure these stamps are expertized if you decide to buy them. Mecklenburg-Vorpommern shows some increases.

The booklets of the AM Post took a steep tumble from DM 25,000 to DM 15,000. The specialty items show an up and down motion. The 80pf and RM 1,- in used condition show a dramatic increase.

Other stamps of this period also show an up and down motion. The 1949 Goethe block is up by 10%. The French Zone is stable and the building series generally down in the varieties. In the local stamps of the Soviet Zone there is a general warning that some stamps are not going to be expertized any longer as there is evidence that they were never issued for postal usage. None of these stamps are listed in Scott's.

Buying a specialized Michel catalogue every so often is a good experience for the mind. Knowledge of German is not essential, as there are many illustrations and a quick English-German vocabulary index. The mind is overwhelmed by the variety and complexity that a German collection can achieve!

- Emil Talacko

In addition to the *Deutschland-Spezial Katalog*, Michel publishes other German catalogues, which are distributed by Lighthouse. These include:

Deutschland Katalog 1993/1994 (The shorter version of the stamps of the German area)

Junior-Katalog (Germany simplified, in colour)

Briefe-Katalog Deutschland 1992/1993 (German cover catalog).

Ganzsachen-Katalog Deutschland 1993 (German postal stationery)

Privatpostkarten-Katalog Deutsches Reich 1873-1945 (Privately printed German postcards)

Handbuch-Katalog Deutsches Feldpost 1937-*1945* (Fieldpost and military markings)

De Posthoorn

Publisher: Filatelistisch Jeugdwerk in Nederland. Distributor: H. Wormmeester, De Wilgen 6, 9781 ME Bedum, Netherlands. Inland cost: 12 guilders per year.

In the course of my philatelic activities, working with youth or working on my own collections, I come increasingly in contact with some excellent literary efforts. It has been my habit to share information about these publications with readers of this journal.

De Posthoorn is published by the Filatelistisch Jeugdwerk in Netherland. The president of the Netherlands Philatelic Youth Organization is a retired colonel, Joseph de Lange. The magazine is edited by Mr. W.E. Boelens.

The size of the magazine varies from issue to issue, but the contents are consistently and uniformly excellent. It deals with news in the field of youth philately and has a number of outstanding articles dealing with collecting subjects. There is also a section on new issues of the Netherlands and other countries in the world. De Posthoorn has puzzles and many suggestions for useful activities. Written in Dutch, it may be a bit of a challenge for those who do not speak that language. But the many words shared with English and French would allow most readers to understand this magazine.

- Michael Madesker

VICTORY IN SIGHT / VICTOIRE À L'HORIZON



On November 7, Canada Post Corporation issued a set of stamps commemorating Canada's Second World War achievements of 1944.

Entitled 'Victory is Sight,' the four 43-cent stamps mark the 50th anniversary of D-day, 6 June 1944, and the subsequent advance up the European coast. The stamps mark the sixth year of Canada Post's seven-year stamp series on the war.

On 6 June 1944 the Allied forces stormed the beaches of Normandy in a successful bid to liberate Europe from the Nazis. The D-Day Beachhead stamp depicts Canadian troops disembarking from an Infantry Landing Craft on Juno Beach at Bernières-sur-Mer.

The Canadians who landed in Normandy and continued to fight inland were supported by various kinds of artillery. A 5.5 inch gun of the Royal Canadian Artillery is seen in action on

Le 7 novembre, la Société canadienne des postes a émis un jeu de timbres soulignant les réalisations des soldats canadiens en 1944 dans le cadre des efforts des Alliés pendant la Seconde Guerremondiale.

Formant un jeu intitulé Victoire à l'horizon, les quatre timbres-poste de 0,43 $ soulignant le 50e anniversaire du Jour J, le 6 juin 1944, et l'avance subséquente des Alliés le long du littoral européan. Il s'agit du sixième volet d'une série consacrée à la Seconde Guerre mondiale, qui s'étend sur sept ans.

Le 6 juin 1944, les troupes alliées ont pris d'assaut les plages de la Normandie dans une tentative réussie de libérer l'Europe des envahisseurs nazis. Le timbre consacré au débarquement, le Jour J, présente des troupes canadiennes quittant une péniche de débarquement sur la plage Juno, à Bernières-sur-Mer.

Les Canadiens qui ont débarqué sur les côtes normandes et qui ont continué la lutte à l'intérieur des terres ont bénéficié de l'appui de divers éléments d'artillerie. Sur le timbre consacré à

the Artillery-Normandy stamp.

The use of aircraft to assist ground troops was also part of the plan to help rescue Europe from the Nazis. The Tactical Air Forces stamp features Hawker Typhoons with D-Day 'invasion markings.'

After the successful battle for Normandy, the Allies advanced towards Germany, first capturing the strategic seaport of Antwerp in Belgium. In order to use the port, the heavily guarded Walcheren Island and Scheldt Estuary had to be captured. On the stamp, Canadian infantrymen inspect a knocked-out German Sturmgeschultz III G self-propelled gun.

Designer Pierre-Yves Pelletier and illustrator Jean-Pierre Armanville, both of Montreal, created the stamps.

Official First Day Covers bear an Ottawa, Ontario cancellation. The cachet shows a photo of landing craft approaching France during the Allied invasion of the Normandy beaches on D-Day.

Specifications:

Date of Issue:	7 November 1994
Last Day of Sale:	6 May 1995
Denomination:	4 x 43¢ (se tenant)
Printer:	Canadian Bank Note Co. Ltd.
Quantity:	10,000,000
Dimensions:	48 mm x 30 mm (horizontal)
Perforation:	13+
Paper:	Peterborough
Gum:	PVA
Printing Process:	five-colour lithography
Pane Layout:	16 stamps
Tagging:	General Tagging, four sides
First Day:	Ottawa, Ontario

l'artillerie est illustré un canon de 5,5 po de l'Artillerie royale canadienne dans le feu de l'action.

L'intervention de forces aériennes faisait partie des plans visant la libération de l'Europe. La vignette Forces aériennes tactiques présente des Hawker Typhoon portant les marques de l'invasion du Jour J.

Après leur victoire en Normandie, les Alliés se sont avancés vers la frontière allemande, capturant d'abord le port d'Anvers, en Belgique, un point stratégique. Toutefois, pour pouvoir l'utiliser, ils doivent d'abord dégager l'Escaut et libérer l'île de Walcheren, positions que défend âprement l'ennemi. Sur le timbre, on voit des fantassins canadiens inspectant un canon automoteur allemand Sturmgeschultz III G qui a été détruit.

Le motif des timbres est l'oeuvre du graphiste Pierre-Yves Pelletier et de l'illustrateur Jean-Pierre Armanville, tous deux de Montréal.

Le pli Premier jour officiel portera un cachet d'oblitération indiquant Ottawa, Ontario. Il sera également orné de la photo d'une péniche de débarquement s'approchant de la France lors de l'invasion de la Normandie par les Alliés, le Jour J.

Spécifications techniques :

Date d'émission :	7 novembre 1994
Dernier jour de vente :	6 mai 1995
Valeur :	4 x 0,43 $ (se tenant)
Imprimession :	Canadian Bank Note Ltd.
Tirage :	10 000 000
Format :	48 mm x 30 mm (horizontal)
Dentelure :	13+
Papier :	Peterborough
Gomme :	APV
Procédé d'impression :	lithographie (cinq couleurs)
Présentation de feuillets :	16 timbres
Marquage :	procédé général, sur les quatre côtés
Premier jour :	Ottawa (Ontario)

NEW TAGGING ON 88¢ DEFINITIVE

Canada Post has introduced a revised tagging pattern on new printings of the 88¢ Westcot Apricot definitive. The new pattern consists of three phosphorescent vertical bars, one on each side of the stamp and one in the middle, instead of the usual four-side tagging. The new pattern is intended to facilitate the handling of international mail. The new printing will be introduced over the next few months as existing stocks of earlier printings are depleted.

NOUVELLES BANDES DE MARQUAGE

Pour le nouveau tirage du timbre portant le tarif du courrier international (0,88 $), la Société canadienne des postes utilisera de nouvelles bandes de marquage. En effet, au lieu des quatre barres habituelles entourant le timbre, trois barres phosphorescentes seront apposées verticalement, une de chaque côté du timbre et une autre en son centre. Ce nouveau marquage permettra d'améliorer le traitement du courrier international. Les timbres du nouveau tirage seront en circulation dans quelques mois; la date précise dépend de l'écoulement des stocks actuels.



Canada Post Corporation issued a new set of Christmas stamps on November 3 featuring carolling and choir singing. The new stamps are being issued to coincide with the centennial of The Toronto Mendelssohn Choir and the 100th anniversary of Toronto's Massey Hall.

Every year Canada issues special commemorative stamps to celebrate Christmas and the holiday season. This year the four Christmas stamps feature choral singing (50¢ U.S. stamp), singing with family and friends (43¢ domestic stamp), carolling (88¢ international stamp), and a solo chorist (38¢ Greet More stamp).

Founded by choirmaster and organist A.S. Vogt in 1894, The Toronto Mendelssohn Choir began with 75 members and today has a mem-

Le 3 novembre, la Société canadienne des postes émettra un nouveau jeu de timbres de Noël consacré aux choeurs et au chant choral. L'émission de ces vignettes coïncide avec le centenaire du choeur Mendelssohn de Toronto et celui de Massey Hall, salle de spectacle à Toronto.

Chaque année, le Canada émet des timbres commémoratifs à l'occasion de Noël et des Fêtes. En 1994, ces timbres illustrent un choeur traditionnel (timbre de 0,50 $, tarif du courrier destiné aux États-Unis), le chant avec parents et amis (timbre de 0,43 $, tarif du régime intérieur), un groupe de chanteurs à l'extérieur (timbre de 0,88 $, tarif du courrier international) et un choriste (le timbre Poste-bonheur de 0,38 $).

Fondé en 1894 par A.S. Vogt, chef et organiste, le choeur Mendelssohn de Toronto compte au départ 75 membres. Aujourd'hui, il réunit quelque 200 voix.

bership of approximately 200. The Choir has performed the *Messiah* faithfully every year since 1942.

The Toronto Mendelssohn Choir gave its inaugural concert on 15 January 1895, almost one hundred years ago, at Massey Hall. Located in downtown Toronto, the well known landmark was designed by Canadian architect S.R. Badgley, with the backing of Hart A. Massey, farm equipment magnate and patron of the arts. Massey Hall has been the home of The Toronto Mendelssohn Choir since it opened in 1895.

Canada Post's specially priced Greet More stamps for use on domestic greeting cards utilize a star in place of a numeric denomination. The image of the Christmas star or star of Bethlehem is also depicted on the Christmas tree on the domestic stamp, in some stamp booklets, and in place of the colour dots in the margins of stamp panes and booklets.

The Christmas stamps were designed by John Pylypczak and Diti Katona of Toronto, with illustrations by Nina Berkson, from Montreal. The Official First Day Cover bears a Toronto cancellation and a cachet featuring a reproduction of *The Chorister* (1880) by Robert Harris.

Specifications:

Date of Issue:	3 November 1994
Last Day of Sale:	2 May 1995
Denomination:	38¢, 43¢, 50¢, 88¢
Printer:	Canadian Bank Note Co. Ltd.
Quantity: Sheets:	43¢ - 44,000,000
	50¢ & 88¢ - 9,000,000
Stamp Packs:	38¢ - 5,070,000 packs
	43¢ - 3,060,000
	50¢ & 88¢ - 810,000
Dimensions:	38¢ - 40 mm x 26 mm (horizontal)
	43¢ - 36 mm x 30 mm (horizontal)
	50¢ & 88¢ - 30 mm x 36 mm (vertical)
Perforation:	13+
Paper:	Coated
Gum:	PVA
Printing Process:	six-colour lithography
Pane Layout:	43¢, 50¢, 88¢ - 50 stamps
Stamp Packs:	38¢ & 43¢ - 10 stamps
	50¢ & 88¢ - 5 stamps
Tagging:	General Tagging, four sides
First Day:	Toronto, Ontario

Cette formation chante *Le Messie,* de Handel, chaque année depuis 1942.

Il y a près de 100 ans, le 15 janvier 1895, le choeur Mendelssohn de Toronto donnait son tout premier concert, à Massey Hall. Repère bien connu du centre-ville de Toronto, Massey Hall a été dessiné par l'architecte canadien S.R. Badgley et financé par le mécène Hart A. Massey, magnat de la machinerie agricole. Cet édifice abrite le choeur Mendelssohn de Toronto depuis 1895, année de son ouverture.

Offert à prix réduit, le timbre Poste-bonheur est destiné à l'affranchissement d'enveloppes de cartes de souhaits désignées. En 1994, cette vignette porte une étoile au lieu de l'indication de sa valeur nominale. Cette étoile de Noël, ou étoile de Bethléem, orne également l'arbre de Noël du timbre portant le tarif du régime intérieur, figure dans certains carnets et remplace les points indiquant les couleurs d'impression dans les marges des feuillets entiers et des feuillets de carnets.

La conception des timbres de Noël est l'oeuvre de John Pylypczak et Diti Katona, tous deux de Toronto, et les illustrations sont signées par la Montréalaise Nina Berkson. Le pli Premier jour officiel portera un cachet d'oblitération indiquant Toronto, Ontario, et sera orné d'une reproduction de l'oeuvre *The Chorister* (1880), de Robert Harris.

Spécifications techniques :

Date d'émission :	3 novembre 1994
Dernier jour de vente :	2 mai 1995
Valeur :	0,38 $, 0,43 $, 0,50 $,),88 $
Imprimeur :	Canadian Bank Note Ltd.
Tirage : timbres :	0,43 $ - 44 000 000
	0,50 $ et 0,88 $ - 9 000 000
carnets :	0,38 $ - 5 070 000
	0,43 $ - 3 060 000
	0,50 $ et 0,88 $ - 810 000
Format :	0,38 $ - 40 mm x 26 mm (horizontal)
	0,43 $ - 36 mm x 30 mm (horizontal)
	0,50 $ et 0,88 $ - 30 mm x 30 mm (vertical)
Dentelure :	13+
Papier :	Coated
Gomme :	APV
Procédé d'impression:	lithographie (six couleurs)
Présentation de feuillets :	0,43 $, 0,50 $, 0,88 $ - 50 timbres
Présentation de feuillets de carnets :	0,38 $ et 0,43 $ - 10 timbres
	0,50 $ et 0,88 $ - 5 timbres
Marquage :	procédé général, sur les quatre côtés
Premier jour :	Toronto (Ontario)

Society Reports / Rapports de la Société

From Molly Krajewski, Sales Circuit Manager....

One of our Chapters recently had an experience which could have been extremely serious. When a Stamp Circuit was returned a book was not enclosed. The Chapter involved suggested that it might not have been sent in the first place. The matter was placed before the board of directors who decided that the Society should bear the loss in this particular instance, but that our rules would be strictly enforced in future.

These rules are printed on the back of the Circuit Advice notes and the first one requires any recipient of Sales Circuit books to check to ensure that all books listed have been received and that all spaces are marked off. Any exceptions must be reported immediately or the recipient will be charged for anything not reported.

While we have an insurance policy, the Circuit recipient is responsible for the care and return of the books, and the Sales Circuit Manager has received instructions to enforce the printed conditions strictly.

NEW MEMBERS - NOUVEAUX MEMBRES

The following applications were received and are herewith published in accordance with the Constitution. If no adverse reports are received within thirty days of publication, applicants will be accepted into full membership. Any objections should be sent to: P.O. Box 929, Station Q, Toronto, Ont. M4T 2P1.

· requests address not be published (M) minor - activity guaranteed by parent or guardian (D) dealer

Les demandes d'adhésion ci-dessous ont été reçues et sont publiées en conformité avec la constitution. Si aucun commentaire adverse est reçu dans les trente jours qui suivent les postulants deviendront membres. Toute objection devra étra communiquée à la C.P. 929, Succursale Q, Toronto (Ontario) M4T 2P1.

· demande que son adresse ne soit pas publié (m) mineur-activités philatéliques garanties par un parent ou un tuteur (M) marchand

26169 Mr. Stephen R. Dubreuil
119 - 6031 Wilson Ave.
Burnaby, BC V5H 2R4
Canada (used), Great Britain (used), worldwide scouting (mint & used)

26170 Mr. Louis G. Charest
181 E. Rock Ridge Drive
Woonsocket, RI 02895 USA

26171 Dr. Rehan Malik
Suite 24, Carol Lake Shopping Centre
Labrador City, NF A2V 1L1
Newfoundland, Canada

26172 M. Gilbert Gintz
10b rue Saint Urbain
Strasbourg, France 67100
Mint & used: Canada, USA, Brazil, Argentina, Namibia, S. Africa, Greece, GB, Australia, UN, France

26173 Mr. Tony DeSouza
270 Timberbank Blvd., TH 29
Agincourt, ON M1W 2M1
Canada, GB, Commonwealth countries

26174 M. Michel Boileau
Canada

26175 Mr. William Wightman
USA, Canada, British Colonial

26176 M. Gilles Lussier
10145, rue Fabre
Montreal, QC H2C 3E1
Canada, USA, Western Europe

26177 Mr. R.R. Bruce MacLeod
3562 Broom Road
Qualicum, BC V9K 1V8
Canada, USA, Great Britain

26178 Mr, Reginald Jones
771 Strasburg Rd.
Kitchener, ON N2E 2H7
Canada

26179 Mr. Pierre Raymond
Canada, France, birds

26180 Mr. William A. Joa
Canada, USA, Russia

26181 Mr. Douglas B. Buss
Worldwide used

26182 Mr. Murray Dorning
680 Desaulniers Blvd., #7
St. Lambert, QC J4P 1P6
Canada, GB and Commonwealth, esp. Hong Kong

26183 M. Guy L. Denoncourt
4423 Monarque St.
Rock Forest, QC J1N 1W2

Canada (mint)

26184 Mr. Michael James
Canada, Commonwealth, USA mint & used

26185 Mr. Fred W. Gibson
P.O. Box 7217, Station M
Edmonton, AB T5E 6C8
Canada

26186 Mr. Ronald Melanson
1595 Maria Ave.
Bathurst, NB E2A 3G5
Canada

26187 Mr. Jerry Foster
87 Decond Rd. E.
Stoney Creek, ON L8G 3H9
Canada, USA, UN

26188 Dr. Michael G. Baird
57 Hackett St.
Ottawa, ON K1V 0P6

26189 M. Dany Morin

26190 Mr. John De Jong
R R 1
Smithville, ON L0R 2A0
Canada, World

26191 Mrs. Heather Woolford
108 Tumbleweed Cres.
London, ON N6E 2N8
Beginner

26192 Mr. Victor Foley
499 Victoria Ave.
Belleville, ON K8N 2G4
Canada, GB, Australia, New Zealand, USA

26193 Mr. William Kinrade
Canada

26194 Mme. Jacqueline Charlebois
5333 Sherbrooke Est, App. 220 B
Montreal, QC H1T 4B6
Canada

26195 Mr. David Conrod
3995 Forrest St., Box 656
Shawville, QC J0X 2Y0
BNA, UN, USA

26196 Mr. J. Alex Hadden
303 - 8391 Bennett Rd.
Richmond, BC V6Y 1N4
Scouts, Canada, Australia, New Zealand

26197 Mr. Rick Westgarth
73 Shadybrook Cres.
Guelph, ON N1G 3H6
Worldwide

26198 Mr. Pat O'Toole
867 Lolo Street
Kamloops, BC V2B 5N7
Canada, USA

26199 Mr. Dale B. Kenney
P.O. Box 68055
7750 Ranchview Dr. N.W.
Calgary, AB T3G 3N8
Canada, Newfoundland, Can. provinces

26200 Mr. Eugene S. Stanislavsky
Russia, Finland, Canada, USA

26201 Mrs. Lauretta Halfyard
British Commonwealth, Canada

26202 Mr. Erwin Jaumann
P.O. Box 7606
Gaithersburg, MD 20898-7606 USA
19th & early 20th century Canada & prov.

26203 Mr. Keith Flowers
Machin British booklets

26204 Mr. Joseph Camille
R R 5, Site 1088, Comp. A-5
Kelowna, BC V1X 4K4

26205 Mr. Norman Keene
272 Mountain
Chateauguay, QC J6J 4B4
Canada, USA

26206 Mr. Douglas E. Palmer
RR 2
Consecon, ON K0K 1T0
Mainly Canada; worldwide also

26207 Dr. Arnold Carter
Canada, USA, Great Britain and colonies

26208 Miss Jody Raffensperger
568 Tara Hill Cir.
Aurora, ON L4G 6G9
General

26209 Mr. Robert S. Cawthorn
The Current
N. Eleothera, BAHAMAS
Canada, m/s plate blocks

26210 Mr. David Guy
17 Orchard Green
Red Deer, AB T4N 5B6
Canada and provinces

26211 Mr. Murray Emmons
2880 Holborn Rd. E., R R 2
Queensville, ON L0G 1R0
BNA, Great Britain, New Zealand, Australia

26212 M. Gilles Morin
Canada, France

26213 Mr. Raymond Quintal
Canada

26214 Mme. Annette Pelletier
108, ave. Confederation
Fredericton, NB E3C 1E5

26215 Mr. Tom Fitzpatrick
839 Clifton St.
Winnipeg, MB R3G 2X9
North America, Europe

26216 Mr. Tim Galway
Mint Canadian

26217 Mme. Patricia Lavoie

26218 Mr. Ted Groumoutis
Canada

26219 M. Leo Lisi
Canada

26220 Dr. Mario D. Kurchan
Quimico F.F. de Amador 1604
1636 Olivos, DC1A 88AX

Argentina
Argentine postal stationery, postal history, classical stamps of the world

26221 Mr. Oswald Andrade
P.O. Box 1784
Hoboken, NJ 07030 USA

26222 Mr. Fred W. Gobi
R R 4
Norwood, ON K0L 2V0
Newfoundland, Canada & provinces, Australia

RESIGNATIONS - DÉMISSIONS

BATSFORD, Stanley M. (20221) Sillery, QC
FONTAINE, Roger Y. (25445) Winnipeg, MB
HUTCHINSON, Gordon C. (22655) North York, ON
IP, Robert (25677) Vancouver, BC
JOHNSON, Ken R. (22310) Gloucester, ON
KIRK, Andrew (25893) Saskatoon, SK
MacKINNON, James A. (24702) Courtenay, BC
MARCHANT, Vernon L. (26041) Glenburnie, ON
MILLER, Nancy E. (25833) Toronto, ON
PHILLIPS, Dr. Clayton (24397) Campbell River, BC
PUTNAM, Richard D. (25362) Granville, OH USA
RODGERS, Raymond (15880) Long Beach, CA USA
WILDE, Craig D. (25749) Thunder Bay, ON

DECEASED - NÉCROLOGIE

GILMARTIN, Leo J. (25739) San Antonio, TX USA
HOWARD, Gordon (20418) Victoria, BC
ROSS, George A. (6430) London, ON

DROPPED FOR NON-PAYMENT OF MEMBERSHIP DUES

AARON, Robert B. (26026) Toronto, ON
ADAMS, Keith H. (22863) Crossfield, AB
BADIANI, Ketan (23888) Winnipeg, MB
CARCARY, James R. (24880) Willowdale, ON
DANN, Lauren E. (21795) Mission Viejo, CA USA
DATZ, Marvin (12280) Brooklyn, NY USA
DAVIS, Isaac E. (24760) Port aux Basques, NF
DEAN, Alan (22232) Pte. Claire-Dorval, QC
DENEAULT, Real (25630) Lachute, QC
DOMINIE, Walter (25578) Deer Lake, NF
EVANS, Philip J. (25606) Fort McMurray, AB
FAIRBAIRN, John D. (25458) Fonthill, ON
FINBOW, Robert (26033) Halifax, NS
FISK, Arnold (25623) Richmond, BC
FITZSIMMONS, Mark J. (25681) Whitby, ON
FLECK, Doris (23915) Shelburne, ON
FRANCIS, William D. (20939) Conroe, TX USA
FRENCH, Doug C. (25288) Hill Spring, AB
FRIESEN, Bonnie J. (24525) Erps-Kwerps, BELGIUM
GILLESPIE, Deborah (22753) Winnipeg, MB
GODERE, Stephanie (22850) Quebec, QC
GOULET, Jean (25867) Gatineau, QC
GOYER, Richard (22716) Lasalle, QC
GRAF, Charles F. (24889) Clearwater, FL USA
HALL, John B. (22260) Stroud, ON
HAMILTON, Ian D. (22864) Saint John, NB
HODGSON, Dr. Murray (19964) Pincher Creek, AB
JEAN, Frank A. (23070) Fredericton, NB
JOHNSTON, C. Wesley (19476) Calgary, AB
JOYNER, Gordon N. (21901) Salt Spring Island, BC
KLUG, LEO (24559) Willowdale, ON
LAPKOFF, Irving (25868) Lantier, QC
LUVIANO, John J. (25731) Vero Beach, FL USA
MacDONALD, Peter J. (26029) Toronto, ON
OLSEN, Patrick D. (20073) Whitehorse, YT
PARENT, Gilbert (24871) Sept-Iles, QC
PEARSON, Heather D. (25475) Waterloo, ON
PEDERSEN, Kris E. (25455) Calgary, AB
PEHLKE HOOVER, Sandra (25904) Atwood, ON
PEREIRA, Joseph (24881) Montreal, QC
PETERS, Bernie (24563) Chilliwack, BC
PHILATELISTISCHE BIBLIOTHEK (10257), Munchen, GERMANY
PICOTIN, Real (25899) Grantham, QC
PIKE, Wayne A. (23896) Brampton, ON
RICHARDS, K.G. (24734) Agincourt, ON
RODRIGUEZ, Armando (24734) Hialeah, FL USA
ROY, Claude (25593) Plessisville, QC
SCHATZ, Brian A. (25286) Young, SK
SCHMIDT, Brent (24461) Greenwood, BC
SEMLER, Peter H. (22000) Oakville, ON
SMELTZER, James G. (25676) Calgary, AB
SOUCY, Renald (25635) Fermont, QC
STAECKER, Dick (23921) London, ON
STERN, Henri (22647) Toronto, ON
SUTHERLAND, R. Edward (26016) Utterson, ON
THOMSON, Brian J. (24826) Saskatoon, SK
TOURTELLOT, Daniel (26025) Clifton Park, NY USA
TURNBULL, Gordon W. (24558) Winnipeg, MB
WEY, John (25906) Toronto, ON
WILLIAMS, Charles (25423) Minneapolis, MN USA
WODZINSKI, Stefan (25864) Scarborough, ON
WOOD, Hugh W. (25741) New York, NY USA
ZINN, Paul W. (22710) Lucknow, ON

CHANGE OF ADDRESS - CHANGEMENTS D'ADRESSE

BAKER, Rowan S. (23730) 28 Bedfordbury, Covent Garden, London, ENGLAND WC2N 4RB
BLASCHECK, Dudley (8767) 8166 Woodwyn Terrace, Saanichton, BC V8M 1S2
BRIERE, Gilles (23098) 3333 Boul. Gouin Est, #005, Montreal-Nord, QC H1H 5N1
BURTON, Robert L. (8191) P.O. Box 1037, Greenwood, NS B0P 1N0
CAYA, Jacques (23784) 753 - 36ieme Ave., Lachine, QC H8T 3L2
CHARTIER, Kim (26030) 36 Devonshire Drive, Winnipeg, MB R2C 4K7
CLERMONT, Gilbert (22913) 318 - 1551 Riverside Dr., Ottawa, ON K1G 4B5
DELTA STAMP CLUB (CH-138) Secretary, 1030 Bayview Drive, Delta, BC V4K 1V2
DeWOLF, Thomas C. (25813) 97 BIS, rue des Côtes, Maisons Laffitte, FRANCE 788600
FERRIER, Bernard (26058) 221, rue Pierre-Chasseur, Ste-Rose, QC H7L 4A3
FOSTER, James Q. (23562) 11 Sandy Haven Dr., Scarborough, ON M1W 3H8
FRAZER, Mark (14024) 6093 Vineyard Dr., Orleans, ON K1C 2H7
GOSS, James W. (20130) 398 Rivard, Grossepointe, MI 48230 USA
HANSEN, James F. (11118) 117 Village Rd., Bradford, NH 03221 USA
HARPELL, Rev. Ralph S. (24502) 59 Harpellville Rd., Box 2, Comp. 4, R R 2, Sherbrooke, NS B0J 3C0
INGLES, C.L. (8711) P.O. Box 285, Metcalfe, ON K0A 2P0
JAEHNIG, Virginia A. (9892) 6 N. Bogey Dr., Jesup, GA 31545 USA
KUNIMOTO, Jodene M. (22283) 104 Deer Ridge Lane S.E., Calgary, AB T2J 6N4
LeBLANC, Donald (25374) 163 Grande Allee, Caraquet, NB E1W 1A5
LIMBERGER, Harald (15438) 226 Rebecca Street #209, Hamilton, ON L8R 1C3
MARRION, Herbert J. (11431) 983 Waverley Terrace, Brentwood Bay, BC V8M 1H8
McINTYRE, Lillian (23448) P.O. Box 811, Route 1, Bayfield, ON N0M 1G0
PAULSON, Dennis J. (23010) 25391 Via Piedra Blanca, Laguna Niguel, CA 92677-1816 USA
PENG, Wei Ming (26036) 555 N. Roop St. #17, Susanville, CA 96130 USA
RIVEST, Pierre (24465) 2180 de la Visitation, Montreal, QC H2L 3C7
RODAK, Daniel G. (16099) 172 Pepperridge Dr., Rochester, NY 14626 USA
SCHUNK, Dr. H.K. (6703) 6039 Kingston Road, West Hill, ON M1C 1K5
SETON, Warren J. (20204) 4 Cox Ave., Chatham, ON N7L 2E3
SOTNICK, Lewis Robert (13493) 26662 Somerly, Mission Viejo, CA 92692-4188 USA
STEVENS, Diane (10875) Burns Road, R R 2, Godfrey, ON K0H 1T0
TAYLOR, Florence G. (20805) 4015 - 13th St., Jordan Station, ON L0R 1S0
THOMPSON, Richard F. (25971) 115 de la Gauchetiere Ouest #116, Montreal, QC H2Z 1Y2
TURNER, Mary (8664) #308 - 220 Island Hwy. W., Parksville, BC V9P 2P3
VAN STADEN, John , Jr. (24277) 4607 - 26 Avenue N.E., Calgary, AB T1Y 2R9
WHEATLAND, Sandra (15420) 13 - 1012 Ranchlands Blvd. N.W., Calgary, AB T3G 1Y1
WHITE, Dr. Richard S. (26024) MTS Systems Corp.,14000 Technology Dr., Eden Prairie, MN 55344-2290 USA

– Notice to RPSC Members –
NOMINATIONS FOR DIRECTORS

A call for nominations of Directors of the Royal Philatelic Society of Canada is hereby set forth. Eight (8) Directors will be elected at the annual meeting to be held in Quebec City, Quebec at Royal '95 Royale on May 27, 1995.

Nominations must be in writing and be made and seconded by 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 National Office in Toronto or by the President by February 20, 1995. 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 1995 issue of *The Canadian Philatelist*, along with a short biography of each nominee.

Exchanges Wanted / Demandes d'échange

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. Please note that we have no way of checking the credentials of the individuals who write to us asking that their names be published; therefore, we urge that caution be taken when answering these requests.

La Société royale de philatélie du Canada ne s'occupe pas normalement des échanges entre philatélistes, mais comme elle est la société philatélique nationale du Canada, ou lui transmet de nombreuses demandes de philatélistes désireux de trouver des corrspondants pour échanger des timbres. Ainsi a-t-elle décideé, pour rendre service à ses membres, de publier les noms intéressés d'outremer, afin que ceux qui désirent établir des rapports avec eux puissent la 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.

Joaquin Azcanio Avila
P.O. Box 42
Varadero 42200
Matanzas, Cuba
"My interests are mint complete sets, maxicards and FDCs related to the topics of Fauna, Flora, Sports, and Transportation. I would like to receive those materials from Canada and western Europe countries. I offer philatelic materials from Cuba, Ecuador, Argentina, Venezuela, Brazil, and the nations of Asia and Africa. Also I am able to offer materials from eastern Europe. Will exchange by catalogue value (Yvert, Scott, Michel) or by agreement."

Ramesh Shrestha
P.O. Box 2060
Kathmandu, Nepal
"I am secretary of the Nepal Philatelic Society, a member organization of the FIP. I would like to exchange, buy and sell stamps, covers, cards, etc. I am also interested in friendly correspondence with collectors having similar interests.

Ugo Pegolo
via Molini, 44
33084 Cordenons (PN),
Italy
"I collect stamps from Italy and San Marino. Particularly, I prefer all the material about mountains. Therefore, I am interested in cancelled stamps, cancels, special cancellations, first day envelopes, old postcards, with views of mountains or cabins or climbers, and so on."

Froilán Gutiérrez
P. O. Box 34036
Habana 34
13400 CUBA
"I'm a Cuban philatelist very interested in contact with people of Canada for stamps exchange. I'm a serious collector, and a member of the Cuban Philatelic Federation. I hope to obtain some new friends."

Jacques Bot
Laan van de Helende Meesters 245
1186 AH Amstelveen
NETHERLANDS
Mr. Bot is a specialized aerophilately collector. He wishes to obtain information about Canadian First Flights of the 1920s and 1930s, particularly information about the aircraft used. He is most interested in the use of Fokker aircraft employed in Canada commercially and for first flights on airmail routes. He is building a specialized thematic collection on Anthony Fokker and his aircraft, and is starting a collecion of covers flown exclusively on Fokker aircraft.



COMING EVENTS / CALENDRIER

NATIONAL EXHIBITIONS - EXPOSITIONS NATIONALES

1995

MAY 6 - 7: ORAPEX '95, at RA Centre, 2451 Riverside Dr., Ottawa, Ont. Canada's Third National Philatelic Literature Show will be held in connection with the show. Information and entry forms: Paul Burega, 16 Aldgate Cres., Nepean, Ont. K2J 2G4; (613) 825-8105.

MAY 26 - 28: ROYAL 1995 ROYALE, at Quebec City. Further details to be announced.

JUNE 2 - 4: PIPEX '95, annual exhibition and bourse of the Northwest Federation of Stamp Clubs, at the Holiday Inn, 3020 Blanshard Street, Victoria, BC. Admission by donation. Show cachet and cancel; 20 dealers; banquet. Entry fee: $7.50 per 15-page frame, junior 6-page frames $1.00 per exhibit. Information: Don Shorting, PIPEX Chairman, Box 5164, Stn. B, Victoria, BC V8R 6N4.

JUNE 16 - 18: STAMPEX '95, at Metro Toronto Convention Centre, 255 Front Street West, Toronto. Information: STAMPEX, box 204, Stn. Q, Toronto, ON M4T 2M1.

1994

NOVEMBER 5 & 6: VANPEX '94, exhibition and bourse sponsored by the British Columbia Philatelic Society, at the Sheraton Landmark, 1400 Robson Street, Vancouver, B.C. Information: Ron Koop, 3604 Oxford Street, Vancouver, BC V5K 1P3.

1995

JANUARY 7: STONEY CREEK STAMP CLUB SHOW, at Fiesta Mall, Stoney Creek (Hwy 8 at Gray's Road). 9:30 am to 4:30 pm.

JANUARY 20 - 21: ST. CATHARINES STAMP CLUB SHOW, at Fairview Mall, St. Catherines (Lake St. Exit off QEW). Hours: Friday 1-9, Saturday 9-5.

FEBRUARY 11: BURLPEX '95, the 14th annual exhibition and dealer bourse sponsored by the Burlington Stamp Club, at the Appleby Mall (corner of Appleby Line and New St., Burlington). 9:30 am to 5:30 pm. Information: Frank Haller, 430 Belvenia Road, Burlington, ON L7L 2G6.

FEBRUARY 18 & 19: NIPEX 95, Exhibition and bourse sponsored by the Niagara Philatelic Society, at the Stamford Lions Club Hall, 3846 Portage Road, Niagara Falls, Ontario. 10 am to 5 pm. Information: Ed Yonelinas, R R 1, Niagara-on-the-Lake, ON L0S 1J0.

FEBRUARY 18 - 19: VICTOPICAL 1995, at the Holiday Inn, 3020 Blanshard St., Victoria, BC. Exhibition and bourse sponsored by the Greater Victoria Philatelic Society, the Vancouver Island Philatelic Society and the Victoria Junior Stamp Club. Admission by donation. Show cancel; numerous door prizes. Entry fee: $5.00 per 15-page frame; $1.00 per junior exhibit. Information: Don Shorting, Box 5164, Stn. B, Victoria, BC V8R 6N4; (6040 721-1940.

MARCH 4: MILTON STAMP FAIR, hosted by the Milton Stamp Club, at Milton Seniors Activity Centre (formerly the Halton Centennial Manor), Milton, ON; 10 am to 5 pm.

MARCH 31, APRIL 1, 2: CANADA STAMP DEALER'S ASSOCIATION SHOW, at Place Bonaventure, Montreal. Friday 11-8, Saturday 10-6, Sunday 10-5. Admission Free.

MARCH 18: OXPEX '95 and OTEX '95, annual show of the Oxford Philatelic Society combined with the all-Ontario topical exhibition, at John Knox Christian School, 800 Juliana Drive (near the junction of Hwy 401 and Hwy 59). Hours: 10-5. Free parking and admission, 16 dealers, competitive exhibition (up to 180 frames), judging critique, youth booth, prize draws, special displays, refreshments. Information and entry forms: Gib Stephens, Box 20113, Woodstock Centre Post Office, Woodstock, ON N4S 8X8.

MARCH 18 - 19: NORTH TORONTO STAMP CLUB'S 52nd Annual Exhibition and Bourse, at the Civic Garden, Edwards Gardens, 777 Lawrence Ave. E. (at Leslie), Toronto. Satur-

day 10-6; Sunday 10-5. Ample parking and free admission. Information: Ben Marier, 30 Leaf Willoway, North York, ON M2J 2B3; (416) 492-9311.

APRIL 7 - 9: CANADA STAMP DEALER'S ASSOCIATION SHOW, at Queen Elizabeth Building, Exhibition Place, Toronto. Hours: Friday 10-7, Saturday 10-6, Sunday 10-6. Admission Free.

APRIL 7 - 9: LAKESHORE STAMP CLUB'S 32nd annual exhibition, at the Sarto Desnoyer Centre, Dorval, Quebec. Entry forms must be received by Feb. 16. Information: Elmer Cleary, Box 1, Pointe-Claire, Quebec H9R 4N5.

APRIL 8: STAMP FEST '95, annual exhibition of the Kitchener-Waterloo Philatelic Society, at the Albert McCormick Arena, Parkside Drive, Waterloo, Ont. 10 am to 4 pm. Information: Betty Martin, Box 43007, Eastwood Square P.O., Kitchener, ON N2H 6S9; (519) 578-7782.

NOVEMBER 17 - 19: CANADA STAMP DEALER'S ASSOCIATION SHOW, at Queen Elizabeth Building, Exhibition Place, Toronto. Hours: Friday 10-7, Saturday 10-6, Sunday 10-6. Admission Free.

NOVEMBER 24 - 26: CANADA STAMP DEALER'S ASSOCIATION SHOW, at Place Bonaventure, Montreal. Hours: Friday 11-8, Saturday 10-6, Sunday 10-5. Admission Free.

International Exhibitions

1995

MAY 10-15: FINLANDIA '95, an FIP sanctioned specialized world exhibition of philately celebrating the 150th anniversary of the first Finnish Postal Stationery. Limited to Postal History and Postal Stationery. Canadian Commissioner: K. Salonen, Box 421, Port Carling, ON P0B 1J0.

AUG. 19-25: JAKARTA '95, 8th Asian International Exhibition. Sponsored by the Federation of Inter-Asian Philatelic Societies (FIAP), in Jakarta, Indonesia. Open to FIAP member countries.

SEPT. 1-10: SINGAPORE '95, at the Singapore International Convention and Exhibition Centre. Organized by the Association of Singapore Philatelists. Canadian Commissioner: W. G. Robinson, 5830 Cartier St., Vancouver, BC V8T 3A7.

1996

MAR. 21-30: INDONESIA '96, An FIP sanctioned World Youth Philatelic Exhibition, at Bandung, Indonesia.

JUNE 8-16: CAPEX '96, an FIP WORLD PHILATELIC EXHIBITION, at the Metropolitan Convention Centre, Toronto, Ontario. Prospectus, trade brochure and Bulletin #1 now available. Information: CAPEX '96, Box 204, Station Q, Toronto, ON M4T 2M1; tel: (416) 482-1996; fax (416) 482-8182. Commissioner for Canadian exhibitors: R.K. Malott, 16 Harwick Cres., Nepean, ON K2H 6R1.

JULY 19 - AUG. 3: OLYMPHILEX, in Atlanta. Specialized Olympic & sports philately.

SEPTEMBER: EXPOPHILEX, Budapest.

SEPT. 27 - OCT. 6: ISTANBUL '96, FIP sponsored international exhibition in Istanbul, Turkey. Canadian Commissioner: James E. Kraemer, 17 Commanche Dr., Ottawa, ON K2E 6E8.

OCT. 12-20: ESPAMER '96, an FIP sanctioned exhibition held in conjunction with Aviacian y Espanio, in Seville, Spain. Open to collectors in Portugal, Spain, and American countries.

OCTOBER - NOVEMBER: ATHINA '96, Athens, Greece.

1997

APR. 11-20: NORWEX '97, Oslo, Norway, featuring aerophilately, postal history, and thematics.

MAY 29 - JUNE 8: PACIFIC '97, an FIP WORLD PHILATELIC EXHIBITION, in San Francisco. Canadian Commissioner: Mr. Clifford R. Guile, 342 St. Clair Ave. E., Toronto, ON M4T 1P4.

SEPTEMBER: MOSCOW '97, Russia.

The names and addresses of Canadian commissioners to FIP sanctioned exhibitions will be published when they are available.

CHAPTER MEETINGS / RÉUNIONS DES CLUBS MEMBRES

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 and Bayly, Ajax, from 7 to 10 pm. All visitors welcome, especially junior collectors. Address: P.O. Box 107, Ajax ON L1S 3C3.

AMICALE des PHILATÉLISTES des l'OUTAOUAIS

R.P.S.C. Chapter 190 meets every Thursday, September to April in the basement of the Saint Benoit Church, 170 Sherbrooke St., Hull, Qué. Visitors welcome. Information: Paul Sarualt, 82 rue Kent, Hull QC J8X 3K4.

CLUB PHILATÉLIQUE ARGENTEUIL STAMP CLUB

Chapter 118 meets 2nd Wednesdays of each month (except July and August) at 7:30 pm. Bilingual and bi-province meetings in Hawkesbury ON and Lachute PQ. Information: Yves Lemay, 452 Cécile, Hawkesbury ON K6A 1N9; phone (613) 632-3779.

BARRIE DISTRICT STAMP CLUB

R.P.S.C. Chapter 73 meets second Wednesday of each month except July and August at 7:30 pm. at Parkview Centre, 189 Blake St., Barrie. Table Auction at every meeting. Visitors welcome. Contact: Sec.-Treas. Lew Metzger, P.O. Box 1113, Barrie ON L4M 5E2.

BRAMALEA STAMP CLUB

R.P.S.C. Chapter 144 meets 1st Sunday October to June inclusive (1:30-4:00 pm) and 3rd Tuesday year round (7:30-9:30 pm), September to June at Terry Miller Recreation Complex, Meeting Room 2, Williams Parkway (between Dixie Rd. and Bramalea Rd.) Bramalea, Ont. Visitors welcome. Correspondence: Bramalea Stamp Club, 74 Glenmore Cres., Bramalea ON L6S 1H8.

BRANTFORD STAMP CLUB

R.P.S.C. Chapter 1 meets on the 1st and 3rd Tuesdays of the month, September to May inclusive, and the first Tuesday in June, at the Woodman Community Centre, 491 Grey St., Brantford, Ont. Doors open at 7pm, short business meeting at 8pm, followed by a program. Circuit books available; 5 dealers. Visitors always welcome. Information: Secretary, Box 25003, 119 Colborne St. W., Brantford ON N3T 6K5. Phone (519) 753-9425.

BRITISH COLUMBIA PHILATELIC SOCIETY

The British Columbia Philatelic Society meets every Wednesday, September to June at 7:30 pm in the Amenity Room, Grosvenor Building, 1040 W. Georgia St. B.C.P.S., 3604 Oxford St., Vancouver BC V5K 1P3.

CALGARY PHILATELIC SOCIETY

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

CANADIAN AEROPHILATELIC SOCIETY

The Canadian Aerophilatelic Society (CAS) welcomes as a member anyone interested in aerophilately or astrophilately, worldwide. Yearly membership is $10 Cdn. No formal meetings; several members meet regularly at the weekly RA Stamp Club meetings at the RA Centre, 2451 Riverside Dr., Ottawa, Ont. 7:30 pm every Monday except June, July and August. Information: Ron Miyanishi, 124 Gamble Ave., Toronto ON M4J 2P3.

CANADIAN FORCES PHILATELIC SOCIETY

R.P.S.C. Chapter 139 meets twice per month, September to June, on the 1st and 3rd Wednesdays of each month at 7:30 pm at the Dempsey Community Centre, 1895 Russell Road, Ottawa. Write to: Secretary, C.F.P.S., Box 46006, Beacon Hill Postal Outlet, 2339 Ogilvie Rd., Gloucester, ON K1J 9M7.

COLBORNE STAMP CLUB

R.P.S.C. Chapter 205 meets on the second and fourth Tuesday September to May inclusive at 7 pm, in the Drop-in Centre, Victoria Square, Colborne, Ont. All stamp collectors are welcome. Information: Mary Jackson, Box 33, Castleton, Ont. K0K 1M0, phone (905)344-7882.

COLUMBIA PHILATELIC SOCIETY

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

CREDIT VALLEY PHILATELIC SOCIETY - MISSISSAUGA -

Chapter 67 meets 2nd and 4th Monday of every month (except on holidays and in July and August)

Forest Avenue Public School, 20 Forest Ave., Port Credit. Visitors always welcome. Contact E.A. Read, (416) 278-4716.

DELTA STAMP CLUB

Chapter 138 meets 2nd and 4th Tuesdays (except June/August). Visitors always welcome. Information: Bill Heather, 325-54th St., Delta BC V4M 3G6, phone (604) 943-5303.

EAST TORONTO STAMP CLUB

Meets 1st and 3rd Wednesdays of each month (except July and August) at Stan Wadlow Clubhouse, Cedarvale Ave. first east of Woodbine Ave., at Cosburn, north of arena. Visitors always welcome. Sec.: Raymond Reakes, 188 Woodmount Ave., Toronto ON M4 3Z4.

EDMONTON STAMP CLUB

Touring stampers, new members and guests are welcome to visit Edmonton's R.P.S.C. Chapter 6. Meetings 2nd Mondays, September through July, 7 pm, at St. Joseph High School, 4th floor cafeteria, 109 St. and 108 Ave. Correspondence: Edmonton Stamp Club, Box 399, Edmonton AB T5J 2J6. Phone 437-1787.

ESSEX COUNTY STAMP CLUB (WINDSOR)

R.P.S.C. Chapter 154 meets on the 2nd and 4th Wednesday of the month (4th Wednesday in July and August) at the Knights of Columbus Hall, 1140 Goyeau St., Windsor, Ont. (just south of Giles Blvd.). Meetings start at 7 pm, program at 8 pm. Lots of parking and all visitors are welcome. Information: President, Essex Count Stamp Club, 356 Genevieve, Windsor ON N8S 3V6.

ETOBICOKE PHILATELIC SOCIETY

R.P.S.C. Chapter 78 meets at Fairfield Centre, 80 Lothian Way, Etobicoke at 7:30 pm, 1st Wednesday of every month except July and August. Visitors always welcome. Information: C.E. Allen, 5 Aintree Court, Etobicoke ON M8W 2E1. Phone 251-3425.

FENELON STAMP CLUB

R.P.S.C. Chapter 176 meets 2nd Monday of each month in the Fenelon Falls Community Hall behind the Village Office on Market Street at 7:30 pm. Visitors always welcome. Information from the President: Margaret Allen, R R 1, Fenelon Falls, ON K0M 21N0.

HAMILTON PHILATELIC SOCIETY

R.P.S.C. Chapter 51 welcomes all visitors to our meetings on 2nd and 4th Mondays, September to June except holiday Mondays. Meetings at Bishop Ryan High School on Quigley Road in Hamilton's east end. We consistently have a bourse of 12 dealers in addition to our sales circuit, library, auction, slide show or speaker and door prizes. Refreshments are provided; there is a nominal door fee. Information: Paul Trudel, Box 6510, 673 Upper James St., Hamilton ON L9C 7N7.

KAWARTHA PHILATELIC SOCIETY

R.P.S.C. Chapter 58 meets 2nd and 4th Tuesdays of each month September through June (except 4th Tuesdays in December and June), 7 pm at Prince of Wales School Library, corner of Monaghan Road and Sherbrooke Street, Peterborough, Ont. Information: Lloyd Mosher, Box 2222, Peterborough ON K9J 7Y4.

KELOWNA & DISTRICT STAMP CLUB

Chapter 90 meets monthly, 2nd Wednesdays, September to June from 7 - 10 pm at the Kelowna Secondary School Cafeteria, 575 Harvey Avenue, Kelowna. Business meeting at 8 pm, followed by an auction. Visitors are always welcome. Information: P.O. Box 1185, Kelowna, BC V1Y 7P8.

KENT COUNTY STAMP CLUB (CHATHAM, ONT.)

Chapter 7 meets 4th Wednesday of each month (except July, August and December) in the cafeteria of John McGregor Secondary School, 300 Cecile at 7:30 pm. Visitors always welcome. Sec.: Abie Heersma, 73 Jasper, Chatham ON N7M 4C1.

KINGSTON STAMP CLUB

Meets 2nd and 4th Monday, September to April and 2nd Monday in May, 7pm, at St. Paul's Anglican Church Hall, corner of Queen and Montreal Streets, Kingston Ont. Information: President, Kingston Stamp Club, 1960 Highway 2 East, Kingston ON K7L 4V1; (613) 546-3332.

KITCHENER-WATERLOO PHILATELIC SOCIETY

Chapter 13 meets 2nd Thursday every month (except July and August) at Rink in the Park, Seagram Drive, Waterloo. Visitors welcome. Information: Betty J. Martin, P.O. Box 43007, Eastwood Square Post Office, Kitchener ON N2H 6S9; 578-7782.

LAKEHEAD STAMP CLUB

Chapter 33 meets 2nd Wednesday and last Friday

each month from September to June at the Herb Carroll Centre, 1100 Lincoln St., Thunder Bay ON. Meetings start at 8:00; visitors welcome. Sec.: Ms. Daryl Lein, #5 230 North Brodie Street, Thunder Bay ON P7C 3S5.

LAKESHORE STAMP CLUB

Chapter 84 meets at Lindsay Place School, Broadview Ave., Pointe Claire, Quebec, on 2nd and 4th Thursdays, September to June at 7:30 pm. Pres.: David Nickson, Box 1, Pointe Claire PQ H9R 4N5.

MILTON STAMP CLUB

Chapter 180 meets last Monday of each month (except December), from 7:00 pm at Hugh Foster Hall (next to Town Hall) in Milton, Ont. Silent auction every meeting. Information: Milton Stamp Club, 425 Valleyview Cres., Box 203, Milton ON L9T 3K9; Phone (905) 878-1533 or (905) 878-9076.

NORTH BAY & DISTRICT STAMP CLUB

Chapter 44 meets on the 2nd and 4th Tuesday of each month, September to May, at the Cassellholme Home for the Aged, 400 Olive St., North Bay ON at 7 pm. (Basement meeting room.) Table auction and sales circuit. Visitors are welcome. Information: John Fret-well, RR 1, Callandar ON P0H 1H0; phone (705) 752-1364.

NORTH TORONTO STAMP CLUB

Chapter 5 welcomes all visitors to its meetings on the 2nd and 4th Thursdays of each month (except July and August) at 7:30 pm in the Civic Garden Centre, Edwards Gardens, Lawrence Ave. E. at Leslie (southwest corner) Toronto. Table auction, sales circuit and informative lectures. Sec.: Roger Slute, 5 Concord Place, Toronto ON M3C 3M8.

NORTH SHORE STAMP CLUB

Chapter 198 meets on alternate Tuesdays, September through June at Queen Mary School Library, 230 West Kith Road, North Vancouver BC. Visitors always welcome. Write to the President, 2500 Kilmarnock Crescent, North Vancouver BC V7J 2Z5. Current schedule and information: Herb Williams 984-6218 or John Wheeler 984-2744.

NORTH YORK PHILATELIC SOCIETY

Chapter 21 meets 1st and 3rd Wednesdays of each month (except July and August) at 7:00 pm. in the lounge of Centennial Arena, on the north side of Finch Ave. W., just west of Bathurst St. Sales circuit, auctions, interesting speakers and lectures. Visitors always welcome. Information: John DeGroot, Box 62, Willowdale ON M2N 5S7; (416) 493-1008.

NOVA SCOTIA STAMP CLUB

The first affiliate of the R.P.S.C., est. 1922, meets 2nd Tuesdays of each month, September to June at the Nova Scotia Museum. Visitors always welcome. Corresponding Secretary: D. Allen, Box 8541, Stn. A, Halifax NS B3K 5M3.

OAKVILLE STAMP CLUB

Chapter 135 meets 2nd and 4th Tuesdays of each month at 7:00 pm in the Cafeteria, St. Thomas Aquinas Secondary School (formerly Perdue High School), 124 Margaret Drive (Lakeshore West/ Dorval Drive), Oakville. Visitors welcome. Information: Oakville Stamp Club, Box 69643, Oakville ON L6J 7R4.

OTTAWA PHILATELIC SOCIETY

Chapter 16 meets every Thursday at 7:30 pm, September through May, at the Hintonburg Community Centre (Laurel Room), 1064 Wellington St., Ottawa ON. Visitors are always welcome. Information: Pres. George MacManus, Box 65085, Merivale Postal Outlet, Nepean ON K2G 5Y3.

OXFORD PHILATELIC SOCIETY

Chapter 65 meets on the first and third Thursdays of each month, September to May, at Woodstock Collegiate Institute Cafeteria, Riddell Street, Woodstock, Ont. Trading at 7 pm, program begins at 7:30 pm. Speakers, mini auctions, draw prizes, contests, dealers. Information: Gib Stephens, P.O. Box 20113, Woodstock ON N4S 8X8.

PENTICTON AND DISTRICT STAMP CLUB

Chapter 127 meets the first Sunday of each month at 2 pm at the United Church Hall, 696 Main St., Penticton. A short business meeting is followed by circuit books every month and four slide shows in the year. Visitors always welcome. Information: 217 Redwing Pl., Penticton BC V2A 8K6; phone (604) 493-0188.

LA SOCIÉTÉ PHILATÉLIQUE DE QUÉBEC

La S.P.Q. tient ses réunions régulières les premiers et troisièmes mercredi du Mois, au Montmartre canadien, 1671 chemin St-Louis, Sillery. Les réunions ont lieu de 19:00 heures à 22:00 heures.

R.A. STAMP CLUB - OTTAWA

Chapter 41 meets every Monday (except June, July and August) at 7:30 pm at the R.A. Centre, 2451

Riverside Dr., Ottawa ON. K1H 7X7. Visitors welcome. Information: (613) 733-5100.

REGINA PHILATELIC CLUB

Chapter 10 meets 1st and 3rd Wednesdays of each month, September through May, from 7 -10 pm at Sheldon-Williams Collegiate Library, 2601 Coronation St., Regina. Visitors are always welcome. Information: Box 1891, Regina SK S4P 3E1.

ROYAL CITY STAMP CLUB

Meets 1st and 3rd Thursdays (except July and August), 7:30 pm at Community Centre, 65 East Sixth Ave., by Canada Game Pool, northeast corner of Sixth and McBride, New Westminster BC. Information: Box 145, Milner BC V0X 1T0. Phone 534-1884.

SAINT JOHN STAMP CLUB

Meets 2nd and 4th Wedne`sdays (Except July and August), 7 pm at the Aitken Bicentennial Centre, 20 Hazen Ave., Saint John, NB. Visitors and new members welcome. Information: Saint John Stamp Club, 185 Princess Street, Saint John NB E2L 1K8.

ST. JOHN'S PHILATELIC SOCIETY

Meets 2nd and 4th Wednesdays (except July and August), 8 pm at Cabot Institute. Visitors welcome. Chairperson: J. Don Wilson, 11 Elm Pl., St. John's NF A1B 2S4, phone (709) 726-2741.

SUDBURY STAMP CLUB

Meets 2nd Tuesday of each month (except July and August) 7:30pm, in the library. Meetings include slide shows, presentations, and a stamp auction. New members are very welcome. Contact Dan McInnes, president, Box 2063, Stn. A, Sudbury ON P3A 1L8.

TORONTO HARMONIE STAMP CLUB

Chapter 94 meets every 3rd Thursday of the month, 7:30 pm at Victoria Park Secondary School, Library Seminar Room, 15 Wallingford Rd., Don Mills ON. Information: J. Doehler (416) 438-4862, or P. Mustard 690-9711.

UNION PHILATÉLIQUE de MONTREAL

Chapter 3 meets 2nd and 4th Tuesdays, September to June at 7 pm, 7110 8th Ave., Montreal (St-Michel) PQ. Visitors always welcome. Information: 9170 Millen St., Montreal PQ H2M 1W7.

WEST TORONTO STAMP CLUB

Chapter 14 meets 2nd and 4th Tuesdays (except July and August), 7:30 pm at Fairfield Seniors' Centre, 80 Lothian Avenue, Etobicoke. Visitors always welcome. Information: 331 Rathburn Rd., Islington ON M9B 2L9.

WESTMOUNT PHILATELIC CLUB

Chapter 17 meets 4th Monday of the month September to June (except December), 7:30 pm at the United Service Club, 1195 Sherbrooke St. W., Montreal. Visitors very welcome. Pres.: Bernie Margolis. Information: Robert Mirabelli, 9 Dobie Ave., Mt-Royal PQ H3P 1R9, phone (514) 735-0183.

WINNIPEG PHILATELIC SOCIETY

Meetings 1st and 3rd Thursdays (except July and August), 7:30 pm at Veterans Club Room, downstairs, C.N. Union Station, Main St. at Broadway, Box 1425, Winnipeg MBR3C 2Z1.Visitors always welcome.

YUKON STAMP CLUB

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