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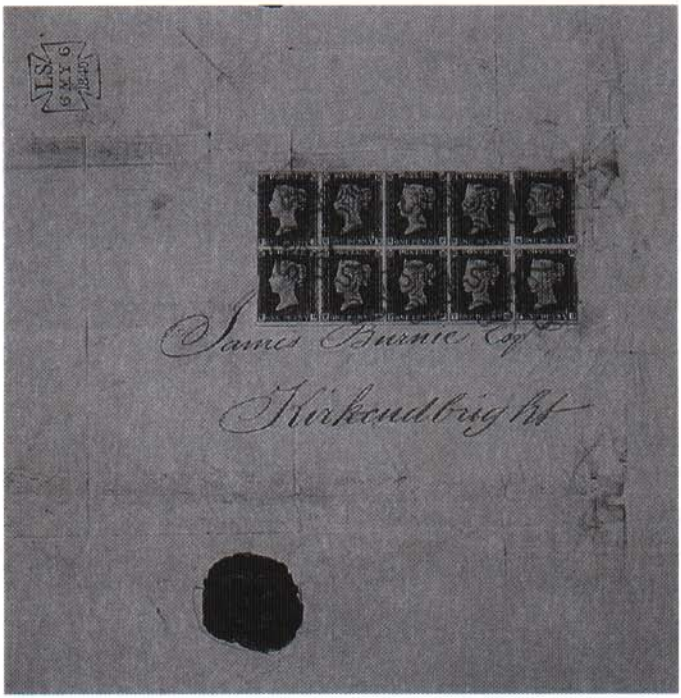
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VOL. 49 • NO.5 SEPT.-OCT. 1998 SEP.-OCT.

Journal of The ROYAL PHILATELIC SOCIETY OF CANADA

Revue de la SOCIÉTÉ ROYALE DE PHILATÉLIE DU CANADA



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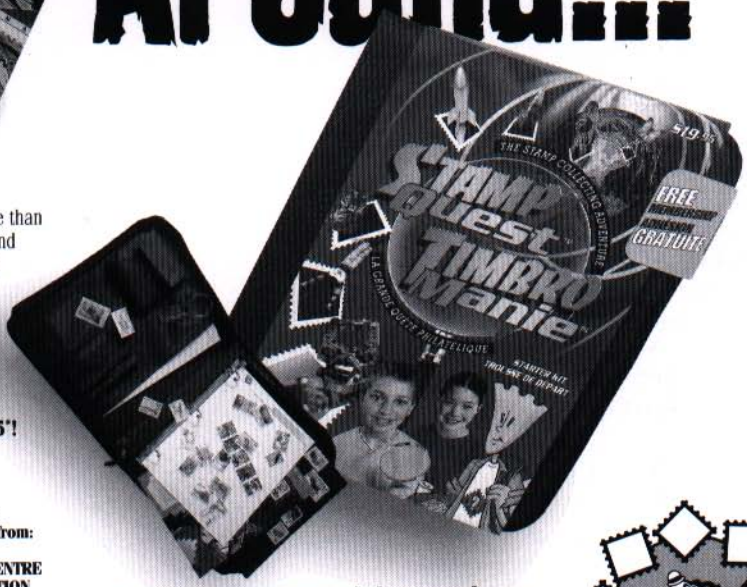


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The Canadian Philatelist
Le philatéliste canadien

Journal of The ROYAL PHILATELIC SOCIETY OF CANADA

Revue de la SOCIÉTÉ ROYALE DE PHILATÉLIE DU CANADA

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"Cover of Covers" – First stamp, first day of issue block of 10 auctioned by Stanley Gibbons in June for about $630,000 Cdn.

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From the Editor's Desk

by J.J. MacDonald

INTERNATIONAL SHOWS

The top body of world stamp collecting is the FIP (Fédération Internationale de Philatélie), which sanctions a number of large, international exhibitions throughout the world each year.

Everyone appears to be building for Expo2000 in London, but in 1999 there are certainly two that will be most interesting as well.

The first is in Melbourne, Australia, from March 19 to 24. It will have many new features including tributes to the Heritage of Australia; for example, the trade stands will be built in the form of ships, and a giant pirate ship will be built to entertain the children.

Of special interest will be an experimental class for exhibits called 'Social Philately'. This class permits much more material directly related to the post office or postal services, in addition to the stamps and covers, information from John MacDonnell, PO Box 720, Croyden, V1C 3I36.

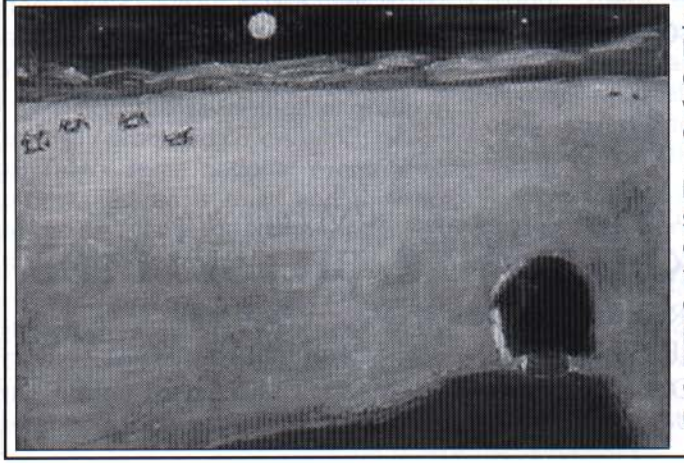
One week later the German show will be held in Nuremberg, March 27 to April 4. This IBRA exhibition can be certain to benefit from the Germanic expertise in organization and display and should produce examples from the wonderful new collections of Europe and elsewhere.

LEMIEUX'S CANADA

There is currently on display at the Canadian Postal Museum in Ottawa a unique display of art at the Pitney Bowes Art Gallery. It runs until March 2, 1999. The title is "Jean Paul Lemieux: His Canada", and features the original works which were portrayed on the Canada Day stamps of 1984.

These twelve paintings are presented under the title 'A Single Vision', in Lemieux's own words "In my landscapes, and my characters, I try to express the solitude we all have to live with, and in each painting, the inner world of my memories."

These have only been on display twice before. This is a must to see if you are in Ottawa over the next eight months.



Jean Paul Lemieux's — His Canada features the original works which were portrayed on the Canada Day stamps of 1984. Twelve paintings by Lemieux were used for stamps and were a vision of the provinces and territories of Canada as conceived by Lemieux. The paintings are on display in Ottawa at the Canadian Postal Museum until March 2, 1999.

WHAT IS YOUR FAVOURITE COUNTRY?

In 1974, The Universal Postal Union celebrated the Centenary of its existence. Five hundred delegates got very fancy sets of booklets. None were sold to the public in this form. I'm breaking up several sets at reasonable prices. Over 100 countries involved.

The USA Centenary booklet has $2.40 face value in stamps. I'll buy any number at $100.00 per book.

The one for Canada is more generous, it has about $25.00 face value. Again, I'll buy any number at $100.00 each.

My price for these, and others, will be higher but, still quite a bargain, as hardly one collector in a 1,000 has even seen these. Name your country, and I'll introduce you to something you will be proud to display!

Kasimir Bileski

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KEEPING THE ARCHIVES ALIVE

Collectors have many sources of information, for example, our series by Michael Nowlan, currently running.

One of the most important and rewarding is in viewing the great collections when on exhibition. Unfortunately too many of these are often broken up just at the height of their glory, when they have received gold medals or best of show awards.

Cimon Morin of our Postal Archives is doing a great job to halt this and preserve such displays, if only through photocopy. He has recently produced a small pamphlet called the *The Philatelic Facsimile Book Collection of the Canadian Postal Archives.* The facsimile collection now has over 125 items.

The pamphlet and a May 1998 supplement may be obtained from the C.P. Archives. Many of the items are extensive and contain material that never was included in the frames.

SPECIAL COVERS

We are all familiar with the flood of First Day Covers produced by Canada Post. It must be said that many are true works of beauty. Granted many others are tacky, but as desirable philatelic items their heydays ended with W.W.II and modern ones have little monetary value, but make nice souvenirs at times.

There is however another group of officially produced covers which generally mark some national event. Their production run is small and they are attractive even if the stamp used is only the currant definitive.

One such cover was issued to mark the 90th anniversary of the Royal Canadian Mint. It is ironic in this day of the sinking Loonie that the Mint was established with the purpose to hold government banking and reserves in its own coinage and so control its national finances.

Such special covers will apparently be issued to "celebrate an important moment in our history or...pay tribute to a national accomplishment," Minister Gagliano stated at the unveiling. Only 5,000 envelopes were made.

A GREAT GIFT

The news bulletin from our sister society in the United Stated (the APS) tells of the establishment of a charitable trust by Horace W. Harrison, a fellow of the Royal. Horace has donated stock of about $100,000 (U.S.) with the income going to the American Philatelic Research Library.

He intends to add a portion of the sale revenue from his collection of Canada Large Queens and the total upon his death will be used to establish a fixed percentage of a Vooys and Harrison Library Fund. Another great gesture from an outstanding philatelist.

PHILATELIC AGENCIES:

The editor receives, on a somewhat sporadic basis, a number of publications from philatelic agencies around the world. These generally detail the specifics and background of their issued stamps. They range in attractiveness from nil to excellent but all are obviously advertising for the particular countries' Post Office issues

We have no intention of reviewing these – a) we don't have the space and; b) we feel no need to publicize such items without charge.

As a compromise, I list the most recent ones with the appropriate address so that members can apply directly if interested.

These are, with some editorial comment, as follows:

1. Empresa de Correos de Honduras, Depantamento de Filatelia, Tegucigalpa, M.D.C. Honduras, C.A.

For each issue a small pamphlet, in full colour, gives all the details on both the stamps and their background, in Spanish.

2. British Philatelic Bulletin, Royal Mail, Royal London House, 22 Fitsburg Square, London EC2AINL

J.R. Holman, editor, 13.50 (English Pounds) subscription, 85p single copies, 30 pages at least per issue, full colour giving the background on everything – a must for British collectors. The very best of its kind and worth every penny.

3. Postens Frimerketjeneste, Noway Post, Stamp Bureau Postboks, 9350 N-0135, Oslo, Norway

Single sheets describing each new issue plus a black and white photo of each, in English and German, no costs listed.

4. *Canada's Stamp Details*, National Philatelic Centre, 75 St. Ninan Street, Antigonish, NS, B2G 2R8

Excellent booklet, six times per year, full colour – you can't collect new stamps of Canada without it. One of the world's best.

5. *Australian Stamp Bulletin*, Australian Stamp Promotions, 6PO Box 1777Q, Melbourne, VIC3001

Slickly produced in full colour giving stamps' details and background. It is similar to what Canada does in *Stamp Details*.

6. Office des Emissions de Timbre-Poste, Principaute de Monaco, 22 Avenue Prince Hereditaire Albert, MC 98050 Monaco which has individual black and white pages of text giving some background on new issues.

One issue recently discussed the stamp issuing philosophy of Monaco and its current priorities in French, with a little English.

One Bulletin describes the new "Club de Monte Carlo de la Philatelie", which will organize a yearly "Exhibition of Philatelic Rarities." The membership in the "Club" of "Association de l'Élite Internationale des Collectioneurs" contains the name of Godfrey Hymanson as the sole Canadian.❐



Michael Madesker, a Fellow of the Royal, is shown presenting an uncut sheet of the Year of the Ox stamps to Mr. Shi Weillin, Vice President and Secretary General of the All China Philatelic Federation. Michael presented a series of Educational Seminars, dealing with Youth Philately in both Beijing and Si'am. As many as 280 national level judges or youth workers were present.

Editorial

by J.J. MacDonald

Year in Review

This marks the sixth issue wherein members have been afflicted with myself as editor. So what has changed in that time? Not too much; the Asian market in stamps has followed general economic trends out there and it's now much harder to sell China and other states stamps. My own concerns about the future of our hobby and what we will have to collect have not evaporated at all but, I believe, loom ever larger.

Two very serious concerns remain: one, the continued flood of new issues and gimmicks which make a complete collection of any country almost impossible to afford. I refer mainly to the little "tags" between the stamps in the sheets, e.g. in Canada the RCMP 60th anniversary commemorative.

Two, the threat from labels, whether from postal machines, grocery counters or made by you the letter mailer, on a Pitney Bowes instrument, or another one of equal convenience, has been referred to before. I suspect that many of us have seen the slick TV spots that have run in the summer from Pitney Bowes. Who cannot be impressed by the ease and simplicity of such machines? Will not CPC be forced to institute some such similar process to keep its market share?

I have omitted any comment on the third great monster that challenges stamp collecting – the Internet!! I will do some research to see what is on the horizon and try to keep you informed of the shape of that "mail-less" future threat.

So what is ahead? Obviously there are too many stamps at too high a price, many never doing true postal duty, and maybe no true mail to use them on anyway. Ergo, why not declare, to ourselves at least, that stamp collecting died on: 1990 or 1998, or maybe even extend it to December 30th, 1999. Forget new stamps and turn to their real purpose – paying for postal usage.

This implies collecting only "used" stamps (possible after a given date – determined by you) or better still, the entire envelope or document. (No, no, I have not been bribed by the Postal History Societies!!). The number of markings, routes and rates may be just as interesting on modern mail as they were in 1880.

Unfortunately, I am not alone in these ravings: read the July issue of *Scott's Stamp Monthly*, wherein Peter Martin interviews Azeez Jaffer, who has been head of the stamp services for the USPD since 1993. I recommend this article to you. What scared me most was the statement by Jaffer himself that his greatest fear is this rapidly evolving technology. He states, "...what happens in the year 2000, what if we don't need stamps anymore?"

Previously when I asked for comments on my ravings, I received responses and marvel only that they were polite or insightful or in agreement. Now you have every reason to yell and scream and condemn another opinion of mine. Go to it, as I ask for your opinions and comments.❐

The President's Page
La page du président

by / par Keith Spencer

Your President has spent a great deal of time over the course of the last several months responding to letters of concern about the status of The Royal Sales Circuit. I have tried to respond individually to as many letters as possible and wish to say that I appreciate very much the time our members have taken to write: it is a good measure of the interest and support there is for the Society.

For those of you who have written and for those who may not be aware at all about the issue, your Directors are in the process of considering changes in this important service to our members and chapters. An analysis conducted by our Director, Alan McKanna, suggests that the Sales Circuit, as constituted, is losing the Society a considerable sum of money each year. This figure is in the thousands of dollars and is more than the Society can sustain or that prudent business operations would permit.

The focus is not on our current circuit manager, Mollie Krajewski, who has worked very hard over the past years to provide a good service to members. Rather, there are some inherent structural problems related to how the current program is constituted. This has culminated in a decision to wind up the current operation in a business-like way and to look at replacement options. Hopefully, we

Au cours des derniers mois, votre président a consacré beaucoup de temps à répondre aux lettres concernant le statut du Circuit d'échange de la Royale. J'ai essayé de répondre personnellement au plus grand nombre d'entre-vous, et je tiens à vous dire que j'apprécie énormément l'intérêt que nos membres portent à ce dossier. Ceci démontre l'intérêt et l'appui que vous manifestez envers notre Société.

Pour ceux d'entre-vous qui n'avez pas écrit, ou pour les autres qui ne sont peut-être pas au courant de ce dossier, vos directeurs pensent à apporter des modifications à ce service qui s'adresse autant aux membres individuels qu'à nos chapitres. Après étude, notre directeur Alan McKanna en vient à la conclusion que, dans l'état actuel des choses, notre circuit d'échange impute des pertes annuelles de plusieurs milliers de dollars à notre Société, somme que nous ne pouvons malheureusement plus assumer.

Mollie Krajewski, la responsable du circuit a travaillée très fort ces dernières années afin de vous offrir le meilleur service possible. Elle n'est donc pas responsable de la situation actuelle, et le problème réside plutôt dans la structure même du service. Ce qui nous a poussé à revoir ce service du seul point de vue financier, et à analyser des solutions de remplacement. Nous somme, confiant d'en arriver à une solution qui servira bien les membres et les chapitres dans l'avenir tout en s'auto-finançant.

D'ici à ce que les changements

will end up with a stand-alone operation which will serve members and Chapters well for a long time to come.

In the meantime, there is bound to be some dislocation and we ask our members to be as patient as they can while the Board works on the issue. Remember, the goal is to provide the best service possible in a financially sound manner.

Daily, I am hearing about show activity for the upcoming season. The number of events planned suggests that the hobby must be in good shape and that there is keen collector interest.

One upcoming event which is a "must" for all collectors is the forthcoming Society convention in Fredericton, New Brunswick. Members have spoken for years about a desire to visit this most interesting part of our country and the opportunity arrives this spring. Circle the dates, May 28 - 30, 1999, and start working on your travel plans.

It will be a grand weekend!

Happy Stamping

Keith

soient effectifs, le service subira des bouleversements et nous demandons à nos membres d'être patients, le temps que le Conseil d'administration résolve le problème. Rappelez-vous que notre but est de vous offrir le meilleur service qui soit dans un cadre financier acceptable.

Chaque jour, j'entends des nouvelles au sujet des expositions de la prochaine saison. La quantité d'événements philatéliques à venir nous prouve que notre passe-temps se porte bien et que l'intérêt de la part des collectionneurs est marqué. L'un de ces prochains événements, un "must" pour tous les collectionneurs, est bien entendu notre convention annuelle qui se déroulera, cette année, à Frédéricton au Nouveau-Brunswick.

Depuis des années, des membres nous parlaient de leur interét à visiter cette région de notre pays, et voilà que l'opportunité arrive ce printemps. Encerclez les dates des 28, 29 et 30 mai 1999 sur votre agenda, et commencez à planifier votre voyage. Ce sera un grand week-end.

Bonne collection

Keith

HOST AN ANNUAL MEETING

The Royal Philatelic Society of Canada is accepting applications to host, or expressions of interest in organizing the Annual Meetings for the years following 2001. It is not too early to begin the planning necessary and claim your interest in a specific year.

Please let us know if your organization is willing or interested in making a wonderful contribution to philately in general and to collectors in your area in particular.

Direct your enquires to: Graham McCleave; RPSC Convention Coordinator; 186 Willingdon Street; Fredericton, NB. E3B 3A5.

Letters to the Editor

Dear Sir:

I am a retired teacher and I run a stamp club for children at schools. The children are all under the age of 12 years and the respective stamp clubs meet once a week so that the children may learn all about the joys of stamp collecting and other things philatelic.

The children are all very enthusiastic and some of them asked me to contact your society to see whether it may be possible to find a Canadian school or schools who also run stamp clubs and who might be interested in corresponding with children here in England.

If you can give me any help in this matter I would be most grateful and I know that the children would be delighted.

Yours faithfully,
Maurice Elgar
550 Bexhill Road, St Leonards On Sea, East Sussex
TN38 8AY England

Dear Sir:

I believe our hobby is jeopardized by these other reasons:

1.- The growing number of stamps to almost exponential proportions.

2.- The shrinking number of new collectors.

3.- The much higher face value of New Issues.

4.- Collector's shrinking disposable income.

5.- Ridiculous catalogue values; MNH should always be worth more than used. Many used stamps are free when used and job is done. MNH can still mail letters and still have an actual value in real life.

6.- CTO's should be sold at big discounts compared to MNH as new issues go. Why not? Their value to mail letter is gone. (nice light camels? Who reads 'em? Aren't the "actually-used" stamps worth more anyway?) Sell 'em cheaper because kids can afford 'em. (And 'the last of the Mohican' world wide collectors...like me can afford them)

7.- MIN CV .15 (sheesh!): 3 @.15 each = .15 sets. You can get these in nickel boxes anyway. .10 is easier to count if you are counting stamps at this price. I cannot believe dealers supported the .15 idea.

I have a suggestion for an article in The Canadian Philatelist:

- write about the obvious gouging on Hi face values of semi populated islands, and their non-investment potential (and you know what happens when stamps become a 'good investment')

- or long sets of poorly printed stamps

- stamp subjects that have nothing to do with that country (I have a polar bear stamp from Oman)

- as a positive; articles about really great designs like the Cabot stamp or the Highways, or some of the better European issues.

Well, I hope you don't think I'm too long winded, and if you liked this letter, I'll buy your Macas stamps!

Ed Dykstra
Edmonton, Alberta

Editor's note: Okay, who's going to submit Ed's suggested article?❐

POSTMARKED OTTAWA

by Hans Reiche

One of the first publications on Canadian Precancels appeared in the *Stamp Journal* by F. Percy in 1911. This was followed by a checklist in 1912 by S.M. Schoemann and published by John M. Stuart Co. The first Precancel catalogue appeared in 1918, published by B.G. Bushenell.

The Canadian Precancelled Postage Stamps Catalogue was published in 1923. *The Official Precancel Stamp Catalogue*, published by Hoover Brothers was first issued in 1936. Mr. H.G. Walburn took over in 1947 with Gilbert W. Noble as editor and the last catalogue was the 14th edition. *The Standard Canada Precancel Catalogue* appeared for the first time published by Unitrade Press in 1988.

Of interest is that Carl Sonne who had an extensive collection, returned from the war to find that much of it had disappeared. He wrote to the writer, "I must tell you that I will discontinue collecting precancels and concentrate on wartax impressions.

I would be willing to trade with you most of my duplicates in exchange for wartax impressions." Many of the rare items in the writer's collection came from this exchange.

They included, for example, the largest known block of Ottawa 3-120. Many original photos and copies were made by Carl to show certain stamps he owned once or had seen. It included many of the very rare items.

A number of collectors recently asked what prices one should ask for certain Admiral paper varieties. These are sometimes offered in auctions or on stamp lists. *The Unitrade* catalogue does not list such varieties, even though this is a specialized catalogue.

These are not just oddities but actual varieties, in the writer's opinion. Here is a suggested price matrix for those that are known to exist in mint or used fine condition.

Continued on page 340

	MINT			USED		
	Thin	Thick	H	Thin	Thick	H
104	100.	200		20	50	
105	25			15	10	
106	40	30	250	15	15	100
107	6		250	2	20	100
108	60			25	30	
109				25	30	
110	200					
111			50	50		
112	120			30	40	
113					50	
114	150			100		
116				50	50	
117			100			75
119				50	40	
120ii						200

Unhinged stamps should demand a premium.

ORDER OUT OF CHAOS: A UNIFORM JUDGING SYSTEM

BY TONY SHAMAN

Philatelic exhibits at the highest levels are as easy to judge as other types of world-class competitions. All the required elements are usually in place and a set of well-defined rules governs the adjudication process.

Generally, these world-level entries meet all judging requirements and the panel of judges need only look for what is missing, some obscure essay, a scarce die or plate proof, an esoteric rate or route, or perhaps a unique cover, and make the prescribed deduction. But at lower levels of competition, judges are faced with a litany of problems when it comes to judging these entries. The judges must decide the fate of the entry by the philatelic material that is included in the exhibit rather than by what is missing. To compound the problem, the jury frequently faces a different set of judging regulations at each show.

Factors considered in judging an entry for its appropriate award vary from one show to the next. What may be a significantly high deduction for a particular factor, let us say Philatelic Knowledge, at one show may carry a much lesser weight at another.

In an effort to come up with a fair and reasonable set of judging criteria, Ken Magee, an accredited judge and award-winner at all levels of competition, looked at the various guidelines outlined in 16 different judging systems that could be converted into a uniform scoring sheet for use at local shows. Competitors, he felt, should not be faced with not knowing on what basis their entry is being judged or unknowingly end up with a lower award for an exhibit that earned a higher one at a previous show because the judging factors were weighted differently.

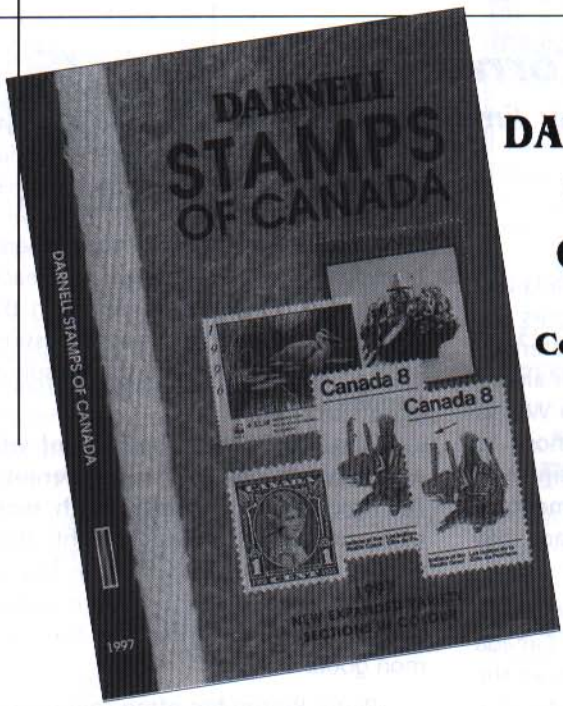
During the year that Magee took his judging-project roadshow to a number of area stamp clubs, soliciting input from judges and local show organizers along the way, he encountered some disagreement. Most notably it came from topical and thematic collectors, on the weighting of the various criteria.

For example, the suggested weighting from thematic collectors for the title page was 50 per cent higher than the weighting proposed by Magee. The Presentation factor came in 150 per cent lower, 10 points instead of the 25 points, than that proposed by Magee.

These not unexpected differences were worked out satisfactorily at a series of meetings and by trials at the 1998 spring show line-up. At a final meeting in April 1998, held at Kitchener's Stampfest, everyone in attendance agreed on a common set of weighting for each of five judging factors to be used in evaluating both traditional and thematic exhibits.

Alan J. Hanks, a nationally accredited judge with The Royal Philatelic Society of Canada, who chaired the April meeting in Kitchener will submit the final draft to John Powell, Judging Coordinator for The Royal.

Continued on page 354



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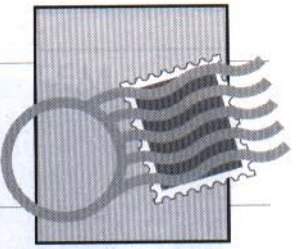
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Jim's Stamp Corner

by Jim Measures



Canada vs USA

It is a cliché to say that Canada and the USA are the best of neighbours and share the world's longest undefended border, yet this is true. It was not always so. At the time of the American War of Independence many people chose to come to Canada rather than remain in an independent USA. The Americans called them traitors while in Canada they were honoured as Loyalists.

Later, in 1812, we fought a war over the American's attempt to have Canada incorporated into the U.S. Then at the time of confederation, Ottawa was chosen as our capital because it was located further from the American border than the other cities considered i.e. Montreal, Kingston, and Toronto, and therefore less vulnerable to attack.

All these historic events have been commemorated on stamps. Yet when I picked up my mail one day this week and found mail from both Canada and USA, I noted that neither country is honouring these events on the stamps in current usage. The American mail had a stamp honouring anthropologist Ruth Benedict, one of their famous American series in one colour, red. The Canadian mail was franked with our 45 cents flag in full colour. This caused me to think of the ways we differ from our neighbours to the south.

Canada and Canadian governments have long pursued the ideal of 'Peace, Order, and Good Government', on the other hand Americans believe passionately in 'Life, Liberty, and the Pursuit of Happiness'.

This, I believe, is the basis of why and how we look at things differently. An American is generally much more concerned about individual rights than we are here in Canada. On this side of the border we show much more respect for authority and concern for the common good.

Pierre Berton has often commented on this difference as it related to the settling of the two countries. He points out the difference between our frontier heroes. In Canada our peace officer was a uniformed Mountie, his counterpart was an American Sheriff, or cavalry officer. Matt Dillon and General George Custer are American heroes, yet we Canadians, have generally forgotten the name of the person that Chief Sitting Bull surrendered to after " Custer's Last



Stand" where he had defeated General Custer and the 7th Cavalry.

Some Canadians will know that a lone Mounted Police officer accepted the surrender of the Sioux Chief and allowed the Sioux to settle in Canada. Few Canadians will know his name, but the important thing is that the Mounties maintained peace.

The Americans have issued stamps to honour both Chief Sitting Bull and General Custer yet Canada has only identified James F. Macleod as an Asst. Commissioner of the Northwest Mounted Police on a 1986 issue honouring "Peacemakers of the Frontier."

I am proud of the good relations that we Canadians have with our neighbours, but I think that it is important for us to understand both why we are different and what it means to be Canadian.❐

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A MILLION STAMPS

BY DALE SPEIRS

From almost its earliest days, stamp collecting managed to spawn chain letters and urban legends. The collector who wanted a million stamps has bedeviled philatelic history for the last 150+ years. It seems to have begun with the October 1, 1842, issue of *The Times of London* (ref. 1): "We wish to call the attention of our fair readers to a case in which one of themselves is materially interested. A lady who has been receiving the addresses of a gentleman, with the sanction of her uncle, with whom she resides, has been promised by the latter the sum of £3,000 on her marriage, provided she can produce postage labels, which have been used on letters, to that amount."

"The number required (720,000) is far too great to raise amongst her own acquaintance; but we think the ladies of England will, on the case being made known to them, exert themselves in collecting these otherwise useless scraps; any number of which sent directed to PS, at the post office, Milford, near Lymington, will be thankfully received, and duly forwarded."

While not a chain letter in itself, it was to eventually spawn a number of them based on the idea of a million stamps for some purpose, whether charitable or personal greed.

Strangely enough, a few days later, reports were published of a donor to a church who promised £2,000 if the equivalent in used postage stamps was raised (ref. 2), with a subsequent additional amount of £4,000.

An ad in *The Times of London* (ref. 3) appeared in the October 29, 1842, issue of that paper.

It read as follows: "POSTAGE STAMPS – A young lady, being desirous of covering her dressing room with cancelled postage stamps, has been so far encouraged in her wish by private friends as to have succeeded in collecting 16,000; these, however, being insufficient, she will be greatly obliged if any good-natured persons who may have these otherwise useless little articles at their disposal would assist in her whimsical project. Address to E.D., Mr. Butt's, glover, Leadenhall Street, or Mr. Marshall's, jeweller, Hackney."

It is not entirely impossible that such a project might be underway, as rooms covered with stamps are not unheard of. For example, an inn at North Bersted, Bognor, was not only wallpapered with stamps, but the furniture was covered with them as well (ref. 4).

However, the close proximity in time of people collecting a million postage stamps raised suspicions. In a letter to the editor of *The Times of London* , dated October 29, 1842, (ref. 5), a correspondent signing himself Aqua Fortis wrote as follows: "I have lately seen several absurd advertisements in the newspapers respecting postage stamps, one stating that some eccentric old uncle had promised to give his niece £3,000 as a marriage portion if she could obtain the same amount in used postage stamps; another benevolent individual offers to give £3,000 to build a church on the same conditions; and in your paper of today an amiable

young lady states in an advertisement that she has taken a fancy to paper her bedroom with used penny-post stamps, and each of these people solicits the aid of the public in furnishing them with these now-of-no-use trifles."

"Now, I fancy I "smell a rat" in all these novel applications for postage stamps, and this it is. Some time ago it was stated that a chymist had discovered the means of erasing the black ink stamp which the Post-office marks on the stamps of the letters to cancel them, and this he could do without injuring the stamps, so that they could be used a second time without being discovered by the Post-office clerks."

"Now, I think these newspaper advertisements have a relation to some scheme of the sort; and I have a shrewd guess that the eccentric uncle, the benevolent old gentleman, and the amiable young lady are all one and the same individual, who having discovered the means of erasing the cancel marks of the Post-office (which I believe was quite practicable), is trying to make a profitable "spec" by his ingenuity."

The humour magazine *Punch* remarked of the a-million-stamps collectors that they seemed more anxious to collect Queen's heads than Henry the 8th was to get rid of them (ref. 6), and went on to provide some doggerel:

"When was a folly so pestilent hit upon,

As folks running mad to collect every spit upon

Post-office stamp that's been soiled and been writ upon?

Oh for Swift! such a subject his spleen to emit upon.

'Tis said that some fool in mustachios has split upon

The rock of a bet, and therefore must get,

To avoid loss and debt, Half the town as collectors, to waste time and wit upon,

Bothering and forcing their friends to submit, upon

Pain of displeasure, to fill a peck measure

With the coveted treasure

Of as many old stamps as perforce can be lit upon,

To paper a room, or stuff cushions to sit upon.

Do, dearest *Punch*, let fly a sharp skit upon

This new pursuit, and an ass's head fit upon

The crest of the order of Knights of the Spit-upon."

Stories bearing resemblance to the October 1842 story seem a modified version of it, what today is called an urban legend. Another account places a version in 1848 (ref. 7) as follows: "In 1848 my father was at Dr. Johnson's hydropathic establishment, Humberslade Hall, in Yorkshire. A rising poet, Alfred Tennyson, was there at the same time. Among the patients was a young lady who was helping to collect a million used penny stamps, and gathering them from all the company daily."

"Her story was that two young people of her acquaintance wished to get married. The lady's father doubted the constancy of their attachment, and as there was no lack of means or other obstacle to the smooth running of their love, he devised an artificial one, the difficulty of which would test their

affection, and if it were genuine, would strengthen it into true love."

"He required as the price of his consent that they should collect for him a million used penny stamps."

"The young people accepted the test, and went vigorously and systematically to work, pressing all their friends into the service. About these facts and dates there can be no doubt. Lord Tennyson's biography shows that he was there in 1848, and my father died in 1849."

"I remember that we were all much interested in the matter, and that after my father's return home he got a letter from the lady-collector telling him of the completion of the task and the approaching marriage."

At first reading, this seems an impressively documented story, but it bears many of the hallmarks of the typical urban legend. Firstly, it happened at several removes from the teller of the story.

Secondly, much of the detailed evidence is irrelevant (Tennyson doesn't enter into the story). Finally, the writer does not actually say that he saw this letter, as a first quick reading might imply; he only mentions that his father supposedly got one at the end of the story. Nowhere are the actual names of the lovers cited.

A chain letter reported in 1850 (ref. 8) concerns a young lady who, the story went, was to be placed in a convent by her father unless she accumulated one million used postage stamps. This story is doubtful to begin with (why would a father do that, and why would a million stamps change his mind?) but the results were documented. " ...the lady began to receive packages by post and railway from every quarter, which poured in such numbers that in 10 days, during last April, she received parcels containing millions of stamps. The walking postman, who was in the habit of delivering a few letters daily at the mansion where the lady resides,



Accumulation of a million stamps!

became so loaded with letters and packages containing Queen's heads, that it was necessary to employ another man to assist him."

"On one morning between 90 and 100 letters and packets arrived by post, and on another 120 and 130. These were in addition to multitudes which arrived on other days."

"Boxes, bales, and packages also poured in by railway, and to such an extent that it became necessary to give public notice, by advertisements and printed circulars, that it was urgently desired no more stamps should be sent ..."

Another report says the a-million-stamps legend was circulating in the early 1850s (ref. 9): " ... to provide the dowry of a lovely girl, whose hard-hearted parent would not allow her to marry the man of her choice until she had collected a million stamps".

A story appeared out of New Hartford, Connecticut, with specific names given. Perhaps it was true, then, that a gentleman did indeed agree to pay an elderly lady's way into a nursing home if she could collect a million stamps (ref. 10). Miss Chloe Lankton of that town began efforts on behalf of the old dear on October 10, 1878, and by February 3 appears to have succeeded.

Donations came from as far away as Dubuque, Iowa. Oddly, the letter of acknowledgment of success that concluded the news report came not from the gentleman but from a lady in Philadelphia.

The a-million-stamps story, whatever its original veracity, took on a life of its own and developed into an urban legend. As early as 1862, a correspondent was moved to complain about the different versions of the story (ref. 11): "For what purpose the stamps are thus actively sought after no one seems to know, but it has been said in some quarters that the possession of a large number of them will procure the admission of children into some charitable institutions, while in others it is asserted, albeit with an air of great mystery, that they will enable the holder to become the owner of a valuable gold watch, to be awarded somewhere by somebody."

In 1873, a cynical commentator remarked (ref. 12): "It may be useful to note, as an instance of the vitality of a superstition, that old penny postage-stamps are still being collected to make up the million to get the little boy into the orphan school. The little boy ought to be of full age by this time."

An editorial complained in 1905 that the million stamps were still being collected so that people could be admitted into a hospital or charity home (ref. 13). But by this time, stamp collecting had developed far enough as a legitimate hobby and business that the urban legend had actually acquired the patina of truth.

This was a result of stamp dealers being willing to buy mission mixture or kiloware, whereas in 1842 there was no reasonable use for bulk stamps save as wallpaper or fraudulently re-used postage.

In response to the 1905 complaint, Messrs. Whitfield King & Co. advised that two orphanages they knew in Switzerland collected stamps for re-sale to dealers as mission mixture (ref. 14). This therefore made the legends indi-

rectly correct, as while no one would be admitted directly on presentation of a million stamps, the stamps could be sold to raise the cash.

Another account (ref. 15) reported that a correspondent's aunt had gained admittance to a hospital with a million stamps, but only first selling the stamps for cash and then buying a bed with the money. The hospital itself did not take the stamps directly, and from its point of view this was merely a cash transaction.

As time passed, the a-million-stamps belief was garbled into other items. From the time of the American War between The States to an Associated Press release in 1949, there was a belief that collecting the little red cellophane strips off cigarette packages would get a war veteran a wooden leg, or buy a Seeing Eye dog (ref. 16).

There was no truth to this. It is possible that the million stamps fallacy first mutated into tobacco revenue seals on packages, and from there to the cellophane strips torn off to open a pack.

In the period of the 1970s and 1980s, a belief arose that a million tabs from soda pop cans would get a little girl a dialysis machine. Setting aside the fact that the governments in both Canada and United States pay the cost of these machines, the belief persists because, as with postage stamps, you can in fact get money for tabs, if you have sufficient bulk.

A scrap metal dealer will buy tabs in large quantities (not a few at a time but hundreds of kilograms at a time) and the money can thus be sent to charity. Alternative versions involve buying the little girl a wheelchair.❐

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2) Anonymous (1842-10-06) Curious contract. *The Times of London*, page 7
3) Anonymous (1842-10-29) [classified ad] *The Times of London*, page 1
4) Anonymous (1905) A million stamps. *Spectator*, 94:783
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Musical Instruments on Canadian Stamps

by Alena Pascual

Bell (see also Carillon)

Bells, which come in many different sizes and shapes, belong to a category of percussion instruments called idiophones. Their shapes derive from two basic forms, the cup form (also known as the "open" bell) and the hollow sphere or crotal form ("closed" bell). Church bells are an example of the first category, sleigh bells of the second. Bells are often used as signalling devices as well as musical instruments.

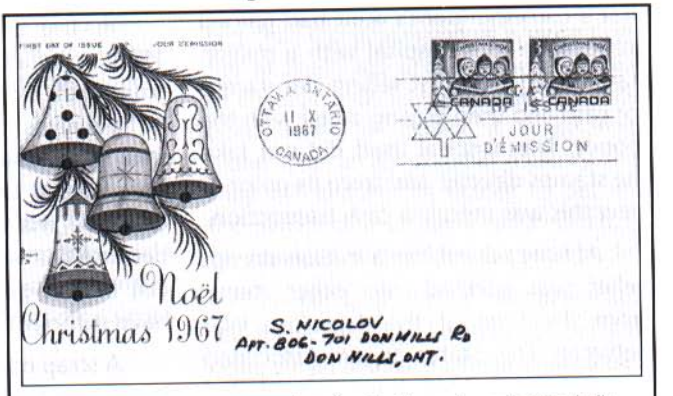


Figure 1: Several attractive cachets for Christmas issues feature bells including, two Rose Craft covers in 1965 and in 1967 shown here.

a) Bells and Christmas

Not surprisingly, bells are depicted on various Christmas issues. After all, bells are closely associated with Christmas.

In 1981, two of the trees shown on the Christmas stamps of that year include bell-shaped cookies as decorations (S 900 and S 901). The tree on S 901 also has a toy drum and a toy guitar.

Several attractive cachets for Christmas issues feature bells – two Rose Craft covers (1965 and 1967) and a Cole cover (1969). (See figure 1).

A number of small bells can be seen on the reindeer's harness on the 42¢ Christmas stamp in 1992 (S 1452). La Befana, shown on the 48¢ stamp for that year, carries a handbell (S 1453); the same handbell also appears on the cover of the booklet. Legend has it that







Figure 2: Bells can be seen on the 42¢ Christmas stamp in 1992 (S 1452) and on the La Befana, shown on the 48¢ stamp for that year, (S 1453).

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Italy's La Befana, also called the "Christmas witch", is a good witch who brings presents for deserving children. (See figure 2).

One of the stained glass windows in the 1997 Christmas set is shaped like a bell.

b) Bells and transportation

Bells can be found on some of the transportation issues which feature Canadian locomotives (S 999, S 1037-9, and S 1071-4). As well, several items of postal stationery show the Grand Trunk Railway's express passenger engine no. 93, which has a bell (EN108, EN110, EN116, EN117, and EN582 in *Webb's Postal Stationery of Catalogue of Canada and Newfoundland, 6th edition*).

There is a bell on the Bickle Chieftain fire engine (S 1527d), part of the 1994 Historic Public Service Vehicles set. The OFDC cachet also shows the fire engine. (See figure. 3).

The 1987 Shipwrecks set includes a bell, shown on S 1144 which commemorates the *Ericsson*. (See figure. 4). Named after its designer, John Ericsson (1803-1889), the Ericsson at first was powered by the "caloric" (hot air) engine, which Ericsson invented. Later on, the ship was converted to a steamer and subsequently to sail. The vessel was wrecked on 19 November 1892 in Barkley Sound, British Columbia.

c) School bell

The First Day cancel for the 1995 Lunenburg Academy stamp (S 1558) includes a bell.

This drawing represents a school bell and was not meant to depict any particular bell, although one of the towers adorning the building has a large bell hanging in it.



Figure 4: The 1987 Shipwrecks set includes a bell, shown on S 1144 which commemorates the *Ericsson*.

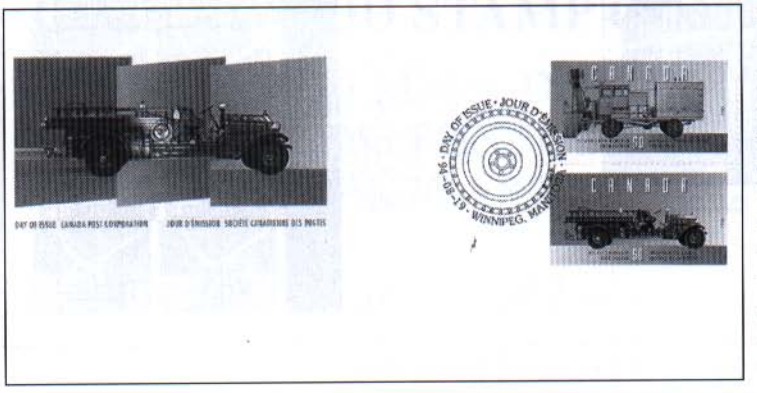


Figure 3:
There is a bell on the Bickle Chieftain fire engine (S 1527d), which is part of the 1994 Historic Public Service Vehicles set.
The OFDC cachet also shows the fire engine.

The Academy, which is still in use as a school, is a UNESCO Heritage Site and is undergoing restorations this year and in 1999. (See figure. 5).

d) Doorbell

One of the stamps (S 1620) in the 1996 Winnie the Pooh set shows a bell – intended to fulfill the function of a doorbell – attached to a tree trunk.

Bugle

The stamp issued in 1975 to commemorate the 50th anniversary of the Royal Canadian Legion includes a bugle (S 680). The bugle also appears in the FD cancel. The Legion's anniversary year was celebrated from November 1975 to November 1976 and was inaugurated on November 10, 1975 with the issue of the stamp. (Fig. 6).

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Wells, Richard E. *A Guide to Shipwrecks: Cape Beale to Cox Point, including Barkley, Sound* (Sooke, BC: 1984)

White, Ruth Morris. "John Ericsson", in *Encyclopedia Americana: International Edition* (1991)

Note: Additions and corrections are welcome and may be addressed to Alena Pascual, Suite 0116 - Box 27, 65 Front Street West, Toronto ON, M5J 1E6.

• Thanks to Hugh Corkum, philatelist and member of the Lunenhurg Academy Foundation's board for providing much of the information included in this paragraph.❐



Figure 6: The Legion's anniversary year was inaugurated on November 10, 1975 with the issue of the stamp.

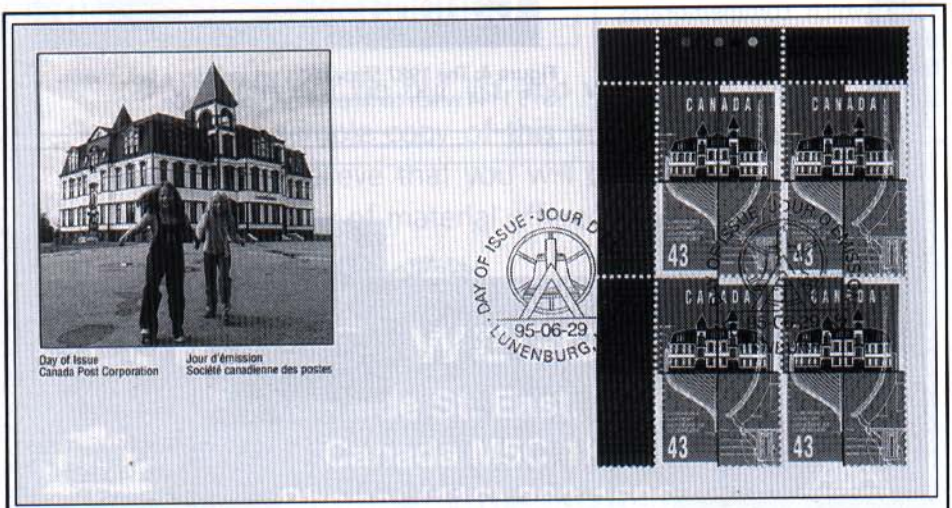


Figure 5: The First Day Cover for the Lunenbrug Academy stamp

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Don's Corner

by Donald J. LeBlanc

The Historical Issue of 1926 – Plate Positions

After the long usage of the definitive Admiral Issue from 1911 to 1925, there was a demand in the mid-twenties for a set of commemorative stamps of an historical nature. Originally, four stamps were to be prepared but the 10¢ stamp of Sir Georges Etienne Cartier was postponed to 1931.

The other three stamps, Scott #146, 147 and 148 (Darnell #135, 136 and 137) were engraved by E.T. Loizeaux, W. Ford and Edward Gunn and printed by the Canadian Bank Note Co. Ltd.

They were scheduled to be issued on July lst 1926, but were held back at the last moment and were finally issued with the Confederation set, a year later. One important note before discussing the stamps individually, is the fact that these were the last stamps issued with the complete inscription in English, whereas the Confederation set, and every subsequent set, contains the words "Postes-Post", or "Postes-Postage".

Le premier timbre d'une valeur nominale de 5¢, démontre un portrait de Thomas D'Arcy McGee, originaire d'Irlande. Celui-ci avait commencé une



Scott 147 – If you own a block of 6, you can identify the postion by examining the position of number 8 in the order number. If 8 is closer to 9, then it's an upper left, if 8 is closer to 6, then it is an upper right.

carrière comme éditeur à Montréal avant de se lancer en politique en 1857. Il participa à toutes les discussions importantes sur la Confédération et siégeait à la Chambre des Communes. Il fut assassiné en 1868, en retournant chez lui après avoir passé une journée à la Chambre des Communes. Les timbres furent imprimés sur une feuille de 400 timbres, qui, par la suite, fut divisée en four feuillets de 100 timbres chacun. L'inscription et le numéro de la planche sont inscrits en haut, dans la marge des feuillets, supérieur gauche et supérieur droit. Deux planches furent utilisées (#1 et #2) donnant ainsi la possibilité de four différents blocs avec inscription, pour le collectioneur.



The 12¢ and 20¢ stamps were printed on sheets of 200 stamps and subsequently divided into four panes of 50 stamps each. Like the 5¢, there were two plate number used for each stamps and the inscriptions and plate numbers are found at the center of the Upper Left and Upper Right panes. All three

The 12¢ stamp in green, shows portraits of Sir John A. MacDonald and Sir Wilfred Laurier.

Sir John A. MacDonald was our first Prime Minister from 1867 to 1891, the year of his death. Even though Sir Wilfred Laurier, a lawyer from Quebec, had been originally against Confederation, he became Prime Minister of Canada from 1896 to 1911.

It may be of interest to some of you that the main reason for his defeat was the position he took on Free Trade with the United States in 1911

Le timbre de 20¢ démontre le portrait de Me Robert Baldwin and Me Louis-Hippolyte LaFontaine. Ils ont chacun une carrière semblable, puisque chacun a travaillé à unifier les deux provinces du Canada et les deux peuples, durant les 20 années précédant la Confédération de 1867. Ni l'un ni l'autre n'a vu son rêve se réaliser, puisque Me Baldwin est décédé en 1858 et Me LaFontaine en 1864.



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were finally offered for sale on June 29, 1927 with the five stamps of the Confederation set.

The 10¢ stamp of the series shows a portrait of George-Etienne Cartier, but was only issued on September 30, 1931 (Scott #190) (Darnell #183). Mr. Cartier began his political career in 1848 and became Attorney-General for Lower Canada in 1856. He replaced Sir Louis-Hippolyte LaFontaine as leader of Lower Canada. He also was one of the Fathers of Confederation in 1867. The stamp were issued in sheets of 400 and divided into issued panes of 100 each. Three different plates were used, plates 1, 2 and 3.

Even though the design of the stamp had probably been prepared with the others, the four year delay caused at least three major changes to the stamp itself.

Firstly, the words "Postes" and "Postage" were added to follow the new policy of having bilingual stamps. Secondly, since new printers, the British American Bank Note Company had outbided The Canadian Bank Note Company for the issuance of the "Arch" or "Leaf" set in 1930, they agreed to print the stamp. Even if it had been intended to be originally a commemorative, it was released in time to replace the 10¢ library value of the "Arch" definitive set, and is considered as part of the Arch set.

A third change doesn't concern the stamp itself, but the inscription of the plate number in the margin. Since the new printers, with the "Arch" set, started inserting the plate no. in the four corners of the full sheet of 400 stamps (one plate # per pane of 100), rather than in the middle of the upper two panes, they did the same with the 10¢ stamp.

With the plate number in the four corners, we do not have the problem, as with the other three stamps, of identifying which is the left side and which is the right side. The Schedule attached is the continuation of the one in my pre-



vious article and is included to permit the plate block collector to identify which position he has in his own collection.

As with the previous Schedule, I am trying to identify specific positions with identification features, rather than with measurements, the traditional way of identification. The reason for my method is simple. Up to 10 years ago, a person could go to his corner stamp store, with his ruler and his stamp album and take the time to measure and compare the block that was for sale. Most of these stamp stores have disappeared. Most sales are done either with auctions catalogues or through the mail, with the help of fax machines, e-mail, etc... You can get a photocopy of the block, or your computer can flash you a photo.

It is impossible to use a ruler on a photocopy or on the screen of your computer. However, you can still make out that the 9 in the order number is lower than the other numbers, and consequently you know which position your are looking at. "Times, they are a changing" as Bob Dylan would say.

Before going to the Schedule, one last point on Scott 190. All four positions of plate 1 are available. Even though they are much scarcer, both the right corners of plate 2 and 3 are available. However, no one has ever reported the two left positions of plates 2 and 3.

I have checked all the major auctions catalogues for the last 40 years and have never had one of these positions mentioned. I am convinced that they never existed. There are two explanations for this, the first being the most obvious. When plates 2 and 3 were being prepared before the issuance of the stamps, the printers only identified the plate number 2 or 3 on the two right side corners and left the two other corners blank.

This practice was also done for Scott #171, 177, 194, 201, 202, and 210 where only the two upper positions were identified. Also, Scott 198, 199 and 200 were only identified by two corners on the same side rather than all four corners.

The second possible explanation is that they used the same inscription from plate 1 but forgot to change the "1" on the left side. If this had happened there would be a lot more UL and LL plate corners of plate 1 than the UR or LR corners. All have been catalogued at the same price which would



seem to indicate that the quantities are the same. Lastly, I am of the opinion that the two plate 3 positions are at least twice as scarce as the two plate 2 positions, based on my studies with auctions catalogues.

Now on to the Schedule. To properly understand it, one should refer to my last article on the same subject. I would appreciate any new information or corrections. I would also appreciate any comments about plate block catalogue containing this type of information. One reader suggested a combined catalogues with a plate block album.

The information would be on the left hand side and the blocks would be inserted on the right hand side. This would be a loose-leaf album to permit the collection to grow as new blocks are added. The project is feasable, according to dealer Gary Lyon, on the condition that it would only cover plate blocks from the Admirals up to the end of the King George VI era, around 1952.

The Elizabethan period would be a completely separate project.

Any comments, opinions or corrections are always appreciated.

Good hunting!

Editorial Note: The author welcomes correspondence from collectors. His address: D. LeBlanc, 163 Grande Allée, Caraquet, NB Canada, E1W 1A5.❐

Schedule Historical Issue of 1926

Scott #	Plate Position	Size of Block	Identification feature
146 (Darnell)	1UL	10	P.L.B.C.- 4 is higher than 9 and 0
#135)	1UR	8	L.B.C. - all numbes 940 on same line
	2UL	10	P.L.B.C. - small dot above N
	2UR	8	L.B.C. - no dot above N
146a)	2UR	8	Imperforated - See 2UR above
	?		Imperf
146i	1UL	10	Imperf. vertically - See 1UL above
	2UL	10	Imperf. vertically - See 2UL above
146ii	1UR	8	Imperf. horizontally See 1UR above
	?		Imperf. horizontally
147 (Darnell	1UL	6	8 is closer to 9 than to 6
#136)	1UR	6	8 is closer to 6 than to 9
	2UL	6	8 is higher than 9 and 6
	2UR	6	9 is lower than 86
147a)	1UL	6	Imperforated - See 1UL above
	?	6	Imperforated
147i	?	6	Imperf. vertically
	?	6	Imperf. vertically
147ii	?	6	Imperf. horizontally
	?	6	Imperf. horizontally
148 (Darnell	1UL	6	P.I.F. Ottawa
#137)	1UR	6	I.F. Ottawa
	2UL	6	P.F.D. Ottawa
	2UR	4	F.D. Ottawa
148a)	2UL	6	Imperforated - See 2UL above
	?		Imperf.
148i)	?		Imperf. vertically
	?		Imperf. vertically
148ii	?		Imperf. horizontally
	?		Imperf. horizontally
190	1UL	4	Very easy to identify with 2 margins
	1UR	4	Easy to identify with 2 margins
(Darnell	1LL	4	Order # in side
#183)			margin
	1LR	4	Easy to identify with 2 margins
	2UR	4	At least 5 times rarer than plate 1
	2LR	4	At least 5 times rarer than plate 1
	3UR	4	Plate 3 is twice as rare as plate 2
	3LR	4	Plate 3 is twice as rare as plate 2
190a	1LR	4	Imperforated - See 1LR above
	?	4	Imperforated

The Short Story Column

by "Raconteur"

In 1967-69 Gibraltar issued a 13 stamp set depicting ships. The high value (£1) shows the Mary Celeste.

Now, how many of my readers know about the *Mary Celeste*? What's that? Speak out louder: I can't hear you! You're all so sotto voce that I still can't hear you!! Ergo, I just take it for granted that you simply don't know! And yet it is one of the greatest sea mysteries of the last century.

Well, let me tell about her misadventure in this column. I'm not swearing that this account is the truth, the whole truth and nothing but the truth: but I challenge anyone to come up with a more plausible account of the fate of the *Mary Celeste*!

She was built in 1861, a two masted brigantine, and plied trade routes from one country to another. On November 7, 1872, she sailed from New York bound for Genoa, Italy, with a cargo of 1,700 barrels of industrial alcohol. Aboard were the Captain, Benjamin Briggs, his wife and two-year-old daughter, plus a crew of seven.

The *Dei Gratia*, whose Captain was a close friend of Briggs, had been docked near the *Mary Celeste*, but she didn't sail until November 15th.

Both were heading for Europe along the same sea lane. On December 5th the *Dei Gratia* sighted another ship, which seemed to be adrift. Her Captain steered his ship towards the derelict and realized that it was the *Mary Celeste*!

He dispatched a search party to the *Mary Celeste*, and they found the vessel totally devoid of human life. The life-boat was gone but all the crews' belongings were still there. The crew's meals were still on the mess table.

Why had the crew abandoned the ship in such terrible haste? Everything seemed to be in good order, and there



was plenty of food and water. There were no leaks, no sign of fire. So, why the desperate haste to abandon ship? This has been a mystery that has puzzled us for over 100 years.

But now a theory has emerged after all this time. Remember: the *Mary Celeste* sailed from very cold weather and was heading towards a warmer climate. This could have caused the barrels of alcohol to begin leaking vapour, which could have looked like smoke. Everyone on the ship would have thought there was a fire and expected the alcohol to explode at any moment. Ergo: "Let's get outa here fast !"

In the mad scramble to abandon ship they took nothing, and as they rowed away and the *Mary Celeste* sailed majestically onward, the link was irrevocably broken. Maybe the Captain and crew ran into a storm and were swamped. Who knows? Their fate will never be known at this stage.

But the point of this Short Story Column is to bring to my readers' attention the poignant story that can be found in the background of many a postage stamp if you are willing to do the research into the purpose of its issue!

I chose the Mary Celeste story for this article but you can pick any stamp you wish and "do a number" on it...research it to death, and just see what a joy philately can turn out to be! Believe me!!❐

VIGNETTES OF EARLY BRITISH NORTH AMERICAN POSTAL HISTORY

by J.C. Arnell, FRPSC

LI
Consignee Letters

Seldom, if ever, are Consignee Letters given any attention by postal history collectors, with the result that, apart from references in Post Office Acts, little information about them has been published.

Over the years, I accumulated a number about which I did nothing, while pursuing other interests; however recently, I found a number which reflect a pattern of their handling over the best part of a century, and discuss them here.

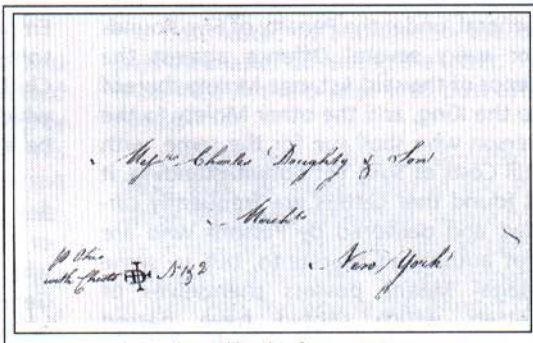


Figure 1: When a letter like this from 1795 was encountered, it was an open question whether it was delivered 'out of course' directly to the consignee.

Before doing so, it seems useful to review the development of the ship letter system, which was gradually introduced by the British Post Office in the 17th and early 18th centuries. In the 17th century, the Post Office was a totally land-based operation in concept, with no facility or ability for the handling of incoming or outgoing overseas letters.

To meet the need of the trading community, coffee houses which abounded in all the ports, hung up mail bags marked with the names and destinations of trading vessels soon to be departing in which letters would be placed, until they were collected by the departing captains. Similarly, incoming letters would be delivered to these same houses by the captains arriving at the port for local delivery or private forwarding inland. In both cases, a small charge was made, usually a penny, for the service to be given to the captain.

This was in conflict with the responsibilities of the Post Office, which under successive Acts was the sole authority for the handling of all letters on receipt of the required postage. These Acts not only emphasized this fact, but also required that all incoming letters from overseas were to be handed in at the local port post office, so that postage could be collected for the benefit of the Revenue. This latter was largely ignored, as the informal system was cheaper.

Finally in an attempt to get control of this practice, the Post Office Act 9 Anne, cap. 10, 1711 effective on 1 June 1711 recognized the past practice of paying ship captains the small gratuity for carrying the letters and included it among the listed postage rates and intro-

duced a fine for anyone found delivering letters outside the postal system. A 25 June 1728 post office notice covered the latter:

'Whereas by the Act of Parliament of the 9th of Queen Anne, for establishing a General Post Office, it is amongst other things enacted, That no Person or Persons whatsoever shall have the carrying and delivering of any Letters whatsoever, unless such Persons only as shall be authorized thereunto by the Postmaster general, under the Penalty of Five Pounds for every several Offence against the Tenor of the said Act, one Moiety thereof to the King, and the other Moiety to the Person who shall sue for the same, with full Costs of Suit; Yet notwithstanding, it is found that Letters are frequently carried and delivered by Persons who are not authorized thereunto, but by some illegal Means possess themselves of Letters which should have passed through the General Post Office, and in particular Ship Letters, and to make an Advantage to themselves, demand Money for the Post of such Letters, and sometimes by counterfeiting the Marks of the Office exact more than the legal Post would come to had they been regularly taxed in the Office. To prevent therefore as much as possible this clandestine manner of carrying and delivering of Letters, which is very prejudicial to the subject in many Respects, and also a loss to His Majesty's Revenue.'

'It is ordered by the Postmaster General, That every Letter Carrier whose Walk is within London, Westminster, or Southwark, shall, as a Badge of his Employment, wear a Brass Ticket upon some (the most visible) Part of his Clothing, with the King's Arms upon it, which Ticket he is always to wear whilst he is upon Duty.'

'And all persons who shall discover any Letter Carrier, Porter, or other person or Persons whatsoever, delivering Letters which should have passed through the General Post Office without such Badge or Ticket upon the most visible Part of their Clothing, are desired to give Information thereof to the Postmaster General, that the Offenders may be prosecuted according to Law; and for such Information they shall meet with all fit-

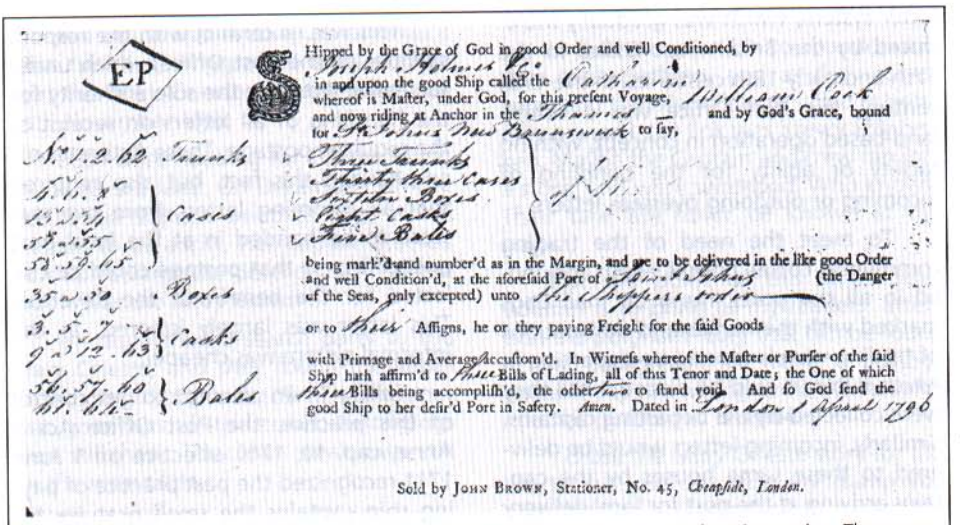

Shipped by the Grace of God in good Order and well Conditioned, by
in and upon the good Ship called the ... and by God's Grace, bound
whereof is Master, under God, for this present Voyage, ... William Cook
and now riding at Anchor in the ... Thames
for ... to say,
Three Trunks
Thirty three Cases
Sixteen Boxes
Eight Casks
Five Bales
being mark'd and number'd as in the Margin, and are to be delivered in the like good Order and well Condition'd, at the aforesaid Port of ... (the Danger of the Seas, only excepted) unto ... or to ... Affigns, he or they paying Freight for the said Goods with Primage and Average accuſtom'd. In Witneſs whereof the Maſter or Purſer of the ſaid Ship hath affirm'd to ... Bills of Lading, all of this Tenor and Date; the One of which ... Bills being accompliſh'd, the other ... to ſtand void. And ſo God ſend the good Ship to her deſir'd Port in Safety. *Amen.* Dated in ... 1796
Sold by JOHN BROWN, Stationer, No. 45, *Cheapſide, London.*

Figure 2: An example of the shipping notices which accompanied cargoes and are interesting. They were enclosed in the consignee letters.

ting Encouragement.'

An 8 December 1762 post office notice listed the various postage rates and included the ship letter fee. It read in part:

'A Table of the Port of all Letters and Pacquets establish'd by Act of Parliament in the Ninth Year of the Reign of her late Majesty Queen Anne, Entitled An Act for Establishing a General Post-Office for all Her Majesty's Dominions.'

SHIP LETTERS

For the Port [postage] of all and every the Letters and Pacquets, directed to, or brought from on Board any Ship or Vessel, riding in any Port within His Majesty's Dominions, (over and above the Rates granted by this Act) ..... 0s. 1d.

For every Letter and Pacquet directed to Persons on Board Ships in any Port or Harbour in Great Britain or Ireland, you are (over and above the Postage due for the same to London and forwards) to receive one Penny, ... 0s. 1d.'

In British North America, Benjamin Franklin, one of the two Deputy Postmasters General there, had issued the instruction in 1754 that 'all Ship Letters and Packets must be charged with 8 grain weight each for such as are directed on Board any Ship or Vessel'. Eight grains of silver was equivalent to one penny. This was further clarified in a 1 May 1763 post office giving postage for the Continent of America:. 'For the Port of every Letter or Packet of Letters, directed to, or coming from, on board any Ship, One Penny, over and above the Rates before-mentioned.'

'The Deputy Postmasters in Great Britain and Ireland, are directed to pay One Penny for every Letter or Packet that may be delivered to them from parts beyond the Seas, upon a proper Receipt being given for the Money, expressing the Name of the Vessel, and Captain.'

'The full Inland Postage of all letters and Packets, directed on Board of Ships, or to His Majesty's Islands in the West-Indies, must be paid at the Post-Office where they are put in; together with One Penny, for every Letter, or Packet, over and above the said Postage for putting the same on Ship-board.'

The Post Office Act Geo. III, cap. 25, 1765 in effect doubled the ship letter fee on incoming letters by adding a penny for the postmaster, in addition to the one paid the master delivering the letter. This is clarified in the 8 June 1765 post office notice:

'That no Vessel shall be permitted to break Bulk, or make Entry in any Port within the British Dominions, where Posts are or may be established, until all Letters on board are delivered to the Postmaster of such Port (he paying the Bringer One Penny for each letter) to be forwarded according to their respective Directions, except such as are excepted by the Act of the Ninth of Queen Anne, and such as may be brought by Vessels liable to Quarantine, which last are to be delivered to the Persons superintending the Quarantine, for proper Care, before they are forwarded by the Post. And that all masters, mariners, passengers, & c. neglecting to deliver the Letters as aforesaid, shall, for every Neglect, forfeit Twenty Pounds.'

'That the Postmaster shall take for every Letter brought by such Vessel, for any Place within his Delivery, One Penny, above the Penny paid to the Master or other Person for the same.'

These notices have been quoted to show that they all specified that every letter on board a vessel was to be delivered to the port postmaster, who was to pay the master one penny and charge an additional penny for his trouble. Thus when a letter like that of 1795 (Figure 1)

is encountered, it is an open question whether it was delivered 'out of course' directly to the consignee, that is illegally, or there was already a recognized system of not charging 'consignee letters' the ship letter fee. Figure 1 is a 20 July 1795 letter from Manchester enclosing an invoice for two chests having the identifying marks shown at the lower left of the letter, which were sent by the Ohio, as was the letter. By whatever route it reached the consignee, it was free of postage due.

The Shipping Notices which accompanied the cargoes at this time are interesting and were enclosed in the consignee letters. Figure 2 is an example of one; unfortunately, I do not have the accompanying letter. This notice covered a mixed shipment of sixty-five items from London to St. John, New Brunswick in April 1796. The individual items were marked with the logo 'EP' in a diamond and numbered, as shown in the left margin of the notice.

It might be noted in passing that the British ship letter fee was increased to four pence sterling in 1796; to one-half the full packet rate on outgoing letters in 1799; to six pence on incoming letters and one-third the packet rate on 'Post Paid Withdrawn' outgoing ship letters, remaining at one-half, if left at the post office, in 1814; to eight pence incoming in 1815.

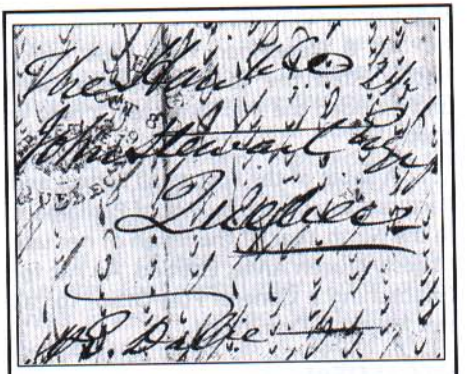
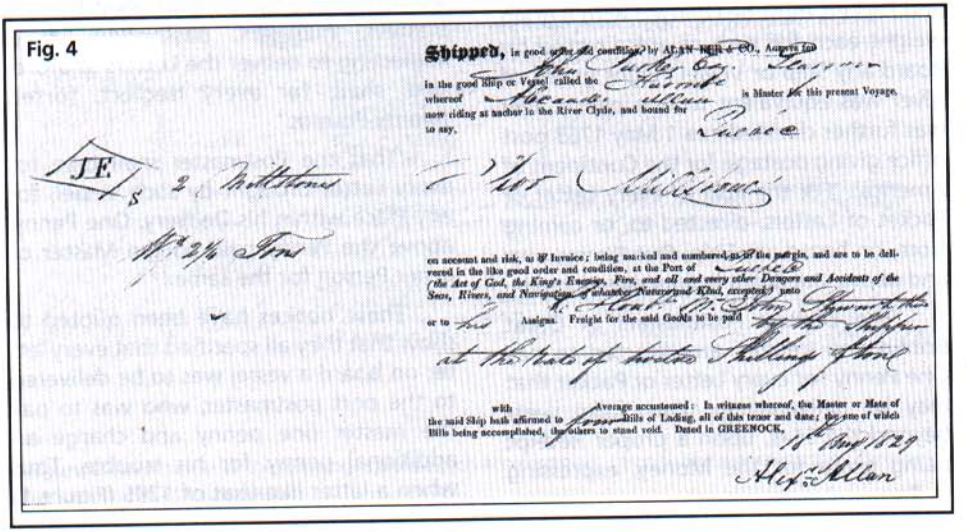


Figure 3: The letter shown here was from Glasgow and dated 24 August 1829.

The letter shown in Figure 3 was from Glasgow and dated 24 August 1829. It reported the shipment of two Millstones, Shelling by the Favorite on 18 August and accompanied two more Millstones by the Earl of Dalhousie on 25 August; also enclosed were Shipping Notices similar to that in Figure 2. which were identical apart from details of the shipment. That for the Favorite is illus-

Fig. 4



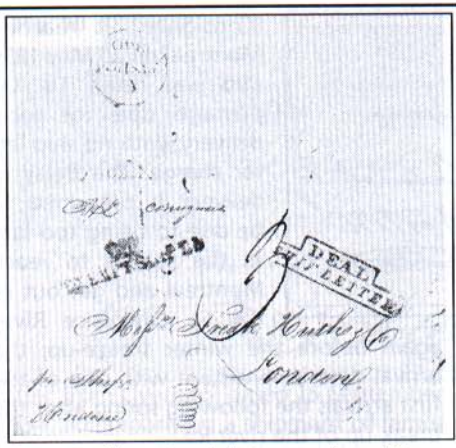


Figure 5: Although such letters were free of the ship letter fee, they were liable for inland postage, if to be delivered beyond the port of arrival.

trated in Figure 4 to show change in style in thirty years. The letter and notices would have been used to clear Customs and, although this was a Consignee Letter, it was treated as a ship letter on arrival on 8 October, struck with an oval 'Crown Ship Letter' and rated 21/2d. Cy. ship letter fee at port of arrival.

The first official reference that I have found is in the 1825 U.S. Postal Act, where the relevant section was:

'Sec. 17. And be it further enacted, That no ship or vessel, arriving at any Port within the United States where a post office is established, shall be permitted to report, make entry, or break bulk, until the master or commander shall have delivered to the postmaster all letters directed to any person or persons within the United States,...which, under his care, or within his power, shall be brought in such ship or vessel, except such as are directed to the owner or consignee of the ship or vessel [my emphasis]. And it shall be the duty of the collector, or other officer of the port empowered to receive entries of ships or vessels, to require, from every master or commander of such ship or vessel, an oath or affirmation, purporting that he has delivered all such letters, except as aforesaid.'

On the other hand, the first indication that the British Post Office allowed Consignee Letters to be delivered with a ship letter charge was in the Post Office Act 1 Vic., cap. 34, 1837 with respect to Free Letters:

'23. And be it enacted, That the following Persons shall have their Letters for from Sea Postage, (that is to say,) the Owners, Charterers, or Consignees (resident in the United Kingdom) of Vessels Inward-bound, and the Owners, Consignees, or Shippers of Goods on board Vessels Inward-bound; but the Letters brought by any One Vessel to any One such Person shall not collectively exceed Six Ounces in Weight...; and the Owner, Charterer, or Consignee shall be described as such on the Address and Superscription, and in the Case of Owners, Shippers, or Consignees of Goods, it shall also appear by the Ship's Manifest that they have Goods on board the Vessel; and the Persons hereby exempted shall be entitled to have their Letters which come within the above Conditions before the Master of the Vessel delivers the other Letters in his Charge to the Post Office.'

It should be noted that, although such letters were free of the ship letter fee, they were liable for inland postage, if to be delivered beyond the port of arrival. An example of this is shown in Figure 5, which was from New Orleans dated 28 July 1840, marked with 'B/L consignees', contained an agreement to consign the ship Undine to the addressee to transact 'her Business' by her captain, together with a bill of lading for three hundred hogsheads of tobacco. The letter was landed at Deal and struck with a boxed 'DEAL/ SHIP LETTER' and rated 3d. Stg. inland postage to London. It was backstamped at London on 24 September and struck with a rare crowned 'EXEMPT



Figure 6: A letter from Liverpool, dated 30 January 1844 on arrival at Boston it was struck with a SHIP 6.

SHIP LETTER', reflecting the absence of the eight pence ship letter charge.

Many consignee letters arriving at U.S. ports were rated with the standard six-cent ship letter fee, as shown in Figure 6, a letter from Liverpool dated 30 January 1844, enclosing a bill of lading for eleven casks shipped on the Susanna Cumming. On arrival at Boston, it was struck with a 'SHIP 6' to show the six cents postage due.

Letters arriving at B.N.A. ports were usually charged in accordance with the 1837 British regulation, as shown in Figure 7. This was a letter with invoice dated 24 August 1849 covering a 400 pound package shipped on the Pearl, Chalmers, and was marked 'Consignee'. It reached Montreal on 20 May 1850 and was rated 1d. Cy. postage due for local delivery, with no ship letter charge. The delay in delivery is presumed to be due to being too late in the season to reach Montreal and get out of the St. Lawrence River again before the winter freeze-up; the arrival date is consistent with one of the first arrivals the following spring after the break-up of the river ice.

In a similar vein is Figure 8, which is a

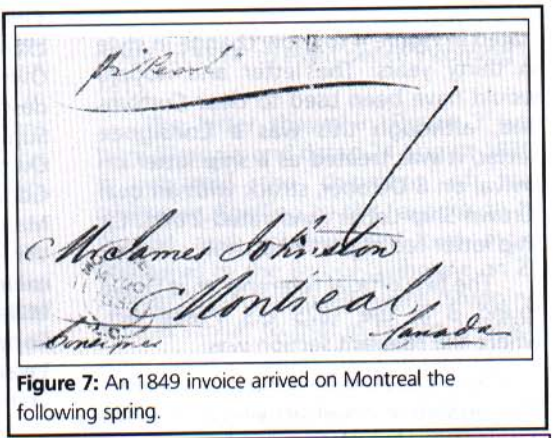


Figure 7: An 1849 invoice arrived on Montreal the following spring.

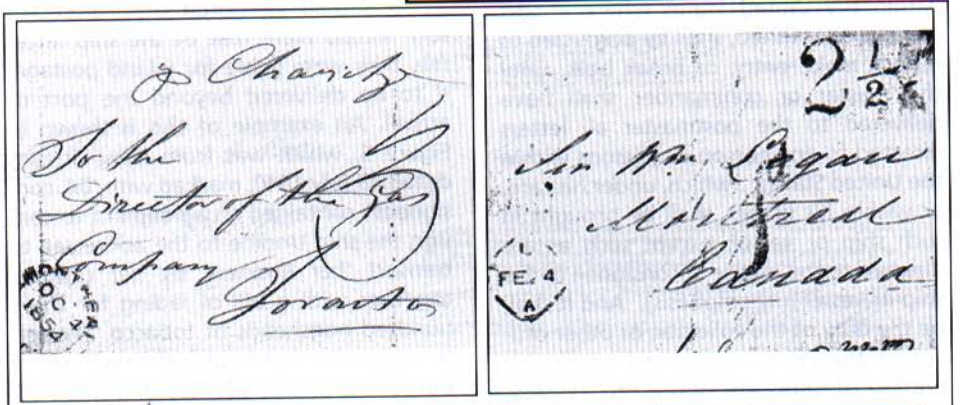


Figure 8: (left) shows a letter from Liverpool accompanying a shipment of lamps and gas fittings. **Figure 9:** (right) An invoice for a compass found the right directions through customs.



letter from Liverpool dated 15 September 1854, accompanying a shipment of lamps and gas fittings consigned to David Billhouse, Montreal for forwarding to the Gas Company in Toronto, which were sent on the Canadian Steam Navigation Co. contract steamer Charity on her fourth and last voyage on 15 September to Quebec on 2 October. It was entered free at Montreal and only rated 3d. Cy. inland postage to Toronto.

Figure 9 is an interesting letter as it contained an invoice for a prismatic compass from London, dated 23 February 1858. It was backstamped at London, when mailed the same day and struck with '1d' to show a one penny British debit.

It was carried by the Cunard Canada in a closed bag to Montreal, where it was backstamped on 13 March and rated 21/2d. Cy. postage due.

The invoice was used to clear the compass through Customs, for it has a 13 March Customs datestamp on the inside and a manuscript 'Free' with initials.

Figure 10 shows a consignee letter carried on the St. David, an Allan Line freight/passenger steamer between Glasgow and Quebec. The letter was handed in at Quebec, where it was datestamped on 4 November 1865 and struck 'FREE', as it was addressed to a Canadian Government office, instead of being charged inland postage to Ottawa.

Finally, Figures 11 and 12 are two letters from Liverpool dated 26 April 1861 and 1 July 1868, accompanying a shipment of clay retorts and one of fire clay for the Consumers Gas Co., Toronto.

When mailed at Montreal, neither was charged a ship letter fee, while the first was rated seven cents postage due and the second five cents.

As they were unpaid when mailed, they were charged two cents more than the prepaid rate.❐



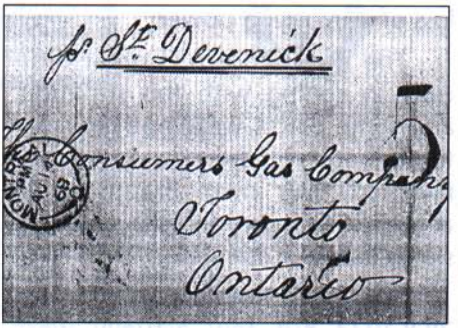


Figure 11 (left) and 12: are both from Liverpool dated 26 April 1861 and 1 July 1868. They accompanied a shipment of clay retorts and one of fire clay for the ConsumersGas Company in Toronto.

POSTMARKED

continued from page 309

Thin paper is any paper that is less than three thousands of an inch, and thick papers are those that measure more than 3.5 thousands of an inch.

The grain of the thin paper may not be as pronounced on some as compared to the well known 2 and 5¢ values. H is the horizontal wove paper.

1. A few interesting minor varieties have been noted on the recent 45 cents booklet stamps. These show up as round white spots throughout the design. Apparently some ink resistant material got onto the printing surface and prevented the ink covering those areas. These are not constant varieties.

2. The German inflation period, at its height in 1923, created many odd stamps. The value of the currency changed so fast that stamps had to be produced almost weekly. Anyone getting paid had to get out at once and buy food, etc., to avoid the rapid loss of purchasing power.

The Post Office had great difficulty in coping with this situation, and some places were not provided fast enough with new stamps so they invented their own. Braunschweig and Halle both produced such provisional inflation stamps.

The Halle stamps were issued 28.8.1923 but few actually were used. Large quantities of remainders exist.

3. Did the market really recover? If you look at the latest auction catalogues from a few Canadian companies one would say, yes the market has been very strong lately. Not only outstanding stamps brought prices above the estimates but also large lots and collections as well. That is if one only looks at the estimates and then the realized prices. As one company writes "floor bidding with realizations considerably more than our presale estimates."

And another writes "realizations were 112.8 per cent of our presale estimates." But if we look at the actual catalogue values of some stamps that had an estimate listed and that brought more than the estimate, it is at once obvious that the catalogue value in most cases is not even reached but that the estimates are in many cases from 1/10 catalogue for collections, to 1/4 for single stamps.

Therefore, bidding indicates that collectors or even dealers buy at a price that is more truly reflecting the actual market value.

One must admit though that the market has been strong lately compared to five years ago. An interesting comparison can be made also with some larger European auction houses.

They quote estimates in addition to the catalogue value but most show that the estimates are very close to the actual market. Thus the prices realized are often just the estimate or slightly below by about 10 per cent.

4. There may be some misunderstanding of what constitutes a double precanceled stamp. Lately some so-called double overprints have been noted but in some cases it is obvious that most of these do not qualify as double precancels.

Large stamps such as the Map, Jubilees and others, often show only misplaced overprints. That is one overprint in full or in part shows up on one side and on the other side of the stamp.

One example is the one cent Jubilee with which has a misplaced overprint. This is not a double. Another example would be a clear double where both misplaced overprints are clearly doubled. There should be some sort of overlap of the overprints.

5. The use of postal stationary cut outs used as stamps has been noted recently on some Canadian covers. It is not clear if regulations exist to allow this or not. But basically, the cut out if uncancelled represents a postage stamp and its use may be legitimate.

The Old German States postal stationary were used in a cut out form of letters. These on cover are listed in the Michel catalogue. Some are listed for Lubeck, Oldenburg, Prussia, Saxony, Thurn and Taxis.

For Oldenburg such cut outs used as stamps were not allowed officially but were tolerated. These are extremely rare. Only five such have been reported, one recently auctioned at a value of DM 140,000.❐

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An Academic Approach to Collecting and Exhibiting – Using Postage Dues as the Example

By John K. Courtis

Introduction

A collection of worldwide postage due stamps embraces many facets of philately (Gough, 1995; Leahy 1997 *American Philatelist*). A study of the stamps themselves involves postal entity identification, watermarks, papers, perforations and roulettes, inks, shades, printing techniques, frame and overprint dimensions, gum, dies, grills, essays and trials, varieties, and errors.

There are approximately 11,500 definitive postage due issues worldwide, including at least 3,000 watermark, perforation and other varieties. The population of postage dues, which exist almost entirely in sets, have been issued by 254 postal entities since 1845, with all but about 20 entities now having ceased to issue designated dues stamps. One of the most exciting aspects of this area of philately is the "chase" itself, with many dues being quite elusive to find, and some now commanding high catalogue values.

The overall catalogue value of the 100 most expensive dues worldwide is in the vicinity of U.S. $300,000, although fortunately, the vast majority of issues are modestly priced. On cover, and especially if tied with a clear cancellation, the cost can escalate by a multiple of five, 10, 20 or more times.

The purpose of this article is to share with readers some of the diverse activities which have been pursued in postage due collecting. In order to develop a comprehensive collection of the postage dues issues from around the world, it was necessary to use research skills in uncovering elusive information, and embrace computer technology in order to cope with the quantity and diversity of information needed. While it is true that most collectors spend their philatelic time with their albums and their stamps, it is also true that as we approach the next millennium, technology is being used, internationally, by a growing number of collectors, philatelic societies, stamp dealers, postal museums and postal administrations.

Canada Post, for example, has an interesting home page on the World Wide Web, as do many literature and postal history auction dealers and individuals. One of the aims of this paper is to remove some of the mystic of using this technology and illustrate how it can be used as a tool to educate the collector, fulfill goals and enrich philatelic involvement. There is an old saying that "you get out of something what you put into it".

Preparing a Handbook

In 1987, after considerable thought, the author made a decision to specialize in the collection of *worldwide postage dues*, concentrating on the stamps themselves rather than 'T' markings, covers and postal history. The first major task was to identify, from the Scott and Gibbons catalogues the J and D designated stamps that were listed worldwide. Because of the diversity in postal entities over one and a half centuries of

postage due stamp issues, all four volumes of the Scott catalogue had to be examined, as well as the 22 volumes of Gibbons.

One of the best ways to really get to grips with something is to write about it, and this led to the preparation of a draft handbook on postage dues of the world. A major part of this draft is an entity-by-entity listing of every postage due issue, arranged chronologically, and identified by Scott/Gibbons numbers for ease of cross-reference.

With generous help from about 20 country philatelic chapters, the American Philatelic Research Library, and my own philatelic library, a reasonably comprehensive literature relating to dues has come to light, but published in fragmented, often esoteric, and difficult to access sources. Journal articles and book chapters contain a wealth of information explaining denomination and design changes, quantities printed, watermark, paper and printing anomalies. Synopses of these country and specific issue analysis have been incorporated into the handbook.

The draft has been extended into chapters which deal with the issue of dues overprinted for regular postal usage, forgeries, dues on cover reproduced as described in auction catalogues, and a comprehensive 25 page bibliography. At the present time the draft pagination has reached 800 and is contained in two volumes. A third volume will be necessary when examples of each type of due, and some of the interesting errors and varieties are scanned into the text on the computer to facilitate identification and illustrate the discussion. The word processing program in use is Microsoft Word.

Clam shell boxes

A second major task has been to write-up the growing collection and house it in albums which would safeguard the stamps against the vagaries of nature. In retrospect, a number of quality stockbooks could have been used to house the collection by country and continent. Stockbooks would have afforded flexibility, and the growing collection would not have taken too much time to arrange and rearrange.

It was decided instead, however, to use loose-leaf pages and type the write-up above each set before mounting with stamp hinges. Between 1987-1991, using an electronic typewriter, 400 pages were prepared in this way, housed in 12 Lighthouse three-ring binders. An unforeseen permanent relocation from Waterloo, Canada to the heat and humidity of Hong Kong induced me to reconsider the longer-term requirements of the collection.

With the size of the collection growing over the years, vain thoughts prompted the possibility of exhibiting some of the pages to share with others this interesting area of philately. The potential that exhibiting might one day become a reality was to cause some fundamental changes in the subsequent selection of paper, the use of mounts, the write-up technique, page design, and housing.

At CAPEX 86 in Toronto there was a gold-medal exhibit of cancellations on cover. Someone told me that each page in the frames was taken, as is, from the collector's albums. In other words, each page had been removed from its section of a bigger collection and placed into the exhibit without further write-up, except for the introductory page and overall organization and sequencing of

pages in the frames. That thought was influential in a decision to redo the write-up and mounting of the entire collection, now having grown to over 7,000 varieties, as well as a few illustrative dues on cover.

The search for appropriate album paper took several months, and required writing to philatelic accessory suppliers in response to their advertisements in *The American Philatelist*. Eventually I came across some excellent stock plain archival paper, paneled with an impressed plain border from Leonard H. Hartmann. These 8-1/2" x 11" thick pages can be hand fed through a laser printer with excellent results (e.g., a HP Laserjet 4L). The pages are totally blank and therefore allow maximum creativity and simplicity. Also, they come without any punched holes, and are suitable as exhibition pages.

The second challenge was how to house the 830 pages of mounted stamps and dues on cover without damaging the edges of the pages, and without resorting to a traditional two or three ring binder. Mr. Hartmann also supplied sturdily made PB clam shell boxes, in red, green and blue sail cloth. Each box can house about 80 pages, and they have fulfilled all my expectations about appropriate preservation. The collection is now housed in 12 of these clam shell boxes.

Page design

Anyone who attends stamp shows could not help but observe that the trend in exhibiting is to use a computer to generate page designs and write-up of the material. The software and computers of today are user friendly, and no one should be afraid to use them as tools to enhance the appearance and write-up of a collection. I chose to use the Microsoft PowerPoint software for page design. Each collector has personal preferences about desirable appearance, but for those looking for ideas, I recommend C.E. Foster *Showcasing Your Stamp Collection* as an excellent introduction to the topic.

Using a blank sheet of scrap paper it is best to first sketch out the page design required, and then measure more precisely the length and width of where each mounted stamp is to appear. The PowerPoint program can be used to draw thin lined boxes of required dimensions. Each mounted stamp would ultimately be showcased in its own box, the boxes being easily moved around on the screen to the desired location by dragging the box with the cursor.

The program has a ruler, and vertical and horizontal guide lines on the page, and these lines can be moved around with the cursor. The quickest way of drawing a box of requisite size is to shift the vertical guide line to the left of the page to its appropriate ruler mark, and move the horizontal guide line upwards likewise to its ruler mark. The box so marked out in the upper left corner of the page by the guide lines can be made into a box in seconds by clicking on the rectangle icon and dragging the cursor from the upper left hand corner of the box to the bottom right hand corner.

Many of the stamps in the sets of postage dues are of the same size, so that once a box has been drawn for one stamp, the Duplicate and Duplicate Again functions of the edit menu can be used to copy the box the number of times required. It is then a simple matter of dragging each of the boxes to its desired location on the page, using the guide lines for a perfectly symmetrical layout if that is desired.

With practice, a page can be designed and printed in less than 15 minutes. Many pages are identical, as set and stamp sizes for key-plate issues are the same. It is also possible to design triangles, rounded comers, and rectangles of variable shapes on the same page through the use of this powerful and versatile program.

The task of page design, and remounting the collection using clear Showgard mounts took 18 months. Clear mounts have been used because of the showcasing with boxes. The use of black mounts gives the appearance of the page having a too heavy look from my perspective.

Sidekick

Interest in the research side of postage dues has grown step-by-step with the growth in the collection itself. This interest has manifested itself in the active development of a philatelic library, with attention being given to the acquisition of runs of periodicals from postal bid auctions around the world. When unbound periodicals arrive, I assemble them into annual volumes, and once a year ask the university bookbinder to collect, bind and deliver them to my home.

The cost is a very reasonable and the bound copies look very impressive. Through the use of international mail auctions, over 300 volumes of philatelic periodicals have been acquired in recent years, as well as several hundred books.

Keeping track of a growing library needs organization, and it seemed prudent to put bibliographic details of each volume on my home computer, which is a Pentium 200 with two gigabits of memory. The program Sidekick was installed, the relevant part of which is the use of index cards for each item in the library, now totaling 851 volumes of philatelic materials. After inserting author(s), title and publication details, there is a section for keywords. This is where the program really comes into its own. Each card enables the input of up to about 500 keywords. Books and pamphlets generally require only 20-50 keywords, but each volume of a periodical is made up of many issues (perhaps one per month).

Each issue contains a number of articles, columns, letters, items of information and so forth, and headings of articles can be typed in to this keyword section of the card. A volume is examined one page at a time, and article headings and other keywords are typed into the card on the basis that they might be of use in the future.

Special attention is paid to anything referencing postage dues, and these are flagged deliberately with a journal page number. Depending on the size of a volume, each card can take up to an hour to complete with details and keywords, whereas a book takes usually less than five minutes.

This is a heavy commitment to time, but does have at least the short-term payoff of identifying exactly what is included in each of the issues, and it is fascinating to work chronologically through runs of journals for their information content. A great deal of information comprises precursor articles to what subsequently has appeared in book form.

Apart from its organizing ability, the main power of the Sidekick program lies in its search engine. The program has the ability to find specific information by searching through all the keywords on each card looking for the topic or keywords that have been typed into the

search title. Almost instantly the program will identify the relevant cards and keywords with the words requested. In the data base of Sidekick there are well over a quarter of a million words identifying my library.

This makes it easy to trace information on virtually any topic in the library. The preparation time to put an entire library on a program like this is high, but for those with an interest in information about topics, or who wish to research some point, the search engine facility is invaluable and uses computer technology as it should. My search engine identified in seconds a total of 11 hand-written pages of articles and book references on the topic Postage Dues.

Exhibiting

There are times when I think that exhibiting is a cross between masochism and a blood sport. Preparing a selection of pages for competitive exhibiting has been a very challenging but educational exercise, with FIP rules to observe, and idiosyncratic judges with a penchant for postal history and little else.

While some wealthy collectors are able to afford full-time curators of their collections, or employ professional layout artists to mount and write-up their exhibits, ordinary people have to rely on their own time, resources and initiative to put together something which reflects their collecting interests and accomplishments.

A couple of years ago the urge to exhibit arose, more for the experience and camaraderie of other collectors than awards per se. A two frame exhibit of "Postage Dues: Imperforate Issues" was duly prepared. This contained some very unique and esoteric material that has found its way into the collection over the past decade.

The jury had never seen anything like it before, admitted that they did not fully understand it, and did not know enough about the general topic of postage dues (and especially imperforate issues) to give it the same assessment as more traditional philatelic exhibits and postal history. Nevertheless, it received a silver-bronze, together with some constructive feedback from one of the judges with regard to what additional material would add to the depth of the exhibit and improve its award rating.

The chance remark from one of the judges that, "perhaps the jury did not know enough about this aspect of philately to be able to fairly assess the scarcity of the material" made me realize how we each have a responsibility to add to the knowledge of our fellow collectors whenever and to the extent that we are each capable of doing so, whatever the area of philately.

It was the encouragement I needed to continue with the Postage Dues Handbook, which will most probably be under continued preparation for another couple of years before being ready for a wider audience. In the meantime, any reader who might have some article on postage dues tucked away somewhere, might please contact me with details or send it for summarization and inclusion in the final product, with grateful appreciation and acknowledgment.❐

Editor's note:

John K. Courtis is a professor in the Department of Accountancy at City University of Hong Kong, 83 Tak Chee Ave., Kowloon, Hong Kong. He collects postage due stamps, Australian States, country collections of places he has lived, a thematic collection about medieval manuscripts, and a general typhoon collection (so named as time to work on it is limited to days when HK is shut down because of typhoons). John's email address is: acapjajc@cityu.edu.hk

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Under the Hammer

....with Dean Mario

Stanley Gibbons Auctions on June 24-26 certainly brightened up the summer for collectors.

Rare stamps and postal history of the world were highlighted in a separate sale on the 24th, while the following two days featured general Commonwealth and worldwide material.

The highlight of these sales was the offering in lot 30 of the spectacular G.B. 1840 1d Black block of ten tied to a large wrapper and used on May 6, the official first day of issue (see front cover).

Estimated at £250,000-300,000, it sold for £253,000 or $632,955 in Canadian funds (the exchange rate at $2.5018; prices quoted include the 15 per cent buyer's fee).

Canadian material included lot 14, a VF unused copy of the 1855 10d Deep Blue Cartier estimated at £3,200-3,600. It sold for £3,680 ($9,206 Cdn.). A rare unused imperforate horizontal pair of the 1859 1¢ Rose Victoria (lot 15) sold for £1,150 ($2,877 Cdn.) against an estimate of £1,000-1,200.

Canadian and BNA material proved interesting in the general sale as well. Lot 67 contained imperforate bottom margin vertical plate proof pairs of the 1935 1¢-13¢ values from the Silver Jubilee issue.

The lot sold for £310 ($775 Cdn.) against a £200-240 estimate. A mint NH imperforate coil strip of thirteen of the 1991 42¢ Red Flag issue in lot 69 was estimated at £280-300 and sold for the same price.

A used rare Newfoundland 1857 1/ Scarlet-Vermillion single with poor margins and a small thin was offered in lot 264. It reached a respectable £276 ($690 Cdn.) against an estimate of £340-380.

Specialists collecting Indian Feudatory States recognized lot 183, containing three of the five known used examples of the rare 1872 1/2a Black Single-Frame issues from Bhopal, as something quite special. Although the stamps had variable margins and faults, the lot sold for £8,050 ($20,139 Cdn.), despite an estimate of £700-800!

Several French ballons montes and related stamped and unstamped folded letters from the 1870-71 Franco-Prussian War were featured in lots 879-893.

Prices for this popular area ranged from £138 ($345 Cdn.) for an 1870 stampless letter to Quimperle (lot 886) to £805 ($2,013 Cdn.) for a stampless 1870 letter to Landes recovered from the sea (lot 885). Stanley Gibbons Auctions are at 399 Strand, London, WC2R 0LX, G.B.; telephone 0171-836-8444; fax 0171-836-7342; e-mail:

auctions@stangiblondon.demon.co.uk

Like many currencies in recent months, the Canadian dollar has suffered terribly. This will undoubtedly have an effect on local and international collectors (whether buying or selling).

Some of these values in this report reflect this situation. Still, the philatelic market continues to be strong in most areas: especially in traditional material and rare and exotic items.❐

Royal * 1998 * Royale

Hamilton, ON
May 29-31, 1998
Exhibition Results

Court of Honour

Canada Imperial Penny Postage by Fred Fawn;
The Province of Canada, 1851-1868
by The Brigham Collection



By Invitation

Girl Guides & Boy Scouts by Tony Manson

Awards

Grand Award:

Large Queens of Canada, 1868-1876
The Brigham Collection

Reserve Grand Award:

Edward – All For Love, George Guzzio

Gold Medal with Felicitations:

Estonia, 1918-1940, Warren Dickson

Gold Medals:

Large Queens of Canada, 1868-1876 (+Special Prize),
The Brigham Collection;
Le Courrier Officiel au Canada, 1792-1880 (+Special Prize),
Christianne Jacques;
Canada, Special Delivery System (+Special Prize), Robert Bayes;
Canadian Federal Revenue Stamps, Joseph Shelton;
GB Underpaid International Mail, 1875-1940, Kenneth Snelson;
Estonia, 1918-1940 (+Special Prize), Warren Dickson;
Ireland, 1840-1901, Kenneth Magee;
Postal Markings of Dublin, 1818-1916, Charles Verge;
Switzerland, Standing Helvetia, 1880-1907; Nottingham;
Edward – All For Love (+Special Prize); George Guzzio

Vermeil Medals:

Large Queens of Canada, 1868-1876, Fred Fawn;
Canada, C-6 Specialized Collection (+Special Prize), Pendragon;
RPO's, USSIA's Baltic States, Peter LarpiniereI;
Mozart's Footsteps (+Special Prize); George Fiala

Royal 98 Royale

Hamilton, ON
May 29-31, 1998
Exhibition Results

Silver Medals:

Canada Imperial Penny Postage, 189,: John T. Anders
Canada, 3¢ Small Queen, 1870-1897, Stuart Reddington;
Canada, Rates to Overseas, 1937-1942; Ted Nixon;
Post Offices of Brant Count,; Bob Anderson;
Anguilla to Zululand, Q.V., Harold Gosney



Youth Exhibits

Best in Youth Class:

La Bernache Canadienne, Stephanie Rault

Vermeil Medals:

La Bernache Canadienne (+Special Prize);
Stephanie Rault;
Instruments et Accessories du Philateliste
(+Special Prize);
Mike Drouin

Silver Medals:

Les Instruments de Musiqu, Julie Caza;
Les Coleopters, Alexandre Guillette;
Les Vols Orbitaux Habites, 1961-1966, Sebastien Lang;
La Vigne et le Vin, Anne Chantal;
Le Symbolisme des Frapeaux, Benoit Grenon;
Instruments de; Mesure, Maxime-Olivier Ratte;
Le Parachutisme; Pierre-Luc-Begin

Silver/Bronze Medals:

Armenia in Maximaphily, Lavon Minosyan;
Les Dieux de L'Olympe: Elyse Picard



Literature:

Silver:

Bulletin D'Histoire Postale et Marcophile,
Marc Beaupre

Silver/Bronze:

Various Articles on Plate Block,
Donald LeBlanc

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 duy Canada ne s'occupe pas normalement des échanges entre philatélistes, mais comme elle est la société philatélique nationale du Canada, ou lui transmet de nombreses demandes de philatélistes désireux de trouver des corrspondants pour échanger des timbres. Ainsi atelle décidé, 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 épondant à ces demandes d'échange.

Adrian Vamos
Juhasz Gy. u8"/18
Budapest, 1039 HUNGARY
"I am interested in themes like: ships, flights, railways, space research, animals (local, water, reptiles), buildings, maps, cactus, sports, olympic, famous people, monarchs, kings, queens, anniversaries."

Ervin Piedra Chavez
P.O. Pox 2222
10200 Havana 2 CUBA
"I am a stamp collector and I'm very interested in contact with collectors of your country for stamp exchange. I offer Cuban new stamps, used stamps, and FDC's."

Luiz Gomez Orozco
P.O. Pox 2222
10200 Havana CUBA
"I'm a Cuban philatelist very interested in contact with people of your country for stamp exchanges."

Stan Gonska
P.O. Box 28 Minsk 13
BELARUS 220013
"I am 48 years old, engineer, married. I collect mint complete sets of stamps, souvenir sheets of your country. In exchange I can send almost all issues (mint complete sets of stamps, souvenir sheets, FDC's, uncirculated bank notes, used covers, etc) from Belarus and USSR (especially 1971-1991 years), some issues of other ex-USSR republics, Mongolia, Viet Nam, North Korea, Cuba, East Europe."

Rulon Simmons
63 Mayon Dr.
Rochester, New York
14616
USA
"I would be happy to have you publish my request for exchanging my extra used U.S. commemoratives (and definitives as well), for similar Canadian stamps."

Andrey Aphonin
PO Box 522
183034 Murmansk-34
RUSSIA
"I have stamps of the USSR (Russia) and other countries on any topics, FDC, postcards, covers with cancellations on any topics, covers with cancellations on ships and atom icebreakers of the Murmansk Shipping Co. I want to receive mint high quality stamps in full sets on topics: Fauna, Painting, Ships, Airplanes, Olympic Games (Nagano 1998, Sidney 2000 only), stamps of Touva, T.A.A.F., A.A.T, B.A.T., Falkland Islands, South Georgia."

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CHAOS

continued from page 310

Because The Royal does not now have a "points system" in place for judging local shows, Magee's unified scoring sheet provides our society with a rare opportunity to render its members a service with no attendant risks or costs. All the work has been done. The society needs only give its approval.

If this newly proposed score sheet is approved by the society and its use widely adopted, exhibitors at local shows will finally enjoy the same benefits that have long been the exclusive territory of exhibitors at the higher levels of competition. Not only will local exhibitors be aware of the criteria used in judging their entries, they will also have the guidelines at their disposal to help them better plan their exhibits.

Perhaps not surprisingly, as everyone involved in this year-long project is a long-time member of The Royal, Magee retained the society's traditional judging factors. The major departure from the society's present policy is the addition of points for each of the five factors as follows: Title page 10, Development 15, Knowledge & Research 25, Philatelic Material 30, and Presentation 20.

If adopted, judges across the country will no doubt welcome the new system. Under the proposed point system, judges will be able to justify their deductions objectively rather than try to explain to a competitor a subjective opinion. More importantly, points allotted for each judging criterion will be identical and not vary from show to show.

Granted, judges will need time to adjust to the new system, but in time local shows will approach a level of judging now enjoyed only by exhibitors at national and international shows. Like world-class competitors everywhere, local entries can be judged with a greater degree of objectivity and Magee's point system will do that. It will replace an archaic system, based on the subjective opinion of judges, by one of openness and greater objectivity.❐

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BNAPS – *The Society for Canadian Philately*

Membership Reports / Rapports de membres

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 30 days of publication, applicants will be accepted into full membership. Any objections should be sent to the National Office, P.O. Box 929, Station Q, Toronto, ON, M4T 2P1.

Les demandes d'adhésion ci-dessous ont été reçues et sont publiées en conformité avec la constitution. Si aucun commentaire communiquée à la Bureau Nationale, C.P. 929, Succursale Q, Toronto, (ON) M4T 2P1.

* requests address not be published / demande que son adresse ne soit pas publié

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Coming Events / Calendrier

To have your event listed in this section of *The Canadian Philatelist*, please send all details to The RPSC National Office, P.O. Box 929, Station Q, Toronto, ON, M4T 2P1. Details may be faxed to (416) 979-1144 or e-mail to rpsc@interlog.com. Information will not be accepted by telephone. **THIS IS A FREE SERVICE OF THE RPSC.**

Pour que votre évènement soit inscrit dans cette section du philatéliste canadien veuillez envoyer tous les détails au Bureau national de la SRPC, C.P. 929, Succ. 'Q', Toronto, ON, M4T 2P1. Les détails peuvent être faxés au (416) 979-1144 ou par poste-électronique é rpsc@interlog.com. Aucune information ne sera acceptée par téléphone. **CECI EST UN SERVICE GRATUIT DE LA SRPC.**

REGIONAL EVENTS / ÉVÉNEMENTS RÉGIONAUX

SEPTEMBER 19: COPEX '98,Cobourg Stamp Club's 29th annual stamp show at Salvation Army Citadel, 59 Ballantine St. Cobourg, ON. from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Free admission, door prizes, exhibits, dealers and table auctions. For more information call (905) 885-2697.

OCTOBER 3-4: VICPEX 1998, Stamp Exhibition, Postcard Show and Bourse at the Holiday Inn, 3020 Blanshard Street, Victoria, BC. Sponsored by the Greater Victoria Philatelic Society, Vancouver Island Philatelic Society and Victoria Junior Stamp Club. For Information and Prospectus write to Show Chairman, Box 5164, Station B, Victoria, BC, V8R 6N4. Tel. (250) 721-1940 (evenings).

OCTOBER 23-25: AMPHILEX '98: L'Amicale des Philatelistes de l'Outaouais presents Amphilex 98 at Notre Dame de la Guadeloupe Church, 30 St. Onge St. in Hull, Quebec on Oct. 23, 24, 25. Stamp exhibition, show and dealers' bourse will be presented. Friday hours noon-8 p.m.; Saturday 10 a.m. to 6 p.m.; Sunday 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.Door prizes, lunch counter, admission is free. For more information write to Mike Bedard, P.O. Box 276, Vernon, ON. K0A 3J0.

OCTOBER 24: 37th Annual Exhibition and Dealers' Bourse presented by the Barrie District Stamp Club at the Sunnidale Community Centre, Sunnidale Road, Barrie, ON. Hours: 10 am to 5 pm, 12 Dealers, admission is free.

OCTOBER 24: Brantford Stamp Club annual exhibition and bourse at the Woodman Community Centre, 491 Grey Street, Brantford, 10 am. to 4 pm. Free admission and parking, 13 dealers, sales circuit, beginners' booth, exhibits, lunch counter, draws and prizes. For more information contact Show Convenor, Brantford Stamp Club, P.O. Box 25003, West Brant Postal Outlet, 119 Colborne Street West, Brantford, ON, N3T 6K5.

OCTOBER 24-25: VANPEX 98, annual exhibition and bourse at the Landmark Hotel, 1400 Robson St., Vancouver BC, Saturday 10 am to 5 pm; Sunday 10 am to 4 pm. Free admission. For information: Maurice Guibard, 101-1537 Charles St., Vancouver BC, V5L 2T2, (604) 253-9311.

NOVEMBER 7, KENTPEX '98 The Kent County Stamp Club will hold its 68th Annual Stamp Exhibition and Bourse at the Wheels Motor Inn at the corner of Richmond Street at Keil Drive, Chatham, ON. Stamps, postal history, philatelic supplies and many dealers. Free admission and parking. For more information call 519-354-1845.

NOVEMBER 20-22: Greater Montréal Stamp Show, exhibition and bourse. Presented by the Canadian Stamp Dealers' Association and the AQPP in collaboration with La Fédération québéoise de philatélie at Place Bonaventure, Montréal, Québec. Free admission, hourly door prizes, youth activities. Hours: Friday 11am to 7 pm, Saturday 10 am to 6 pm and Sunday 10 am to 4 pm. Information: (416) 979-3335.

FEBRUARY 20-21, 1999: NIPEX 99 Exhibition and bourse sponsored by the Niagara Philatelic Society held at the Stamford Lions Club Hall at 3846 Portage Rd. in Niagara Falls ON. from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. For more information e-mail mastamps@computan.on.ca or Ed Yonelinas, R.R. 1, Niagara-on-the-Lake, ON L0S 1J0.

MARCH 20, 1999: The Oxford Philatelic Society is sponsoring the 50th Annual OXPEX stamp exhibition and the 19th Annual OTEX Ontario Topical Stamp Exhibition on March 20, 1999. There will be 16 dealers, youth area, prize draws, competitive exhibits, judges critique, Canada Post counter & refreshments. The exhibition will be at John Knox Christian School, 800 Juliana Dr., (Hwy. 401 & 59 N.) in Woodstock ON. From 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Free admission and parking.

APRIL 16-18, 1999: Lakeshore Stamp Club Annual Exhibition at the Dorval Community Centre. For more information write Lakeshore Stamp Club, P.O. Box 1, Pointe-Claire/Dorval, Quebec, H9R 4N5.❐

NATIONAL EXHIBITIONS / EXPOSITIONS NATIONALES

1998

OCTOBER 8-10: BNAPEX '98 Sponsored by the British North America Philatelic Society in Orlando, Florida. Top level exhibits for society members, spousal activities, a planned visit to EPCOT Centre/Kennedy Space Centre, awards banquet and bourse. For more information call 306-242-0892 or email: philstag@juno.com

OCTOBER 16-18: GREATER TORONTO STAMP SHOW, sponsored by The Royal Philatelic Society of Canada, The RPSC Philatelic Research Foundation and Canada Post Corporation and presented by the Canadian Stamp Dealers' Association at the Queen Elizabeth Building and Theatre, Exhibition Place, Toronto, Ontario. Hours: Friday 11 am to 7 pm, Saturday 10 am to 6 pm and Sunday 10 am to 4 pm. Information: Box 1123, Adelaide Street Post Office, Toronto, ON, M5C 2K5. Telephone (416) 979-3335.

1999

May 28-30: ROYAL * 1999 * ROYALE, annual convention, exhibition and dealers' bourse of The RPSC sponsored by the Fredericton District Stamp Club at the Fredericton Inn, Regent Street at Trans-Canada Hwy., Fredericton, New Brunswick. Hours: Friday 10 am to 6 pm; Saturday 9 am to 5 pm; Sunday 10 am to 4 pm. Information: Ron Smith, 12 Chateau Drive, McLeod Hill, NB, E3A 5X2; Phone: 506-453-1792; e-mail: rugbyron@nb.sympatico.ca

INTERNATIONAL EXHIBITIONS / EXPOSITIONS INTERNATIONALES

1998

OCT. 20-25: ILSAPEX 98, FIP sponsored show at Gallagher's Estate Exhibition Centre, 20 minutes from Johannesburg, South Africa. Information from the Commissioner: Mr. William G. Robinson, 5830 Cartier St., Vancouver, BC, V6M 3A7; (604) 261-1953; fax (604) 736-5097.

OCT. 23-NOV. 1: ITALIA 98, FIP sponsored show in Milan, Italy. Classes will be Postal History, Aerophilately, Thematic Philately, and Literature. Information from the Commissioner: Mr. Peter Madej, 30 Ormskirk Court, Toronto, ON, M6S 1B1.

NOV. 20-29: ESPAMER '98, FIAF Sponsored exhibition in Buenos Aires, Argentina. Individuals interested in exhibiting please contact Mr. Harry Sutherland, P.O. Box 100, First Canadian Place, Toronto, ON, M5X 1B2.

1999

FEB. 25-28: AMERICAS 99, under the patronage of the FIAF and recognized by the FIP, to be held in Orlando, Florida (USA). Entry forms available from Harry Sutherland, P.O. Box 100, First Canadian Place, Toronto, ON, M5X 1B2. Deadline for applications at the American Philatelic Society is July 1, 1999.

MAR. 19-24: AUSTRALIA 99, an FIP sponsored World Philatelic Exhibition, limited to Traditional, Postal Stationery, Revenues, and Social Philately, to be held in Melbourne. Commissioner: Mr. Owen White, Box 860, Stn. K, Toronto, ON, M4P 2H2; phone (416) 481-4731; fax (416) 482-4256;

E-mail: olwhite@zircon.geology.utoronto.ca

APR. 27-MAY 4: IBRA '99. World Exhibition under FIP patronage, in Nuremburg, Germany. Commissioner: Maj. R.K. Malott, 16 Harwick Cres., Ottawa, ON, K2H 6R1; (613) 829-0280; fax (613) 829-0280.

JULY 2-11: PHILEX FRANCE 99, World Exhibition with FIP patronage, to be held in Paris, France. Commissioner: Dr. J.J. Danielski, 71 Gennela Sq., Scarborough, ON M1B 5M7; (416) 283-2047. E-mail: be017@freenet.toronto.on.ca. Entry forms now available from Commissioner, entries close June 15, 1998.

AUGUST 21-30: CHINA '99, World Exhibition with FIP patronage, in Beijing, China. Commissioner: W.G. Robinson, 5830 Cartier St., Vancouver, BC, V6M 3A7; (604) 261-1953; fax (604) 261-3459.

2000

MAY 22-28: THE STAMP SHOW 2000, a celebration of philately for the millennium, with FIP patronage, to be held at Earls Court in London. Commissioner: Mr. Clifford R. Guile, P.O. Box 180, Port Hope, ON, L1A 3W3.

MAY 28-JUNE 4: WIPA2000 in Vienna, Austria. Canadian Commissioner: Otto F. Zeman, 702-150 Queen Street South, Kitchener, ON, N2G 4T7.

Chapter Meetings/Réunions des clubs membres

AJAX PHILATELIC SOCIETY

RPSC Chapter 163 meets 2nd and 4th Wednesday of each month, September to June at Ajax Public Library, 65 Harwood Ave. S., from 6 to 9 pm. All new members and visitors are welcome. Address: P.O. Box 107, Ajax, ON, L1S 3C3. For information, contact Sam Calnek, (905) 831-9886.

AMICALE des PHILATÉLISTES de L'OUTAOUAIS

L'APO, chapitre 190 de la SRPC, se réunit tous les jeudi de début septembre é fin avril, de 18h30 é 21h00. Les réunions ont lieu au Centre Communautaire Tétreau Parc Moussette, Boul. Brunet, Hull. Les visiteurs et les nouvraux membres seront toujours les bienvenus. Visitors and new members are wel-

come. Information: P. Sarault, 82 rue Kent, Hull QC J8X 3K4.

CLUB PHILATÉLIQUE ARGENTEUIL STAMP CLUB

Chapter 118 meets 2nd Wednesday of each month (except July and August) at 7:30 pm. Bilingual and bi-province meetings in Hawkesbury, ON and Lachute, PQ. Information: P.-Yves Séguin, 2888 Front Rd., Hawkesbury, ON, K6A 2T4.

CLUB PHILATÉLIQUE "LES TIMBRES" DE BOISBRIAND

Section adulte: Tous les lundis soir de 19h. é 21h. au sous-sol de la Bibliothéque Municipale 901 Grande Allée, Boisbriand.

Section junior: Tous les samedis matin de 9h. é 10.30h. débutants. Tous les samedis matin de 10.30h. é 12h. intermédiaires et avancés au chalet du parc Pellerin, 275 rue Pellerin, Boisbriand.

BARRIE DISTRICT STAMP CLUB

RPSC 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, Box 1113, Barrie, ON, L4M 5E2.

BRAMALEA STAMP CLUB

RPSC Chapter 144 meets 1st Sunday October to June inclusive (2-4 pm) and 3rd Tuesday year round (7:30-9:30 pm) at Terry Miller Recreation Complex, Williams Parkway (between Dixie Rd. and Bramalea Rd.) Brampton, Ont. Visitors welcome. Correspondence: Bramalea Stamp Club, Box 92531, Bramalea, ON, L6W 4R1.

BRANTFORD STAMP CLUB

RPSC Chapter 1 meets on the 1st and 3rd Tuesdays of the month, September to May, and the first Tuesday in June, at the Woodman Community Centre, 491 Grey St., Brantford, ON Doors open at 7 pm, short business meeting at 8 pm, followed by a program. Circuit books, 5 dealers. Visitors welcome. Information: Secretary, Box 25003, 119 Colborne St. W., Brantford, ON, N3T 6K5; (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. Information: B.C.P.S., 2955 West 38th Avenue, Vancouver, BC, V6N 2X2.

CALGARY PHILATELIC SOCIETY

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

CANADIAN AEROPHILATELIC SOCIETY

RPSC Chapter 187, The Canadian Aerophilatelic Society (CAS) welcomes anyone interested in aerophilately or astrophilately, worldwide. Yearly membership for Canadian

and USA members is $15 and for all other countries $20. No formal meetings but members meet at the RA Stamp Club meetings at the RA Centre, 2451 Riverside Dr., Ottawa, ON, at 7:30 pm every Monday except June, July and August. Information: Ron Miyanishi, 124 Gamble Ave., Toronto, ON, M4J 2P3. Tel: (416) 421-5846

CANADIAN ASSOCIATION FOR ISRAEL PHILATELY (CAFIP)

Chapter 76, Jan Bart Judaica Study Group, meets 2nd Wednesday of each month (except July and August), 7:30 pm, at Bet Joseph Lubavitch, 44 Edinburgh Street East, Toronto. Contact: Joseph Berkovits, 33 - 260 Adelaide St. E., Toronto, ON, M5A 1N1. Tel:. (416) 635-1749.

COLBORNE STAMP CLUB

Chapter 205 meets on the second and fourth Tuesdays of the month, September to May inclusive at 7 pm, in the Drop-in Centre, Victoria Square, Colborne, ON. All stamp collectors welcome, including Juniors age 10-16 years. Information: Mary Jackson, Box 33, Castleton, ON, K0K 1M0, phone (905) 344-7882.

CREDIT VALLEY PHILATELIC SOCIETY - MISSISSAUGA -

Chapter 67 meets 2nd and 4th Mondays of every month (except on holidays and in July and August) at 7:30 pm at Forest Avenue Public School, 20 Forest Ave., Port Credit. Visitors always welcome. Contact Bob Laker, (905) 279-8807.

DELTA STAMP CLUB

Chapter 138 meets 2nd and 4th Tuesdays (except June through August) at 8 pm at the Phoenix Club, 6062 - 16th Ave., Delta, BC. Visitors are always welcome. For more information call 943-5738.

EAST TORONTO STAMP CLUB

Chapter 12 meets 1st and 3rd Wednesdays (except June, July and August) at Stan Wadlow Clubhouse, Cedarvale Ave. (first east of Woodbine, at Cosburn), north of arena. Visitors welcome. Sec.: Raymond Reakes, 188 Woodmount Ave., Toronto, ON, M4C 3Z4. Tel: (416) 425-1541.

EDMONTON STAMP CLUB

Touring stampers, new members and guests are welcome to visit Edmonton's Chapter 6. Meetings every other Monday, September through June, 6:30 pm, at St. Joseph High School, 4th floor cafeteria, 109 St. and 108 Ave. Correspondence: Edmonton Stamp Club, Box 399, Edmonton, AB, T5J 2J6; Information: Keith Spencer, (403) 437-1787.

ESSEX COUNTY STAMP CLUB (WINDSOR)

Chapter 154 meets on the 2nd and 4th Wednesdays of the month (4th Wednesday in July and August) at the Teutonia Club, 55 Edinborough, Windsor, ON. Meetings start at 7 pm, program at 8 pm. Lots of parking; all visitors are welcome. Information: Essex County Stamp Club, c/o David L. Newman, 1165 Wigle Ave., Windsor, ON, N9C 3M9,

(519) 977-5967.

ETOBICOKE PHILATELIC SOCIETY

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

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 1N0.

GREATER VICTORIA PHILATELIC SOCIETY

Chapter 32 meets on the third Friday of each month at 7:30 pm at the Windsor Park Pavilion in Oak Bay. Circuit books, auction and special programs prevail. Membership $8 per year. Visitors welcome. Information: Don Dundee, 928 Claremont Ave., Victoria, BC, V8Y 1K3, (604) 658-8458.

HAMILTON STAMP CLUB

Chapter 51 meets at 6 pm on 2nd, 4th and 5th Mondays, September to June except holidays, and 2nd Monday of July, at Bishop Ryan Secondary School, Quigley Road and Albert Street, in east-end Hamilton, ON. Visitors and juniors welcome. Information: Clare Maitland (Secretary), Box 60510, 673 Upper James St., Hamilton, ON, L9C 7N7.

KAWARTHA PHILATELIC SOCIETY

Chapter 58, Meetings 2nd and 4th Tuesdays September through June (excluding 4th Tuesday in December and June). Meetings 7 pm at St. Peters High School. Information: Lloyd Mosher, 1269 Royal Drive, Peterborough, ON, K9H 6R6.

KELOWNA & DISTRICT STAMP CLUB

Chapter 90 meets monthly, 2nd Wednesday, September to June at 7 p.m., Dr. Knox Middle School Cafeteria, 1555 Burtch Ave. Visitors welcome. Information: Box 1185, Kelowna, BC, V1Y 7P8.

KENT COUNTY STAMP CLUB (CHATHAM, ON)

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

KINGSTON STAMP CLUB

Chapter 49 meets 2nd Monday, Sept.-May and 4th Monday, Sept.-Nov. and Jan.-Apr., at 7 pm, Regional Correctional Staff College, 443 Union St. W. Kingston, (NE of intersection with Sir John A. MacDonald Blvd.). Free parking, wheelchair accessible, visitors always welcome. Information: Past President, Kingston Stamp Club, 1960 Hwy. 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 Albert McCormick Arena, Parkside Dr. 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 the 2nd Wednesday and last Friday of each month, September to June at the Herb Carroll Centre, 1100 Lincoln St., Thunder Bay, ON. Meetings start at 8 pm; visitors welcome. Sec.: D. Lein, 232 Dease St., Thunder Bay, ON, P7C 2H8.

LAKESHORE STAMP CLUB

Chapter 84 meets at Karnak Hall, 3350 Boulevard des Sources, Dollard des Ormeaux, QC, on the 2nd and 4th Mondays, September to June at 7 pm. Information: Oleg Podymow, President, P.O. Box 1, Pointe Claire/Dorval, PQ, H9R 4N5.

MILTON STAMP CLUB

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

MUSKOKA STAMP CLUB

Meets the 1st and 3rd Wednesdays of each month (except July, August and December which are monthly), 7:30 p.m. at Bracebridge United Church, 46 Dominion Street N., Bracebridge, ON. Varied programs, presentations, sales, circuit books, etc. For information, please contact the president: Tom Anderson, 7 Sadler Drive, Bracebridge, ON, P1L 1K4. Tel: (705) 645-3330.

NORTH BAY & DISTRICT STAMP CLUB

Chapter 44 meets on the 2nd and 4th Tuesdays of the month, September to May, at the Casselholme Home for the Aged, 400 Olive Street, North Bay, ON at 7 pm. (Basement meeting room.) Table auction and sales circuit. Visitors are always welcome. Information: John Fretwell, R.R. 1, Callandar, ON, P0H 1H0; (705) 752-1364.

NORTH SHORE STAMP CLUB

Chapter 198 meets on alternate Tuesdays, September through June, at North Vancouver City Library, 121 West 14th Street, North Vancouver, BC. Visitors are always welcome. For the current meeting schedule and information, call Erna Krische at 985-2810.

NORTH YORK PHILATELIC SOCIETY

Chapter 21 meets 1st and 3rd Wednesdays of each month (except July and August when meetings are held on only the 3rd Wednesday) at 6:30 pm in the lounge of Centennial Arena, north side of Finch Ave. W., west of Bathurst. Sales circuit, auctions, speakers, lectures. Visitors welcome. Information: John

Moffatt, Box 62, Willowdale, ON, M2N 5S7. Tel (905) 889-8720.

NOVA SCOTIA STAMP CLUB

The first affiliate of the RPSC, est. 1922, meets 2nd Tuesday of each month, September to June at the Nova Scotia Museum. Visitors are always welcome. Information: E. Sodero, 831 Tower Rd., Halifax, NS, B3H 2Y1.

OAKVILLE STAMP CLUB

Chapter 135 meets 2nd and 4th Tuesdays of each month at 7 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, 1064 Wellington St., Ottawa, ON. Visitors are always welcome. Information: Pres. Mitch Gosselin, (819) 682-6277; P.O. Box 65085, Merivale Postal Outlet, Nepean, ON, K2G 5Y3.

OWEN SOUND STAMP CLUB

Chapter 191 meetins the 3rd Wednesday of every month, 7 pm at St. George's Anglican Church, 149 4th Avenue East, Owen Sound, ON. Activities include trading, auctions, circuit books. Visitors always welcome. For information contact Robert J. Ford, 721 8th Ave. East, Owen Sound, ON, N4K 3A4.

OXFORD PHILATELIC SOCIETY

Chapter 65 meets 1st and 3rd Thursdays, September to May, at Knights of Columbus Hall, behind St. Rita's Catholic Church (Dundas St. E.) Woodstock, ON. Trading and junior program at 7 pm, regular meeting 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, B.C. A short business meeting is followed by circuit books every month. Visitors always welcome. Information: K. Giessen, 217 Redwing Pl., Penticton, BC, V2A 8K6. Tel.: (250) 493-0188.

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Meets 2nd and 4th Wednesdays of each month from September to June, 7:30 p.m. in McMartin House, Gore Street. Visitors welcome. For information, contact Gus Quattrocchi (A.J.), 69 Harvey Street, Perth, ON, K7H 1X1.

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

Chapter 104 meets 3rd Thursday of each month (except July and August), 7:30 pm at Community Centre, 65 East Sixth Ave., by Canada Game Pool, corner of McBride, New Westminster, BC. Information: Box 145, Milner, BC, V0X 1T0. Phone 534-1884.

SAINT JOHN STAMP CLUB

Meets the 4th Wednesday of each month (except July and August), 7 pm at the Saint John High School, Canterbury Street, Saint John, NB. Visitors and new members welcome. Information: Saint John Stamp Club, c/o James Young, 16 Mountain Rd., Saint John, NB, E2J 2W8.

ST. JOHN'S PHILATELIC SOCIETY

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

SASKATOON STAMP CLUB

Chapter 80 meets 2nd and 4th Mondays, September through May, 7 to 9 pm at the Saskatoon Field House, 2020 College Drive, Saskatoon, SK. Visitors always welcome. Information from the secretary: Doug Smith, (306) 249-3092; e-mail: ae245@sfn.saskatoon.sk.ca

SIDNEY STAMP CLUB (SIDNEY, BC)

The Sidney Stamp Club meets the 2nd Saturday of each month, except July and August, at the Sidney Regional Library, in the Nell Horth Room, at 2 pm. Sales circuit, presentations, and auctions every meeting. Visitors welcome. Information: (250) 479-6513

LA SOCIÉTÉ PHILATÉLIQUE DE QUÉBEC

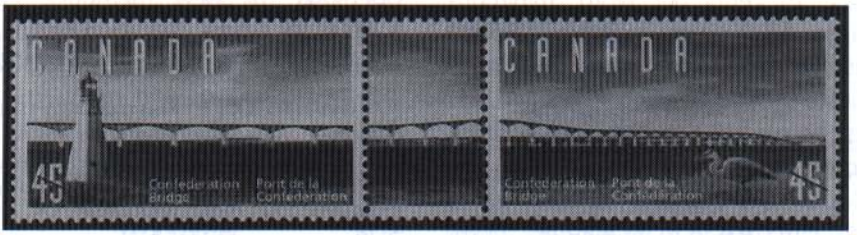
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STRATFORD STAMP CLUB

Chapter 92 meets on the 4th Thursday from September to June (except December when it meets on the 3rd Thursday), 7 pm at the Kiwanis Community Centre, Lakeside Drive, Stratford. Juniors meet at 7 pm, with regular meetings at 8 pm. Visitors are always welcome. Information from P.O. Box 21031, Stratford, ON, N5A 7V4.

More listings on page 369

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Chapter Meetings/ Réunions des clubs membres

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SUDBURY STAMP CLUB

Chapter 85 meets 2nd Tuesday of each month, September to June, in Library at St. Raphael School, 109 Dublin Street, Sudbury, at 7:30 p.m. Meetings include slide shows, presentations, and an auction. New members are welcome. Information: David Squarzolo, Box 2211, Stn. A, Sudbury, ON, P3A 4S1; (705) 566-0378.

TORONTO HARMONIE STAMP CLUB

Chapter 94 meets the 3rd Thursday each month, 7:30 pm, Victoria Park Secondary School, Library Seminar Room, 15 Wallingford Road, Don Mills ON. Information: J. Doehler, (416) 438-4862, or P. Mustard, (416) 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, 3rd and 4th Tuesdays (except July and August), 7:30 pm at Fairfield Seniors' Centre, 80 Lothian Ave., Etobicoke, (Bloor/Islington area). Auctions, dealers, speakers, study group, annual exhibition. Visitors always welcome. Correspondence: 331 Rathburn Rd., Etobicoke, ON, M9B 2L9. Tel: Contact Frank Alusio, (416) 621-8232.

WINNIPEG PHILATELIC SOCIETY

Meetings 1st and 3rd Thursdays (except July and August), 7 pm in Room 308, Union Centre, 275 Broadway Ave. (corner of Broadway and Smith St.). Visitors always welcome. Information: P.O. Box 1425, Winnipeg, MB, R3C 2Z1.❐

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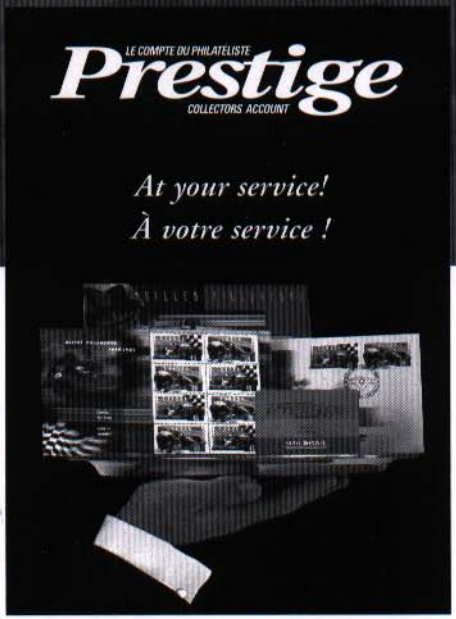
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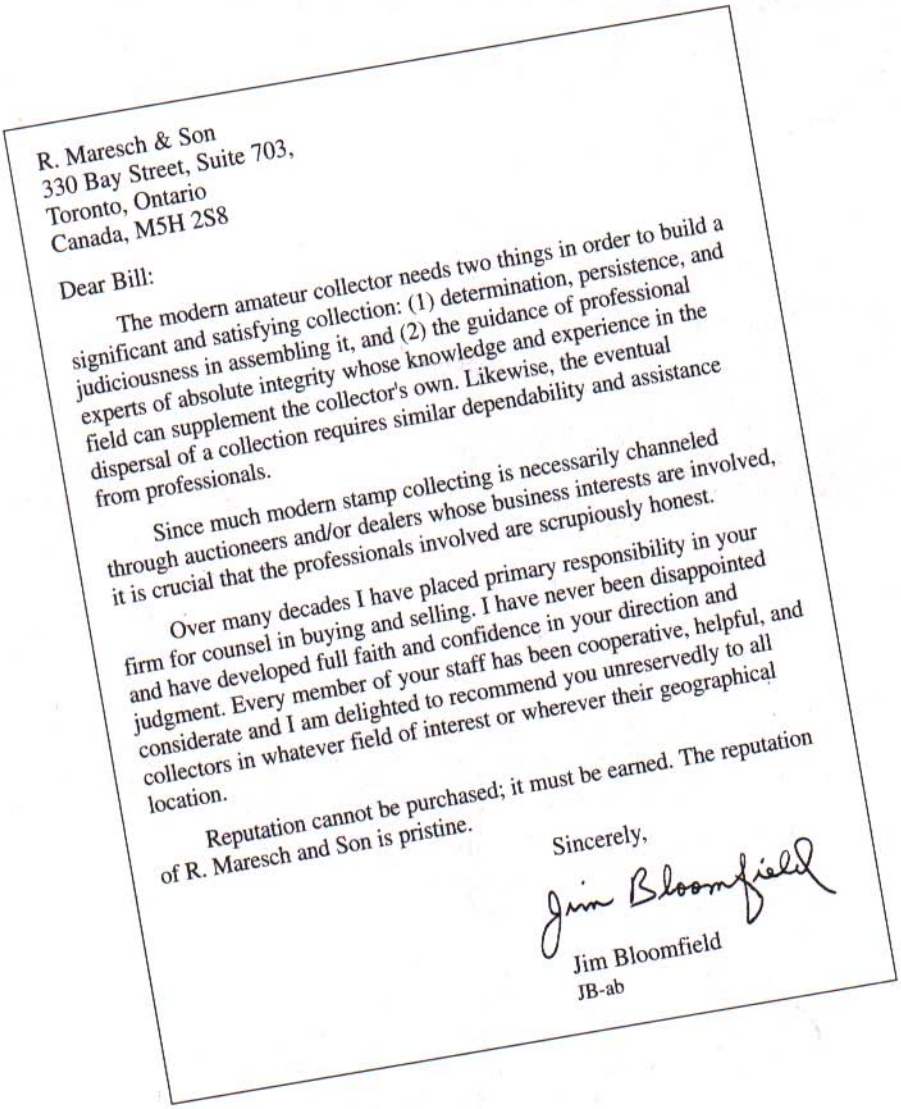
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