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150e Anniversaire des timbres-poste canadiens

Journal of The ROYAL PHILATELIC SOCIETY OF CANADA Revue de La SOCIÉTÉ ROYALE DE PHILATÉLIE DU CANADA

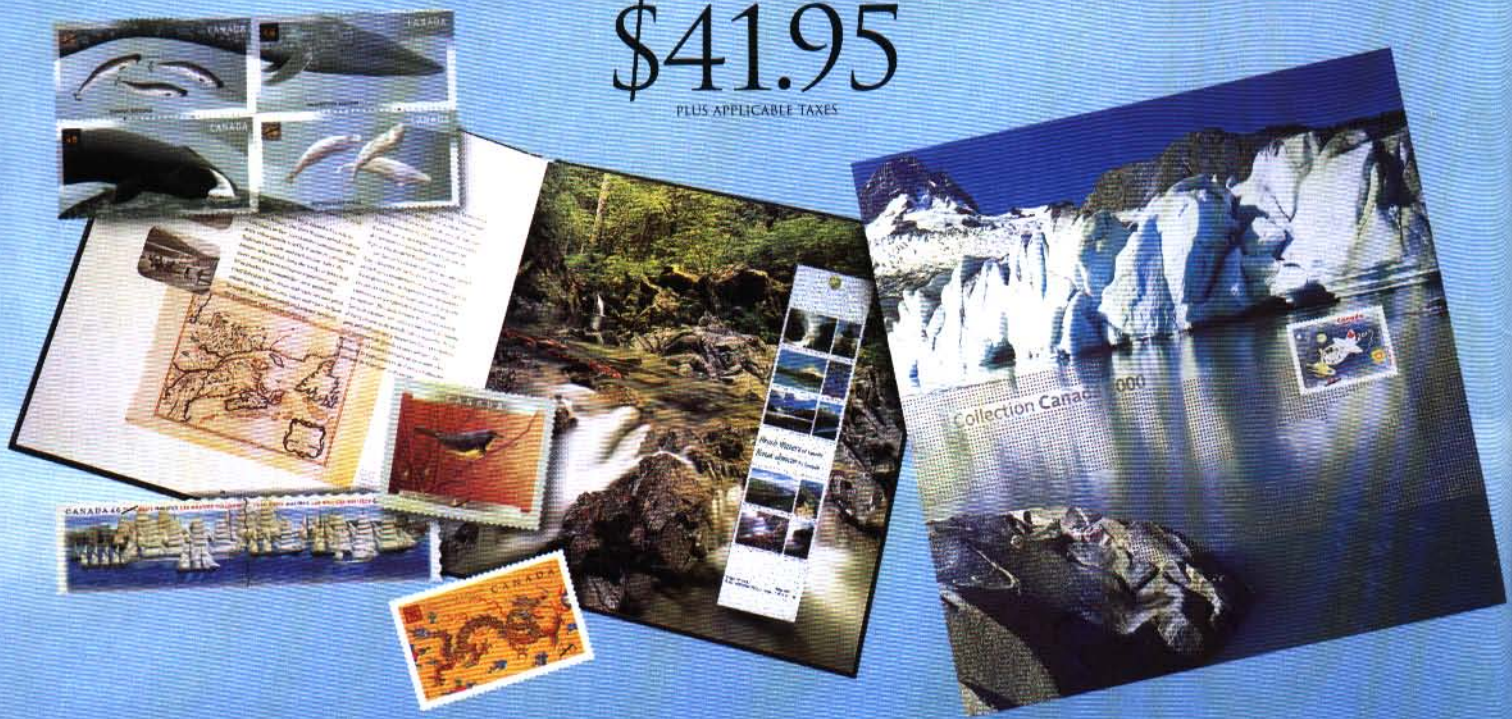
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Revue de La SOCIÉTÉ ROYALE DE PHILATÉLIE DU CANADA

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Canada Post's New Logo
Le nouveau emblème de Postes Canada

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The Cover:

This issue's cover shows the 150th anniversary design as well as other beaver stamps issued by Canada during the past 47 years. Also shown are the national animals for Australia, Great Britain, Belgium, France, Greeland, New Zealand, Norway, Russia, Sudan, and the United States. (Stamps courtesy of All Nations Stamps in Vancouver and the 150th anniversary stamp is courtesy of Canada Post.)

La couverture de cette revue est ornée non seulement du timbre du 150e anniversaire mais aussi des autres timbres montrant le castor depuis les dermière 47 annés. On y repésente aussi les animaux nationaux de l'Australie, de la Grande Bretagne, de la Belgique, de la France, du Groenland, de la Nouvelle-Zélande, de la Norvège, de la Russie, du Soudan, de la Suède et des États-Unis. (Les timbres sont une courtoisie d'All Nation Stamps de Vancouver et celui du 150e anniversaire est courtoisie de Postes Canada.)

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Editorial

by Bill Pekonen

It seems like a good idea to explain several editorial policies so that other potential writers can avoid disappointment. The policy regarding the cover has been to remain neutral, and to show colourful stamps issued throughout the world. The reason why some illustrations have not been included with an article is simply because there is not enough space or the images were of such poor quality that they will not reproduce satisfactorily. On rare occasions, we will repeat some previously published information, as happened with the Christmas stamp in the November-December issue. The trial essay information was included because it was an interesting collateral item for the Christmas issue, even though it was never printed for use. The illustration was not included because of insufficient clarity.

The study of postal history can be compared with reviewing different automobile accident reports written by 10 witnesses who all saw the accident from a different angle, making one wonder if it was the same event. The same type of results can be found in Philately.

For example: the Darnell Catalogue takes the position that the first stamps issued by the Dominion of Canada are the 1/2-cent to 15-cent printed as a set and commonly known as the Large Queens. These were the first stamps to be issued in 1868 after Confederation in 1867. When one views the philatelic history of Canada, the position taken by Darnell is perfectly sound, even though there was a transitional or provisional use of colonial stamps (issued by any of the provinces) between the date of Confederation and the production of the first set of Large Queen stamps. There is more to that story, but that is for some other time.

It is an undeniable fact, however, that the three-pence Beaver stamp is the first issue produced by one of the colonies in British North America. From a postal history perspective, Canada East / West was only one of a number of colonies within an area known as British North America. Most other catalogues do not distinguish between the colonies and territories of British North America and the Legislative Provinces controlled by the Dominion of Canada Parliament. In that respect, the other catalogues are confusing two completely different political entities.

The 3p (and 5-cent) beaver colonial stamp, however, has one distinction which is without any question. It is the first stamp issued anywhere in the world which depicts an animal in the design. And that animal was adopted as a symbol by the new Dominion after it was formed in 1867. Other countries around the world later featured "national" animals on their respective stamps, proving the old adage that imitation is the sincerest form of flattery. (See cover).

Why was the beaver such an important symbol? In those days, beaver (and other animal) pelts were an export product much in the same way as lumber, ore, auto parts, electricity and natural gas are today. Beaver hides were important in Europe to keep warm, and to keep up with the then current fashions. The beaver was the trade backbone which attracted trappers.

This issue coincides with the release on April 6th of a third replica of the 3p beaver colonial stamp. This time it is commemorating the 150th anniversary. Some readers may have been looking for details about Sir Sanford Fleming in this issue. If so, you are referred to the excellent summary prepared by James Gray, and published two years ago in the January-February 1999 issue of *The Canadian Philatelist.* (Elsewhere in this issue, you will see a never before published photocopy of a cover addressed to Fleming with his handwritten comment on one end of the envelope.) Another good source for early postal history is *The History of the Post Office in British North America 1630-1870* by William Smith.

During 1851, when the beaver stamp was issued, the westerly boundary of the Canada West colony was at Lake Erie and ended at about the 47th latitude, north (approximately where Sudbury is now). Canada East included Montreal and the mouth of the St. Lawrence River. What was the postal service like in the territory to the north and to the west of Lake Erie?

The short answer is: about the same as when the City of Quebec was founded 1608, Three Rivers-1634, Montreal-1643 and as it existed in the Niagara Region during the late 18th century. Mail was carried in canoes, ships, dog sleds and by horseback. A longer answer is provided in this issue.

You will read about how the Hudson's Bay Company opened up the west, and in the process was responsible for the beaver becoming a long lasting symbol of what is now Canada. Gray Scrimgeour contributes two articles. One of these describes how the HBC mail system spread across prairies. The second article explains how the same letter crossed the boundary twice before it reached its destination in another part of British North America. Robin Mowat provides another perspective on HBC and then explains how the mail was delivered in Victoria. Bill Toppings explains how the postal system was organized in the far west during 1851. Jack Wallace tells us the story about British Columbia and Vancouver Island's first postage stamps. Norman Sherritt comes up with some new information about a Wells-Fargo office which existed in Derby, BC. This new information will cause some lists to be changed. Cecil Coutts explains how the North West Mounted Police made their trek across the prairies and established post offices along the way. A reprint of a Post Office Department memo #5 dated 17th October 1870 describes how mail from Manitoba is to be handled. (Source: Scrapbook B, National Archives.)

Clayton Lam describes the experiences gained by a young collector. While other, older writers focus on minute details, Clayton Lam sees our hobby through younger eyes. Think about what he writes. Joseph Monteiro wonders about the marketing policies associated with the new stamp products. Ever wonder about what would happen if your stamps are stolen and what can you do about it? Read Andrew Blanchard's advice. Dale Spiers has analyzed the use of commemorative stamps over time and comes up with some startling conclusions.

A colloquial writing style has been encouraged during the last two years instead of a more normal elevated style. The purpose was twofold: to create a higher degree of reader relaxation and to encourage new writers to submit articles. "Thank you" to all those who contributed articles. It is now time for this Editor to move along to other things. A new editor, Tony Shaman, will be taking over with the next issue. He deserves your continued interest and support. Please continue to send him your stories to PO Box 43103, Eastwood Square, Kitchener, ON N2H 6S9. Help him to make this magazine a product which readers will look forward to receiving with anticipation and expectation to be challenged.

Canadian Mail Across the Border Twice

By Gray Scrimgeour

In the 19th century, many mail routes to and from western Canada passed through the United States. This meant that mail crossed the U.S.-Canada border twice on its way to its destination. Most of these cross-border routes were replaced when the Canadian Pacific Railway (CPR) was completed. Let's look at some of these more important cross-border mail routes, starting in the east and moving to the west.

The Lakehead

A Canadian post office was opened at Fort William in 1860. It replaced Sault Ste. Marie as the farthest west in Canada. Steam navigation had started on Lake Huron and Lake Superior in the summer of 1858. However, when the lakes were frozen, an alternate, practical route was needed. In the winter of 1864-65, a winter mail route was established between the Lakehead and eastern Canada [1]. The Canadian route went to Pigeon River, at the U.S.-Canada border, from which mail was taken through Duluth and Detroit to Windsor, Ontario. This winter mail was usually carried between Fort William and Pigeon River by dog-team. There often was too much mail for the carrier, and at times the route did poorly. The CPR started postal car service between Winnipeg and Montreal on November 1, 1885, ending the need for the cross-border winter mail route.



Figure 1. Registered cover carried on the winter mail route between Windsor, Ontario and the Lakehead through Pigeon River, Wisconsin.

The registered envelope shown in Figure 1 is an example of mail carried by the Pigeon River winter route. This cover was mailed at Wallaceburg, Ontario on December 8, 1876 to Prince Arthur's Landing (Port Arthur), Lake Superior, Ontario; it was endorsed "Via Windsor".

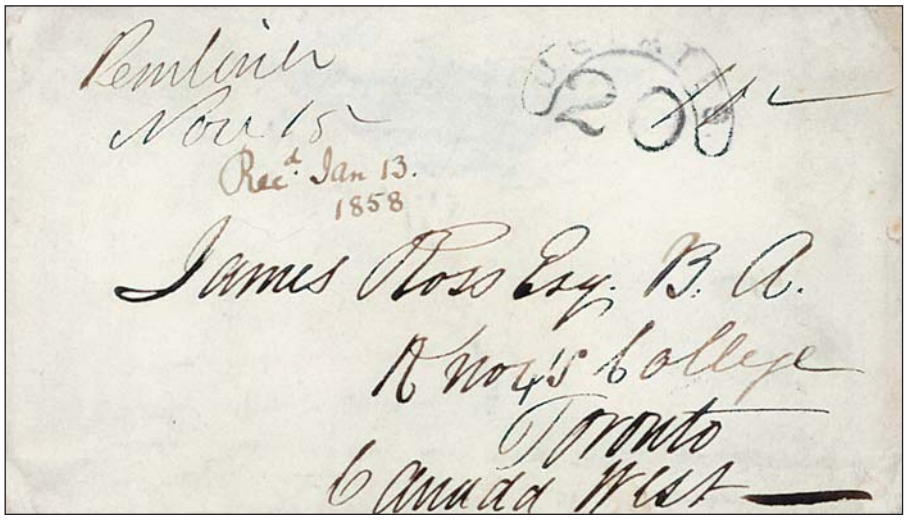


Figure 2. Stampless cover written by Rev. John Black of Fort Garry to his brother-in-law (James Ross) in Toronto. This cover was carried to the border town of Pembina, where it entered the U.S. mail stream.

Manitoba

From the 1850s until 1885, most mail both winter and summer between Manitoba and eastern Canada passed through the United States. A regular mail service from Fort Garry to the closest U.S. post office, Pembina, was established in 1855. This route gave vastly improved mail service to Canada and other destinations. For the first 10 years, these letters were stampless, but after 1864, they bore United States stamps. There was a charge of one penny per 1/2 ounce for the local mail service, in either direction, from Fort Garry to Pembina. This charge was never marked on envelopes. On top of the local fee, U.S. mail rates were applicable (e.g., just as if Fort Garry mail had originated in Pembina). U.S. stamps were applied to letters from Fort Garry until 1870, when the Hudson's Bay Company territory Rupert's Land (which contained present-day Manitoba) joined Canada [2]. In 1870, arrangements were made with the U.S. Post Office "for the transmission through the American mails of closed mail bags between Windsor, Ontario and Fort Garry by way of Chicago, St. Paul, and Pembina." Initially, the postage rate was six per half ounce, but after less than a year, the rate was changed to the ordinary Canadian domestic rate of three per half ounce (or five if unpaid, until 1875). Until 1875,

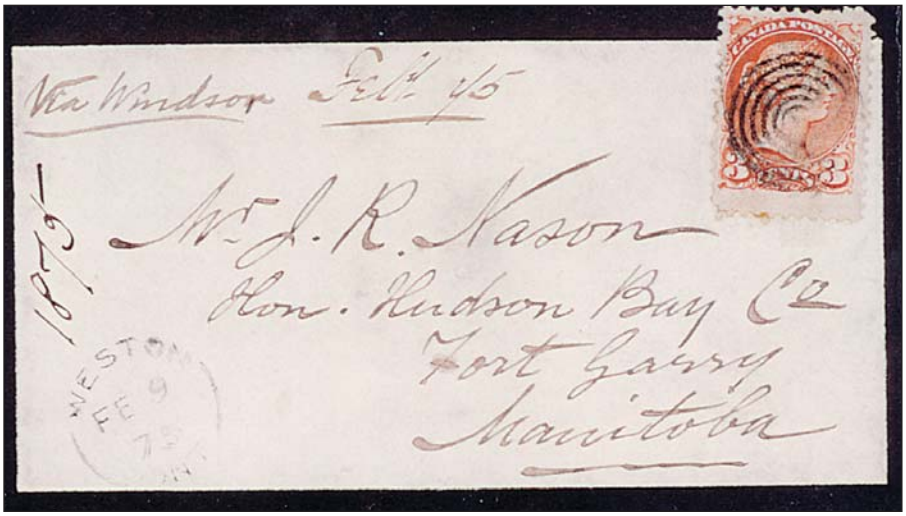


Figure 3. Cover mailed at Weston, Ontario on February 9, 1875, addressed "Via Windsor" to J.R. Nason, Hon. Hudson Bay Co., Fort Garry, Manitoba.



Figure 4. Cover presumed to be from either Fort Walsh, Assiniboia or Fort Macleod, Alberta addressed to Peterborough, Ontario. The cover was postmarked at Fort Assiniboine, Montana Territory on June 23, 1882.

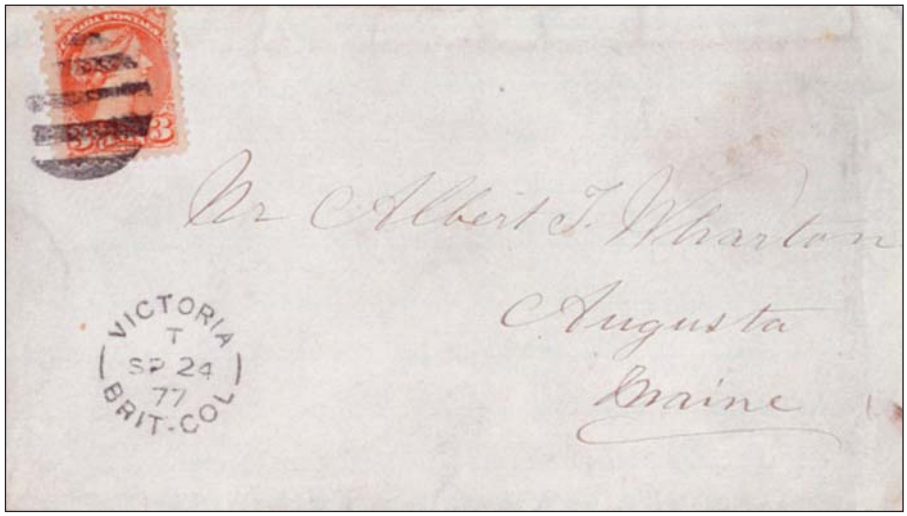


Figure 5. Cover postmarked VICTORIA, BRIT•COL on T / SP 24 / 1877. This letter was mailed between sailings of the steamer to San Francisco, so was taken from Victoria to Tacoma. [This cover went to the state of Maine, so only crossed the border once.]

Canada paid a transit fee to the U.S. for passage of this mail through the United States. The CPR started carrying mail between Winnipeg and Lake Superior in 1882, and between Winnipeg and Montreal in November 1885.

Figure 2 shows an 1857 double-weight stampless cover from Fort Garry to Toronto. The cover is dated Pembina (Minnesota Territory) with a manuscript postmark of November 15. On the reverse, there is a transit mark at Windsor dated January 12, 1858. An 1875 mourning cover from Weston, Ontario to Fort Garry, Manitoba is illustrated in Figure 3. Note the endorsement at the upper left: "Via Windsor."

Alberta and Southwestern Assiniboia

The development of the territories of Alberta and Assiniboia was later than that of Manitoba. For example, a post route was not established between Edmonton and Winnipeg until 1876. Fort Macleod in southern Alberta, the only other Alberta settled location in the 1870s, was the headquarters of the North-West Mounted Police. When the police went west in 1874, they and the Indian Department employed mail carriers to take mail to and from Fort Benton, Montana (at the head of navigation on the Missouri River). On most occasions, the mail was carried by a four-mule team owned by I.G. Baker and Company of Fort Benton. Outgoing mail from southern Alberta was franked with U.S. stamps. This cross-border service lasted until the summer of 1883, when the CPR reached Calgary.

In 1882, mail between both Fort Macleod, Alberta and Fort Walsh, Assiniboia (now in Saskatchewan) and eastern Canada was carried in closed bags via Fort Assiniboine, Montana. Figure 4 shows an 1882 cover to Ontario that apparently originated in western Canada; it bears a U.S. three stamp and a FORT ASSINABOINE (spelling error), MONT postmark.

British Columbia

For British Columbia, the twice-across-the-border connection with eastern Canada was needed a few years later than for the Prairies. Victoria (the main settlement) had mail service similar to that at Fort Garry. In other words, all its mail came via the United States until the through mail began on the CPR in 1886. Until late 1859, all mail from eastern Canada went to New York, then by ship to Panama, across the Isthmus of Panama, and then by ship to San Francisco. Starting in the fall of 1859, some mail went by the overland mail through San

Francisco. Aside from the odd cover that has an overland handstamp or endorsement, there is no way yet to tell whether a cover went via Panama or overland. The overland route became a fixture with the completion of the Union Pacific and Central Pacific railroads across the U.S. in 1869.

All of BC's mail continued to travel through San Francisco until a U.S. transcontinental railway reached the Pacific Northwest. In 1870, the Northern Pacific Railroad started building west from Lake Superior (near Duluth). Work started the same year at Kalama, Washington (on the Columbia River), heading both north toward the western terminal Tacoma, and east. The 100-mile western segment between Kalama and Tacoma was soon completed, but the transcontinental link was not made until 1883.

From the early 1870s (soon after British Columbia joined Canada), closed mail between BC and eastern Canada still went through San Francisco, but letters were often carried by railway and stage routes, and by ship only between Victoria and either Olympia, Tacoma, or Port Townsend, Washington. Direct ships between Victoria and San Francisco continued, but they were not as frequent as the service to Puget Sound. Date stamps were made in the summer of 1877 with the indicia SF and T to indicate the route via either San Francisco (SF) or Tacoma (T). An 1877 cover from Victoria with the Tacoma T is shown in Figure 5. As with the Manitoba mail of this period, all the BC mail to or from eastern Canada passed through Detroit and Windsor.

The letter rates between Canada and British Columbia are more complicated than those for the other cross-border routes discussed. From the late 1850s until 1871, the rates from Canada to BC were the rates to San Francisco (plus any Colonial postage fee). From July 1859 to the end of 1861, the basic rate was 15 per 1/2 ounce [3]. For the next 2-1/2 years, the rate was 25. On July 1, 1864, the rate was lowered to 10. From October 1870, the rate was six per 1/2 ounce; the rate dropped to the regular Canadian domestic rate of three in August 1871 [4].

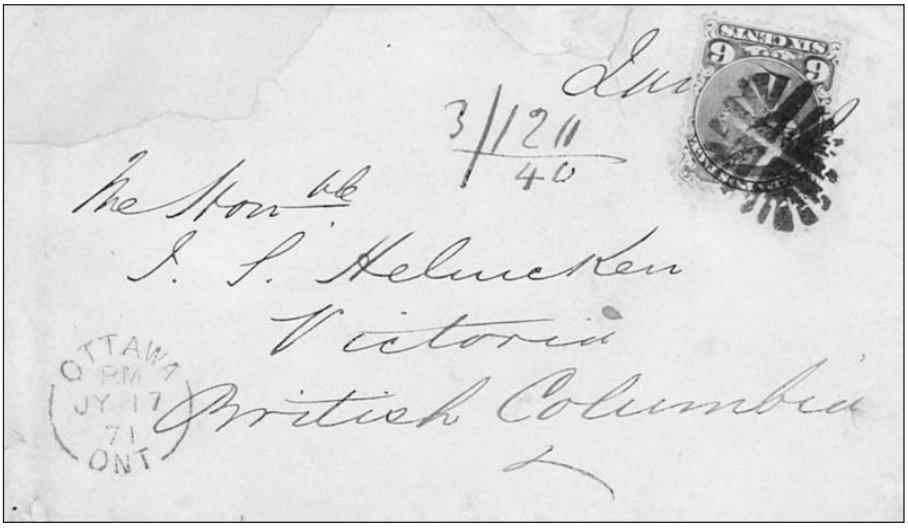


Figure 6. Cover damaged at the upper left mailed by John A. Macdonald (his signature is under the six Large Queen stamp) to Victoria, BC in Ottawa on July 17, 1871 at the rate of six per half ounce.

An 1871 cover from Ottawa to Victoria via the U.S. is illustrated in Figure 6. This cover, sent by Prime Minister John A. Macdonald, was franked with a six Large Queen stamp to pay the short-lived six per 1/2 ounce rate from Canada to British Columbia.

Some British Columbia intraprovincial mail was routed to and from Victoria through the United States. For example, in 1884, mail destined for the East Kootenays was carried through Sandpoint, Idaho [5]. For much of the 1890s, West Kootenay winter mail for eastern Canada passed through Washington State on the way to Victoria [6]. Later in the 1890s, Ontario mail for this region was directed through Spokane, Washington.

These various routings through the United States illustrate how Canada, in the 19th century, relied on the more well developed mail services of the U.S. for carriage of the mail of western Canadian settlements.

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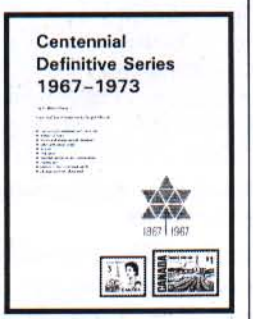
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The Hudson's Bay Company Mails

By Gray Scrimgeour

Until the middle of the 19th century, virtually all western Canada mail was carried by employees of the Hudson's Bay Company (HBC). Of course, this vast land was not part of Canada then. The Prairies and the north were called Rupert's Land (the land drained by streams flowing into Hudson Bay) and the North-Western Territory (north and west of Rupert's Land). West of the Rocky Mountains were New Caledonia and Vancouver's Island. Until 1870, the HBC controlled this western region. The Red River Settlement was the only community of any size in the northwest in the early 19th century. This article summarizes the HBC's mail service in Rupert's Land and the North-Western Territories.

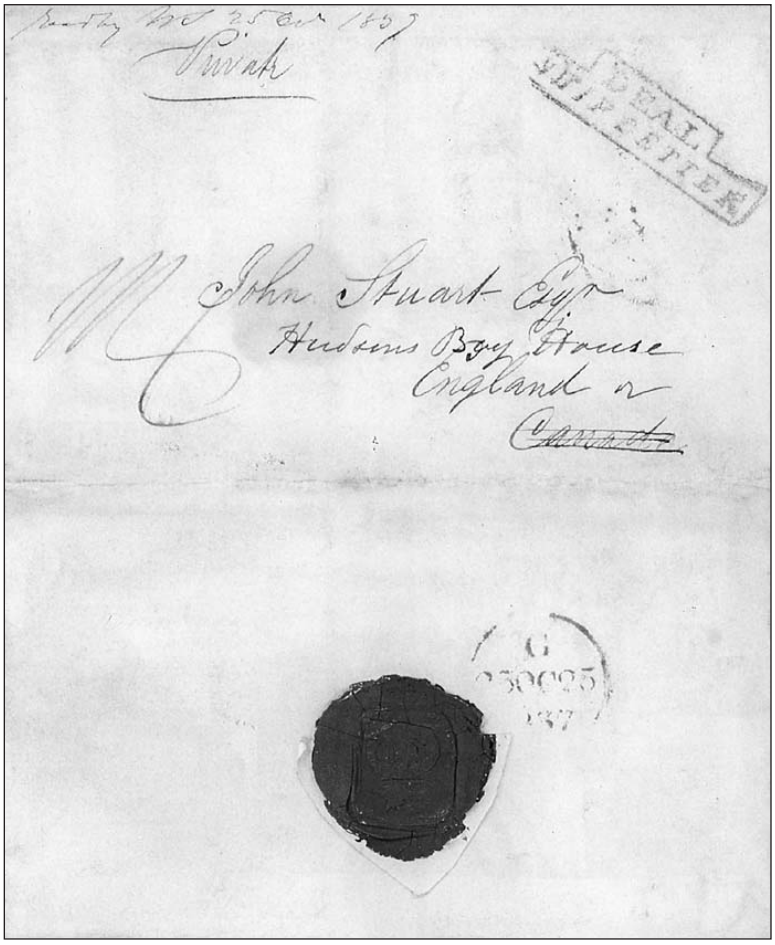


Figure 1. Stampless cover sent in 1837 from the Peace River region to London, England. The letter was rated 1/4 collect (8d incoming ship letter and 8d postage from Deal to London).

Until the establishment of the Red River Settlement, the west's only industry had been the fur trade, an industry that flourished only when an area was not settled. Starting in 1808, Thomas Douglas (Lord Selkirk) and several of his relatives bought a minority of the shares of the HBC. At that time, the company was doing poorly in the fur trade. Selkirk and his relatives helped to reorganize the company to more strongly oppose the Canadian fur traders, the North West Company (NWC). Lord Selkirk planned to extend the trading routes of the HBC and to bring about a number of economies, including developing an agricultural settlement. In 1811, Selkirk, was granted by the HBC ownership of 116,000 square miles of land, most of it rich and fertile, on the banks of the Red River in Rupert's Land. Selkirk agreed to send people to the new colony, and the first small group of settlers reached their new home at the junction of the Assiniboine and Red Rivers in August 1812. Each year, more settlers arrived through Hudson Bay with the assistance of the HBC. The settlement on the Red River was treated as disaster by the NWC; the settlement would disrupt its trade routes. There were many scuffles between the HBC-supported settlers and the NWC. The opposition of the Canadian traders was fierce, and lasted until the two major companies merged in 1821.

Selkirk's colony eventually became the province of Manitoba, and the Red River Settlement's main community, Fort Garry, became the city of Winnipeg. Development there lead to the agricultural settlement of all of the Prairies of Canada. This development was exactly what the fur trading companies had feared, but it was inevitable.

The HBC mail system extended out from three main settlements. York Factory (728 miles from the Red River Settlement) was the port on Hudson's Bay. Norway House (350 miles from the Red River Settlement, between Hudson's Bay and both the interior posts and Fort Garry) was the early distribution centre for HBC mail. Upper Fort Garry (referred to just as Fort Garry) was the main fort. After the 1840s, Fort Garry became a collection and distribution centre for the mail of the HBC. It became a Canadian post office in 1870, and its name was changed to Winnipeg in 1876. From these three points, mail was sent to or received from places as distant as the Mackenzie River region and the Pacific coast. The HBC was responsible for carrying mail to much of this territory well into the 20th century. Winnipeg became the focal point for the government mail service for all of the interior of western Canada.

Many of the details of the postal history of the Red River Settlement were described in 1950 and 1951 by Murray Campbell. (1) Since then, many more covers to and from the Red River have been recorded. The sale of the Charles P. De Volpi collection of fur trading documents (2) had over 40 items related to the Red River Settlement. Floyd Risvolds postal history of Minnesota Territory (3) describes fur-trade mail and shows many of his western Canadian covers. Robson Lowe (4) has described the role of the fur-trading companies in the delivery of mail in western Canada. In 1995, David Whiteley reviewed the Red River mails from 1855 to 1870. (5) The Duckworths (6) have described the Fort Garry post office.

Fur-Company Mail

The mail services of the fur-trade companies were simple. Letters were carried in wooden boxes or wrapped in heavy cloth to keep them dry. They were carried to or from the various trading forts in the annual supply canoes. In addition, express mails were

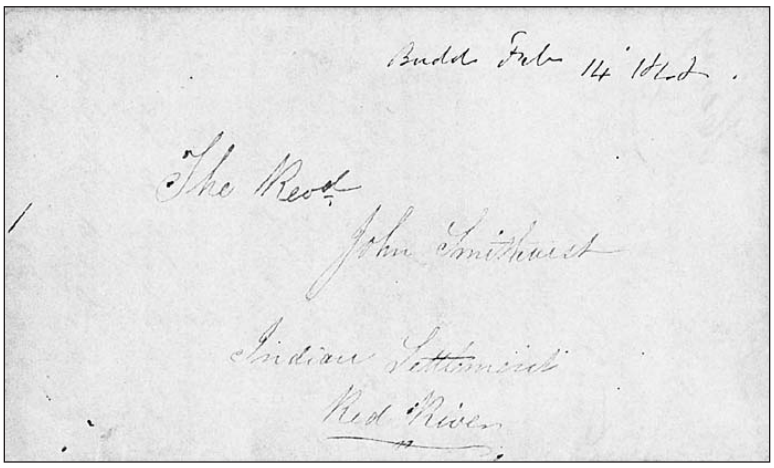


Figure 2. Letter sent in 1842 from The Pas to The Revd John Smithurst, Indian Settlement, Red River.

carried in the winter between certain trading posts by dog team. This meant outposts received and sent mail twice a year, at most.

The earliest mail to and from the Red River was carried only by the fur trading companies. The annual express of the NWC left Lachine, Quebec in early May; reached the west end of Lake Superior in July; and journeyed onward in August. The HBC mail originally came from England only via Hudson's Bay. After 1821, they too sent mail from Lachine. Many of the details of the mail routes and times can be found in the Minutes of the Northern Department of the HBC (7).

Mail was carried between Rupert's Land and London, England on the annual HBC ship that arrived at York Factory late in each summer. Brigades carried the mail to its ultimate destination along with supplies. The company sent a winter express between Fort Garry and Montreal annually about mid-January (1). In addition, the HBC sent out from Lachine a spring canoe to Red River; this spring express arrived at Fort Garry in mid June. It was faster than the winter express. The usual overland route between Fort Garry and Lachine was by Lake Winnipeg, the Winnipeg River, Lake of the Woods, the portages and rivers to Fort William, then to Sault Ste. Marie and on to the Ottawa River. From as early as 1819, occasional mail was carried to the closest post offices in the United States. In the 1850s, this became the route by which most mail was carried to and from the Red River Settlement.

Letters carried by the HBC inside their western territory almost invariably have no envelope, but are simple folded letters. There is a good reason for the lack of envelopes. In 1839, the company instructed all its employees to cease using envelopes except when "absolutely necessary to cover the contents of their Letters" (7, p. 788).

An example of mail from the far west is shown in Figure 1. This letter was written at Fort Dunvegan in the Peace River region on April 24, 1837, addressed to John Stuart at the Hudson's Bay House, London, England. It was carried by canoe to Fort Chipewyan, then by the annual HBC canoe brigade via Norway House to York Factory. From York Factory, it was taken by the annual HBC supply ship to England, where it was received in London on October 25, 1837.

As far as we know, the HBC did not charge for their carriage of mail to and from the unsettled areas of Canada. A few HBC-carried covers have what look like handwritten rate marks on the outside back of the folded letter, but these marks are unexplained. Occasionally, HBC covers were marked with bold abbreviations for their destinations. There are several letters with the markings RR or RRS for Red River Settlement and "YF" for York Factory, for example. These markings were presumably applied at Hudson's Bay House in London, England. Because of their scarcity, they possibly were only applied to the top covers of a bundle of mail, thus using these covers as facing slips.

The Smithurst Correspondence

The largest reported correspondence of mail carried by the HBC is that addressed to Reverend John Smithurst. The portion in philatelic hands includes about 150 stampless folded letters, most of them unfranked. This accumulation apparently was saved, and purchased at an Ontario antique market in the late 1970s by Ron Kitchen of Ottawa. After Ron's death in August 1997, much of the Smithurst correspondence was sold through Hank Narbonne to Bill Longley. Ron had traded several Smithurst covers to me in the 1980s.

Rev. John Smithurst was an Anglican missionary at the Indian Settlement in Red River Settlement (8). He sailed to York Factory on the HBC ship Prince Rupert in the summer of 1839, and arrived at the Red River in September 1839. He remained at the Red River Settlement for 12 years, and his incoming correspondence (from England and Canada and from inside Ru-

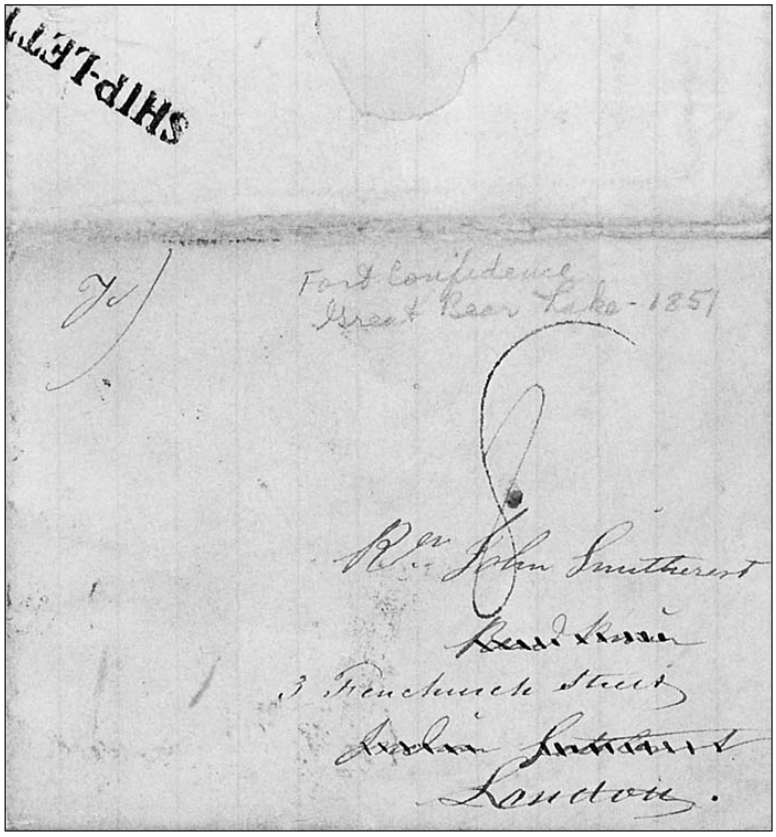


Figure 3. An 1851 stampless letter carried by the HBC mail service from Great Bear Lake to the Red River, forwarded at Norway House to England.



Cover to Sandford Fleming with his handwritten notation and initials. It contains a letter from Mr. Chipman of the HBCo. (I think he was Secretary in Montreal), saying that the company will not be advertising in Henry Morgan's "Men of the Times." Fleming received the letter, then wrote "The enclosed is not satisfactory" on it and gave it to Morgan by hand. It came from the large Morgan correspondence.

perts Land) must be assumed to be typical of the favour mail carried by the HBC. The 12-year period he spent at the Indian Settlement immediately precedes a change in external HBC postal and supply route from Hudson Bay to the United States. (From the mid 1850s, Fort Garry's mail to both Canada and Great Britain went via Saint Paul and Chicago in the United States.)

As expected, most of the letters in the Smithurst correspondence are folded letters (without envelopes). They usually have just the simple address Rev. John Smithurst, Indian Settlement, etc. and bear no handstamps or rate markings. Most of the correspondence is internal Ruperts Land mail, from other missionaries in the territory. The letters originate at such places as The Pas, Cumberland House, and Cedar Lake, where the church had missions to the Indians, and from Grand Rapids (St. Andrews, close to Fort Garry). Figure 2 shows a typical example. This letter was written at "Cumberland Station, Pas" (The Pas) on February 14, 1842 by native catechist Henry Budd. It was carried to the Red River by the winter express (dog sled).

Figure 3 shows a stampless letter that travelled a long way by HBC mail. It was written on April 26, 1851 at Fort Confidence, a base for explorers at the northeast end of Great Bear Lake. The writer was a canoeman in Dr. John Rae's 1850-51 expedition searching for the missing Sir John Franklin, and addressed to John Smithurst at the Red River Settlement. The writer, Charles Kennedy (spelled Canady), asks Smithurst to pass along a message to his wife, who had sent greetings via Smithurst's January letter. The progress of the cover shown in the figure can be deciphered by following Rae's published letters, sent at the same time. It was carried to Fort Simpson, and then to Norway House. At Norway House, it was redirected to England and forwarded to York Factory, and carried to England in the annual supply ship, the Prince of Wales. It bears an October 3, 1851 London receiving mark.

Study of the mails carried by the Hudson's Bay Company is one of the most interesting aspects of Canadian postal history. It reminds us of how much our country has changed in the past century and a half.

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The Hudson's Bay and Early Transportation of the Mails

by Robin Mowat

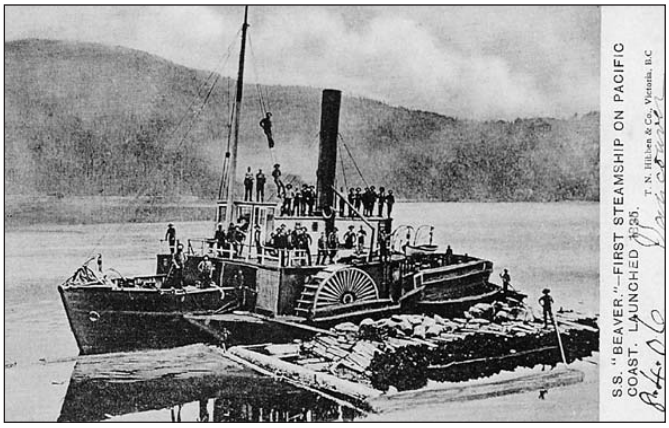
The development of a communications system in Western Canada was necessary for the commerce of the Hudson's Bay Company. This resulted in the settlement and development of the Canada we know today. The story unfolds briefly as follows.

Sir George Simpson was appointed the first resident, Governor-in-Chief of the HBCo. in 1821. Until that time the transactions of the Company were controlled by a board in England, consisting of a Governor, Deputy Governor and five directors, chosen by the stockholders. Simpson formed a council to assist him. The highest commissioned rank were known as Chief Factors and chosen from their fur traders, the second rank were Chief Traders and chosen from their salaried clerks. The HBCo. derived its entire profit from fur trading and this responsibility was passed to these men.

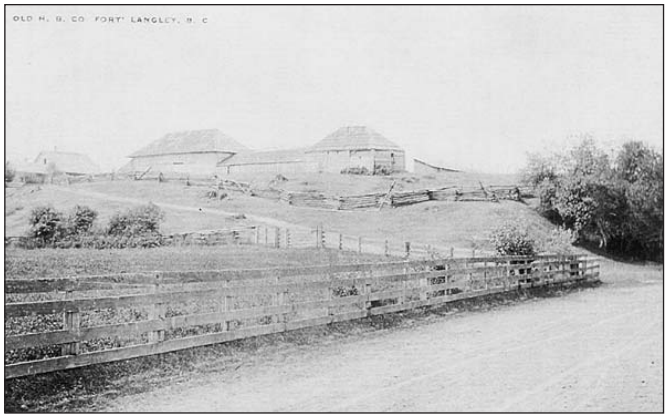
The territory was divided into four departments, York Factory or the Northern Department, Moose Factory or the Southern Department, Montreal in the Canadas and Victoria or Vancouver's Island in the west. These Departments were divided into 53 districts and further subdivided into 152 minor depots. This vast trading territory, over 2,500 miles from east to west and 1,350 miles from north to south, necessitated a system of communication. The development of a mail system, in the most westerly district, was crucial to the function of the HBCo.

A Canadian postal system was not established to carry mails out of Fort Garry until 1870, and not until 1871 were Canadian mails sorted for Western Canada. These were made up at Windsor, Ontario and forwarded through the USA to San Francisco, then sent by sea to Victoria. Mail for Barkerville and inland points was sent from Victoria via New Westminster.

The HBCo. established their system 40 years earlier. One of the first HBCo. ships to carry mail to the Pacific coast was the Dryad. She began her duties in 1831, travelling to San Francisco, Panama and over the Atlantic. James Douglas, appointed Chief Factor in 1839, first saw what is now Victoria in 1842. He returned to Victoria aboard the "Beaver" in 1843, surveyed and commenced building Fort Victoria where the first HBCo. post office was eventually built. Locally it was known as Fort Albert and drew support from Fort George, now Astoria, and Fort Vancouver, now Vancouver Washington.



The Beaver carried Company mail to the Pacific Coast on her arrival in 1836. She could travel, without wind, at 8.5 knots and was able to enter many inlets on the west coast that were denied the sailing ships. She was the first steamship to ply the waters of the Fraser and visited Fort Langley in that year.



When the Oregon Treaty, was enforced in 1846, Fort Vancouver was abandoned by the HBCo. and Fort Victoria took over as the headquarters of the Company on the Pacific coast. The mail was delivered by passing ships, Indian canoe, or travellers and fur traders. No system was established until a grant, in 1849, to carry mail made the Company the exclusive mail carrier from, to and within BC.

The grant ceased in 1858 and private mail companies set up competition but the Company was still actively involved with the transportation of mails. The Labouchere, a HBCo. ship, was commissioned to carry mail from Victoria to San Fransisco in 1859.



This mourning cover to Factor Donald MacKay was sent from Inverness on January 20, 1863. It travelled across the Atlantic to New York, overland via the Isthmus of Panama railroad, on to San Francisco and up the west coast to Victoria, arriving March 21, 1863.

As with The Pony Express in the USA, changing conditions gradually lessened the importance of the Hudson's Bay Company in the movement of Canadian mail. The Company continued their internal mail service to a lesser degree as well.

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British Columbia Postal System 1851

By Bill Topping, FRPSC

2001 marks the 150th anniversary of the founding of the first post office west of Lake Superior, an office that in theory served an area at least 10 times that of Upper Canada. The Fort Victoria Post Office, established on the southern tip of Vancouver's Island, appears to have been opened on November 20, 1851 when Governor Douglas appointed Roderick Finlayson to supervise the postal arrangements for the colony, as well as the distribution of the mail. The postal duties were actually carried out by Joseph W. Mackay, a Hudson's Bay Company employee, who had previously supervised the fortnightly dispatch of goods by express canoe to Fort Nisqually on Puget Sound for transfer to Fort Vancouver. From Fort Vancouver the goods and mail were shipped overland or via Panama to New York and thence to England.

Vancouver's Island became a British Crown Colony in November 1849 and slowly the influence of the Hudson's Bay Company diminished as British institutions were introduced. Prior to the establishment of the Crown Colony, the Hudson's Bay Company was in control of all activities within the region. From the founding of the Columbia District in 1821 until 1845 all mail had been transported at no charge to the recipient by the Hudson's Bay Company. Starting in 1845, a charge of $1 was made to "strangers" for letters weighing half an ounce and 25 cents for each additional half ounce. As the number of "strangers," (persons not in the employ of the Hudson's Bay Company) increased, the complaints regarding the restrictions placed by the Hudson's Bay Company on the movement of mail also increased. In an attempt to overcome these complaints the Victoria post office was established by the Colonial Government not only to serve the settlers living near Victoria but also provide limited mail service to those living in the more remote parts of what is now Western Canada.

The describing of the Fort Victoria Post Office as a post office may be misleading. The "Post Office" consisted of a small counter in the office of the Hudson's Bay Company accountant which was located in the main store building inside Fort Victoria. The primary function of the post office was to despatch in-coming and out-going company mail for the north coast forts and interior outposts. If one considers that the selling of stamps and the cancelling of mail to be an important part of postal operations this was not a "Post Office". Cancelling or more correctly franking handstamps were not provided until 1858 at which time the sale of United States postage stamps was also introduced for use on mail leaving the colony and destined for dispatch via San Francisco. Colonial postage stamps were not introduced until 1860, at which time a two and a half penny stamp was issued for use not only on Vancouver's Island but also in the Crown Colony of British Columbia which had been established in 1858.

Despite the establishment of a post office at Victoria, the movement of mail remained in the hands of the Hudson's Bay Company, although a small amount of mail was also transported to England by British naval ship visiting the Esquimalt Naval Base. Local mail within the region was often sent by Indian canoe rather than wait for the one or two remaining Hudson's Bay Company ships operating along the coast to arrive.

Fort Victoria was not the only settlement within the present province of British Columbia. In the early 1800s, North West Company trading posts had been established in New Caledonia on what is now the mainland British Columbia. Fort McLeod was established in the fall of 1805 and Fort St. James located on Stuart Lake was established the next year. Mail for these forts, and later Fort George, Fort Alexander and Fort Kamloops, was carried from the East by the Express Brigade which left Montreal in late September arriving in New Caledonia in early December some 100 days later. The northern posts were acquired by the Hudson's Bay Company in 1821. The Company continued the overland brigades until the late 1800s. The overland route was much faster than the ocean route, as the Hudson's Bay Company packet ships usually left Gravesend in July and arrived at the mouth of the Columbia some eight months later in mid-April of the following year.

At the time of the opening of the Victoria post office, in 1851, most of the mail from England arrived at Victoria in April via the annual supply voyage of the Hudson's Bay Company ship the *Norman Morison* and later the *Prince Albert*. Mail within the Columbia Department, which included most of present day British Columbia, was delivered to the coastal forts by the Hudson's Bay Company ship the *Beaver,* while mail for the interior forts was delivered by the Hudson's Bay Company fur brigade which originated out of Montreal often ending in Fort Langley. Mail within the territory was often dispatched by Indian canoe. The three Hudson's Bay Company forts on the north coast, namely Fort Simpson (1831), Fort McLoughlan (1833), and Fort Stikine (1839) all continued to be supplied by the Hudson's Bay Company ships. Unfortunately, much of the foregoing is based on contemporary records rather than on actual covers. Almost no covers are known for the period between the establishment of the Victoria post office, in 1851, and the discovery of gold on the Fraser River in 1858.

Early in 1858 a separate Post Office and Customs building was built in Victoria on the west side of Government Street between Yates and Bastion streets. It had 40 lock-boxes to serve a white population estimated at between 600 and 800 persons. On June 21, Alexander Caulfield Anderson was appointed Supervisor of Customs at a salary of 800 pound sterling per year and Peter Tuite, an American, was Deputy Postmaster at a salary of 200 pounds. Initially the Victoria Post Office used the brass CUSTOMS / VANCOUVERS ISLAND customs seal to frank mail but in June 1859, the purchase of a new franking device was authorized. The new frank, reading, VICTORIA V.I. / POST / * OFFICE * was purchased in San Francisco and came into use early in 1859. In December, John D'Ewes replaced Peter Tuite as Acting Postmaster and D'Ewes remained as acting postmaster until the middle of September in 1861 when he absconded with all but $1.15 of the post office and customs funds.

The discovery of gold in the Fraser Canyon was followed, in 1858, by the influx of mainly American settlers. The discovery of gold at Rock Creek the next year furthered the need for a greatly improved postal system. It is estimated that by the spring of 1859 at least 30,000 miners had left San Francisco for Victoria. The need for additional post offices was recognized and according to A.S. Deaville, in his definitive work on the colonial

postal system, 11 post offices were opened between the fall of 1858 and summer of 1859. No further offices were opened during the next five years.

The post offices opened in 1858 and 1859 were:

1858	1859
Hope	Alexander
Langley	Douglas
Nanaimo	Lillooet
Yale	Lytton
	New Westminster
	Rock Creek
	Similkameen

Between 1858 and the entry of British Columbia into Confederation with Canada in 1871, roughly 36 Colonial post offices were established throughout the colony. The postmasters, for the most part, received no form of reenumeration, although in some case the position of postmaster was added to their other government duties. As a result the postal service was quite erratic with many offices lasting only a year or two. During this period, mail for the interior was dispatched monthly in winter and twice a month in the summer. In 1862 things improved slightly when the service between New Westminster and Yale was increased to a weekly service in the summer.

To fill the void created by the lack of an efficient postal system, privately owned express companies moved in to fill the needs. The Wells, Fargo & Co. opened an office in Victoria and was primarily concerned with mail to and from California. While on the mainland by far the best known company was Barnard's Express which operated horse drawn stages to the Cariboo until 1913. In addition to having the government mail contract, Barnard's Express also operated a private mail service, and for a small additional fee, usually $1, miners received much more regular service which operated out of the express company offices located at each of the major stagecoach stops. Since much of the mail was carried by the express companies, it is not surprising that covers carried by the express companies are as common, if not more common, than those passing exclusively through the government mail system.

Although the situation improved greatly in 1872 when the Colonial Postal Service was taken over by the Canadian Post Office, the delivery of mail was still difficult. The original North West Company, fur express canoe route had been acquired by the Hudson's Bay Company in 1821, and still served fur posts in northern British Columbia on an annual basis. The British Navy, operating out of Esquimalt, often delivered official government dispatches on an occasional basis as well as mail for the troops stationed at Esquimalt. The Hudson's Bay Company ships continued to bring the annual shipments of goods, via Cape Horn, with the round trip taking almost a year. The only major change was the improvement in the overland mail service out of San Francisco. Initially, the service went via Cape Horn and later overland across the Isthmus of Panama. With the development of the Pony Express, in 1859, and the westward extension of the railroad to the Mississippi, the delivery time for mail from San Francisco to New York was reduced to slightly over two weeks which was a great improvement over the month or more delivery time over the Panama route.

It was not until the completion of the Canadian Pacific Railway, in 1886, that anything resembling a regular mail service to British Columbia came into existence and by 1891 it was possible to send a letter from Victoria, British Columbia, to Montreal, Quebec, in slightly under a week. Despite the claims of Canada Post the speed of delivery has changed very little during the last century.

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Fort Langley
The Birthplace of British Colombia

By Norm Sherritt

Today, Fort Langley is a quaint little village in the Municipality of Langley located in the southwest corner of British Columbia on the south bank of the Fraser River about 24 km north of the Canada-USA boundary. Fort Langley is distinguished mainly by the presence of a National Historic Site consisting of a restored Hudson's Bay Company trading post. This trading post once played an important part in the formation of the Province of British Columbia. At the time the post was established, there was no boundary between Canada and USA. The boundary along the 49th parallel was finally settled in 1846.

In the early 1800s, both the Hudson's Bay Company and the North West Company pushed their trading posts across the continent to reach the Pacific Ocean. The North West Company established a base at Fort George (now Astoria, Oregon) with the Hudson's Bay Company established at Fort Vancouver in Washington. Fort Vancouver is on the north bank of the Columbia River, across from what is now the city of Portland. In 1821, the North West Company was taken over by the Hudson's Bay Company.

During that same period, United States nationalists were determined to get all the territory they could. Their slogan was "54-40 or fight!" (The Nationalists claimed an area which included the southern half of what is now British Columbia.) Consequently, the posts in Washington and Oregon were in a precarious position. For that reason, the Hudson's Bay Company looked to the north to establish a post which would likely remain within British control.

In 1824, Governor Simpson (Hudson's Bay Company) dispatched an expedition under the command of James McMillan from Fort George (Astoria) to find such a site, and including an area that could be used for farming. McMillan and 40 men set out in three heavily laden boats (bateaux) on November 18, 1824. Nothing was easy. In places, they sailed along the coastline, and, in other places, portaged overland.

Finally, they came to the mouth of a little river – now known as the Nicomekl. They proceeded up this river with great difficulty until it was so jammed with weeds and trees they could go no further. So they portaged north from what is now Langley City to a point on the Salmon River. They then put their boats back in the water and followed the Salmon River until they reached the much larger Fraser River. After selecting a site for the proposed trading post, McMillan and his men returned to the Columbia River.



Figure 1. Derby, British Columbia, Reverend W. B. Crickmer preaching from a barrel on Main street, 1859. This sketch, elaborately coloured, depicts the stern or bow of a boat, and an anchor on the south bank of the Fraser River; a sow and her litter of six little pigs; a group of Indians, one wearing the tunic of a Royal Engineer Officer; and a yoke of oxen drawing a cart.
Credit: Vancouver Historical Journal, Archives Society of Vancouver, January 1959.
Note: "EXPRESS OF / WELLS & FARGO &" Could the missing part be "BALLOU"?

The original site is about 2.5 miles west of the present Fort Langley village. During July of 1827, McMillan returned on the HBC steamer, *Cadboro,* but choosing the Fraser River route instead. A trading post was built and named Langley, after a director of the Hudson's Bay Company. Langley lived in England.

This trading post served until 1839, when it was replaced by a newer post 2.5 miles up river where it would be closer to the company farm on the "Langley Prairie." This second post was short lived, burning down on April 11, 1840. It was immediately replaced by a third post on the same site where the present fort is located.

This is the fort in which the Crown Colony of British Columbia was proclaimed on November 19, 1858 with James Douglas as the Gover-

nor. Each year, November 19th is observed in Langley Municipality as the anniversary of the proclamation. That day is referred to locally as Douglas Day. The site chosen earlier to be the first capital of the new colony, however, was the 1827 site. It was named Derby. A townsite was laid out. A church and other buildings were constructed with lots being sold.

The new capital at Derby was short lived. A contingent of Royal Engineers arrived from England on Christmas Day 1859 under the command of Colonel Moody. Moody deplored the selection of Derby as the capital basically because it was on the south side of the rivers and vulnerable to attack by the Americans. Apparently, Moody had enough influence to convince others to move the capital to New Westminster in 1860.

The great hopes for Derby immediately collapsed. The town lasted until about 1861. People moved away, and most buildings collapsed. The most substantial building was the Anglican Church of the St. John, the Divine, opened on May 1, 1859. It was eventually floated across the river in 1882 and set up at what is now the corner of River and Laity Roads in Maple Ridge. The same church is still being used during 2001 – more than 140 years later.

The Hudson's Bay Company post at Fort Langley continued on as the centre of the dwindling fur trade and the increasing trade in agricultural products and exported salted fish.

In the early days of the fur trade, mail came to the Hudson's Bay Company post once each year when the fur brigade brought supplies from the east to the posts on the Pacific. The first post office in the area was established as a Colonial Post Office during November 1858. Based on the available sketchy evidence, it is my belief that the post office was in the Derby Townsite. The name was "LANGLEY," and very likely within the Postmaster's house in Derby. The Colonial offices used numeral postmarks. The number reported to designate Langley is "26." Victoria was the first post office within what is now British Columbia. It was opened in 1857. Hope, Langley and Yale followed in November 1858 with Nanaimo opening in December 1858.

The most significant new conclusion is the discovery of a sketch of Derby drawn by Rev. W.B. Crickmer during 1859 (see Figure 1). This sketch shows a row of buildings, including an "Express Office – Wells-Fargo." Although Wells-Fargo opened an office in Victoria during 1858, there are no known records to confirm the existence of other offices in British Columbia. The use of sketches at that time was the normal way of recording events. Those who drew sketches tried to capture as much detail as possible. Sketches of that period are considered to be a reliable depiction similar to photographs of today.

Wells Fargo is known to have provided a much faster mail service from San Francisco that could be provided by the Colonial Post Office. It is also known that Wells-Fargo worked in conjunction with Ballou's Fraser River Express Company within British Columbia.

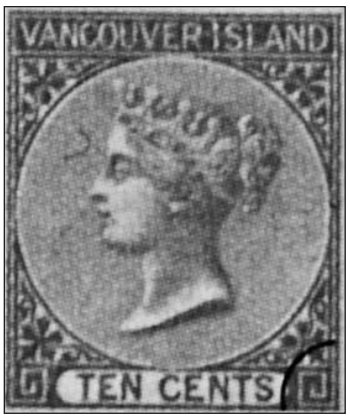


Figure 2. Wells-Fargo cover from San Francisco to Langley (Derby) by way of Victoria, circa: 1859, 1860, or 1861. Courtesy: Gray Scrimgeour.

Figure 2 shows a paste up Wells-Fargo cover provided by courtesy of Gray Scrimgeour. It was posted in San Francisco on July 11 (no year date). Of special interest is the fact that it is addressed to John. O. Taplin, Fort Langley, B.A. The "B.A." signifies British America – a very unusual usage. By comparing the different types of covers used by Wells Fargo, Scrimgeour estimates that the letter was sent during 1859 to 1861 – during the same period that the Colonial post office was open in Derby.

After Derby ceased to exist in 1861, there was no post office in the area until a Dominion of Canada Post Office was opened in November 1879. This post office was probably opened at the Hudson's Bay Company fort at the present national park location.







The Story of the British Columbia & Vancouver Island Postage

By Jack Wallace

The stamp, valued at two pence half penny, is as interesting as it is complicated.

It was:

1. The first British Colonial stamp issued for two separate crown colonies, and was then used after the colonies united (Nov. 17, 1866);
2. Issued perforated 14 – the imperforate stamp was never issued in the colony;
3. Used for five different values without surcharge until the supply was exhausted;
4. A complete sheet of 240 stamps (four panes of 60) has been recorded.

The perforated stamp.

On June 8, 1858, Governor James Douglas wrote the Colonial Secretary asking for "1,000 sheets of 240 stamps and about three dozen obliterating dies." Thomas de la Rue & Co. printed 981 sheets (235,440 stamps) for a cost of 104 pounds sterling – (90 pounds for the die and plate and 14 pounds for paper and printing, charged to the British Columbia Treasury). On Nov. 24, 1864, the Treasury in Victoria handed over to the authorities in New Westminster Treasury 102,050 of the 2-1/2 d. stamps valued at 1,063/0/5 pounds sterling because it had just been discovered that the Government of Vancouver Island had paid no share for the cost of printing these stamps.

The imperforate 2-1/2d. stamp

The Duke of Newcastle (Secretary for the Colonies) requested reprints of the 2-1/2 d. stamp from Messrs. de la Rue for the London 1862 International Exhibition. There was insufficient time to order the stamps from the Colonies. De la Rue printed six sheets (1,440 stamps). These were not perforated nor were they sent to the Colony, but the invoice of April 24, 1862 for one guinea was charged to and paid by the British Columbia Treasury.

The Mayfair Find

In 1863 or 1864, a collector in London sent five pounds sterling to each colony asking for stamps up to that cost. From British Columbia or Vancouver Island, the sending included a complete sheet of 240 stamps value at 2/10-. Stamps from this collection came up for sale in London on Nov. 9, 1925. The 240 stamp sheet was bought for Alfred Lichtenstein for about 750 pounds sterling (about $3,500 Canadian funds). This sheet was again offered in a Harmer auction on April 10, 1956, estimated at $6,000+, but was sold to Bileski for $3,300. Stewart Johnstone, Vancouver, claimed he had helped financially with the purchase. He obtained the four corner blocks of four – thus breaking up this unique sheet. These four blocks were sold for $2,000 by Sisson's April 19, 1972 as lot 569 with an estimate of $1,500. The foregoing summary verifies Gerry Wellburns' statement that sheets of BC & VI stamps were cut into panes of 60 in the colonies. The single sheet of 240 was sent from London in tin boxes soldered shut.

USE of the stamp and respective costs:

1. Vancouver Island April 1860 to October 26, 1864	5 cents
2. British Columbia (mainland) 1860 to June 20, 1864	2-1/2 pence
3. British Columbia 20 June 1864 to October 31, 1865	3 pence
4. Vancouver Island May 15, 1865 to October 31, 1865 (Used in pairs to prepay British Columbia internal postings)	7-1/2 cents
5. United Colony (British Columbia) April 11, 1867 to July 16, 1867 (Used in pairs or strips of four to cover the 12-1/2 pence or 25-cent rates)	6-1/4 cents

It is virtually impossible to determine the rate unless the stamps are on cover.

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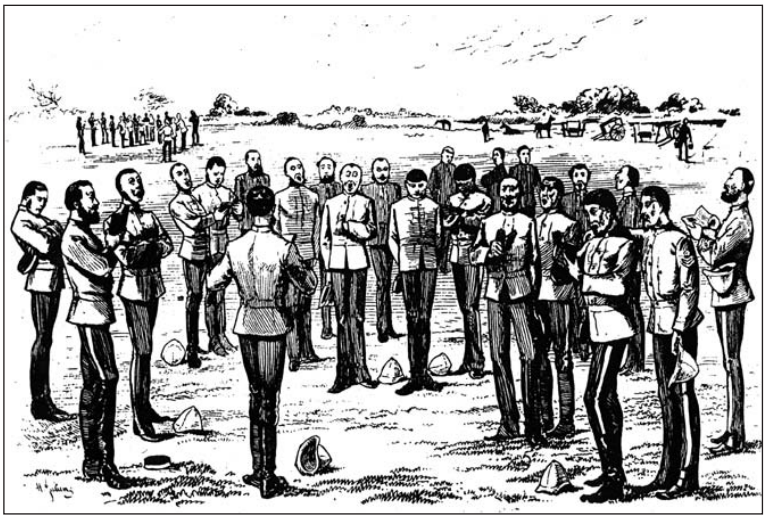
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North-West Mounted Police – The First Ten Years

By Superintendent Cecil C. Coutts RCMP (Rtd.)



NWMP Great March West 1874
Devine Service in camp on Sundays.

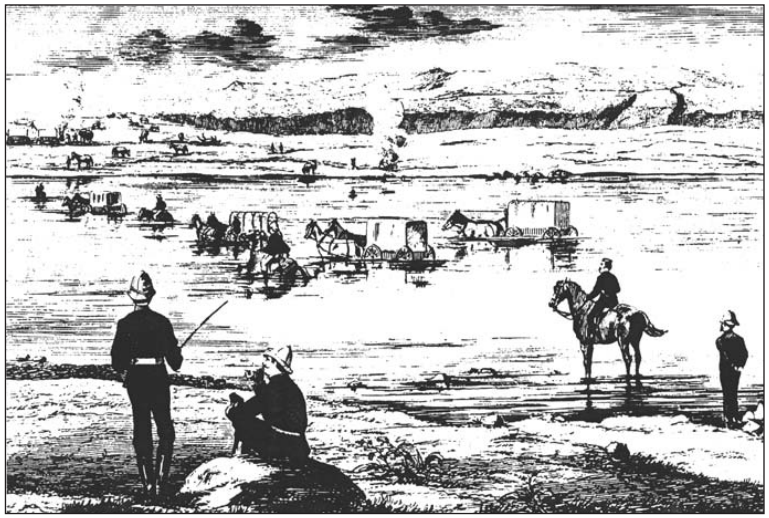
To begin our story, let us look at early conditions in the northwest. It is 1870 and Canada has just purchased, from the Hudson's Bay Company (HBC), that vast area known as Rupert's Land. Immediately following this acquisition, Manitoba became a province. Winnipeg, on the Red River, was already established as the gateway to land stretching nearly 900 miles westward to the Rockies and designated as the Northwest Territories.

Indians on the Great Plains had traded with Europeans for some time but permanent non-Indian settlements were unknown, save for the trading posts. Now, a new wave of both Red River and Missouri River traders moved into this region to compete with the HBC. Among the white man's "trading goods" was rotgut whiskey that totally demoralized the natives. Reports of increasing lawlessness in the west soon reached Ottawa. Prime Minister Macdonald was well aware that the rush of settlers and miners into the American West had cost the U.S. Treasury millions of dollars and the lives of hundreds of troops and settlers. Far better, he thought, to have law and order established before the settlers came.

On May 23, 1873 the Dominion Government passed an act to provide for the establishment of a mounted police force for the Northwest Territories. The Force's role was to protect new settlers, suppress liquor traffic, collect customs dues and calm growing unrest among the Indians. The troops were quickly organized after the Government received a disturbing report from Cypress Hills that American wolf hunters had massacred helpless Assiniboine Indians. Lieutenant-Colonel George A. French was appointed Commissioner of the new Force. The Irish-born French was seconded to the Canadian Militia from the Imperial Services upon withdrawal of British Troops from Canada in 1871.

The epic story of the March West has been told and retold in both the printed word and on film. The troops, with a strength totalling 300 men, gathered at Fort Dufferin (now Emerson), Manitoba in preparation for the great trek. On July 8, 1874 the body consisting of six troops designated "A" to "F" struck westward heading for the junction of the Bow and Belly Rivers over 750 miles distant. Their objective was to locate Fort Whoop-Up, the notorious stronghold of whiskey traders in the land of the Blackfoot. It is doubtful if there has ever been a more unique and colourful caravan. Red-jacketed riders were strung out for two miles interspersed with ox-carts, wagons, field pieces, supplies, food for the animals and agricultural equipment.

At La Roche Percée the greater part of Troop "A" under command of Inspector William Drummer Jarvis split off and proceeded northwest via Fort Ellis to establish itself at the HBC's Fort Edmonton. The remainder of the force continued westward. After two months of torrential rains, thunderstorms, mosquitoes, starving animals and sickness, they reached their objective only to discover that Fort Whoop-Up was nowhere in sight. The contingent swung south to the Sweet Grass Hills where they rested and were refitted with supplies and fresh horses purchased at Fort Benton, Montana.



Six months in the wilds of the Northwest.
The North-West Mounted Police crossing Belly River, Sept. 14, 1871.

Commissioner French and Troops "D" and "E" now started out for Swan River (near the present Pelly, SK), which was chosen as the site of the newly appointed Headquarters of the Force. After leaving a detachment there, French continued on to Fort Dufferin to complete a round trip of 1,959 miles. The stamina, courage and determination shown by French during this remarkable journey surely set the tone for followers to emulate. Assistant Commissioner James Farquharson Macleod, commanding "B," "C," and "F" Troops and the remainder of "A" continued westward from the Sweet Grass Hills to the foothills of the Rockies. With the assistance of their newly found guide Jerry Potts they located Fort Whoop-Up at the junction of the St.Mary's and Belly Rivers. The whiskey traders, aware of the approaching police, had hastily departed and only an old man and a few Indians were there to greet the newcomers.



NWMP Great March West 1874.
The NW Mounted Police Expedition – A halt to cut hay.

Asst. Commr. Macleod pushed on to the Old Man River where, in October 1874, the first police post in the northwest was built – aptly named Fort Macleod. By 1875 additional posts were erected at Fort Livingstone (known as Swan River Barracks), Fort Carlton, Fort Saskatchewan, Fort Walsh and Fort Calgary. Law and order was now firmly established on Canada's western frontier. Lawlessness declined sharply and the NWMP had won the respect of Crowfoot, Chief of the Blackfoot Confederacy. In 1877 Crowfoot and his brother Chiefs signed Treaty Number 7. It was one of the most important Indian treaties in Canadian history and provided that title to 50,000 square miles of the Canadian West would pass to the Dominion of Canada. In 1882 the NWMP Headquarters was moved to Regina (District of Assiniboia), originally known as Pile-Of-Bones Creek.

From a philatelic standpoint, some towns and post offices have been named in honour of those stalwart men. Fort McLeod post office opened October 1, 1883. The name was changed to MacLeod in 1892 and renamed again in 1952 to Fort MacLeod; Red Jacket just west of Moosomin, Saskatchewan commemorates the stopping place of Inspector Jarvis on his 1874 journey to Edmonton via Fort Ellis. This post office was opened March 1, 1900 (Assiniboia District) and closed February 15, 1977 (Saskatchewan); The first member of the NWMP to be killed while on duty was regimental number 335 Constable Marmaduke Graburn who was shot and killed by a Blood Indian November 17, 1879. Graburn Post Office was established July 1, 1895 (Assiniboia District) and closed March 31, 1912 (Alberta). The Alberta town of Irvine was named in honour of Acheson Gosford Irvine, third Commissioner of the Force. Irvine was the first Canadian-born Commissioner, hailing from Quebec City. During his time as head of the NWMP, he saw the completion of the CPR and the outbreak and suppression of the North West Rebellion. Irvine Post Office opened January 1, 1900 (Assiniboia District); Superintendent James Morrow Walsh took command of Fort Walsh in 1875. Walsh is best known for his astute handling of fugitive Sitting Bull and the American Sioux who fled to Canada after the battle of the Little Big Horn. Walsh Post Office opened Aug. 1, 1891 (Assiniboia District).

Fort Steele was opened in British Columbia during June 1887, named after Supt. Samual B. Steele. The Post Office at Fort Steele opened Sept. 1, 1888 and is still open.

Henri Julien, a Montreal newspaperman, accompanied the expedition as artist and correspondent for the *Canadian Illustrated News*. The pen and ink sketches shown in this article are representations of Julien's work.

References:

Turner, John Peter, *The North-West Mounted Police 1873-1893* (two volumes), King's Printer, Ottawa, 1950.

POSTAL HISTORY SOCIETY OF CANADA
Founded May 6 1972

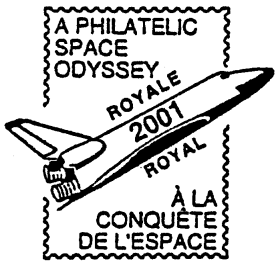
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A MESSAGE FROM THE RPSC SLIDE LIBRARIAN

The editor of *The Canadian Philatelist*, Bill Pekonen, suggested to me that many collectors have transferred their exhibits to colour slides merely for their own reference. Might not these esteemed collectors share their exhibits with the rest of us? The RPSC could make copies of these slides to share with the membership with the kind permission and good will of said collectors. An accompanying script would round out the package. A cassette tape is not a necessary element, as many clubs do not have all the vital electronic equipment and are quite content to have a member read the script. As Mr. Pekonen pointed out the topics are varied and interesting. So, how about it? If you have a set of slides that you would be willing to share, which would help bring our slide library into this new century why not contact your friendly Slide Librarian immediately? You will not only be stimulating our library but you will be preserving for posterity your research and collections.

On the same note, Program #111 – The Christmas Stamps of Canada 1898-1981, compiled by the Kirkland Lake Stamp Club, consisting of 31 slides, needs to be brought up to the year 2000. It is a popular program for Christmas meetings, but a lot of stamps have been issued in the meantime. Could we have a volunteer to do Part II, 1982-2000? It could even be a club project. Having attended Glasgow 2000 I was amazed to see the number of exhibits put together as club projects. What a good idea! Just contact your friendly Slide Librarian.

MISSING! You will notice that RPSC Program #25 is missing from the list. It indeed is missing from more than the list. The script is available in both English and French but there are no slides. Perhaps someone knows where the slides are or what happened to them. The program title is "Stamp Errors" by L.N. & M. Williams and was obtained by RPSC by special arrangement with Stanley Gibbons who reserve the copyright. There were 21 slides. It reads as an interesting program – we would like to welcome it back to our listing.

Elizabeth Sodero, Slide Librarian,

831 Tower Road, Halifax, NS B3H 2Y1

Tel: (903) 422-7589

MESSAGE DE LA RESPONSABLE DE LA DIAPOTHÈQUE DE LA SRPC

L'éditeur du PHILATÉLISTE CANADIEN, Bill Pekonen, m'a indiqué que de nombreux collectionneurs avaient transféré leurs expositions sur des diapositives couleurs pour leur propre référence. Ces chers collectionneurs aimeraient-ils nous faire partager leurs expositions? La SRPC pourrait copier ces diapositives afin d'en faire profiter ses membres, avec l'accord et la permission des collectionneurs concernés. Un commentaire écrit viendrait compléter le tout. Une cassette audio n'est pas indispensable, étant donné que de nombreux clubs ne disposent pas du matériel électronique essentiel et qu'ils se contentent très bien d'une lecture orale faite par un membre. Comme M. Pekonen l'a précisé, les sujets sont variés et très intéressants. Pensez-y donc! Si vous possédez une série de diapositives que vous désireriez montrer et qui aiderait notre diapothèque à franchir le seuil de ce nouveau siècle, pourquoi ne pas contacter dès maintenant votre aimable responsable de diapothèque? Vous contribuerez non seulement à stimuler notre diapothèque, mais vous préserverez également pour la postérité vos travaux de recherche et vos collections.

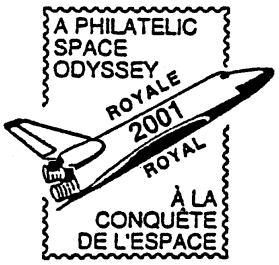
Dans le même registre, le diaporama no. 111 des timbres de Noël du Canada de 1898 à 1981, préparé par le Club philatélique Kirkland Lake et composé de 31 diapositives, a besoin d'être remis à jour jusqu'à l'année 2000. Il s'agit d'un diaporama très prisé lors des réunions à l'approche de Noël et un grand nombre de timbres sont sortis depuis. Pourrions-nous avoir un volontaire qui s'occuperait de la 2e partie 1982-2000? Ceci pourrait même faire l'objet d'un projet de club. Ayant participé à l'assemblée Glasgow 2000, j'ai été impressionnée par le nombre d'expositions réalisées en tant que projets de clubs. Quelle excellente idée! Il vous suffit de contacter votre responsable de diapothèque.

DISPARU! Vous remarquerez que le diaporama no. 25 de la SRPC ne figure plus à la liste. En fait, il n'a pas simplement disparu de la liste. Le commentaire écrit existe en versions anglaise et française, mais les diapositives sont introuvables. Quelqu'un sait-il peut-être où elles se trouvent ou ce qu'il en est advenu. Le diaporama en question s'intitule «ERREURS DE TIMBRES», par L.N. et M. Williams, et a été obtenu par la SRPC grâce à un accord spécial avec Stanley Gibbons qui en détient le droit d'auteur. Le diaporama comptait 21 diapositives. Il paraissait intéressant et nous aimerions le réintégrer à la liste.

Elizabeth Sodero, responsable de la diapothèque,

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From a Collector to a President

By Clayton Lam

With a common start as a philatelist, I began collecting stamps after receiving a stamp album from Aunty Foony as a present for my eighth birthday. Since then, I continued collecting stamps for more than a decade with fun but without a direction until 1996. Founding the Coin & Stamp Club in the University of British Columbia not only was a turning point in my stamp collecting but also one of the most exciting experiences that I have ever had. I would like to share my personal experiences with readers for re-enforcing the importance in collecting stamps, namely having fun, developing friendships, and broadening knowledge.

Fun

Postage stamps, especially the modern ones, have their innate attractions to children due to colourful designs. I was certainly one of the above children who enjoyed looking at beautiful pieces of tiny squares and later became a loyal customer of Canada Post.

Another intriguing activity in philately is soaking off stamps from papers. Playing around with water especially on hot summer days can be really fun for a kid. Since my mother did not want me to mess up the washroom when I soaked my stamps, she would usually give me a hand. Not only did I have fun playing with those wet stamps, but I also tightened my relationship with my mom.

However, the most thrilling experience that I had in collecting was to attend an auction preview. In 1990, Christie's held a supreme auction on Chinese postal historical items in Hong Kong. My dad took me to the Hilton Hotel, a five-star hotel in central Hong Kong, for previewing the lots.

When the representative of Christie's asked me whether I wanted to view the small $1 overprint Chinese Red Revenue Stamp, I replied no immediately. It was not because I did not want to view that stamp but it was because the stamp was estimated one and a half million Hong Kong dollars (approx. Cdn. $300,000). I, who was a naive teenager, thought what if I damaged the stamp by accident, then I would be in jail. However, I truly enjoyed every single moment in viewing that expensive stamp within a distance of one foot, in my dad's hand.

Friends

Developing friendships is a good example that philately involves much more than putting stamps into albums. In the summer of 1996, I had the pleasure of meeting some classmates who have a common interest in collecting. We wanted to join the stamp club on campus but found out that the club had been abandoned for a year.

Thanks to the help of Mr. Bill Pekonen and financial support by Mr. Brian Grant Duff, the Coin and Stamp Club of UBC was organized to provide members with monthly seminars. My social circle was enlarged instantaneously after founding the club. Being the president of the club, I met people from all walks of life from philatelists in club meetings to politicians in stamp launch ceremonies. I am amazed what stamps can do. Moreover, stamps can be used as an educational tool.

Knowledge

In addition to providing better understanding about history and geography, the principle in stamp collecting coincides with the modern education trend which is to become a lifelong learner, a crucial requirement in a knowledge-based society. Those days of getting knowledge passively from lectures taught by instructors in a classroom setting has gone. The academic plan in the 21st century set by UBC mentioned that 'we should encourage (curiosity-driven) learning that accentuates active as opposed to passive roles… supports varied ways of acquiring and transmitting knowledge.'

By adding interest to studying, philately allows one to actively research on a variety of focused topics, for a lifetime. Understanding the importance of active learning, I have started some research on my collection rather than merely filling my closet with boxes of stamps. Since great discoverers like Issac Newton and Albert Einstein made their prominent achievements by taking an active role in learning, we wish to see the renaissance of great discoveries in the 21st century by promoting stamp collecting.

Conclusion

Some people claimed they collected stamps when they were young but not anymore. They simply do not realize what philately can give them. Without the motivation by stamps, I would not have started a student club in UBC. "The best thing about stamp collecting is that the enthusiasm which it instills in children increases with the passing years. It banishes apathy, broadens our horizons, increases our knowledge and, in many ways, enriches our lives." Now I really understand what President Franklin Roosevelt was talking about.

Notes from the Past

Department Order #5

Post Office Department Ottawa
27th October, 1870.

Correspondence with the Province of Manitoba from and after the first of November, 1870.

Correspondence between the Province of Manitoba and the other Provinces of Canada will pass in closed mails made up at Fort Garry, Manitoba, for Windsor, ON, and at Windsor for Fort Garry, respectively. These mails will be conveyed by the United States Post Office without opening by the way, via Detroit, St. Paul and Pembina.

The rates of postage between Manitoba and the other Province of Canada, on correspondence sent in these closed mails, will be the ordinary Canadian rates; and the ordinary postal regulations will apply to all mail matter.

Letters may be registered for Manitoba as for other parts of Canada.

The mails for Manitoba will be closed at Windsor, ON, on every Tuesday, Thursday and Saturday afternoon.

A. Campbell

Postmaster General

Development of Several New Products
But Will They Stick?

by Joseph Monteiro

Several new philatelic products have appeared on the market over the last few years. The most recent one is personalized stamps, others are uncut press sheets, stamps produced in large formatted sheets, progressive proofs, limited editions, self-adhesive stamps which first appeared in the 1970s, and unique philatelic giveaways. In addition, non-philatelic products are also being produced by a number of countries. These products are new and innovative, but will they stick as far as philatelists are concerned?

In this article I shall explore several of these new products that have made its appearance in the philatelic world and provide my opinion about them.

I. New Philatelic Products Produced by Post Offices

a) Personalized stamps

Personalized stamps for the first time appeared with postage stamps on September 1, 1999 when Australia launched the use of this product. The personalized stamp is produced by creating a photographic portrait on the tab of the stamp. Visitors to the 1999 Expo in Australia were able to buy sheetlets of 10 stamps (45-cent Polly Woodside) and have their photograph printed on the tab beside the stamps. The Governor-General of Australia, the Prime Minister and Premier of Victoria were presented with their own personalized stamps. The manner in which the printing was accomplished was described in the *Australian Stamp Bulletin* as follows. "Four digital cameras [were used]… The digital image was then processed through specially engineered software. After manipulation, the image was printed digitally in full colour beside the conventionally preprinted and perforated gummed stamps." An illustration of an Australian personalized stamp is shown hereafter.



Illustration of personalized canadian stamps

Canada went a step further in the area of personalized stamps with its issue of Greetings stamps issued on April 28, 2000. The photographic portrait does not appear on the tab. It appears as an integral part of the stamp. The centre of the stamp contains the personalized portrait. Canada Post states "Now Canadians can customize their outgoing mail with the introduction of Picture Postage, a double sticker postage that allows senders to create unique stamps with their own personal photographs." Canada Post claims that this product is the first of its kind in the world. All that has to be done is that a vertical photograph of a certain dimension has to be mailed to Picture Postage in Markham, Ontario. The 25 personalized stickers (together with the frame indicating the postage and name of the country for the stickers; and return address labels), without tax, cost $24.95 or $1 for each stamp. An illustration of the Canadian version of the personalized stamp is shown hereafter.



Illustration of personalized Australian stamps

United Kingdom also offered a product similar to the Australian product at The Stamp Show 2000 in London in the last week of May 2000. The personalized stamps were part of the tab on the Smilers Stamps. A picture was taken of you and within minutes a sheet of Smilers Stamps with your own picture along side each stamp was printed. The personalized stamps were printed in conjunction with The House of Questa and Kodak Technology. The cost of producing a sheet of 10 stamps was £3.

At Stamp Show 2000, Neopost, the leading supplier of mailroom equipment, launched an innovative personalized franking service. "Using the small portable Neopost AutoStamp, visitors can have digital photographs taken and printed directly onto an envelope or postcard… This is the first time such flexible printing for franking machines has been available. These personalized souvenirs were available for £5 each. An illustration of the UK version of a personalized stamp and personalized franking service is shown hereafter

The latest country to propose the issue of personalized stamps is Hong Kong. On February 1, personalized se-

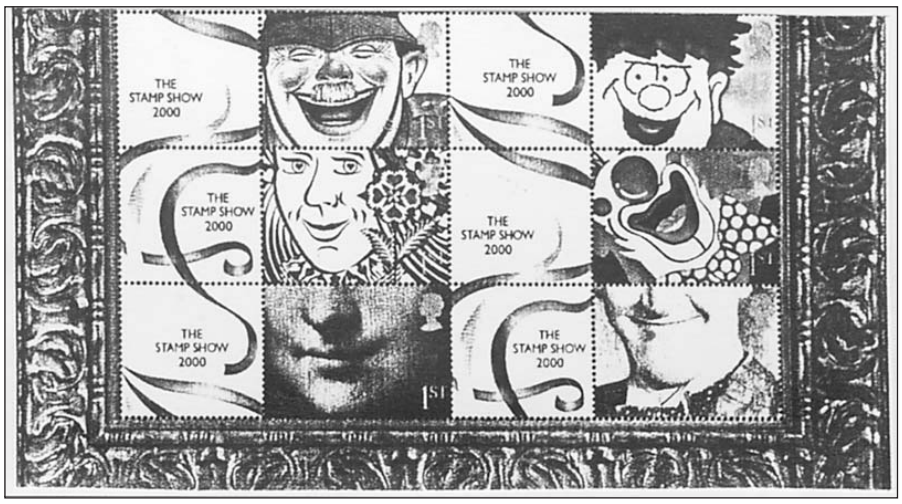


Illustration of personalized United Kingdom stamps

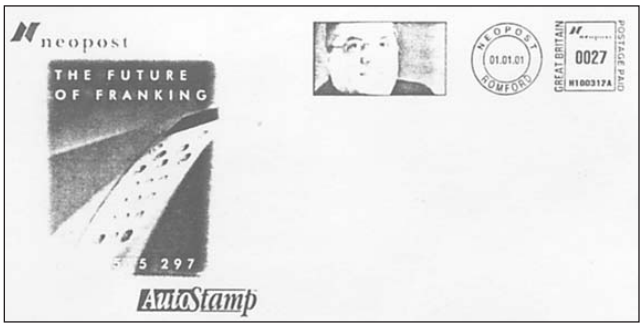


Illustration of personalized United Kingdom franking

ries of stamps will be offered at the Hong Kong 2001 Stamp Exhibition, the major philatelic event in Asia. This personalized set will be available in mini panes of six stamps with the values $1.3, $1.3, $2.5, $2.5, $3.1 and $5. The only difference between these stamps and similar issues by other countries is that each stamp has an additional tab on the other side of the stamp. Each tab will contain one of several greeting messages – 'Happy New Year,' or 'Happy Birthday,' or 'Happy Valentine's Day' or 'Merry Christmas' or 'Happy Memories,' or 'A Successful Year.' The stamps depict designs of chickens, swans, mistletoe, flowers of the Bauhinia plant, bamboo plants and maple leaves. This is shown in part of the illustration hereafter.

The cost of producing these personalized stamps is not insignificant in relation to the value of the stamps itself. It can range up to 50 per cent of the total cost of the stamp or equal to the value of the stamp. Given the cost of these stamps, it is unlikely to be very popular at least for common use. However, since it is a cheap form of advertising, it is quite possible that businesses may make use of these personalized stamps for advertising purposes.



Illustrations of Personalized Hong Kong Stamps

b) Sale of stamps in Uncut Press Sheets

Another new product offered for sale by post offices is Uncut Press Sheets. I believe the United States Post Office was the first to have marketed products in this format in recent times (I am sure some astute philatelists may point out that the entire uncut sheet was also marketed at the turn of the century in uncut press sheets, however, these were never considered as distinct products). The marketing of this product probably spread from the sale and experience with the marketing of numismatic products. I understand that the sale of uncut sheets of currency notes have been available for a considerable length of time.

The United States has issued several uncut press sheets (for example, sheets commemorating Marilyn Monroe, baseball, insects and spiders, etc.) Several countries have now followed the United States and issued uncut press sheets. Canada has issued several uncut press sheets (for example, commemorative stamps on: birds, animals of the zodiac, and millennium partnership). Hong Kong has so far issued only one uncut press sheet (for example, the stamp commemorating the Panda). New Zealand has also issued uncut press sheets (for example, souvenir sheets commemorating the Queen Mother available in the album 'A Life that Spans a Century'), etc.

The sale of stamps in these formats, in my opinion, does not hold promise of significant sales. First, the format in which it is produced is too big to be inserted in any album. Second, it is difficult to store these products. Third these products are sold in cylinders which makes the sheet curl, which besides the humidity absorbed from the atmosphere, make it difficult to uncurl. Fourth, they are quite expensive. Fifth, they are cumbersome to deal with and difficult to trade. Sixth, their production is not of a limited edition. On the plus side, first since some of these sheets are sometimes produced in certain types of format they may provide collectors with a unique opportunity to obtain stamps with tête-bêche pairs that would normally not be available for sale through the post office. An example of this is illustrated hereafter. Second, these sheets are useful for framing and decorations.

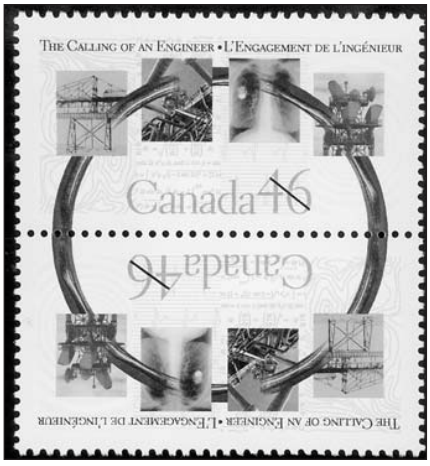


Illustration of tête-bêche

c) Production of Stamps in Large Panes Half of which is Devoted to Information

The production of large sheets with only a few stamps on them where most of the space on the sheet is devoted to information about the stamps or the reasons for the issue of the sheet, etc. is in my opinion not likely to be popular among collectors.

I believe that such sheets are difficult to collect or insert in one's album. If the stamps in the sheet have to be cut off, then often they become no different than other stamps issued, if these stamps are not specifically issued for the particular occasion for which the sheets were printed. An example, is the stamps issued by Australia commemorating Expo 2000 in California. A small part of the sheet contains the stamps and the rest of the sheet contains information about Expo, etc. If one cuts off the stamps from this large souvenir sheet, it is difficult to distinguish them from the stamps issued earlier. Unless the stamps on the souvenir sheet are contained in no other format or can be easily distinguished by other characteristics (for example paper, perforation, colour, etc.), it is difficult to collect such sheets, deal with these sheets, resell these sheets, etc.

If the job of the Post Office is in part to market stamps to collectors then they should serve the needs of the collector. If the format in which these stamps are collected are too cumbersome, collectors will not be persuaded to buy these stamps and the objective of the Post Office will be defeated.

d) Progressive Proofs, Specimens and Special Limited Editions

The printing of progressive proofs, specimens and limited editions (containing imperforate sheets or sheets uniquely formatted) are undertaken by a few countries, for example St. Vincent, a number of other West Indies countries: New Zealand, Tonga, etc. The market for these products in general is excellent provided their production is limited in quantity.

What is meant by limited quantity? I believe this means a few thousands (i.e., 1,000 or 2,000 at the most). A number of countries often advertise 'limited quantities' produced and end up printing at times 100,000 or 200,000. In my opinion, printing of such stamps in large numbers results in these products being a failure. For example, Canada printed limited numbers of the Millennium Collection (i.e. 200,000) and even after a year they are unable to sell their entire stock. New Zealand produced limited quantities of its Millennium collection (i.e. 15,000) and Queen Mother Album 'A Life that Spans a Century' (5,000) and is unable to sell its entire stock. Despite the fact that these products are relatively expensive and contain stamps in a format not available otherwise, why don't they sell? The reason is because the Post Offices do not do a proper job of estimating demand correctly. It is unfortunate that they cannot hire an economist to estimate the elasticity of demand for such products. If they did, it would save them hundreds of thousands of dollars. I believe New Zealand is learning from some of its lessons in varying quantity produced. It produces a limited edition series of certain issues (i.e., 2,000) and one has to be placed on a waiting list before one can obtain supply.



Illustration of self-adhesive stamps

If the Post Office does a proper job, many of these novel and limited editions will be a success. The fact that most of them do a terrible job ends up destroying philatelists' interest in this hobby. If they adopt a similar attitude in other aspects of its business it will not be surprising if they find it difficult to survive, and as time goes on they may end up becoming a dodo bird. Imagine the competition from the Internet, the overnight courier companies the increase in long distance telephone calling and the increase in the use of the fax. Despite their legislative monopolies, if they do not do take the appropriate measures to adapt to the changing technological revolution they will belong to the generation of dinosaurs.

e) Self adhesive stamps

A major innovation was the introduction of self-adhesive or quick stamps. The first self-adhesive stamp was produced in the United States of America, in 1974 using material produced by Avery Dennison. This stamp (Peace on Earth 10 cents) was issued to commemorate Christmas. In Canada, the first self-adhesive stamp was issued on June 30, 1989 with the issuance of the 38-cents Flag stamp in booklet panes of 12. When it was first issued, these stamps proved to be less popular than was anticipated as such stamps were sold at a premium over the face value. Most users were not prepared to pay this premium, in addition to the taxes, as there was no real harm to human health in licking stamps with PVA gum. Before PVA gum was used, stamps were produced with the use of Arabic gum and it was claimed that the licking of these stamps was beneficial to health as it prevented common colds from occurring.

Popularity in the use of self-adhesive stamps with the public has increased in the 1990s as it enables users to send greeting messages for occasions like birthdays, marriages, etc. In some countries, self-adhesive stamps are very popular for example in France it accounts for 70 percent of the country's total stamp sales. Besides some of the countries noted above, self-adhesive stamps have also been issued by other countries for example. Australia, New Zealand, Singapore, Indonesia, China, Tonga, etc. Many of these countries used material produced by Avery Dennison.

In 1990, Avery Dennison manufactured the world's first ATM (automated teller machines) stamp for the U.S. constructed with a plastic feedstock having won a contract from the U.S. Postal service to develop self-adhesive stamps to be dispensed from ATMs (a couple of years earlier). The use of ATM stamps in Canada began in April 1998 through branches of the Canadian Imperial Bank of Commerce, however the experiment proved to be a failure and was withdrawn a couple of years later.

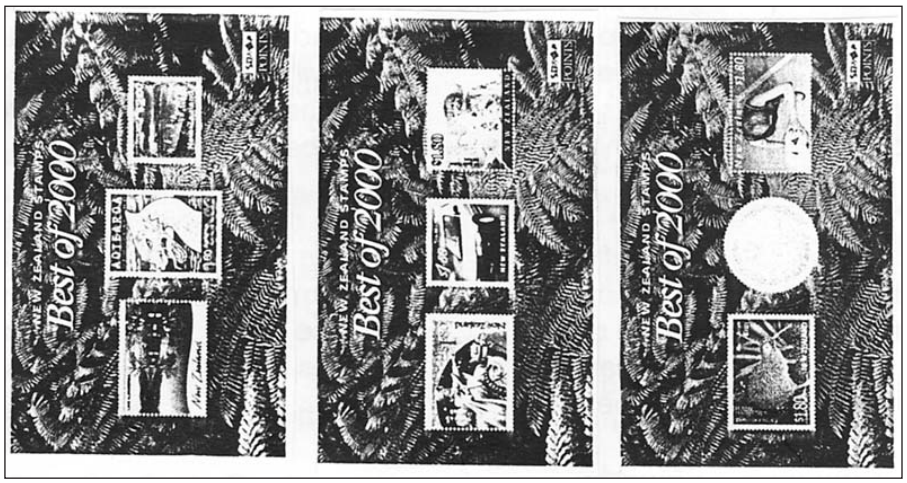


Illustration of New Zealand giveaways

It is doubtful whether this innovation (self-adhesive stamps) will be very popular among philatelists, as in several instances it reduces the number of varieties available to philatelists by eliminating one of the basic dimensions of classifying stamps, namely perforation.

f) Special Philatelic Giveaways

The use of special philatelic giveaways is an innovative way to stimulate interest in the philatelic products sold by the Post Office. These special philatelic giveaways are generally uniquely produced items i.e., in some unique format that cannot be purchased from the Post Office.

A few countries have used this technique to stimulate an interest in philately. The most notable country is New Zealand. Several years ago it introduced a point system, entitling the purchaser of philatelic products to a point for a dollar spent. At the end of the year, it offers collectors several philatelic and non-philatelic products based on the number of points accumulated. This is very popular among collectors both in the fact that it provides a return of about 15 per cent or more from the purely monetary point of view (i.e., value of stamps on the souvenir sheet for example). Further, these unique philatelic giveaways can also have a separate philatelic value apart form its monetary value. Another country which has introduced such a program is Hong Kong. It is not known whether their giveaway product is unique which will enable it to gain special catalogue status. Canada once provided its customers with a special giveaway (the Regiment stamp first day cover) but this was more an unusual event.

The potential for such philatelic products is quite good if it can be identified as a unique product that will receive catalogue status. It will also enable the Post Offices to encourage sales of its products. The use of such programs however should not be discriminatory. If it does, it could lead to all types of unnecessary problems.

II. Non-Philatelic or Partial Philatelic Products

A number of Post Offices are now using non-philatelic products or partial philatelic products (i.e., combination of philatelic products with non-philatelic products for example stamps and coins) to enhance their sales. The potential or success of these products largely depends on what types of products the Post Offices ties with what and the quantity of these products produced.

First, with regard to non-philatelic items such as toys, mugs, tankards, coffee mug lids, calendars and other objects I cannot offer any specific comments as this is generally not considered philately. Several Post Offices, U.K., Germany, Canada, Hong Kong, etc. – get involved in such marketing schemes and I do not know whether they have been successful as I have not reviewed the prices in the resale market.

Second with regard to partial philatelic products, I shall provide some observations from a small sample of products examined in a few countries. Canada last year produced the 'Official Millennium Keepsake'. It contained a unique souvenir sheets, a postcard and a coin. The souvenir sheets were very pretty and it was certainly a novel idea. Why did it not sell, even after a discount of 25 per cent? The reason is obvious. A few million were produced and the market is not large enough to observe such quantities. This is an excellent example of where an economist with some philatelic experience could provide the Post Office with his opinion of what not to do. Australia is another country that issues joint products, for example currency notes and specially numbered souvenir sheets. However, in this case the number is strictly controlled to a few thousand and it generally appears to be a success. Its success is largely tied to the number of such products produced. Another factor that should be kept in mind in determining whether such products will be a success is the cost of these products. If the costs are high, unless the numbers are limited to a few thousands the sale of these products will not be a success.

In evaluating the viability or market of partial philatelic products not only must it be determined if it contains something unique for the philatelist (i.e. not sold by the Post Office through other forms) but other factors should be considered such as the quantity being produced, the price of the product, income of people, etc. Unless attention is paid to these factors the success in marketing such products will not be very encouraging.

III. Concluding Remarks

The introduction of innovative products if they are to be a success for philatelists must be selectively chosen. Several factors should be kept in mind: costs of the products to be sold, the number of these products produced, the unique nature of these products, the format in which they are produced, etc. It is always advisable to consult with economists or marketing experts to determine the elasticity of demand for such products. If the proper precautions are not taken, these products generally do not prove to be successful. There are exceptions to this rule (for example in Hong Kong where at one time the demand for almost any issue was staggering on the initial day of issue was largely sparked by speculation), but generally these exceptions do not hold or last for a very long period of time. If the innovative products are not specifically produced for philatelists but for general public use then considerations of marketing these products for philatelists do not matter as they can always be used by personnel at the Post Office on mail.

How to protect your stamps from theft & how to proceed if your collection is stolen

by Andrew Blanchard

Intro: Andrew Blanchard, 20 years full time dealer, from Montreal, retail manager auctioneer expert witness in Quebec superior court, 6 years in Vancouver, wholesaler, broker agent organizer of GWS, evaluations for ICBC and Public trustee, BC director of CSDA 6 months in Victoria, most recently became junior member of Muffin break stamp club

Any dealer who says they have never bought stamps that have turned out to be stolen is either lying or doesn't do very much business. Even a dealer who goes out of their way to avoid anything of questionable provenance will one day buy a collection from the most decent looking, well spoken and pleasant individual who is offering stamps that just happen to not belong to them. Dealers do have a set of legal obligations to adhere to when buying, but I'll come to that later.

Luckily for philatelists, stamp collections are not at the top of the list of things to steal when the most common type of property crime, domestic break and enter, occurs. This type of thief is going to steal your VCR, TV, jewellery and other things that are most often in plain sight, can be quickly removed and easily pawned. Also, there are far more pawn type shops to sell these goods to (with relative anonymity) than there are stamp stores to sell stamp collections to. Pawn shops rarely buy stamp collections because they are too specialized and complex an article to attribute a market value to. Also, where collectibles are concerned, given the choice, for example, between a stamp or coin collection, the thief will always pick the coins, because of their easier salability and difficulty in identifying.

The largest percentage of stamp thefts are actually committed by someone the collector is actually acquainted with. I've heard many sad stories like the drug-addicted nephew who heard for years about Uncle Smedley's collection, and when in need of cash, decided that Uncle Smedley probably wouldn't really miss it. Or just as often, the nephew owes money to the wrong person, and figures that unbroken legs mean more to him than the stamp collection could ever mean to his uncle. This type of incestuous theft and resale can create interesting complications. I'll cover these complications later also.

Why are pictures so important? Well, it's like this. Even a comprehensive written inventory of all the items in the collection is not a document that can conclusively prove in a court of law that the collection is actually yours. I was in court as an expert witness once in a case where the ownership of numerous items in a dealer's inventory were claimed to belong to another dealer. The party claiming ownership had a list of about 25 better items found in the seized inventory. He claimed that the odds of finding these 25 particular items in the same stock were so great that they had to have been his originally. The judge asked me what my opinion was so I told him "Give me $50,000 and a month and I'll duplicate the list of 25 items to a 'T'." Case closed. If there had even been one identifiable photographed stamp the outcome would have been different. Police love pictures – thieves hate them. Case closed.

What to do if you are robbed. Check to see exactly what was taken and make a list to send to local dealers. Get the police file number pertaining to your theft and include it on the list you send to dealers. That way when they call 911 to get the police over to their shop, they will come much faster because exhaustive details don't have to be passed over the phone by the store owner – the file is on the computer screen in front of the police operator.

Call local dealers to give basic details and then get the list out to them as quickly as possible. Faxes work great but keep it short! Reams of curly fax paper don't make a good impression and graphics of stamps don't always come out well. Longer lists can be hand delivered or mailed. Even if you're really upset over your theft, don't be aggressive with the dealers you contact. Honey always works better than vinegar when requesting this kind of help – remember the dealer is going to be the one calling the police while the thief is in their shop!

Remember if there is no police report your collection hasn't officially been stolen! This is where the "incestuous thief" complication usually comes in. If the dealer bought the collection in good faith, and the police are not yet involved, it actually still belongs to the dealer! As distraught as Uncle Smedley may be about the heist of his collection, the Uncle Smedleys of this world are often loathe to press charges against kin. So, no charges – no crime. If Uncle Smedley wants his collection back without the courts getting involved, he should compensate the dealer for at least the dealer's purchase price.

If Uncle Smedley does press charges, the collection then does belong to him, and he gets it back from the Crown when it's no longer needed as evidence at his nephew's trial. The dealer that bought it has to pursue the nephew for compensation – almost always an exercise in futility.

Note:

Even if the thief is caught red handed with your stuff, they can only be charged with possessing stolen goods and not with break and enter. There has to be evidence linking them physically to having been in your home in order to be charged with this additional crime.

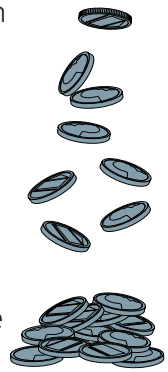
Stamp collections are not often kept in a high profile high traffic part of the house, which is one reason why they are often overlooked in a break and enter. A secure cabinet like a locking steels office cabinet or a small safe is actually not that expensive an option (fireproof is a great idea). Remember – even the best vault is only a delaying tactic. If someone has enough time and gumption they'll get into anything. You just want to make it too much work to break into in the limited time most thieves have. Lower insurance premiums will also help subsidize your storage.

Insurance:

If you choose to insure your stamps against loss, do not insure them on your general house policy. The premiums are extremely high, and should loss occur, home insurance companies

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in my experience are very hard to collect from. Often they are more than willing to issue a rider to cover stamps without requesting any documentation from you (and charge extra for the coverage). But if you do lose your collection that's when the fun starts. They will often ask for an itemized list of all the stamps, purchase receipts (which stamp collectors rarely get, let alone keep in their records) and sometimes even request photographs! Then, if they require a second opinion, they may choose to forward your inventory record (as sketchy as it may be) to a stamp expert for evaluation. Their choice of expert is often questionable, and as insurers seem to be loathe to pay for expert opinion, the evaluation is often cursory, inaccurate and inconclusive. What to do?

Get specialized stamp insurance through the APS, or the several Collectibles insurers including Hugh Wood and the Collectibles Insurance Agency. They understand what having a stamp collection means, usually don't require an inventory for any items individually worth less than $5,000 and actually pay out at the end. The rates are also incredibly low because they know that the theft of stamps is not that common an occurrence.

Do a brief but descriptive and concise listing of your collection, highlighting not just the most valuable items, but also the most identifiable. A VFNH Bluenose is just a VFNH Bluenose, but a Nanaimo May 17th 1931 CDS Bluenose is not just a Bluenose. The make of albums, number and colour of volumes also help dealers to key into the collection if it appears on their doorstep. This written record is a good backup to the important recording tool – the graphic image.

A picture is worth 1,000 words. Photocopy or scan a quality visual record of individual identifiable stamps in your collection, on a black background to help show centering and perforation condition. Like snowflakes, no two individual stamps are exactly alike, so these images are the fingerprints by which your stamps can positively identified. Cancelled stamps are even more definitively identifiable. Examples of your album pages with samples of the text fonts or handwriting used in the "write up" are also key in identification of a collection, often more important than the stamps themselves.

Police will decide if they have cause to search the accuser's house for more stuff based upon factors that might present themselves. Professional thieves know how to limit the stuff that they risk getting caught with and often have a partner. Also, because of the volume of property crimes on the court's dockets these days, they're usually back out on the street in very short order.

What are dealers' attitudes towards stolen goods? No dealer that I presently know wants anything to go with stolen goods. The ones that do rarely last long. A dealer open to the public must ask for photo ID, current address and record all this pertinent information anytime they purchase goods from the public. Almost all dealers pay by cheque. The paperwork and court testimony as well as financial losses involved in buying something that turns out to be stolen is certainly not worth the dealer's time.

Note:

When requesting a dealer's assistance to recover your stamps always remember it's much easier for him to not get involved and pass the buck onto the next store than to go out on a limb for you.

The Use of Commemoratives Over Time

by Dale Speirs

Commemoratives are often not easily available from branch post offices, as philatelists discover who buy them for first-day covers or ordinary mail. Postal clerks generally don't like the extra paperwork involved in ordering them, or may suffer a boss who can't be bothered by them. One Canadian postie, writing anonymously for obvious reasons, told of how he was disciplined by his supervisor for ordering a selection of commemoratives instead of the usual definitives [1].

Even the use of definitives is declining. Businesses use meter mail as this allows better cost tracking and reduced employee theft. Meter use exceeded postage stamp use in Canada in 1962 [6]. A compilation of articles on meter use is shown below in Table 1. At first glance, the figures do not appear to show any trend. However, this is due to the varying types of sources of mail in the study. Where mail is sent mostly by individuals, such as utility bill payments, the use of meters is low. Business-to-business mail has a greater percentage of metered mail.

Interestingly enough, it appears that the major victim of the Internet will not be postage stamps but rather metered mail. Numerous companies now provide businesses with services that allow the latter to download postage over the Internet, rather than have to lug a meter machine down to the post office for refilling. Meter mail has already had any effect it will ever have on postage stamps. The latter lost that battle several decades ago. Therefore the bulk of the effect of the Internet will fall on metered mail.

Table 1: Meter use on letter mail

Period of study	Geographic source of mail	Volume of mail studied	% of mail using meters	Literature references
1949	San Gabriel, CA	3,600	52	7
1977 Oct.	pan-USA	1,357	3	3
1979 June credit card co.	Calgary, AB	7,801	14.4	15
1988	Vancouver, BC	27,445	57	11
1988	Ohio	171	2.3	4
1981 to 1991 all mail	New Jersey	20,000	72.5	13
1981 to 1991 non philatelic	New Jersey	20,000	88.8	13
1989	New Jersey	20,000	66.9	13
1990	New Jersey	20,000	67.8	13
1992 March 1 to May 8	St. Francis Xavier University, NS	3,109	34	8
1993 March 15 to April 30	Simcoe County, ON (court house)	4,556	55.2	10
1993 April 5 to April 30	Simcoe County, ON (school board)	1,699	76.3	10
1993 August Telephone Co.	New Brunswick	2,762	17.5	2
1999 early Canadian co.	national	~12,000	27.7	17

That commemorative stamps are not used by the majority of people mailing stamps is a truism in the philatelic hobby, as anyone who has access to bulk incoming mail knows. There have been laments over the years that stamp use is dying or almost dead, but most complaints I have seen on this have been short on factual details or were only a snapshot of the given day. A compilation of the factual philatelic literature on the use of commemoratives is shown below in Table 2.

Again, there is considerable variability in use of commemoratives, but roughly it seems that about 10 per cent of postage used by the general public is commemorative. There is no long-term trend of decline discernable. From 5.3 per cent in 1947 to 5.4 per cent in 1999 with a wide range of extremes in between does not appear to validate the complaint that commemoratives are declining in use. Rather it seems that a philatelist's local supply of bulk covers will show variation depending not only on the source of covers but who was sending most of them and for what purpose. As with the meter use variance, the amount of business mail influences the mix, for if businesses use stamps they are more likely to prefer coils or sheet definitives.

Will the use of commemoratives decline in the future? This depends entirely on how post offices push stamp sales to the general public. Philatelists don't enter into it, since they are a small proportion of those who buy commemoratives. For every collector who indignantly writes to Linn's or Canadian Stamp News announcing he is quitting buying new issues, the post office picks up thousands of new collectors who have no interest in boring engraved stamps but do like the colourful topical issues such as Disney, dinosaurs, or Christmas stamps. That is why the market is being flooded with such stamps; people are buying them.

But will they actually use them for postage or as collectibles? I suspect that postally used commemoratives will continue to decline. E-mail is a popular villain but there is a more important trend, that of electronic funds transfer. Letter writing among the general public has mostly died out. People prefer the telephone instead. The major use of postage stamps among the public is to pay utility and credit card bills. Indeed, most of the above listed censuses were of these types of mail. In the last decade, automatic funds transfers have be-

Table 2: Commemorative use on letter mail

Period of study	Geographic source of mail	Volume of mail studied	% of mail using commems	Literature references
1947, Nov. 15 to 1948 March 6	Kansas utility	5,100	5.3	5
1949	San Gabriel, CA	3,600	4	7
1953	France	not stated 5% (no commems at local rates)	less than	12
1953	Italy	not stated	18	12
1953 and Berlin	West Germany	not stated	40	12
1953	Belgium	not stated commems were surtaxes)	0 (only	12
1953	Sweden	not stated	30	12
1972	Britain (stamped mail only)	27,013	11.2	14
1977 Oct.	pan-USA	1,357	11.6	3
1979 June credit card co.	Calgary, AA,	7,801	25.7	15
1988	Ohio	171	9.4	4
1992 March 1 to May 8 University, NS	St. Francis Xavier	3,109	10	8
1993 April to July University, NS	Xavier St. Francis	1,012	6.1	9
1994 Feb. to August University, NS	St. Francis Xavier	1,389	5.9	9
1993 March 15 to April 30	Simcoe County, ON (court house)	4,556	1.9	10
1993 April 5 to April 30	Simcoe County, ON (school board)	1,699	0.8	10
1993 Aug. Telephone Co.	New Brunswick	2,762	6.3	2
1998 Sept. 19 to Oct. 29 processing office	Arizona payments	2,091	17.22	16
1998 Oct. 24 to Dec. 7 processing office	Arizona payments	2,192	17.88	16
1999 early company	national Canadian	~12,000	5.4	17

come widespread. Pension cheques and pay cheques are deposited electronically in one direction. In the other direction, utility and credit card bills are paid by automatic debit directly from one's account, or indirectly by going to one's bank branch and using their bill-paying service.

Just as TV never killed radio, or radio never killed stage theatre, so it is that e-commerce will not kill the postal system. But just as television dramatically changed radio from programmed schedules to disc jockeys, and radio killed vaudeville but left Shakespeare untouched, so it is that e-commerce will change the postal system. Letter writing will undoubtedly dwindle and be replaced by e-mail, but parcels can never be stuffed down an electrical wire. Commemoratives will be rarely seen on the mails but will become a collectible in the same category as hockey trading cards or lapel pins. Commemorative stamps do not need to serve an actual postal purpose to be valid collectibles. After all, neither trading cards or lapel pins have any valid use other than as collectibles designed to soak up discretionary spending to the benefit of the manufacturer.

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2 Baldwin, K. (1993) Further statistics of where the commemoratives may have gone. Canadian Philatelist 44:507-508

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4 Fisher, H.H. (1989) Tabulation of covers. American Philatelist 103:14

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Continued on next page

Book Review

by Bill Pekonen

Ontario Broken Circles

By W. Bruce Graham, published by Postal History Society of Canada, c/o David Handelman, Mathematics Department, University of Ottawa, Ottawa, ON E1N 6N5, price $35 post-paid.

This 240-page book provides details about Ontario broken circle cancel marks. The date cancels are sought by those who are interested in postal history. Of greater interest are the first and last days of a specific post office. Dated cancels are also important to those collectors who study the route by which a letter travelled from one post office to another. This book does not include modern day machine circular date cancels nor does it include any information about the two ring or three ring orb cancels of 100 years ago. These are beyond the scope of the book, even though the cancels originated from the same post offices, and may even overlap in some cases.

The alphabetical detailed listings in this book are also important because some cancels are very scarce or even quite rare. The value of these cancels is important if there is intense competition to own them. Although no rarity factor is included, one can usually interpolate the common versus scarce. The book builds on two earlier works: (1972) Canada Post Offices 1755-1895 by Frank W. Campbell, and (1988) Ontario Post Offices, Volume I by Robert C. Smith.

Graham shows the Ontario Post Office date; county; proof date; cancel type; diameter; early/late dates of use; the opening/closing dates of each post office; and adds pertinent comments. Some post offices show blank data. Some of the missing data is either unavailable from post office records or the existence is unverified by actual samples.

The 1829 double circles with italic lettering are rated as scarce to very rare. The double ovals are rated rare to very rare. This knowledge helps to identify those covers which need to be treated with extra special care.

The more than 12,000 listings make more sense to the specialist than to a casual reader. In some instances, you will need both Campbell's book and Smith's book to obtain a more complete picture about some of the cancels and some of the post offices. For example, Berlin changed its' name to Kitchener during 1916. This fact is not evident in Graham's book.

Double circle, oval straight line and manuscript types are also noted. The book is sparsely illustrated, but the lack of examples does not detract from the usefulness.

The number of post offices and different hammers used by some post offices can be overwhelming without this recently published aid. For further information, send an e-mail to dehsg@uottawa.ca.

Continued from previous page

11 Painter, M. (1989) Surviving the mails. BNA Topics 46(1):7

12 Roe, A.V. (1953-12-18) Commemoratives they use on the continent. Stamp Collecting 81:485

13 Schumacher, P. (1991) Philatelic census. Topical Time 42(3):76

14 Spencer, C.C. (1972) Charity begins in the office. Stamp Collecting 119:257,259

15 Wilsey, R.H. (1979) Commemorative stamps. Canadian Philatelist 30:279

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17 Shaman, T. (1999-07-06) Putting numbers into perceptions. Canadian Stamp News 24(4):15,23

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2001 New Rate Postage Stamps and Postage Products /
Nouveau Tarifs Postaux 2001 Timbres-Poste et Produits D'affranchissement

Item / Article		Denomination / Valeur	Printer / Impression	Paper / Papier	Format / Présentation
Flag / Drapeau	D	1 x 47¢ / 1 x 0,47 $	A) CBN B) AP	JAC	A) $ 4.70 Packs of 10 (SA) / 4,70 $, carnets de 10 (SP) B) $14.10 Packs of 20 (SA) 14,10 $, carnets de 30 (SP)
Queen / Reine	D	1 x 47¢ / 1 x 0,47 $	CBN	Tullis Russell Coatings	$47.00 Pane of 100 47,00 $, feuille de 100
Maple Leaf / Feuille D'érable	D	1 x 47¢ / 1 x 0,47 $	AP	JAC	$47.00 Coil of 100 (SA) 47,00 $, rouleau de 100 (SP)
Grey Wolf / Loup Gris	D	1 x 75¢ / 1 x 0,75 $	AP	JAC	$37.50 Coil of 50 (SA) 37,50 $, rouleau de 50 (SP)
White-Tailed Deer / Cerf de Virginie	I	1 x $1.05 / 1 x 1,05 $	AP	JAC	$ 6.30 Packs of 6 (SA) $52.50 Coil of 50 (SA) 6,30 $, carnets de 6 (SP) 52,50 $, rouleau de 50 (SP)
Red Fox / Renard Roux	U	1 x 60¢ / 1 x 0,60 $	AP	JAC	$ 3.60 Packs of 6 (SA) $30.0 Coil of 50 (SA) 3,60 $, carnets de 6 (SP) 30,00 $, rouleau de 50 (SP)
Picture Postage / Timbres-Photos	D	5 x 47¢ / 5 x 0,47 $	AP	JAC	$2.35 Packs of 5 (SA) 2,35 $, carnets de 5 (SP)
Domestic envelopes "Lapland Longspur" No.8 / Enveloppes du régime intérieur no. 8 "Bruand lapon"	D	1 x 47¢ / 1 x 0,47 $	Innova		Single (50¢) or packs of 10 ($5) Unité (0,50 $) ou emballages de 10 (5,00 $)
Domestic envelopes "Golden Eagles" No.8 / Enveloppes du régime intérieur no. 10 "Aigle royal"	D	1 x 47¢ / 1 x 0,47 $	Innova		Single (51¢) or packs of 10 ($5.10) Unité (0,51 $) ou emballages de 10 (5,10 $)

CBN: Canadian Bank Note **AP: Ashton-Potter** **SP: Sensible à la pression**

D: Domestic Rate 30g **U: USA Rate 30g Non-Standard** **I: International Rate 20g**

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BNA

British Oceania

British Pacific

British West Indies - early

China

PRC - NH, VF, hi values, S/S, communist 1975-…

France

Germany

George VI - used

Great Britain pre-1940

New Zealand

USA - mint & used, early used, revenues

TOPICS IN DEMAND

Birds and Ships

See us at the shows

Regina - Feb. 17,18 - Seven Oaks Inn

Saskatoon - March 3 & 4, German Canadian Club

Edmonton - March 30, 31 & April 1- West Edmonton Mall

Montreal - April 6, 7 & 8 The Royal

Winnipeg - May 4-6 - Marlborough Inn

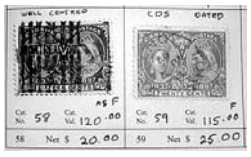
Mesa, Arizona - June 22-24 - ATA Convention

WHAT'S HOT & WHAT'S NOT!

Top quality stamps - mint, never hinged (mnh) and well centred stamps - are very much in demand.

The page at right is an excellent example of stamps that sell.

It is nicely laid out and assembled, with clear notes. There are a variety of stamps and cancels. The date and location of cancels are visible. They are rated for quality (fine, very fine etc.). They are priced according to their catalogue value and condition, with features and defects noted.



An open letter to all RPSC members

Thank you all for your patience. It has taken longer than anticipated, but we have a good number of books in circulation now. I know some of you are still eagerly waiting to receive your first package. In some cases, no one has submitted books of the countries or topics that you have requested, and so there is nothing to send you.

In other cases, many members have requested the same material. If the supply is short, I distribute on a first come first served basis. It may take a while to respond to some requests. For example, Early Canada- there is not a lot VFNH, only a couple of books with fancy/town cancels and I have numerous requests for these types of material. The same holds for Newfoundland and the provinces - high demand & low supply.

Please continue to be patient, and I hope to get some books out to you soon. Perhaps you would like to broaden your "want list" or if your interests have changed, please let me know- via e-mail, phone, fax or regular mail.

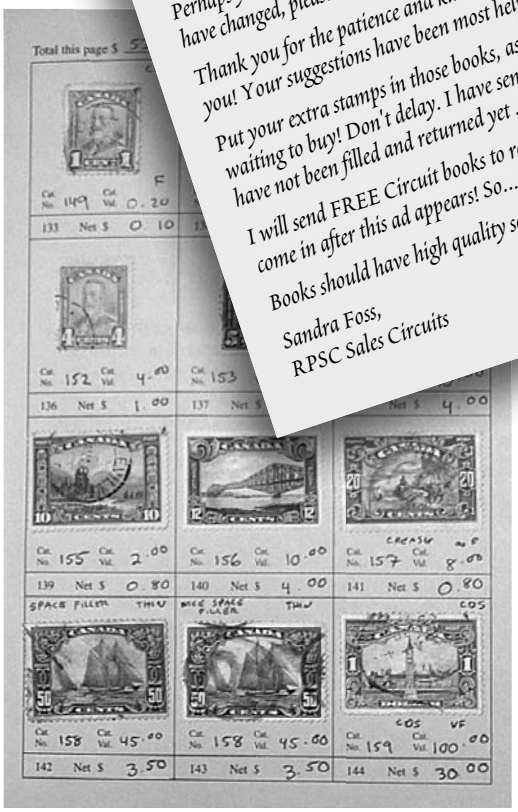
Thank you for the patience and kind words of support from so many of you! Your suggestions have been most helpful.

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THE ROYAL PHILATELIC SOCIETY OF CANADA

LA SOCIÉTÉ ROYALE DE PHILATÉLIE DU CANADA

Spring 2001

To all members of The RPSC who are employees of Canada Post:

This year, Canada Post and the philatelic community celebrate the 150 years of the independent postal service in Canada and the 150th anniversary of Canada's first stamps. The then Governor General, Lord Elgin, issued a proclamation stating that the responsibility for the Post Office was to be transferred from the Colonial Office in London to the Provincial Government on April 6, 1851. Sir James Morris, the first Postmaster General, had already made arrangements for the first postage stamps to be issued. Sir Sandford Fleming designed Canada's first stamp and it was issued on April 23, 1851. And the rest, as they say, is history.

On behalf of The Royal Philatelic Society of Canada and its members and the philatelic community-at-large, I would like to express our gratitude to all member-employees at Canada Post. You have, over 150 years, not only made our stamp collecting hobby so varied and interesting, but also have helped ensure prompt and efficient postal and communication services throughout this vast land of ours.

Happy Anniversary Canada Post.

Printemps 2001

À tous les membres de La SRPC qui sont employé(e)s de Postes Canada:

Cette année Postes Canada et la communauté philatélique célèbrent les 150 ans du service postal canadien indépendant et le 150e anniversaire des timbres-poste canadiens. Le Gouverneur-général du temps, Lord Elgin, promulgua le transfert de la responsabilité pour le Service de la poste du Bureau Colonial à Londres au Gouvernement provincial prenant effet le 6 avril, 1851. Sir James Morris, le premier Ministre des Postes, avait déjà entrepris des démarches en vue de l'émission des premiers timbres-poste. Sir Sandford Fleming fut responsable du design du premier timbre-poste canadien qui fut émis le 23 avril 1851. Et l'histoire se continue.

Au nom de La Société royale de philatélie du Canada, de ses membres et de la grande communauté philatélique, j'aimerais exprimé à tous les employé(e)s de Postes Canada notre gratitude pour une tâche bien accomplie. Pendant 150 ans non seulement avez-vous rendu notre passe-temps de collectionneurs intéressant et varié mais vous avez aussi assuré des services postaux et de communications prompts et efficaces par tout notre vaste pays.

Bon anniversaire Postes Canada.

Charles J. G. Verge, FRPSC
Président/President

150th Anniversary of the Canadian Postal System (1851-2001)



150e anniversaire du service postal canadien (1851-2001)

Letters / Lettres

Dear Editor / Cher

Dear Editor:

As the translator from the original Spanish of the book General FIP Regulations for Exhibition (GREX) – Their Interpretation by Dr. E.R. Otero reviewed on p. 272 of the Nov.-Dec. 2000 issue of *The Canadian Philatelist,* I should like to make the following points:

(a) The English version was proof-read and printed in Buenos Aires and, given the length of the text and that English was not the native language of the proof-reader, some typos have inevitably crept in. However, I have not noticed any major errors and I would appreciate your reviewer listing them for a possible future edition, which would include any changes to the GREX.

(b) The term "sweetheart deal" sounds derogatory in referring to the help given to the Argentinian Federation of Philatelic Societies by Argentina Post. The Royal Philatelic Society of Canada receives financial support towards the mailing costs of *The Canadian Philatelist* from the Publication Assistance Programme of the Federal Government and neither party would appreciate such an action being referred to as a "sweetheart deal."

(c) In his last paragraph, the reviewer does not make it clear which book (by Dr. Otero or by Randy Neal) he is recommending to those aspiring to be commissioners or international judges.

(d) The reviewer appears to have strayed from his primary task, i.e. to assess the interpretations made by Dr. Otero about the General FIP Regulations for Exhibitions (GREX). I would further inform him that, at the recent Congress in Madrid, Spain, Dr. Otero was elected by a large majority as a Vice-President of the FIP and it seems that the publication of his book in English played an important part in his achieving that great honour.

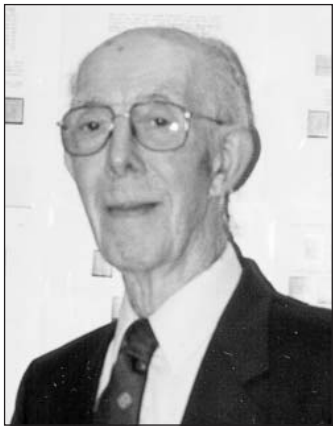
On a final note, I have a few spare copies of the English edition and they are offered to interested readers at no charge except for the postage ($2), first come first served. Please e-mail me beforehand at postrider@sympatico.ca to confirm availability before sending the postage.

Yours faithfully,
Andrew Cronin
Toronto, ON

In Memoriam

Harold Gordon Gosney, FRPSC

Harold Gordon Gosney passed away suddenly on Dec. 29, 2000 surrounded by his family at the York Central Hospital in Richmond Hill at the age of 86.



Born in Toronto in 1914, he started collecting stamps at the age of 12. He was a proud life member of the North Toronto Stamp Club (NTSC).

Gosney joined The Royal Philatelic Society of Canada (RPSC) in 1950 and the Philatelic Specialists Society (PSS) in 1960. His specialties were Malta, the Leeward Islands and key types.

He became a Fellow of The RPSC in 1981.

In 1997, he celebrated 50 years of consecutive exhibiting at the NTSC.

At the September 2000 meeting of PSS, RPSC Acting President Charles J.G. Verge presented him with a life membership in recognition of his 50 years with the Royal.

An active member of the PSS almost to his last days, his last presentation (one frame exhibit of early Malta) took place December 1999.

He is survived by his wife of 58 years, Alice, two daughters, Betty and Joy, and grandchildren, Mark, Paul, Glenn, Michael and Mary.

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Dr. G.M. Geldert (D)
Vincent G. Greene, RDP (D)

1963
Louis M. Lamouroux (D)
Russell T. Waines (D)
J. Watson Yuile (D)

1964
Herbert Buckland (D)
Dr. C.M. Jephcott (D)
Stuart Johnstone (D)

1965
Dr. Norman O. Boyd (D)
Alan G. McKanna

1966
James Law (D)
E.A. Richardson (D)

1968
Colin H. Bayley (D)
Mrs. Phyllis Geldert (D)
Harry Sutherland, RDP
G.E. Wellburn, RDP (D)

1969
Leslie A. Davenport (D)
A. Graham Fairbanks (D)
Carl R. Mangold (D)

1970
Frank W. Campbell (D)

1971
Senator Henry D. Hicks (D)
Kenneth Rowe, RDP

1972
Hon. George C. Marler (D)

1973
Douglas A. Patrick (D)
James N. Sissons (D)

1975
Me Guy des Rivières
Dr. Fred G. Stulberg

1976
Charles P. De Volpi (D)
James E. Kraemer
James A. Pike (D)

1977
Lt. Col. Andrew H. Hinrichs (D)

1978
Dr. R.A. Chaplin
Col. James T. De Voss, RDP
Dr. C.W. Hollingsworth
Col. Robert H. Pratt (D)

1979
John F. Ayre (D)
Michael Madesker, RDP

1981
Harold G. Gosney (D)
Michael Millar

1982
S.C. Nickle (D)
Hans Reiche (D)

1984
Dr. J.C. Arnell (D)
Arthur W. Leggett
Gustave E. Snels

1985
Harry W. Lussey
C. Ronald McGuire
Mrs. Beverlie Clark

1986
Major Richard K. Malott
Col. W.G. Robinson

1987
G. Collins Baugild
Bernard A., Hennig, RDP
Dr. John J. MacDonald
W.H.P. Maresch
Susan M. McDonald (D)
Brig. Gen. George B. Robertson (D)

1988
Henri Gauthier (D)
Peter M. Mann (D)
Allan L. Steinhart (D)
Major E.R. Toop (D)

1989
David Dixon (D)
Ralph D. Mitchener (D)

1990
Lorne W. Bentham
Andrew Cronin
Dr. Keith R. Spencer

1991
Bernard Lavallée
Eric Rushton
George S. Wegg (D)

1992
Lt. Col. C. Fred Black
Mme Lola Caron

1994
Lt. Col. William J. Bailey

1995
R. Père J.C. Lafleur

1996
Dr. Gray Scrimgeour
F. Burton Sellers, RDP
Joseph M. Shelton

1997
Edwin Harris
Charles J.G. Verge
H. Geoffrey Walburn (D)

1998
Richard Gratton
Murray Heifetz
Cimon Morin
J. Donald Wilson

1999
John I. Jamieson
Denis Masse
William E. Topping

2000
Père L. Anatole Walker (D)

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 événement soit listé 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 à rpsc@interlog.com. Aucune information ne sera acceptée par téléphone. **CECI EST UN SERVICE GRATUIT DE LA SRPC.**

REGIONAL EVENTS / ÉVÉNEMENTS RÉGIONAUX

March 17, 2001: The 52nd Annual OXPEX 2001 Exhibition and the 21st All Ontario Topical Stamp Exhibition will be sponsored by Chapter 65, Oxford Philatelic Society at John Knox Christian School, 800 Juliana Dr. (Hwy. 401 and Hwy. 59 North) in Woodstock, ON. Hours: 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Free parking and admission. Competitive exhibits, judges critiques, 16 dealers, displays, Canada Post and youth area. Contact Gib Stephen, PO Box 20113, Woodstock, ON N4S 8X8.

March 24-25, 2001: North Toronto Stamp Club's 58th Annual Exhibition and Bourse will be held at the Civic Garden Centre, Edwards Gardens, 777 Lawrence Ave. (east of Leslie St.), North York. Hours: Sat. 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. and Sun. 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Competitive exhibits, 22 dealers, refreshments, wheelchair access. Free admission and ample free parking. Contact Ben Marier at (416) 492-9311.

March 31-April 1, 2201: The Sudbury Stamp Show, sponsored by the Sudbury Philatelic Society, will be held at the Sudbury City Hall. Hours: 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Free admission. Contact Dan McInnis at (705) 566-0293, Box 2063 Station A, Sudbury, ON P3A 4R8, or e-mail dan.mcinnis@sympatico.ca.

April 1, 2001: The Fraser Valley Philatelic Club's annual show, AMPEX, now in its 21st year, will be held at Abbotsford Senior Secondary School, 2329 Crescent Way. Contact N. Holden at (604) 859-9103.

April 7, 2001: STAMPFEST 2001, the 51st show of the Kitchener-Waterloo Philatelic Society will be held at the Community Reform Church, 1275 Bleams Rd. Eighteen dealers. Free parking. Hours: 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Contact Betty Martin at (519) 578-7782.

April 20-22, 2001: The Toronto National Postage Stamp Show, sponsored by the Canadian Stamp Dealers' Association, will be held at the Queen Elizabeth Building on the Canadian National Exhibition Grounds. Thirty-five to 40 dealers from Canada and the United States. Free admission. Door prizes. Hours: Fri. 11 a.m. to 6 p.m.; Sat. 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.; and Sun. 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Contact the CSDA at PO Box 1123 Adelaide St. PO, Toronto, ON M5C 2K5, call (905) 319-2920, or e-mail secretary@csdaonline.com.

April 28, 2001: The Colborne Stamp Club Show will be held at the Royal Canadian Legion, 92 King St. E., Colborne, ON. Ten dealers, free admission, door prizes, youth booth and consignment table. Hours: 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Contact Norman Lloyd at (905) 355-3771.

May 12, 2001: WINPEX 2001, hosted by Chapter 154 – Essex County Stamp Club (Windsor, ON) – is its annual exhibition and sale. Location: Glenwood United Church Hall, from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Twenty dealers, Canada Post booth, junior club booth, souvenir cover, exhibition frames, door prizes, no charge, refreshments, lots of parking. Contact Gordon Haggert at (519) 253-4055, e-mail: ghaggert@mnsi.net, or David Newman at (519) 977-5967, e-mail lacumo@home.com.

May 26-27, 2001: Victoria Postcard and Stamp Show 2001, sponsored by the Greater Victoria and Vancouver Island Philatelict Stamp Societies, will be held at the Holiday Inn of Victoria, 3200 Blanshard St., Victoia, BC. Sixteen dealer bourse and 100 16-page frames. Adults $5 per frame, Juniors $1 per entry. Admission by donation. Hours: Sat. 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. and Sun. 9:30 a.m. to 4 p.m. with awards presentation at 3:30 p.m. Contact Don Shorting, Box 5164, Station B, Victoria, BC V8R 6N4.

May 27, 2001: The Owen Sound Stamp Club Show and Bourse will be held at the Harry Lumley Bayshore Community Centre from 9:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. Exhibits, buy, sell and trade, silent auction. Contact Bob Ford, 721 8th Ave. E., Owen Sound, ON N4K 3A5, call (519) 376-4788, or e-mail robford@log.on.ca or Bob Watson, 327 11th St. W., Owen Sound, ON N4K 3S9, call (519) 376-1270 or e-mail rhwatson@sympatico.ca. Also, visit their website at www3.sympatico.ca/rhwatson/stampclub.

Oct. 6-7, 2001: VICPEX 2001, sponsored by the Greater Victoria and Vancouver Island Philatelic Stamp Societies, will be held at the Holiday Inn of Victoria, 3200 Blanshard St., Victoia, BC. Sixteen dealer bourse and 100 16-page frames. Adults $5 per frame, Juniors $1 per entry. Admission by donation. Hours: Sat. 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. and Sun. 9:30 a.m. to 4 p.m. with awards presentation at 3:30 p.m. Contact Don Shorting, Box 5164, Station B, Victoria, BC V8R 6N4.

June 1-2, 2002: GRANDPEX 2002 will be held by the Grand River Valley Philatelic Association that represents clubs from Bramalea to Stratford and Kitchener-Waterloo to St. Catharines. Location will be the Peter Clark Hall at the University of Guelph. Thirty plus dealers, Canada Post, youth booth, circuit books from member clubs and more. See their website at www.grandpex.com.

NATIONAL EXHIBITIONS / EXPOSITIONS NATIONALES

March 30 - April 1, 2001: Edmonton Spring National will be held at the West Edmonton Mall Conference Centre. Contact the Edmonton Stamp Club, Box 399, Edmonton, AB T5J 2J6, call Keith Spencer at (708) 427-1787 or e-mail ameech@telusplanet.net.

April 6-8, 2001: Royale * 2001 * Royal will be held by the Lakeshore Stamp Club in Montreal, QC. Contact Lakeshore Stamp Club, PO Box 1, Pointe Claire/Dorval, QC H9R 4N5.

May 5-6, 2001: ORAPEX 2001, Ottawa's National Stamp Exhibition will present the 40th Annual RA Stamp Club Exhibition and Bourse in the Curling Club Rink at the Recreation Association (RA) Centre, 2451 Riverside Dr. Hours: Sat. 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. and Sun. 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Special cacheted covers with two dates, youth section, 30 dealers and 200 frames of competitive exhibitions. Contact Major Richard K. "Dick" Malott, CD, Retd, FRPSC, AHF, Publicity Officer, ORAPEX 2001, 16 Harwick Cres., Nepean, ON K2H 6R1, (613) 829-0280, fax (613) 829-7673, or e-mail rmalott@magma.ca.

Aug. 31-Sept. 2, 2001: BNAPEX 2001, the annual convention of the British North America Philatelic Society, will be sponsored by the St. Lawrence Seaway Regional Group of BNAPS at the Crowne Plaza Hotel, 101 Lyon St., Ottawa, ON. Extensive bourse and competitive exhibitions, special cacheted cover. Contact Major Richard K. "Dick" Malott, CD, Retd, FRPSC, AHF, Publicity Officer, BNAPEX 2001, 16 Harwick Cres., Nepean, ON K2H 6R1, (613) 829-0280, fax (613) 829-7673, or e-mail rmalott@magma.ca.

INTERNATIONAL EXHIBITIONS / EXPOSITIONS INTERNATIONALES

June 9-15, 2001: BELGICA 01, an FIP international exhibition will be held in Brussels, Belgium. Canadian Commissioner: Mr. J.J. (Jan) Danielski, e-mail: jj.danielski@sympatico.ca.

June 30-July 1, 2001: New Zealand's Seventh National Philatelic Literature Exhibition, under the patronage of the New Zealand Philatelic Federation, will be held in conjunction with the Convention of North Island Societies and National 16-page exhibition. Location: Palmerston North Community Leisure Centre, 569 Ferguson St. Palmerston North. Hours: 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Contact Central Districts Philatelic Trust, PO Box 786, Palmerston North, New Zealand.

Aug. 1-7, 2001: PHILANIPPON '01, an FIP World Stamp Exhibition will be held in Tokyo, Japan. Canadian Commissioner: Mr. William G. Robinson, (604) 261-1953; fax: (604) 261-3459.

Oct. 16-21, 2001: HAFNIA '01, For traditional thematics, literature and open class, will be held in Copenhagen, Denmark. The Canadian Commissioner for this exhibition is Charles Verge, vergec@sympatico.ca.

March 29-April 4, 2002: INDONESIA 2002, the FIP sponsored world philatelic exhibition, will be held in Jakarta Indonesia. The Canadian Commissioner is Major R.K. "Dick" Malott, Retd, CD, FRPSC, AHF, 16 Harwick Cres., Nepean, ON K2H 6R1, call (613) 829-0280, fax (613) 829-7673, or e-mail rmalott@magma.ca.

Aug. 2-11, 2002: PHILAKOREA 2002 World Stamp Exhibition will be held in Seoul, Republic of Korea.Charles J.G. Verge, President of The Royal Philatelic Society of Canada, has been appointed as commissioner for PHILAKOREA 2002.

Chapter Meetings/Réunions des clubs membres

AJAX PHILATELIC SOCIETY

RPSC Chapter 163 meets the 2nd and 4th Thurs, Sept. to June at the Ajax Public Library, 65 Harwood Ave. S., 6-9 p.m. Contact: Richard Weigand, 6 Carter Cr., Whitby, ON L1N 6C4. (905) 430-2637. E-mail: richard.weigand@sympatico.ca.

AMICALE DES PHILATÉLISTES DE l'OUTAOUAIS (APO)

Les membres de l'APO, chapitre 190 de la SRPC, se réunissent tous les jeudis de début septembre à fin avril, de 18h30 à 21h00. Les réunions ont lieu au Châlet Fontaine, 120 rue Charlevoix à Hull (Québec). Carte de membre 20 $ (10$ pour les moins de 16 ans). Vendeurs, encans, exposition.

Members of the APO (Chapter #190) meet every Thurs. from Sept. to the end of April, 6:30 to 9 p.m. in the Châlet Fontaine, 120 Charlevoix, Hull, Québec. Membership $20 ($10 under 16). Dealers, auctions, show and bourse. Contact: A. Bossard, 5-1160 Shillington, Ottawa, ON K1Z 7Z4; (613) 722-7279; e-mail: isabelle.alain @sympatico.ca

CLUB PHILATÉLIQUE "LES TIMBRÉS" DE BOISBRIAND

Section adulte: Tous les lundis soir de 19h. à 21h. Section junior: Tous les samedis de 9h. à 11h; au Centre socio-culturel de Boisbriand, 480 rue Chavigny, Broisbriand, QC, J7G 2J7; information: Louis-Georges Dumais (450) 979-7371; Jacques Charbonneau (450) 430-6460.

BARRIE DISTRICT STAMP CLUB

Chapter 73 meets the 2nd Wed. except July and Aug. at 7:30 pm at Parkview Centre, 189 Blake St., Barrie. Table auction at every meeting. Contact: Sec.-Treas. Lew Metzger, Box 1113, Barrie, ON L4M 5E2.

BRAMALEA STAMP CLUB

RPSC Chapter 144 meets the 1st Sun. Oct. to June 2-4 p.m. and the 3rd Tues. year round 7:30-9:30 p.m. at Terry Miller Recreation Complex, Williams Parkway (between Dixie Rd. and Bramalea Rd.) Brampton, ON. Contact: Bramalea Stamp Club, Box 92531, Bramalea, ON L6W 4R1.

BRANTFORD STAMP CLUB

RPSC Chapter 1 meets on the 1st and 3rd Tues. Sept. to May, and the 1st Tues. in June, at the Woodman Community Centre, 491 Grey St. ON at 7 p.m., short business meeting at 8 p.m., followed by a program. Circuit books, five dealers. Contact: Secretary, Box 25003, 119 Colborne St. W., Brantford, ON N3T 6K5; (519) 753-9425

BRITISH COLUMBIA PHILATELIC SOCIETY

Meets every Wed., Sept. to June, at 7:30 p.m. in the Amenity Room, Grosvenor Building, 1040 W. Georgia St. Contact: B.C.P.S., 2955 West 38th Ave., Vancouver, BC V6N 2X2.

BROCK / PRESCOTT STAMP CLUB

Meets the 3rd Wed. Sept. to May at 7 p.m. at Wall Street United Church, 5 Wall St., Brockville, ON. Contact Roy Brooks at (613) 342-7569.

CALGARY PHILATELIC SOCIETY

(Chapter 66) Regular meeting: 1st Wed. except July and Aug., 7 p.m. Auctions on 3rd Wed. of month except Dec., 7:30 p.m. Kerby Centre, 1133 7 Ave. SW. Contact: Calgary Philatelic Society, PO Box 1478, Station M, Calgary, AB T2P 2L6.

CAMBRIDGE STAMP CLUB

Meets the 3rd Mon.Sept. to June at 7 p.m. Short meeting at 8 p.m. at Allen Bradley Cafeteria, Dundas Street, Cambridge, ON. Two dealers, club circuit. Contact: Charlie Hollett, (519) 740-6657, 3-10 Isherwood Ave., Cambridge, ON N1R 8L5.

CANADIAN AEROPHILATELIC SOCIETY

RPSC Chapter 187, Yearly membership for Canadian and American members is $15 and for all other countries $20. No formal meetings, but members join the RA Stamp Club meetings at the RA Centre, 2451 Riverside Dr., Ottawa, ON at 7:30 p.m. every Mon. except June to Aug. Contact: Ron Miyanishi, 124 Gamble Ave., Toronto, ON M4J 2P3. (416) 421-5846

CANADIAN ASSOCIATION FOR ISRAEL PHILATELY (CAFIP)

Chapter 76, Jan Bart Judaica Study Group, meets on the 2nd Wed. except July and Aug., 7 p.m., at Lippa Green Bldg., 4600 Bathurst St., Willowdale, ON. Contact: Joseph Berkovits, 33-260 Adelaide St. E., Toronto, ON M5A 1N1. (416) 635-1749.

CANADIAN FORCES PHILATELIC SOCIETY

Meets the 1st and 3rd Wed. Sept. to May 8-9:30 p.m. Dempsey Community Centre, Ottawa, ON. Hendrick Burgers, (613) 737-2993.

CANADIAN FORCES BASE TRENTON STAMP CLUB

Chapter 89 meeting on the 1st and 3rd Wed. Sept. to June at the Trenton Seniors' Club (Club 105) at the corner of Bay and Campbell Streets at 6:45 p.m. Contact: G.A. Barsi at (613) 394-2024, M. Leedham at (613) 392-7462 or S. Taylor at (613) 393-4316.

COBOURG STAMP CLUB

Chapter 106 meets the 2nd and 4th Wed. of each month at 7 p.m. in the Salvation Army Citadel, 59 Ballantine St. Trading, speaking, competitions, presentations and annual exhibition and sale in Sept. Contact: Michael Hunt at (905) 885-7074 or e-mail dorahrh@eagle.ca.

COLBORNE STAMP CLUB

Chapter 205 meets on the 2nd and 4th Tues. Sept. to May at 7 p.m. in the Drop-in Centre, Victoria Square. Contact: Mary Jackson, Box 33, Castleton, ON K0K 1M0, (905) 344-7882.

CREDIT VALLEY PHILATELIC SOCIETY - MISSISSAUGA

Chapter 67 of The RPSC meets on the 2nd and 4th Thurs. at 7 p.m. in the Texaco Roo m of the Port Credit Branch of the Mississauga Library, located in the southwest corner of the public parking lot west of Stevebank and north of Lakeshore Road. Contact Bob Laker (905) 279-8807.

DELTA STAMP CLUB

Club meetings on the 2nd and 4th Tues. Sept. to May at 7:30 p.m. at the Phoenix Club, 6062-16th Ave., Tsawwassen, BC. Contact Keith Meyer, President, #7-1100-56th St., Delta, BC V4L 2N2.

EAST TORONTO STAMP CLUB

Chapter 12 meets the 1st and 3rd Wed., except June to Aug., at Stan Wadlow Clubhouse, Cedarvale Ave. Contact: Sec. Raymond Reakes, 188 Woodmount Ave., Toronto, ON M4C 3Z4. (416) 425-1545.

EDMONTON STAMP CLUB

Edmonton's Chapter 6 meetings held every other Mon., Sept. to June at 7 p.m., at St. Joseph High School cafeteria (use north entrance), 10830-109 St. Contact: Box 399, Edmonton, AB, T5J 2J6. Keith Spencer (780) 437-1787 or e-mail ameech@telusplanet.net.

ESSEX COUNTY STAMP CLUB

Chapter 154 meets on the 2nd and 4th Wed. at the Glenwood Church, 1825 Grand Marais West, Windsor, ON Meeting starts at 7 p.m., program at 8 p.m. Contact: President David L. Newman, 1165 Wigle Ave., Windsor, ON N9C 3M9, (519) 977-5967, or e-mail lacumo@home.com.

FENELON STAMP CLUB

Chapter 176 meets the 2nd Mon. in the Fenelon Falls Community Hall behind the Village Office on Market St. at 7:30 p.m. Contact: President: Margaret Allen, R.R. 1, Fenelon Falls, ON K0M 1N0.

FRASER VALLEY PHILATELIC CLUB

Meets at 7 p.m. on the 3rd Monday, except holidays, at Abbotsford Senior Secondary School, 2329 Crescent Way. Contact N. Holden at (604) 859-9103.

FREDERICTON DISTRICT STAMP CLUB

Chapter 148 meets the 1st and 3rd Tues, Sept. to May at 7:30 p.m. at the Hugh John Fleming Forestry Centre, 1350 Regent St. Contact Ron Smith, 12 Chateau Dr., McLeod Hill, NB, E3A 5X2, (506) 453-1792, or e-mail: rugbyron@ nb.sympatico.ca

FUNDY STAMP COLLECTOR'S CLUB

Meets the 1st Thurs., except July and Aug., at 7 p.m. at the YMCA on Highfield St. Contact H.C. Terris at (506) 856-8513 or PO Box 302, Moncton, NB E1C 8L4.

GREATER VICTORIA PHILATELIC SOCIETY

Chapter 32 meets on the 3rd Fri. at 7:30 p.m at the Windsor Park Pavilion in Oak Bay. Circuit books, auction and special programs prevail. Contact Don Dundee, 928 Claremont Ave., Victoria, BC V8Y 1K3, (604) 658-8458.

HAMILTON STAMP CLUB

Chapter 51 meets at 6 p.m. on the 2nd, 4th and 5th Mon., Sept. to June except holidays, and 2nd Mon. of July, at Bishop Ryan secondary School, Quigley Road and Albright Street. Contact: Clare Maitland (Secretary), Box 60510, 673 Upper James St., Hamilton, ON, L9C 7N7; e-mail: stamps@hwcn.org or visit their website at: www.hwcn.org/-ip029

INSURANCE AND BANKING PHILATELIC SOCIETY

Meets the 3rd Thur. Sept. to June at 6:30 p.m. on 23rd Floor 390 Bay St., Toronto, ON M5H 2Y2. Contact: John Titterton, Secretary, (519) 927-3548.

KAWARTHA PHILATELIC SOCIETY

Chapter 58 meets on the 2nd and 4th Tues. except July and Aug., at 7 p.m. in the staff room of St. Peter's secondary School, 733 Parkhill St., Peterborough.

KELOWNA & DISTRICT STAMP CLUB

Chapter 90 meets on the 2nd Wed. Sept. to June at 7 p.m., Dr. Knox Middle School Cafeteria, 1555 Burtch Ave. Contact: Box 1185, Kelowna, BC V1Y 7P8.

KENT COUNTY STAMP CLUB

Chapter 7 meets 4th Wed. except July, Aug. and Dec. in the library of John McGregor secondary School, 300 Cecile, Chatham, ON, at 7:30 p.m. Contact: Secretary, Allan Burk, 43 Sudbury Dr., Chatham, ON N7L 2K1.

KINGSTON STAMP CLUB

Meets 7-9 p.m. twice monthly Sept. to May in the Ongwanada Resource Centre, 191 Portsmouth Ave. Free parking and wheelchair access. Contact President, Box 339, Bath, ON K0H 1G0 (613) 352-1052.

KITCHENER-WATERLOO PHILATELIC SOCIETY

Chapter 13 meets the 2nd Thurs. except July and Aug. at Albert McCormick Arena, Parkside Dr., Waterloo. Contact: Betty J. Martin, P.O. Box 43007, Eastwood Square Post Office, Kitchener, ON N2H 6S9, (519) 578-7782.

LAKEHEAD STAMP CLUB

Chapter 33 meets the 2nd Wed. and last Fri. Sept. to June at the Herb Carroll Centre, 1100 Lincoln St., Thunder Bay, ON. at 7:30 p.m. Contact: Secretary D. Lein, 232 Dease St., Thunder Bay, ON P7C 2H8.

LAKESHORE STAMP CLUB – CLUB PHILATÉLIQUE DE LAKESHORE

Chapter 84 meets at Dorval Strathmore United Church, 310 Brookhaven Ave., Dorval, QC, on the 2nd and 4th Thurs. Sept. to June at 7 p.m. Contact: John Cooper, President, P.O. Box 1, Pointe Claire/Dorval, QC H9R 4N5.

Le chapitre 84, se réunit tous les jeudis de début septembre à fin juin, à 19h00. Les réunions ont lieu au Dorval Strathmore United Church, 310 ave. Brookhaven, Dorval, QC. Information: John Cooper, Président, P.O. Box 1, Pointe Claire/Dorval, QC H9R 4N5.

LETHBRIDGE PHILATELIC SOCIETY

Chapter 57 meets on the 2nd Thur. at 7 p.m. except June, to Aug. at the Canadian Western Natural Gas Co. building at 410 Stafford Dr. N., Lethbridge, AB T1H 2A9.

MEDICINE HAT COIN &STAMP CLUB

Chapter 146 meets the 2nd and 4th Tues. at 7:30 p.m. in the Dot Wilkinson Room (SW door) of Westminster United Church, 101 6th Street SE. Contact: 18 Cochran Dr. NW, Medicine Hat, AB T1A 6Y7.

MIDDLESEX STAMP CLUB

Chapter 204 meets every other Fri. Sept. to May, at 7 p.m. in the basement of St. Martin's Church, 46 Cathcart St., London. Meeting at 8 p.m. Contact Patrick Delmore at (519) 675-0779.

MILTON STAMP CLUB

Chapter 180 meets on the last Mon., except Dec. at 7 p.m. at Hugh Foster Hall (beside Town Hall) in Milton, ON. Silent auction every meeting. Contact: Milton Stamp Club, 425 Valleyview Cres., Milton, ON L9T 3K9; (905) 878-1533 or (905) 878-9076, or e-mail: alman@globalserve.net.

MUSKOKA STAMP CLUB

Meets the 1st and 3rd Wed. except 1st Wed. in July, Aug. and Dec.. at 7:30 p.m. at Bracebridge United Church, 46 Dominion St. N., Bracebridge, ON. Varied programs, presentations, sales circuit books, Contact President Tom Anderson, 7 Sadler Dr., Bracebridge, ON P1L 1K4, (705) 645-3330.

NELSON STAMP CLUB

Meets on the 3rd Thurs. except Dec. at 7 p.m. at #105-402 W. Beasley, Nelson, BC V1L 5Y4.

NORTH BAY & DISTRICT STAMP CLUB

Chapter 44 meets on the 2nd and 4th Tues. Sept. to May, at the Casselholme Home for the Aged, 400 Olive St., North Bay, ON at 7 p.m. (Basement meeting room.) Table auction and sales circuit. Contact: John Fretwell, R.R. 1, Callandar, ON P0H 1H0, (705) 752-1364.

NORTH TORONTO STAMP CLUB

Meets 2nd and 4th Thurs. except July and Aug. 7 p.m. at the Yorkminster Park Baptist Church, 1585 Younge St., Toronto. Sales circuit, auctions, speakers. Contact: Ben Marier, (416) 492-9311.

NORTH YORK PHILATELIC SOCIETY

Chapter 21 meets the 1st and 3rd Wed. except July and Aug. when meetings are held on only the 3rd Wed., at 6:30 p.m. in the lounge of the Centennial Arena, north side of Finch Ave. W., west of Bathurst. Sales circuit, auctions, speakers, lectures. Contact: John Moffatt, Box 62, Willowdale, ON M2N 5S7. (905) 889-8720.

NOVA SCOTIA STAMP CLUB

The 1st affiliate of the RPSC, est. 1922, meets the 2nd Tues. Sept. to June at the Nova Scotia Museum. Contact: E. Sodero, 831 Tower Rd., Halifax, NS B3H 2Y1.

OAKVILLE STAMP CLUB

Chapter 135 meets the 2nd and 4th Tues. at 7 p.m. in the cafeteria, St. Thomas Aquinas Secondary School, 124 Margaret Dr.. Contact: Oakville Stamp Club, Box 69643, Oakville, ON L6J 7R4.

OTTAWA PHILATELIC SOCIETY

Chapter 16 meets every Thurs. at 7:45 p.m. Sept. to May at the Hintonburg Community Centre, 1064 Wellington St., Ottawa. Contact OPS Merivale P.O. Box 65085, Nepean, ON K2G 5Y3.

OWEN SOUND STAMP CLUB

Chapter 191 meets the 3rd Wed. at 7 p.m. at St. George's Anglican Church, 149 4th Ave. E. Trading, auctions, circuit books. Contact Robert J. Ford, 721 8th Ave. E., Owen Sound, ON N4K 3A4.

OXFORD PHILATELIC SOCIETY

Chapter 65 meets 1st and 3rd Thurs. Sept. to May, at Knights of Columbus Hall, behind St. Rita's Catholic Church (Dundas St. E.) Woodstock, ON. Trading and junior program at 7 p.m., regular meeting at 7:30 p.m. Speakers, mini auctions, prizes, contests, dealers. Contact: Gib Stephens, P.O. Box 20113, Woodstock, ON N4S 8X8.

PENTICTON AND DISTRICT STAMP CLUB

Chapter 127 meets the 1st Sun. 2-4 p.m. at the Okanagan University College Training Centre, 106 Warren Av. E. Contact: E.M. Proctor (Secretary), RR#4 S87 C9, Summerland, BC V0H 1Z0. (250) 494-4055.

PERTH STAMP CLUB

Meets the 2nd and 4th Wed. Sept. to June, 7:30 p.m. in McMartin House, Gore Street. Contact Gus Quattrocchi (A.J.), 69 Harvey St., Perth, ON K7H 1X1.

R.A. STAMP CLUB - OTTAWA

Chapter 41 meets every Mon., except June to Aug. at 7:30 p.m. at the R.A. Centre, 2451 Riverside Dr., Ottawa, ON K1H 7X7. Contact: (613) 733-5100.

REGINA PHILATELIC CLUB

Chapter 10 meets the 1st and 3rd Wed., Sept. to May, 7-10 p.m. at Sheldon-Williams Collegiate Library, 2601 Coronation St., Contact: Box 1891, Regina, SK S4P 3E1.

ROYAL CITY STAMP CLUB

Chapter 104 meets on the 3rd Thurs. except July and Aug., 7:30 p.m. at Community Centre, 65 East Sixth Ave., New Westminster, BC. Contact: Box 145, Milner, BC V0X 1T0. (604) 534-1884.

SAINT JOHN STAMP CLUB

Meets the 4th Wed. except July and Aug., 7 p.m. at the Saint John High School, Canterbury Street, Saint John, NB. Contact: James Young, Sec.-Treas., 2278 Rothesay Rd., Rothesay, NB E2H 2K5.

ST. CATHARINES STAMP CLUB

Meetings are held on the 1st and 3rd Tues. except July and Aug. at Holy Cross secondary, St. Catharines, ON. Contact: Mrs. Sinclair, 25 Permilla St., St. Catharines, ON L2S 2E9.

ST. JOHN'S PHILATELIC SOCIETY

Meets 2nd and 4th Wed., except July and Aug. at 8 p.m. at Cabot Institute. Contact: J. Don Wilson, 11 Elm Place, St. John's, NF A1B 2S4, (709) 726-2741.

SASKATOON STAMP CLUB

Chapter 80 meets the 2nd and 4th Mon. Sept. to May, 7-9 p.m. at the Saskatoon Field House, 2020 College Dr., Saskatoon, SK. Contact: 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 Sat. except July and Aug., at the Sidney Regional Library, Nell Horth Room, at 2 p.m. Sales circuit, presentations, and auctions. Contact: (250) 479-6513.

LA SOCIÉTÉ PHILATÉLIQUE DE QUéBEC

La S.P.Q. tient ses réunions régulières les premiers et troisièmes mercredis du mois au sous-sol de l'église St-Rodrigue, 4760 1ère avenue, porte no 10, Charlesbourg. Les réunions ont lieu de 19h à 22h. Information, écrire à: S.P.Q., C.P. 2023, Québec, QC G1K 7M9

LA SOCIÉTÉ PHILATÉLIQUE DE LA RIVE SUD

Société membre No. 19. Réunions régulières tenus les 2e et 4e lundis débutant en septembre pour se terminer le 2e lundi de juir. De 19h30 à 21h00. Centre culturel, 100 ouest, rue St-Laurent, Longueuil, QC. Secrétaire Bernard Dansereau.

SAUGEEN STAMP CLUB

Meets on the 1st Tues.at the Hanover Library Complex, 451 10th Ave., Hanover, ON. Contact: PO Box 11, Clifford ON, N0G 1M0. E-mail pkritz@greynet.net, Club President Peter Kritz, RR3, Hanover, ON N4N 3B9, Club Secretary Jim Measures, PO Box 11, Clifford, ON N0G 1M0. Annual Exhibition and show May 6, 2000. (519) 327-8265 or (519) 364-4752.

STRATFORD STAMP CLUB

Chapter 92 meets on the 4th Thurs.Sept. to June, except Dec. when it meets on the 3rd Thurs. 7 p.m. at the Kiwanis Community Centre, Lakeside Dr. Stratford. Juniors meet at 7 p.m., regular meetings at 8 p.m. Contact: PO Box 21031, Stratford, ON N5A 7V4.

SUDBURY STAMP CLUB

Chapter 85 meets the 2nd Tues. Sept. to June, in the St. Raphael School library, 109 Dublin St., at 7:30 p.m. Slide shows, presentations and auctions. Contact: David Squarzolo, Box 2211, Stn. A, Sudbury, ON P3A 4S1; (705) 566-8987.

THE PHILATELIC CLUB OF MONTRAL

Chapter 122 meets on the 3rd Thurs. at 7:30 p.m. at Le Manoir, 5319 Notre Dame de Grace. Contact: Lloyd Slaven, 1079 Emerson Cres., Chomedy, QC, H7W 1H6; e-mail: lslaven@macten.net.

TORONTO HARMONIE STAMP CLUB

Chapter 94 meets the 1st Mon. Jan. to May and Sept. to Nov. at 1460 Bayview Ave., in the apartment building meeting room at 7:30 pm. Contact J.G. Doehler (416) 438-4862.

TRURO PHILATELIC SOCIETY

Meets the 2nd Mon. except July and Aug. at Success Business College, 100 Victoria St. at 7:30 p.m.

UNION PHILATÉLIQUE de MONTRÉAL

Chapter 3 meets on the 2nd and 4th Tues. Sept. to June at 7 p.m., 7110 8th Ave., Montreal (St-Michel), QC. Visitors welcome. Contact: 9170 Millen St., Montreal, QC H2M 1W7.

VANCOUVER ISLAND PHILATELIC SOCIETY

Chapter 52, meets at 7:30 p.m. on the 4th Thurs. at St. Aidan's Church Hall, 3707 St. Aidan's St., Victoria, BC. Contact R. Clarke, Sec., Vancouver Island Philatelic Society, P.O. Box 6351, Postal Station 'C', Victoria, BC V8P 5M3.

WEST TORONTO STAMP CLUB

Chapter 14 meets 2nd, 3rd and 4th Tues. except July and Aug., 7:30 p.m. at Fairfield Seniors' Centre, 80 Lothian Ave., Etobicoke, Auctions, dealers, speakers, study group, annual exhibition. Contact: 331 Rathburn Rd., Etobicoke, ON M9B 2L9. Frank Alusio, (416) 621-8232.

WINNIPEG PHILATELIC SOCIETY

Meets at 7 p.m. on the 1st and 3rd Thurs. except July and Aug. Deaf Centre of Manitoba, Meeting Room, 285 Pembina Hwy. Contact: Rick Penko, 3793 Vialoux Dr., Winnipeg, MB R3R 0A5, e-mail rpenko@escape.ca.

Membership Reports / Rapports des 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 n'est communiqué au Bureau national, (C.P. 929, Succursale Q, Toronto, ON, M4T 2P1) d'ici 30 jours, les adhérants seront acceptés comme membres.

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

(M) minor - activity guaranteed by parent or guardian / mineur - activités philatéliques garanties par un parent ou un tuteur.

INDIVIDUAL / INDIVIDUEL

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11950 Gee St.
Maple Ridge, BC V2X 7L9

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Box 751
Blairmore, AB T0K 0E0

I-27228 William R. Findlay
E-MAIL: b.findlay@bmts.com
INTERESTS: Canada, UN, General

I-27229 Arthur G. Avard
19 Lake Dr.
Huntsville, ON P1H 1E8
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INTERESTS: Canada, USA, Australia

I-27230 Erik Norenius
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Port Hope, ON L1A 2L8
E-MAIL: norenius@eagle.ca
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I-27231 Joseph P. Petrin
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INTERESTS: World Topical, air ships, animals, Disney, Canadian / provincial stamps

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I-27233 Susan L. Moisik

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908 Deer Run Dr.
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INTERESTS: Cdn Mint Issues

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Oakville, ON L6J 2E4
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INTERESTS: Irish Postal History, Irish-Canadian connections

I-27241 Heather K. Dawson
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INTERESTS: private, amateur collector, encouraging youths to collect

I-27242 Neil A. Bowlby
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Eastern Passage, NS B3G 1M3
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