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Revue de LA SOCIÉTÉ ROYALE DE PHILATÉLIE DU CANADA

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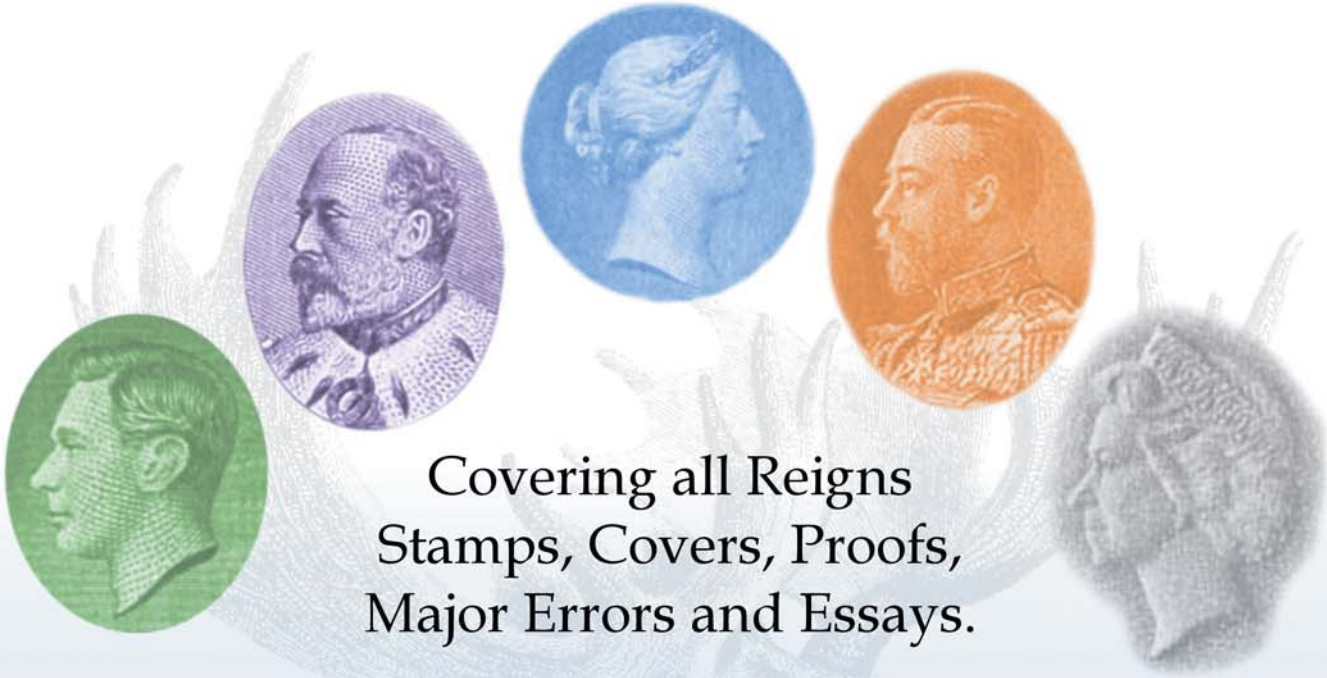
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La Société royale de philatélie du Canada (SRPC) est la digne successeur de celle fondée en 1887. Tout individu intéressé par la collection de timbres-poste peut en devenir membre. Que vous soyez un collectionneur débutant ou chevronné, La SRPC vous offre une gamme de services qui sauront vous intéresser. En voice quelques-uns:

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Revue de la
SOCIÉTÉ ROYALE DE PHILATÉLIE DU CANADA

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the cover / page couverture:

Sending New Years greetings to friends and neighbour on colourfully decorated cards was a popular social custom a century ago. Like their Christmas and Easter card cousins, New Years greeting cards depicted countless topical themes in picture and words. Illustrated on our cover are just two.

The English card picturing parishioners heading to church on the New Year holiday was manufactured in Germany; the card in French, printed in the United States, makes use of poetic text to convey its message.

L'envoi de voeux du Nouvel An aux parents et aux amis sous forme de cartes rehaussées de couleurs était une coutume sociale populaire il y a un siècle. Comme ses cousines de Noël et de Pâques, la carte du Nouvel An décrivait, en mots et en couleurs, les innombrables thèmes de circonstance. La page couverture nous en présente deux.

La carte en anglais, représentant des paroissiens en route vers l'église le jour du Nouvel An, a été fabriquée en Allemagne; celle en français, imprimée aux États-Unis, livre son message de façon poétique.



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EDITOR'S notes
notes du RÉDACTEUR

by / par Tony Shaman, FRPSC

To exhibit or not to exhibit is a question that many collectors must have surely asked themselves at one time or another.

A small minority of collectors, (there may not be any relevant statistics available on the topic,) will not entertain the thought of exhibiting their collection any more than they would entertain the thought of exhibiting themselves *au naturel* as in the *Emperor's New Clothes.* At the other end of the spectrum are probably a similar number of collectors who never miss an opportunity to show off their exhibits at every opportunity.

If the discipline of statistics has anything to teach us, it is that the majority of collectors will probably fall somewhere between these two extremes. It is from these collectors that your editor would like to hear.

If you have thought about preparing an exhibit for a competition but have never taken that final step and actually entered it in a competitive show, what held you back? Had you begun the procedure of getting the exhibit ready for the show? If so, how far along the process did you get? What factor(s) held you back from taking that final step?

In our July-August 2005 issue, we dedicated a number of pages on how one exhibitor goes about showing his collection to fellow collectors. Was Kimber Wald's article beginning on page 223 of that issue helpful in explaining the intricacies of exhibiting? Will it have an effect on your decision to show, or not show, your collection in a competitive setting?

The Greater Toronto Area Philatelic Alliance (GTAPA), organizer of Toronto's STAMPEX, has spent a great deal of time and energy publicizing its idea of one-page exhibits. The idea is that a number of club members get together and enter a 16-page frame exhibit. Each member prepares one or more pages, depending on the size of the club and the number of individuals participating, so that the group as a whole comes up with the requisite 15 pages to fill a frame. (One page is reserved for listing the exhibits.) If a club in your area accepted GTAPA's invitation to enter a frame for STAMPEX 2006, would you consider becoming a participant?

Exhibiting a collection in a competitive environment is surely one of the ultimate goals of a philatelist. As a collectionneur, ne souhaiteriez-vous pas franchir le pas important qui vous permettrait d'éprouver la satisfaction de montrer à vos pairs la collection que vous avez mis des années à assembler?

Exposer ou ne pas exposer, voilà une question à laquelle de nombreux collectionneurs ont dû être confrontés à un moment ou à un autre.

Ainsi, une faible minorité d'entre eux (bien qu'il n'existe pas de statistiques fiables sur le sujet) ne songeraient pas plus à exposer leur collection qu'à s'exhiber « au naturel » comme l'a fait le héros du conte *L'habit neuf de l'empereur.* À l'opposé, on compte sans doute autant de philatélistes qui ne manqueraient pas une seule occasion de montrer leur collection.

Et si les statistiques ont une chose à nous apprendre, c'est que la majorité des collectionneurs se situent quelque part entre ces deux extrêmes. C'est donc de ceux-là que votre rédacteur aimerait avoir des nouvelles.

Si vous avez déjà songé à préparer une collection pour un concours, mais que vous ne l'avez pas fait, qu'est-ce qui vous a retenu? Aviez-vous commencé à préparer votre matériel? Si oui, jusqu'à quel point? Qu'est-ce qui vous a empêché d'aller jusqu'au bout?

Dans notre numéro de juillet-août 2005, quelques pages étaient consacrées aux rudiments de la préparation d'une exposition. L'article de Kimber Wald, qui commençait à la page 223, vous a-t-il aidé à comprendre les rouages d'une exposition? Influencera-t-il votre décision d'exposer ou non votre collection à un concours?

La Greater Toronto Area Philatelic Alliance (GTAPA), organisatrice du STAMPEX de Toronto, a dépensé beaucoup de temps et d'énergie pour faire la promotion de son idée d'exposition d'une page : des membres d'un club s'associent pour produire un cadre composé de seize pages. Chacun des membres doit préparer une page ou plus, selon la taille du club et le nombre de participants, afin que dans l'ensemble, le club puisse présenter les quinze feuilles que doit comporter un cadre (une page sera réservée à la liste des collections). Si un club de votre région acceptait une invitation de la GTAPA à s'inscrire au STAMPEX 2006 pour ce genre d'exposition, songeriez-vous à y participer?

Exposer une collection dans un concours est sans aucun doute l'un des buts ultimes du philatéliste. En tant que col-

lector, would you not want to take that decisive final step that would allow you to experience the rewards of sharing with peers the collection you spent years assembling?

Continuing their theme dealing with the postal history of New Brunswick and Nova Scotia, joint authors George Arfken and Charles Firby bring us a number of stunning examples of Pence issues used to prepay mail to the United Kingdom. Also continuing a theme begun in a prior issue is Michael Madesker's monograph on the Braille alphabet. Braille is a topic of crucial importance to millions of people around the world and Michael will continue this topic with a further installment in the next issue.

On page 28 we travel overseas to Shanghai with Ken Lewis to glean some background information about one of China's historic stamps. We look at more foreign stamps in an article penned by John Peebles, a seldom-published writer on these pages, but this time with a Canadian connection. His article describes some of the favourite stamps relating to Canada as chosen by a group of collectors.

We have included several more articles for your reading pleasure in our first issue of the New Year that we hope will interest and perhaps even entertain you.

Finally, I am pleased to announce the introduction of a guest editorial column where writers can express their opinions on any philatelic topic of their choosing. Kicking off this new feature column is Bret Evans, Editor of *Canadian Stamp News*. You may agree or disagree with our guest writers but they will be sure to make you think about our hobby.

Mailing out this edition to members was scheduled for December 10. If the rush of Christmas mail will not unduly delay Canada Post's delivery schedule, most readers should have their copy before the New Year and I take this opportunity to wish everyone health, happiness, and the very best for 2006!

George Arfken et Charles Firby poursuivent leur recherche sur le thème de l'histoire postale du Nouveau-Brunswick et de la Nouvelle-Écosse en nous proposant des échantillons superbes d'émissions du Pence utilisées pour prépayer le courrier à destination du Royaume-Uni. Quant à Michael Madesker, il continue lui aussi à écrire sur un thème déjà amorcé dans un numéro précédent, l'alphabet braille. Le braille est de première importance pour des millions de gens partout au monde et Michael aura encore quelque chose à dire sur le sujet dans le prochain numéro.

En page 28 Ken Lewis nous amène outre-mer dans un voyage à Shanghai au cours duquel il nous livre des renseignements sur un timbre-poste historique de la Chine. Nous verrons aussi des timbres étrangers dans l'article de John Peebles, un auteur qui n'est pas souvent publié dans les pages du *Philatéliste*. Son article établit toutefois un lien avec le Canada puisqu'il parle des timbres favoris se rapportant au Canada, tels que choisis par un groupe de collectionneurs.

Le premier numéro de cette année vous réserve également d'autres articles. Nous espérons qu'ils vous intéresseront et peut-être vous divertiront.

En terminant, j'ai le plaisir d'annoncer l'ajout d'une nouvelle rubrique éditoriale, où ceux qui le désirent pourront exprimer leur opinion sur un sujet philatélique de leur choix. C'est Bret Evans, rédacteur, du *Canadian Stamp News* qui en donne le coup d'envoi. Que vous soyez ou non d'accord avec nos auteurs invités, ils ne manqueront pas d'alimenter la réflexion sur notre passe-temps.

L'envoi postal de ce numéro était prévu pour le 10 décembre. Dès lors, si la cohue du temps des fêtes n'a pas causé de ralentissement chez Postes Canada, la plupart de nos lecteurs devraient avoir reçu leur exemplaire d'ici le Nouvel An. J'en profite donc pour transmettre à chacun mes meilleurs vœux de santé, de bonheur et de prospérité pour 2006!


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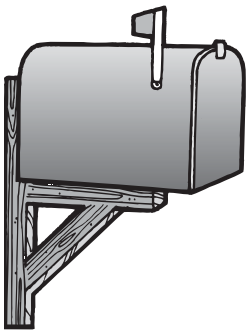
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in the MAILBOX
dans la boîte aux LETTRES

DEAR EDITOR:

I read with more than usual anxiety the articles in the Sept/Oct 2005 (Vol.56 No.5) issue, pages 282-283 of *The Canadian Philatelist* by George Arfken and Charles Firby on pence material. This particular one shows five stamped New Brunswick covers from the Wilkinson collection.

I have doubts about the genuineness of each of the items illustrated, but what is more disconcerting is that these doubts are based on rather obvious features which should have been noticed by the authors and addressed in the article (or references given). Of course, we can rarely say something is genuine or fake with certainty---what matters is the balance of probability; however, the onus is on those who claim that a cover is valuable to establish that, rather than the other way around.

Figure 1. An untied 3d stamp on a cover that is already marked with a red crayon 3. On prepaid covers, there is no forwarding fee. Had the authors paid attention to the much more numerous stampless covers of the period, they would have known this. Moreover, if the cover had been charged an additional forwarding fee, it would have been regarded as collect, and the crayon 3 would almost certainly have been in black, indicating that the receiver would have to pay the fee. The more likely explanation is that the stamp was added by a faker.

Figure 2. A bisected 6d stamp ostensibly paying the 3d domestic rate. Bisects that are perceived as genuine are, of course, worth a lot of money. There are a few things about this, which considered together cause me doubts about its genuineness.

As the authors point out, it is unusual for a dater to be applied to tie a stamp; they had killers for this. Moreover, the Salisbury post office was sufficiently large that they would have known the regulations both about killing the stamp and about bisects. The Salisbury NB cancel is incredibly clear---too clear---and in blue (all the strikes I've seen of this hammer are black). Is there a backstamp? (There normally would have been one applied at Dalhousie.) These questions raise doubts about the cover, which ought to have been addressed. In the absence of convincing evidence that it is a genuine bisect, the proper course is not to make that claim.

The authors' assertion that 25% of NB and NS stamped pence covers had a bisected stamp is difficult to believe and might refer to the percentage of bisect covers seen by the authors that they believed to be genuine---which is hardly the same thing.

Figure 3. The six-fold rate cover on stamps that are tied to each other. The killer is much fatter than the standard barred killer in use in New Brunswick. Of course, it is possible that such a killer was used at Chatham but together with the somewhat outlandish rate doubts are raised.

Figure 4. Spectacular franking on a registered cover. Perfectly hit with a New Brunswick grid numeral 12 (Edmundston). Isn't it amazing how clearly hit the grid numeral is? And on a five-fold rate cover! How likely is that? There are no postal notations to indicate how the rate was calculated as would be expected on such a complicated item; in fact, there are hardly any markings at all (unusual for a registered cover). It is, of course, possible that this cover is beyond reproach, but a case would have to be made.

Figure 5. A quadrisect. A superb strike of the New Brunswick numeral 12 grid, this time in blue. Why would the postmaster mark it Paid (as would occur on a stampless cover) if the stamp (or what's left of it) paid the postage? And why would the Quebec post office tolerate a fraction of a stamp (bisects and their ilk were almost universally rejected in the Province of Canada)?

The name change from Lower Canada (LC) (as the address has it) to Canada East took place in 1851. While some postmarks continued to use LC rather than CE as provincial designation, it does seem unlikely that the sender would do the same. This suggests that this had been a stampless cover from a decade earlier, which has been suitably elaborated.

Blue is an unusual colour for postmarks of NB in this period (in fact, blue was rarely used in NS and NB, and very uncommon in the Province of Canada). Yet two of the items (Figures 2 and 5---from different post offices) have blue cancels. What a coincidence! The more cynical among us would suggest they were made by the same faker.

The words incredible and credulous are often confused, but we can apply them here. Incredible formerly meant "impossible to believe", but its meaning has been diluted (especially by sports commentators) to "amazing". Credulous means "willing to believe anything". These covers are incredible (take whichever meaning you prefer), and the authors expect the readers to be credulous.

What is completely lacking from the series of articles by these gentlemen (both of whom I like) is a balanced approach. Stamps were not much used in the pence period---the vast majority of genuine covers were stampless, and most of these were sent collect. There is barely a mention of this in the series. Interesting postal history does not reside in expensive stamps ostensibly used (or half-used) on cover, but in the rates, routes, origin, destination, postmarks, letter content, and so on.

More disturbing is the non-disclosure of the lack of arms-length distance between Firby and Wilkinson.

David Handelman

DEAR TONY:

Thank you for the opportunity to respond to David Handelman's letter in the same issue. It is wise to present both sides of an issue at the same time.

We do, however, regret that a publication such as *The Canadian Philatelist* must be forced to include such debates that reduce the available space for more important articles.

Handelman's letter to the editor implies that all five of the illustrated covers are fakes. He goes on to state: *"These doubts are based on rather obvious features"*. Well, you will see that perhaps that opinion is a bit stretched, or is it?

He further states that *"the onus is on those who claim that a cover is valuable to establish that, rather than the other way around"*.

As acknowledged experts in the B.N.A. Postal History area we say *balderdash* to this cynical approach.

It may be true that in Civil law one is guilty until proven innocent, however, in Common Law the opposite is true for the obvious reason: There are far greater numbers of non-guilty than there are guilty. Thus, logic implies that society is basically good, not evil. An attitude that we believe will be readily accepted by this magazine's readership.

This tenet of rational thought thusly should, and does, usually carry forward to objects as well as people. There is absolutely no reason to believe that an object (cover) is inherently wrong just because a few are. The reality is that far, far more covers are genuine than otherwise. Charles was once told by an official of an expertising committee that the reason certificates were requested by their owners was that the owner believed the items to be bad. Again, a false assumption derived from the *bad until proven good* philosophy. The fact has been demonstrated to Charles that in reality, a certificate is requested ONLY to insure future saleability. After all, who among us would like to have proof that they erred in the acquisition of said item? When a certificate is requested the submitter invariably believes it to be as his knowledge base allows.

When examining a *patient* for certification, an expert will generally give the benefit of the doubt to its genuineness, and then look for problems. Approaching it from the other side will invariably lead to problems for the submitter.

A point to remember when viewing Postal History: Anomalies to the postal regulations do exist, although infrequently. It must never be forgotten that it is people, error prone, in a hurry people that handled the mails. These same people have, for various reasons done things beyond or outside the regulations on occasion. Common sense in Postal History expertising is as essential as knowledge of the rates, routes, etc..

As an example there is a Canadian correspondence to a Mr. Brooksbanks in England during the 1850s where every cover was overpaid the Pence denominated rate to the UK. When studying the entire group it became quite obvious that the Postmaster of Barrie had run out of 10d stamps. Prior to recognizing this fact, it was not uncommon to hear my colleagues deride these covers as fakes. After all, their thinking went *"who would pay up to 4½ Pence more than required?"* A postmaster who obviously improvised out of necessity, it turned out.

Now that we have set the tone to involve the thought process along with knowledge, let us examine each cover that David has a problem with.

No. 1: The fact is that the stamp is definitely, if only, slightly tied to the upper right and lower right, where one would expect the ties to be. The cover was forwarded as evidenced by *Fredericton* having been struck out and *Dorchester* applied above it. The stamp bears the *25*-grid cancel, which was used, at the town of Salisbury: The Salisbury postmark is on the reverse as it should be. In British North America, as well as virtually all countries, the stamp, or rating mark was to be applied to the upper right quadrant of the cover. As can be seen, this *3* marking (in red to denote prepayment) was applied at left while the postage stamp was applied as near to the upper right corner as was permitted by the manuscript address. This leads us to believe that the stamp did indeed originate on this cover, the tying compounds our belief. If it does not belong we would expect the *3* rating to be applied upper right. The fact that it appears at left implies that it was an additional marking which was added after application of the stamp.

The backstamps confirm that the cover made it to Fredericton (JY 4) but a backstamp for Dorchester is not shown, however, it arrived at St. John (JY 7). The folded letter is a petition headlined to *"The Legislative Council and House of Assembly, now convened at Fredericton"*. Beneath the manuscript *3* is a red *Fredericton PAID* split ring cancel dated JY 6 (2 days after the Fredericton arrival backstamp). The application of the rating mark over this postmark somewhat implies that the 3 Pence was paid at Fredericton.

It is possible that the Fredericton Postmaster paid 3d to forward the letter to *"The Honourable A. Smith"* who had returned to St. John. The 2-day delay at Fredericton also implies that the cover was rated secondarily. The July 4 backstamp should have been sufficient to send the cover on its way. It certainly did not need to be struck on the front (directives required that postmarks be applied to the reverse) on July 6 in red with the paid hs unless the *Paid* was to represent a new rating. We believe the stamp to belong to the cover but can only conjecture as to why the Fredericton Postmaster re-rated it as he did. It appears as though it was treated as a completely new posting, this time from Fredericton. Thus, it is our belief that it was rated 3d for forwarding.

No. 2: David does not like the fact that the postmark was used as a killer to cancel a bisect and was struck in blue. We agree that postmarks used on the front of covers was against regulations but as seen in No.1 as well as here, they do exist. In fact we know of many. Where David got the idea that the Salisbury postmark was in blue, we do not know. It is struck in black and, yes, it is a clear strike but a random sampling of the postmarks on covers in the Wilkinson collection show that the vast majority are clear and neatly struck. In fact, examine the *25* grid on the cover from the same Post Office. It too is immaculate and sharp.

Let's face it, the regulations were *usually* but not always followed. This cover also bears *proof* of the postmarks genuineness in that the only backstamp is the receiver from Dalhousie. As the Salisbury Postmaster had struck the stamp there was obviously no need to *add another* postmark to the reverse. If it had a second backstamp then there would be reason to suspect foul play. This cover has a 1971 Royal Philatelic Society London certificate.

NOTE: Here is a point that David puts forth in his letter: *"These questions raise doubts about the cover, which ought to have been addressed. In the absence of convincing evidence that it is a genuine bisect, the proper course is not to make that claim."*

As authors we wholeheartedly disagree. As any person reading this series of articles would understand, these were never intended to be the end all into the definitive research into each item noted. They are intended only to give an overview of what does exist, particularly the unusual so as to let the reader broaden his philatelic knowledge and perhaps to pique his interest to learn more.

We do recall, however, that in the book revue of *Gems of Canadian Philately* by Charles G. Firby, David showed his great distaste for bisects in general. Our research into the New Brunswick and Nova Scotia Pence Issue covers will soon be published by the Vincent Graves Greene Foundation. We must believe that David will/may change his attitude toward these non-philatelic contrivances. As a result of the research behind this book, we now know that they are much more common than you might imagine.

By the way, if a bisected cover was listed by us in the forthcoming book we do indeed believe it to be genuine, or it would not have been listed. Obviously we have not examined every cover but have maintained that the professionals, that have offered this material over the past century, were knowledgeable enough to recognize a faked cover and would have treated them accordingly.

No. 3: David's main dislike regarding this cover is what he terms the *"outlandish rate"*. This is a 6 times rate (18d Pence). (This cover was larger and has been folded down.) By the way, several other covers in the outlandish category exist. Several 12d(4x) domestic rate covers are also recorded, as well as several 15d and other 18d, 21d, etc.. The stamps indeed are well tied to each other as well as to the cover. This unusual cancel is known used only from Chatham. There is a Chatham backstamp. We have no reason to believe this cover is not genuine. It has a 1999 British Philatelic Association certificate.

No. 4: David does not believe that a spectacular franking with nice cancellations should exist. It is true, the stamps are not tied to the cover which is not altogether uncommon. I must say that if I (Charles) were going to create a fake cover, the last thing I would do is to make the cancels so perfect. I would also insure that the cancel tied each of the stamps to the cover. After all, this is what collectors desire. But perhaps the Edmundston Postmaster was not thinking of collectors when this cover went through his office. His job was to kill the stamps and that is what he did. This cover has also been refolded to a smaller size. David also believes that this is a complicated rate and that the Postmaster should have identified his calculations on the cover. Are multiples of 3 really that complex: 5x 3d + 6d Registry? The cover is backstamped at Edmundston, Aug 1, 1858 confirming use of the 12 grid and shows the Fredericton receiver, Aug 4.

As David says It is a *spectacular franking*, no doubt about it. In fact, this was the cover chosen by its owner, Mr. Koh Seow Chuan (whose New Brunswick-Nova Scotia exhibit won multiple Grand Prix) to illustrate his entry into the *Grand Prix Club book 1950-2000* (page 223). NOTE: The Grand Prix Club is the *crème-de-la-crème* of philately. Limited to exhibitors that have won one or more International Grand Prix. Are there not a lot of remarkable covers in philately? You bet there are. This cover has 1956 Philatelic Foundation and 1999 British Philatelic Association certificates.

No. 5: The unique quadrisected 1/ stamp on cover. It too is from Edmundston and is well tied with matching and confirming cds (MR 13, 1860) on reverse. It is also backstamped with the Quebec receiver (MR 1860). The grid 12 is not in blue but in black just as cover No. 4. Remember that this cover was sent via the USA to Canada. Most covers sent to, or through the USA have the payment status applied, thus the *PAID* in manuscript.

We do not see why the Quebec Postmaster would care what stamp, method, etc. was used to pay this cover as long as it was noted as *PAID*. Our contention is that he would thusly treat it as any other piece of PAID mail. Postmasters were not responsible for policing other postal administrations practices.

Much ado is made by David about the Province being shown as L.C. instead of C.E., why? We have seen Canadian hammers using L.C. used into the 1860s, 1870s and 1880s, long after Confederation. It is highly likely that a sender could easily slip into old habits. In fact, is it not actually written as C.E.? Possibly not but what bearing does this have? There is absolutely no trace of a rate marking which would imply chicanery.

If David's conjecture is true that this is a stampless cover from the 1840s the creator sure went to a lot of trouble. He had to remove the rating mark as well as all the backstamps (at least two). Under black light there is absolutely no trace of alteration. The year dates are proper.

This cover also has a verifiable proof of age in that it was part of one of the earliest B.N.A. Postal History collections, namely the John F. Seybold collection which was disbursed in 1910. A time when people could care less about Postal History and the collectors could not wait to soak the stamps off of any cover. In fact that is exactly why stamped covers are so rare today. Remember, every used stamp we see was, at some time, removed from a cover. Postal History was not being faked prior to 1910. Stamps were being faked but covers were being eliminated. This cover has a 1999 British Philatelic Association certificate.

In summary, we might add that the provenance of these covers is impeccable and includes the likes of Dale-Lichtenstein, "Foxbridge" and Koh (both multiple Grand Prix winners), Norman Brassler, Ron Saint, John Mackie, Dr. R.V.C. Carr, Colin Banfield, etc.. Ownership does not, of course, imply genuineness. However it does imply that these covers have been accepted as genuine by many generations of collectors, judges and critics.

We do, however, agree with his assessment (although he really does not) that *"these covers are incredible (take whichever meaning you prefer)."* That is why they were selected for the article.

Reading the second from the last paragraph in David's letter, much comes out about David's philosophy (and area of collecting) and therefore his approach to things other than stampless. First of all, he believes that stamps were seldom used and that the vast majority of covers were stampless. As we pointed out above he

ignores the loss ratio of stamped covers that permitted the collecting of stamps (off cover) for 164 years in the first place. Oh yes - the stamped covers did exist but until about the 1940s not too many people were Postal History collectors. The covers simply were destroyed to provide the objects of the collectors desire: Stamps, those little bits of paper that were mounted side by side in albums.

In one of Charles research projects he records only 1,800+ Canada Pence covers - total, all denominations, from 1851-1859. Charles estimates that there are probably 10,000+ 3d Beavers off cover. Oh, the covers existed! By the way, for these very reasons, that is why most stampless covers available today were sent collect during this period as David points out. The paid covers bore stamps and were destroyed to supply the stamp collectors needs: thus their shortage.

David further shows a bias toward stampless and against stamped covers in the last three sentences. This bias appears to be based strongly in the included word *expensive*. We totally agree that there are various ways to collect Postal History but do not feel it our responsibility to tell someone how to do it or to criticize a collector for his style, methods, etc.. That is the fun of it. Do it your way and don't let anyone tell you you're wrong - winning prizes is another matter.

After having read this paragraph which certainly appears to represent David's collecting manifesto, we do not agree that mentioning stampless covers was necessary. As he is so enamoured with them, we might suggest that he had spent his time writing about them rather than criticizing us for what we did not do, that he wanted us to do. We failed him, but we believe that we met our objective and hope you, the reader, agree that these articles have provided a better understanding of stamped Postal History of the Classic period.

Chuck and George

An additional comment:

David's comment noting *"More disturbing is the non-disclosure of the lack of arms-length distance between Firby and Wilkinson"* must be addressed as it may lead a reader to believe that I have misrepresented these covers in an improper way to the benefit of Warren S. Wilkinson (hereafter identified as WW).

Before this letter, I frankly did not believe that there was a person alive that can knowingly challenge my honesty or ethics. Both of which I have always held in the highest regard and acknowledged so often as I have frequently said, *"In this business all we have is our reputation"*. Well I guess I have found one.

I certainly would like to believe that anyone that knows me would not believe that I would use my position in any manner other than truthfully and with all actions above board.

My relationship with WW has always been open. Since 1996 when he purchased my Canada Rate cover collection, I have represented him philatelically. Ask any auctioneer, agent or collector where I have purchased items for these collections, any exhibit chairman where Wilkinson collections have been shown, etc. if it has been my name given *"as agent for Mr. Wilkinson."*

I usually personally deliver, set-up and take down his exhibits and sometimes arrange to have other exhibits shipped but always as his agent. I recently took his Prince Edward Island to BNAPS in Edmonton. The next week his New Brunswick/Nova Scotia was spirited by me personally to Milwaukee.

When I have judged at shows where WW was in competition (twice - Houston 1999 and BNAPEX 2001), I have excused myself from the judging in all aspects subject to his exhibit. I have, however, been asked by judges my expert opinion regarding facets of his exhibits and have responded accordingly, as any person knowledgeable in the area should and would.

The soon-to-be printed book on New Brunswick-Nova Scotia (V.G. Greene Foundation) was spawned by my research while working on mounting his collections. I have dedicated this effort to WW *"Who indulges me, in the best of practical and philatelic worlds."* (He pays - I play!) The manuscript was turned over to the V.G. Greene Foundation last year. A public declaration, for sure!

His collections have been available for viewing on our www.Scans.FirbyAuctions.com website for at least two years. There is a link from www.FirbyAuctions.com.

My connection with WW is apparently open to the point that I have been contacted by various show Chairmen looking for a WW exhibit for their *Court of Honour*. WW and I were pleased that I would personally deliver what John Sheffield, as Exhibit Chairman, had requested for the 2005 R.P.S.C. show in London. I also arranged and set up a 4-frame *not for competition* exhibit at the Plymouth Show in April, 2005.

My philatelic relationship with WW has always been open. However, it must be said that David, too, is a customer and will always be treated the same as WW or any of my other clients for that matter.

Mr. Wilkinson has turned into a truly great B.N.A. collector who loves his covers just as much as, I am sure, David does his.

Just because Mr. Wilkinson has deeper pockets is no reason to believe that I would ever treat either of them differently. By the way, no one else should treat them differently either. His deep pocket permits dabbling in the Classics as do many other collectors. Lucky for us all that there are collectors such as he or the hobby would have a serious problem. I may one day do an article on this subject of *"relatively philately and its consequences"*. It is a discussion that, in today's philatelic world, needs to be aired.

As far as I am concerned I see absolutely no reason to have mentioned my relationship with one of this century's great British North America collectors. (The "greatness" comes from his ability to assemble such complete collections of these rare areas. The fact that he was able to do it in only nine years has least to do with money and everything to do with the availability of so many great collections that entered the marketplace during that time.)

I have been a major supplier of great items to the great Grand Prix collections of Ron Brigham, etc.. Should I have mentioned that as well? After all, they have both paid me what I am sure David would consider *"princely sums"* over the years. But it is important to remember that David too has sent me payments at various levels. I do not appreciate the insinuation put forth in his final comment. It is totally undeserved.

Charles G. Firby

DEAR EDITOR:

Thanks very much for the recent reviews of our two new Exhibit Series books, *Canada - Cameo Definitive Issues* by John Arn and *Prince Edward Island Philately 1794-1873* by Martyn Cusworth. Your readers may be interested to know that at BNAPEX 2004, held in conjunction with BALPEX in Baltimore, these exhibits each received Gold medals and, respectively, the BNAPEX Horace Harrison Grand Award and Allan Steinhart Reserve Grand Award. The Cameo exhibit in particular was the first ever Elizabethan era display to receive a Grand Award at a BNAPS show. This information was in the introduction to the books and, I believe, deserved mention in the reviews as significant accomplishments by the authors.

Yours sincerely,
Mike Street
Coordinator - BNAPS Book Publications
Ancaster, Ontario
mikestreet@hwcn.org

DEAR TONY:

There is only one problem with *The Canadian Philatelist*, it is too beautiful and too interesting! Once you open it, it is impossible to put it away.

I have a chronicle in *Circuit*, a magazine edited by the Order of certified translators, terminologists and interpreters, and I am planning to talk about *The Canadian Philatelist* in the next issue, especially Michael Madesker's Transcribing Sounds, which will interest translators and interpreters.

Regards,
Brigitte Charest

DEAR SIR

Sometime ago, I wrote an article about myself and I was gratified to receive some feedback from readers after it was published in *The Canadian Philatelist* (Vol. 55, No. 5, Sept.-Oct. 2004). I thought that they might wish to see some additional philatelic material I have unearthed concerning my life.

The first item (Figure 1) is an envelope from Hamilton dated March 5, 1862 and addressed to me as Professor of Medicine at Victoria College in Toronto. After my first wife's (Grace Hamilton) death in 1858 I agreed to join the teaching staff of my Alma Mater, John Rolph's Toronto School of Medicine, which by that time had become the medical faculty of Victoria College. I started as an instructor in pathology but quickly became professor of surgery, Additionally, I began serving patients in Mr. Rolph's dispensary when it opened in 1861. In March 1863 I resigned my position under duress after more than six months of being at odds with Mr. Rolph.

The second item (Figure 2) is a postal card mailed at Cannifton, January 16, 1877. Cannifton is named after my great uncle John Canniff (1757-1843) who founded the town in 1806 under the name of Canniff's Mills. A post office under the name of Bridgewater opened in 1853 but the name was promptly changed the following year when my father, Jonas, became the postmaster.

The post card itself is interesting as it is addressed to Professor Macoun at Albert University in Belleville, Ontario. The tenor of the message is a request to find out when Professor Macoun will audit the Thurlow Township (Cannifton) accounts. The addressee, Professor John Macoun (1831-1920), is better known to your readers as Canada's foremost field naturalist and the first Dominion Botanist.

For those of your readers who are interested in more information on my life or my genealogy, I would suggest they look me up on that new fangled device called the Internet and consult the *Dictionary of Canadian Biography* on the website of Library and Archives Canada www.collectionscanada.ca.

Respectfully yours
William Canniff, M.D.



Figure 1.



Figure 2.



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JERSEY D-DAY ANNIVERSARY ISSUE

WINS 2004 CANADIANA POLL

By John Peebles, FRPSC

A souvenir sheet from Jersey commemorating the 60th anniversary of the Normandy Allied landings in World War II has been chosen as the favourite Canadiana issue for 2004. The announcement was made in the fall edition of *The Canadian Connection*, journal of the Canadiana Study Unit.

In the 13th annual Canadiana poll, readers of *The Canadian Connection* were asked to choose and rank up to three favourite stamps issued last year. A point system of three points for a first place choice, two points for second and one point for a third place pick was used. The winning stamp was clearly the favourite of Canadiana collectors as the Jersey entry finished well ahead of the second place stamp from Norway. In the final tally, the winning souvenir sheet from Jersey collected over 50% more points than the runner-up.

The popular souvenir sheet was issued on June 6, 2004, exactly 60 years to the day that "Operation Overlord" saw vast numbers of Allied troops storm the beaches of northern France. The design of the souvenir sheet features a map of northern France. The map of Normandy is in colours of blue, white, and red, mirroring the French flag and the national colours of France. The flags of the United States, Great Britain, and Canada are prominent over the map of France. While the flag of Canada is the most obvious Canadiana aspect of the souvenir sheet, there are other Canadiana elements.



Each section of the Normandy beach was given a military code name. The five main landing sites are shown on the stamp: Utah, Omaha, Gold, Juno and Sword. Juno was the code name for the site where the Canadians came ashore.

The 3rd Canadian Infantry Division, supported by the 2nd Canadian Armoured Brigade, landed on Juno Beach in brigade groups. More than 20,000 Canadians, with 200 tanks and hundreds of other vehicles were under the command of Major-General Keller. The toll on life was sobering. On D-Day alone Canada tallied more than 1,000 casualties. During the course of the summer of 1944 over 5,000 Canadians were killed in Normandy. More than 13,000 others suffered injuries.

Shown around the perimeter of the souvenir sheet are the badges and military insignia of the major units of the Allied Forces that participated in Operation Overlord. The insignia of the Canadian 3rd Infantry Division and the Canadian 2nd Armoured Brigade are on the bottom row, third and fourth from the right, respectively.

Tony Theobald designed the £2 miniature sheet. Printing was completed in France by Cartor Security Printing using four colour offset lithography.

RUNNER-UP: NORWAY



On March 26, 2004, Canada Post joined with Post Greenland and Norwegian Post in honouring the Norwegian explorer Otto Sverdrup, on the 150th anniversary of his birth. Canada and Greenland each issued a single stamp while Norway released two. All three countries also issued uniquely formatted souvenir sheets. The two Norwegian stamps were

chosen as second place favourites in the 2004 Canadiana poll.

Otto Sverdrup (1854-1930) discovered and mapped approximately 260,000 square kilometres of Canada's Arctic, more than any other polar explorer in history. As a result of Sverdrup's explorations, many islands and waterways in the Canadian Arctic have Norwegian names. His namesake, the Sverdrup Islands, part of Canada's Nunavut Territory, were charted by Sverdrup during an expedition from 1898 to 1902.





For the three-way joint stamp issue, three different stamp designs were created. Only some of the three images were denominated for each country. For Norway Post, the lower 6.00-kroner (NOK) value features a portrait of Otto Sverdrup. In the background of the stamp he is seen raising a Norwegian flag in Canada at the most northerly point of the 1898-1902 expedition. The 9.50 NOK denomination depicts the ship *Fram* in port. A dog team is shown in the foreground ready for departure. The two stamps were incorporated into a souvenir sheet along with the third stamp design that shows the Sverdrup expedition team battling heavy seas. That design is not denominated in the Norwegian souvenir sheet and serves as a label or cinderella stamp only.

The polar ship *Fram* was known as one of the strongest vessels ever made. No vessel had ever been farther north or ventured farther south. She was used for three major polar expeditions: by Fridtjof Nansen in 1893-1896, by Sverdrup in 1898-1902, and by Roald Amundsen in 1910-1912. The vessel was designed and built by Colin Archer. Archer, however, worked with Sverdrup who was responsible for the engineering and rigging. When *Fram's* working life came to an end, Sverdrup became a spokesperson for her preservation. However, it was not until five years after Sverdrup's death that the vessel was finally returned to Oslo, Norway. Today the vessel is preserved in a museum in Oslo Fjord. Hundreds of thousands of tourists visit the museum annually.

All of the Canadian, Greenlandic and Norwegian stamps and souvenir sheets were designed and engraved by Martin Mörck of Norway. Morten Stürup provided the typography. The stamps and souvenir sheets were all printed in Denmark by Post Denmark Stamps using four colour offset lithography and engraving. For Norway Post a total of 600,000 copies of each stamp were produced plus 250,000 souvenir sheets. The Norwegian stamps were each printed in panes of 40.



THIRD: FRANCE

Another joint issue stamp, this time a France-Canada effort, captured third place standing in the 2004 vote. The French and Canadian stamps commemorated the 400th anniversary of the first French settlement in North America. Shown on the stamps is Pierre Dugua, Sieur de Mons, who founded a settlement on St. Croix Island in 1604. The island is located along what is now the border between Canada and the United States.

Dugua (c.1558-1628) was born in Royan, France. In 1603, Henry IV appointed him Vice-Admiral and Lieutenant-Governor of New France. Dugua was instructed to found a permanent colony in North America in exchange for a monopoly on the fur trade in the New World. Accompanied by Samuel de Champlain, Dugua chose St. Croix Island as the site for a settlement in 1604. However, following a difficult and harsh winter on St. Croix Island, the location was abandoned and the settlement was moved in 1605 to Port-Royal, in present-day Nova Scotia.

Today St. Croix Island is actually part of the state of Maine and is preserved as an International Historic Site. The United States National Park Service in co-operation with the Canadian Government admin-

isters St. Croix Island National Monument.

Pierre Dugua, Sieur de Mons, played a fundamental role in establishing the first permanent French settlement in North America. Even though Dugua may not be as well known to Canadians as, for example, Champlain he is nonetheless an important figure in the history of the nation. A commemorative plaque in Dugua's hometown in France calls him the "Founder of Acadia and Canada, instigator and financier for the Champlain expeditions."

The portrait on the stamps is the work of Montreal illustrator Suzanne Duranceau. The background of the stamp shows rigging of Dugua's flagship *Le Don de Dieu*. The engraving was performed by André Lavergne of France. The overall design of the stamps was the task of Réjean Myette of Fugazi, a Montreal design firm. Alain Leduc was art director for the project. It was Myette who combined the portrait and background rigging by computer. He also proposed the monochrome colours, prepared the type setting and created a Canada Post official first day cover.

The stamps were printed using intaglio and offset lithography. The Canadian Bank Note Company printed the Canadian version in panes of 16. For *La Poste*, the .90-euro French stamps were printed in panes of 30 by the French Government Printing Office. The names of the Canadian artist Duranceau and the French engraver Lavergne appear on the bottom of the French stamps but not on the Canadian ones.

First day of issue was June 26, 2004.

OTHER NOTABLES

A stamp from Greenland, already mentioned as part of the Canada-Greenland-Norway Otto Sverdrup joint issue, captured fourth spot in the 2004 Canadiana poll. According to Greenland Post, the stamp depicts "members of the Sverdrup 1888 skiing expedition going ashore." As was the case with Canada and Norway, the Sverdrup stamp from Greenland was also issued in souvenir sheet format. On the souvenir sheet the Sverdrup portrait stamp and the *Fram* stamp are non-denominated.

A souvenir sheet from Palau picturing a Canadian National (CN) Railway steam locomotive



finished fifth in the 2004 tally. The CN locomotive shown is K-5-a Hudson #5700, the centrepiece of the collection of The Elgin County Railway Museum in St. Thomas, Ontario. The $2 souvenir sheet was issued on September 27, 2004 along with a pane of five 26¢ se-tenant stamps on the theme "200 Years of Trains."



Finishing sixth in the voting was a 45¢ stamp from New Zealand showing runner John Walker crossing the finishing line at the 1976 Montreal Olympics. New Zealander Walker captured the gold medal in the 1500 metre race. The stamp was one of four self-adhesives issued to commemorate the 28th Olympiad held in Athens, Greece in 2004. First day of issue was August 2. A process called "lenticular" was used to create the stamp. When the stamp is tilted the image appears to move.

A stamp issued for the French Southern & Antarctic Territories (FSAT), took seventh position in the poll. Released on January 1, 2004, the .90-euro stamp commemorates the flights of the de Havilland of Canada *Twin Otter* aircraft in Antarctica. The design features a Canadian-made *Twin Otter* superimposed on a map of the Antarctic. The FSAT stamps were printed in an unusual round format in panes of 30.



Interested readers can contact the Canadiana Study Unit at Box 3262, Station A, London, Ontario N6A 4K3.

Nova Scotia and New Brunswick Pence to the United Kingdom

George B. Arfken and Charles G. Firby

The English Mails (to and from England, Scotland and Ireland) were of great importance to the people of Nova Scotia and New Brunswick in the 1850s. Most of the Nova Scotia pence-franked covers were domestic but 15% were addressed to Britain. For New Brunswick, the percentage to Britain was 17%. Mail to Britain was carried by Cunard packets from Halifax every two weeks.

In the early 1850s mail to the United Kingdom was not cheap. The charge was 15d for ½ oz., five times the domestic letter rate. Figure 1 shows the earliest recorded example of this pence franking. This cover was posted in Saint John approximately on September 27, 1851 only three weeks after the New Brunswick pence had been issued. The postage was paid with a reddish purple one shilling and a bright red 3d. The London date stamp, OC 12 1851, indicates that the cover was carried by the Cunard *Europa* and that it was mailed about Sept. 27. The *Europa* arrived in Halifax from Boston, October 2[1] and probably sailed from Halifax that day or the next day.



Figure 1. A single rate cover, 15d for ½ oz. from Saint John, N.B. to London, England, October 12, 1851. This is the earliest recorded usage of the New Brunswick one shilling.
Courtesy of Warren S. Wilkinson. W50a

A Nova Scotia example of the 15d for ½ oz. rate is shown in Figure 2. The cover was franked with a dull violet[2] one shilling and a dark blue 3d. There is a Halifax January 22, 1852 postmark indicating that the cover went on the Cunard *Cambria*. This is the earliest reported usage of the Nova Scotia one shilling.



Figure 2. 15d for ½ oz. This cover was posted in Halifax, January 22, 1852 and addressed to Glasgow, Scotland.
Courtesy of Frederick R. Mayer. M24a

On August 1, 1854, after consultation with the provinces, the British Post Office announced that the postal rate from the provinces to the U.K. was cut from 15d to 7½d per ½ oz. This action created the problem of paying 7½d with the current stamps. Nova Scotia Postmaster General Arthur Woodgate realized that there was no way of paying 7½d with the Nova Scotia stamps and on October 4, 1854 authorized bisecting 3d stamps to help pay this specific rate. The authorization was only for the 3d stamps and only for this rate to the U.K. Figure 3 illustrates a 7½d cover from Maitland, November 16, 1857 to Scotland paid with two blue 3d and a bisected 3d. The red Liverpool transit stamp of NO 29 identifies the Cunard *Europa* as the steamer that carried the cover.



Figure 3. From Maitland (Hants), November 16, 1857, to Glasgow, Scotland. This bisect on this cover on this date was authorized.
Courtesy of Frederick R. Mayer. M15a

A New Brunswick 7½d cover is shown in Figure 4. Mailed in Saint John, April 16, 1860, the cover was sent to Halifax for the Cunard *Niagara* that carried the cover to Queenstown, Ireland. The cover proceeded by rail in Ireland, ship across the Irish Sea and rail to London. There is red 30AP60 LONDON receiving mark. The required 7½d was paid with a New Brunswick olive yellow 6d and a quadrisected 6d. New Brunswick had never authorized bisection, not even for this 7½d rate and certainly did not authorize quadrisection but the cover was accepted. The cover is part of the extensive and mysterious Miss Smith correspondence.



Figure 4. From Saint John, April 16, 1860 to London.
Courtesy of Warren S. Wilkinson. W45

There were double rate covers. Figure 5 shows one of the four Nova Scotia double rate covers recorded[3]. The 15d for one ounce was paid with two yellow green 6d and a blue 3d. The cover was mailed in Wallace, N.S. on October 7, 1856. Wallace is on the Northumberland Strait and the cover may have reached Halifax in time for the Cunard *Canada* that arrived from Boston on October 10. The red British receiving mark is illegible. ✉



Figure 5. A double rate cover from Wallace, N.S., October 7, 1856 to London.
Courtesy of Frederick R. Mayer. M18a

[1] ***Atlantic Mails***, J.C. Arnell, Ottawa, 1980.

[2] The color given by Argenti is cold violet. ***The Unitrade Specialized Catalogue 2000*** gives dull violet. We go along with Unitrade and dull violet.

[3] ***The Pence Covers of Nova Scotia and New Brunswick, 1851 - 1860***, Arfken and Firby, 2005, in press.

There was no triple rate for 12 oz..
Above one ounce, the rate was 15d per ounce.

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International UN Organizations in Switzerland

By Joseph Monteiro

I. Introduction

International United Nations Organizations in Switzerland have had stamps issued for use from their headquarters for more than half a century. Many of these organizations initially had the name of their organization overprinted on the stamps. Some of the well-known organizations are the League of Nations, the Bureau International du Travail, etc. Some of these organizations later had the name of the organization as part of the printing of the stamps. These well-known organizations are the Nations Unies, the Bureau International du Travail, Organisation Meteorologique Mondiale, Organisation Mon-diale De La Sante, Bureau International D'Education, Union Postale Universelle, and Union Internationalle Des Telecommunications.

These Swiss-based organizations which had their respective name of the organization printed on the stamps had the name of the country, Helvetia, on it. The most important of these organizations is the United Nations and later the other organizations became specialized agencies of the Economic and Social Council (one of the five major bodies of the UN General Assembly). In this brief article, I shall review the stamps issued for use from these organizations in the post-war period that have their name as part of the printing of the stamps. The earlier illustrations of these stamps are also shown.

II. International Organizations in Switzerland

Nations Unies

The name "United Nations" was devised by United States President Franklin D. Roosevelt and was first used in the "Declaration by United Nations" of January 1, 1942. The United Nations was formed with the determination to save succeeding generations from the scourge of war, an objective that a preceding organization the "League of Nations" failed to achieve. The decision to locate the United Nations near New York City was made in London by the General Assembly at its first session on February 14, 1946.

On invitation by the Congress of the United States, a decision was made to construct the United Nations building on New York City's East River. However, it was not until October 24, 1951 that the United Nations began issuing stamps for use from its headquarters in New York.

These United Nations stamps could not be used from the United Nations (Nations Unies) headquarters in Geneva, first because there was no agreement with the postal authorities in Switzerland and because these stamps were denominated in United States currency. As a result, up until October 4, 1969, stamps from Nations Unies bore the name of the country Helvetia with their denominations in Swiss francs.

The final set for use from Nations Unies bearing the name of the country Helvetia consisted of seven stamps (5, 10, 20, 30, 50, 60, 2Fr, 5Fr) with their denominations in Swiss francs. This set of stamps was issued on November 3, 1964 and was in use for approximately five years when it was replaced by the stamps issued under its own name (Nations Unies) in Swiss denominations. Since that period, more than 400 stamps have been issued by Nations Unies for use from its premises in Switzerland.

This final Helvetia set consists of stamps in three sizes and three designs. The size of the 5, 10 and 50 is 22.5mm x 28.5mm and the design shows the globe with two wreaths around the sides intertwined at the bottom. The size of the 20, 30, 60 and 2Fr is 23.5mm x 29mm and the design



shows an angel in the clouds who is presumably protecting the world. Above the two designs is the inscription NATIONS UNIES and below the design in larger print is the name of the country HELVETIA with the value below the name of the country. The size of the 5Fr is 25mm x 41mm and the design shows the Palais de Nations, the headquarters of the Nations Unies in Geneva. Above this design is the inscription NATIONS UNIES and below the design in larger print is the name of the country HELVETIA with the value. This set of stamps was issued in 1964 and has the cancellation date '- 3 11 64 -11'and encircling the cancellation is the inscription 'GENEVE 10' and 'NATIONS UNIES'.

Bureau International du Travail

The International Labour Organization is a specialized agency of the United Nations founded in 1919 with its headquarters in Geneva, Switzerland. The corner stone of the new ILO headquarters building in Geneva was laid in May 1970 and the building was completed in 1974. The basic purpose of the ILO is to improve the working conditions through the combined efforts of government, management and labour.



The set consists of six stamps in two sizes and two designs. The size of the 5, 10 and 50 is 22.5mm x 28.5 mm and the design shows the globe with two workers carrying two pick axes. The size of the 20, 30, 60 and 2Fr is 23.5mm x 29mm and the design shows a globe, chimney and wheel. Surrounding this design is the inscription BUREAU INTERNATIONAL DU TRAVAIL beginning on the left side and ending on the right side. For the smaller sized stamps the value is then shown. The name of the country HELVETIA is shown below in larger print. For the larger sized stamps the value is shown before the name of the country. This set of stamps was issued in 1964 and has the cancellation date '- 3 11 64 -11', encircling the cancellation is the inscription 'GENEVE 22' and 'BUREAU INTERNATIONAL DU TRAVAIL'.

Approximately five years later (June 10, 1969), the Bureau International du Travail overprinted a stamp to commemorate the Visit of Pope Paul VI on June 10, 1969. The stamp overprinted was the orange colour 30 centimes stamp from the previous set. The black overprint in four lines is "Visite du Pape Paul VI Genève 10 juin 1969".

Five years later (May 30, 1974), Helvetia issued a stamp on the new premises of the Bureau International du Travail. The size of this stamp is 25.5mm (vertical) and 35.5mm (horizontal) and was printed by Courvoiser SA. The design of the stamp shows the new building of the Bureau International du Travail in the centre. At the top right is the symbol of this Agency BIT with the usual two entwined wreaths surrounding it. The inscription at the top is 'Nouveau bâtiment' and the inscription at the bottom shows the value '80' on the left and the name of the country 'HELVETIA' on the right. The first day of cancellation shows the inscription 'BIT JOUR D'EMISSION 30 5 74' in the centre with the inscription '1211 GENEVE' 'BUREAU INTERNATIONAL DU TRAVAIL 1211 GENEVE' encircling it.

Organisation Météorologique Mondiale

The World Meteorological Organization (WMO) was founded as a specialized agency of the United Nations in 1950 with its headquarters in Geneva, Switzerland. Its basic purpose is to improve weather observations and to adopt common standards for weather reporting.



The final Helvetia set consists of six stamps in one size and two designs. The size of the 5, 10, 20, 30, 50, 60 and 2Fr is 23.5mm x 29mm. The design of the denominations 5, 10 and 50 shows clouds, the sun and rain. The design of the denominations 20, 30, 60 and 2Fr shows the weather directional indicator. Surrounding this design is the inscription ORGANISATION METEOROLOGIQUE MONDIALE beginning on the left side and ending on the right side. The name of the country HELVETIA is shown below in larger print with the denomination of the stamp. This set of stamps was

issued in 1964 and has the cancellation date '- 3 11 64 -11', encircling the cancellation is the inscription 'GENEVE 10' and 'NATIONS UNIES'.

Approximately 10 years later (August 30, 1973), to commemorate the centenary (1873-1973) of the Organisation Meteorologique Mondiale, Helvetia issued a set of four stamps. The values of the four stamps were 30, 40, 80 and 1Fr. The design of each stamp shows a picture of the globe with the usual two entwined wreaths surrounding it at the sides. Surrounding this design is the inscription 'Organisation Meteorologique Mondiale' beginning on the left side and ending on the top right. The inscription showing the name of the country 'Helvetia' is shown on the bottom left with the value shown at the bottom right. It should be noted that the 80 centimes stamp has the inscriptions capitalized and the value appears before the name of the country.

This stamp in addition has the inscription 'OMI OMM 1873 1973' in four lines at the left of the globe. The size of each stamp is 25.5mm (vertical) and 35.5mm (horizontal). The 80 centimes value was printed on smooth coated paper and printed by Courvoiser SA quite unlike the other values which were printed on plain paper. The first day of cancellation shows the inscription '1200 GENEVE ORGANISATION METEOROLOGIQUE MONDIALE OMM JOUR D'EMISSION 30 8 73'.

Organisation Mondiale de la Santé

The World Health Organization (WHO) was established on September 1, 1948 with its headquarters in Geneva, Switzerland. "Health is a state of complete physical, mental and social well being and not merely the absence of disease or infirmity" according to one of the constitutions of the WHO. The WHO is a specialized agency of the United Nations, concerned with fighting disease and improving the mental and physical health of everyone. In May 1977, the WHO adopted a resolution that would permit all people of the world the attainment of a level of health enabling them to lead a socially and economically productive life.



The final Helvetia set consists of six stamps in one size and one design. The size of the 5, 10, 20, 30, 50, 60 and 2Fr is 23.5mm x 29mm. The design of the stamps shows the medical insignia (snake and rod), and the globe with two wreaths around the sides intertwined at the bottom. Surrounding this design is the inscription 'ORGANISATION MONDIALE DE LA SANTE' beginning on the left side and ending on the right side. The name of the country 'HELVETIA' is shown below in larger print with the denomination of the stamp. This set of stamps was issued in 1964 and has the cancellation date '- 3 11 64 -11', encircling the cancellation is the inscription 'GENEVE 10' and 'NATIONS UNIES'.

Bureau International d'Éducation



The final set consists of six stamps in one size and two designs. The size of the 5, 10, 20, 30, 50, 60 and 2Fr is 22.5mm x 28.5mm. The 5, 10 and 50 shows the design of an atlas on top of books. The design of the 20, 30, 60 and 2Fr shows a teacher and two students, a boy and girl. Surrounding this design is the inscription 'BUREAU INTERNATIONAL D'EDUCATION' beginning on the left side and ending on the right side. The denominations of each stamp is shown on the left side above the inscription. The name of the country 'HELVETIA' is shown below in larger print. This set of stamps was issued in 1964 and has the cancellation date '- 3 11 64 -11', encircling the cancellation is the inscription ' GENEVE 14' and 'PALAIS WILSON '.

Union Postale Universelle

One of the earliest international organizations in Switzerland was the creation of the General Postal Union in 1874 at the first International Postal Congress in Bern, Switzerland. The name General Postal Union was changed to Universal Postal Union (UPU) at the second International Postal Congress held in Paris in 1878. One hundred and

eighty-nine member countries comprise the UPU. Today, the UPU is one of the specialized agencies of the Economic and Social Council (one of the five major bodies of the UN General Assembly).



The final Helvetia set consist of six stamps in one size and two designs. The size of the 5, 10, 20, 30, 50, 60 and 2Fr is 23.5mm x 29mm. The 5, 50 and 2Fr depict the design of the UPU with the globe and individuals joining hands around the globe. The design of the 10, 20, 30 and 60 shows a horse with wings. Surrounding the design is the inscription 'UNION POSTALE UNIVERSELLE' beginning on the top and ending on the right side. The denomination of each stamp is shown at the bottom followed by the inscription of the country 'HELVETIA' shown below in larger print. This set of stamps was issued in 1964 with the cancellation '- 3 11 64 -12 and a drawing of a building' encircling it is the description 'UNION POSTALE UNIVERSELLE' 'BERN 15' and 'WELTPOSTVEREIN'.

Approximately 12 years later (September 16, 1976), Helvetia issued a set of four stamps to commemorate the UPU. The values of the four stamps were 40, 80, 90, 1Fr. The 40 centimes design shows a stamp envelope in between two hemispheres, the 80 centimes design shows boxes each with a miniature drawing of a plane, a railway wagon, ship and car, the 90 centimes design shows a safe, and the 1Fr design shows the outline of an individual with a diminutive drawing of a letter, a box and an envelope on the left and conveyor belts, probably used in modern sorting plants, on the right. They were printed by Courvoiser on smooth coated paper. The size of each stamp is 25.5mm (vertical) and 35.5mm (horizontal). The first day of cancellation shows the inscription 'UPU JOUR D'EMISSION 19 9 76' which is encircled with the inscription '3000 BERN 15 UNION POSTALE UNIVERSELLE'.

Union Internationalle des Télécommunications

The International Telegraph Union was founded in 1865. In 1947, it was reorganized and became

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a United Nations specialized agency with its headquarters in Geneva, Switzerland. Its basic purposes are to co-ordinate the use of telephone, radio and telegraph throughout the world and to agree on uniform regulations, costs, and safety measures. Without the ITU a call throughout the world would not be possible.



The final set consists of six stamps in one size and two designs. The size of the 5, 10, 20, 30, 50, 60 and 2Fr is 22.5mm x 28.5mm. The 5, 10 and 50 shows the design of a radio signal transmitter. The design of the 20, 30, 60 and 2Fr shows an antenna. Surrounding this design is the inscription 'UNION INTERNATIONALLE DES TELECOMMUNICATIONS' beginning on the left side at the top and ending on the right side. The denomination of each stamp is shown on the left side above the inscription. The name of the country 'HELVETIA' is shown below in larger print. This set of stamps was issued in 1964 and has the cancellation date '- 3 11 64 -11', encircling the cancellation is the inscription ' GENEVE 20' and MONTBRILLANT'.

Approximately 10 years later (August 30, 1973), Helvetia issued a stamp commemorating the new premises of the Union Internationalle des Télécommunications. The stamp has the value of 80 centimes and was printed by Courvoiser SA on smooth coated paper. The design on the stamp shows a picture of the building. The inscription on the stamp shows the name of the country 'HELVETIA' at the top right with the value beneath. In addition, the inscription 'Siège de l'Union internationale des telecommunications - UIT Genève 1973' is shown at the bottom below the building. The size of each stamp is 41mm (vertical) and 25.5mm (horizontal). The first day cancellation indicates the inscription '1200 GENEVE UNION INTERNATIONALLE DES TELECOMMUNICATIONS UIT JOUR D'EMISSION 30 8 73'.

On February 12, 1976, Helvetia issued a set of three stamps commemorating the Union Internationale des Télécommunications. The set of three stamps has the values 40, 90, 1Fr. The first showed designs of sound waves, the second showed transportation vehicles, a ship and plane, and the third showed the face of a man. The inscriptions read Réseau Mondiale, Services Mobiles, and Radiodiffusion Télévision respectively.

In addition, there were the general inscriptions showing 'HELVETIA', 'UNION INTERNATIONALLE DES TELECOMMUNICATIONS' and the value. The size of each stamp is 25.5mm (vertical) and 35.5mm (horizontal). The stamps were printed on plain paper. The first day of cancellation shows the inscription '1200 GENEVE. JOUR D'EMISSION . 12.2.76' encircling the 'UIT' symbol.

III. Concluding Remarks

The use of stamps from a particular organization with the name overprinted on them is not a common practice. At times, governments have their initials or other title overprinted on the stamp to signify that they are for use for mailing from the government. In the period preceding the one described, when the title of the organization was not part of the printing of the stamp, many of the organizations described had their name or initials overprinted on the stamps. These stamps from an earlier period have not been the subjects of this article.

It is worthwhile noting that Switzerland is not the only country that has had stamps issued for use from its organizations. Another organization that has had similar arrangements with the postal authorities of the respective country in which it is located is the International Court of Justice in the Netherlands. ✉

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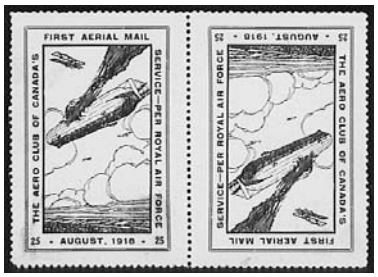
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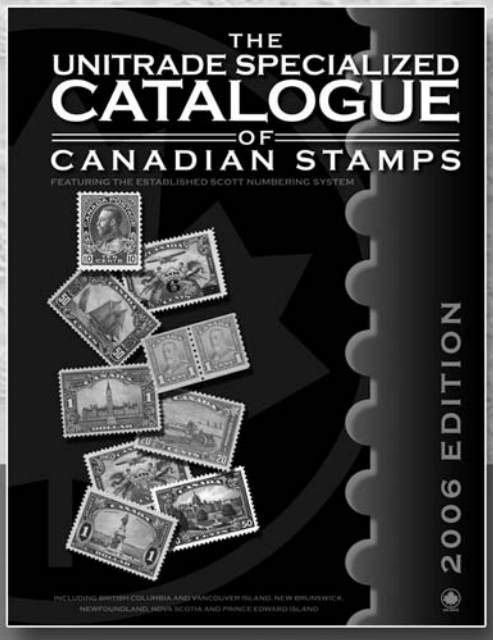
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Jubilee Issue of Shanghai

By Ken Lewis

When Shanghai became a foreign port in 1843 it began allowing foreign traders to settle in the town and to carry on their normal businesses. These foreign traders lived in their own settlements and for the most part were not subject to Chinese laws because they lived apart from the citizens of Shanghai. But when the Shanghai Municipal Council was created on the 17th July 1854 these foreign settlements came under its control and subject to its laws. In July 1863 this new council created its own postal service because of the high charges imposed by the Min Chu. This new postal service became known as the Shanghai Local Post but local it certainly was not as its network covered most of the Chinese provinces and Formosa (Taiwan).

Being a foreign port meant that it had a number of foreign post offices based within its confines and these offices allowed mail to be dispatched to and from Japan (Nagasaki, Hakodadi, Kanagawa, and Yokohama), England (London), France, Germany, Russia and USA (San Francisco). In time more foreign post offices arrived in Shanghai, allowing for more overseas destinations for mail. These foreign post offices were a necessary part of life as without them mail could not be sent out of the country because China did not become a member of the UPU until 1914. Any mail leaving China had to go through one of these foreign (UPU) post offices to prove to the other countries that the correct postage had been paid. While in operation the Shanghai Local Post also carried mail on behalf of the Imperial Customs Post, which was run by Sir Robert Hart. As with most postal initiatives, this enterprise would not last and it became part of the Imperial Chinese Post that was introduced on 1st November 1897. But during its 34 years of operation it became well known as a reputable postal service.



Figure 1.

Figure 1 shows a cover that was sent to a local Shanghai address that used both postal services to reach the addressee. The 2-cent stamp was issued by the Shanghai Local Post on the 11th November 1893 to celebrate the Golden Jubilee of the First Settlement as described above. This was the only stamp especially designed to commemorate this event although there was a set of seven stamps from the earlier issue overprinted with the words '1843/Jubilee/1893'. This single stamp was printed by lithography in rose and black and had the Chinese character of 'Kung-Pu' for the watermark. It was comb perforated 13½. 'Kung-Pu' is an abbreviation of 'Kung Pu Chu', which translates to 'Board of Works Office' and, therefore, 'Kung-Pu' is normally referred to as 'Board of Works.' The cover is addressed to Miss Florence Ho'well, No. 54 Broadway, Hankow, Shanghai. Only the post offices in Shanghai, Peking, and Tientsin used blue ink for their postmarks. All the other offices were restricted to black. The single ring postmark on this cover reads 'SHANGHAI LOCAL POST' and is dated November 17, 1893 with

the index letter 'C'. This particular postmark was in use from 1881 to 1897.

On the back of the cover, Figure 2, is a transit mark from the Imperial Customs Post. The transit mark reads 'CUSTOMS/SHANGHAI' and is dated NOV 17/1893. This mark was only in use between 1893 and early 1894. It is recorded as being type 21-II (Chang). From the markings on this cover it appears that mail destined for the foreign settlements was passed to the Imperial Custom Post for delivery, whereas mail destined for elsewhere in Shanghai and China was delivered by the Shanghai Local Post.



Detailed view of stamp.



Figure 2.

What is so special about this stamp is the usual question that collectors ask. The answer is quite simple: it was the first commemorative stamp to be issued by the Shanghai Local Post and as such is noteworthy. The only other postal service to issue stamps to commemorate an event was the Imperial Customs Post on 17th November 1894 for the 60th Birthday of the Dowager Empress. No other commemorative stamps were produced before the Chinese Imperial Post took effect on 17th November 1897. The Chinese Imperial Post's first stamps were the Imperial Customs Post's commemorative first issue but printed in new colours. This was the first commemorative stamp issued by China and its historical significance should be noted. ✉

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OBSOLESCENT, OBSOLETE, or DEMONETIZED?

Some Thoughts on the Validity of Postage Stamps

By Michael Peach

As every collector knows, all stamps produced for postage have a date of issue and many first-day covers are prepared to mark the launching of a stamp or series of stamps. Obsolescent stamps are defined in Musson's Stamp Dictionary as stamps that are still in use, even though the sovereign portrayed on them is deceased, and they remain obsolescent until stamps of the new reign have been issued. Obsolete stamps are those that are no longer sold by a postal authority but are still postally valid. Demonetized stamps are those that are no longer valid for the payment of postage: they have a specific demonetization date, or last date of validity.

While all Canadian Provincial and Newfoundland stamps with values in cents are still valid for postage, stamps with values in pence became invalid by a certain date. Nova Scotia stamps with values in pence, for instance, could not be purchased from post offices after 30 September 1860 and could only be used postally for one month, up to 31 October 1860.[1a] New Brunswick stamps with values in cents were first issued on 15 May 1860; there appears to be no official date marking the demonetization of the pence issues but the then Postmaster General of New Brunswick, the infamous Charles Connell, in his report for 1859, presented in 1860, stated that "the principal part of those [NB pence stamps] remaining on hand [were] unfit for sale, having been damaged in storage."[1b]

In the Province of Canada (so named after the amalgamation of the provinces of Upper and Lower Canada on 10 February 1841) stamps with values in cents were initially available on 1 July 1859, and postmasters were requested to return stamps with values in pence, though pence stamps purchased before that date could still be used for postage.[2a] No definite final date for using New Brunswick or Province of Canada pence stamps appears to have been announced.[1b, 2a] On 1 April 1868 postage stamps of the Dominion of Canada, the Large Queens, were placed on sale, and no other stamps were permitted to be sold, although provincial issues in the hands of the public continued to be accepted in payment of postage for a reasonable time.[2b]

When the colonies of Vancouver and British Columbia were consolidated on 19 November 1866, both were issuing stamps with values in cents. The stamps of each colony were distributed and used throughout the combined territory.[3a] After British Columbia became a province of Canada On 20 July 1871, the stamps of Canada were used.[3b] As stamps with values in cents were already being used, presumably the same rules applied: the stamps were no longer sold, but those remaining in the hands of the public could be used for postage. All the remainders of the B.C. stamps were burned.[3c] A similar situation existed when Prince Edward Island became a province on 1 July 1873. The remaining part of Canada was a territory and used Canadian stamps.

In Great Britain virtually all of the stamps issued before the decimal era had a demonetization date. The exceptions were the £1 stamps issued during the reigns of George V, Edward VIII, George VI and Queen Elizabeth II.

The issue dates are all published in the standard catalogues, but it is not as easy to find the demonetization dates. The relevant dates, together with copies of the Post Office notices, are given in an article, "Demonetization of Obsolete Stamps,"

by Douglas Muir in the *G.B. Journal*, 40 [2002] 71. Slightly different dates are noted in the *Michel British Specialised Catalogue*.

Queen Victoria: the validity of all stamps expired on 31 May 1901, except all of the Jubilee issue, including the ½d green, the 1d lilac, and the following higher value stamps: Sc. 55 2/- blue, Sc. 56 2/- pale brown, Sc. 73 8d orange, Sc. 93 £5 orange, Sc. 96 2/6 lilac, Sc. 108 5/- carmine, Sc. 109 10/- ultramarine, Sc. 124 £1 dark green.

The validity of all the remaining Victorian issues expired on 30 June 1915, but these stamps could be exchanged up to and including 31 December 1915.

Edward VII: all valid until 31 March 1930, and stamps could be exchanged up to 30 September 1930.

George V, Edward VIII, George VI and Queen Elizabeth II: the validity of all stamps with values in the old monetary system (pounds, shillings, and pence) expired on 29 February 1972. However, all the stamps with a value of £1 are still valid.

Queen Elizabeth II: all stamps with values in the current decimal monetary system [100 new pence (p) = £1] are currently valid.

Items of postal stationery follow the same dates, with the validity of all Victorian postal stationery expiring on 31 May 1915.

First Day Covers are considerably more abundant than Last Day Covers. There were only four possible dates for Last Day Covers. The first illustration shows an Edward VII postal stationery post card, a notice about vaccination, cancelled 31 March 1930 (Figure 1) the last day of validity of the Edward VII stamps. The last day of validity of stamps with values in the old monetary system, 29 February 1972, is the most recent date for Last Day Covers. A check of the British Philatelic Bulletin for early 1972 shows that this event passed unnoticed. At the 1972 Spring Stampex, 28 February - 4 March, the Post Office was offering special Stampex covers. However, it did not pass totally unnoticed here, and some covers can indeed be found. A special hand stamp was available at Windsor, England. A Last Day Cover, postmarked Windsor 29 FEB 1972, is shown (Figure 2). It has a 4d Machin and the 4d from the 1966 British Technology series. A reply paid postcard with an Elizabeth 3d stamp is also a Last Day Cover and is cancelled Sheffield 29 February 1972 (Figure 3). It has 1p and 2d Machin adhesive stamps added, for the then current post card rate, 2½p.



Figure 1. Edward VII Last Day Postcard, 31 MCH 1930.

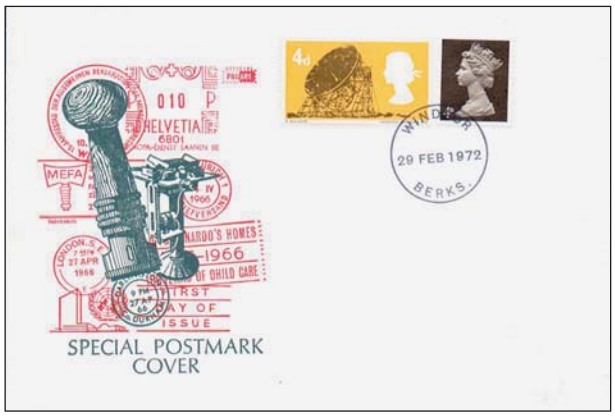


Figure 2. Last Day Cover, 29 FEB 1972.



Figure 3. Last Day Postcard , 29 FE 72.

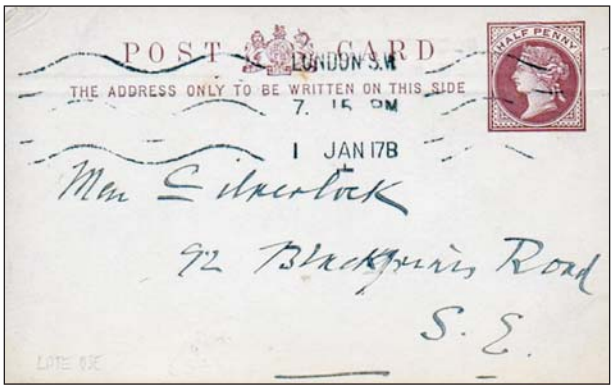


Figure 4. Victorian inland ½d postcard, used 1 JAN 17.



Figure 5. Victorian inland ½d postcard, used 24 OCT 17, with ½d adhesive added to cover the postage.

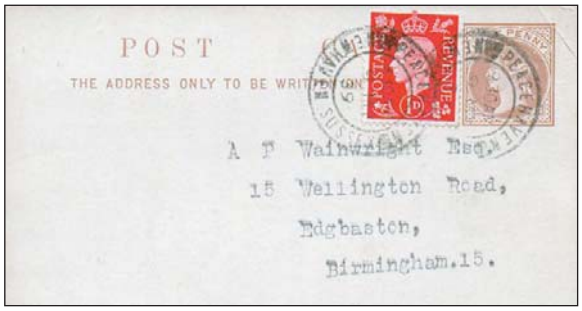


Figure 6. Victorian postcard used 9 MY 39.



Figure 7. Cover from Cambridge, 3 AP 22, to Bromsgrove.

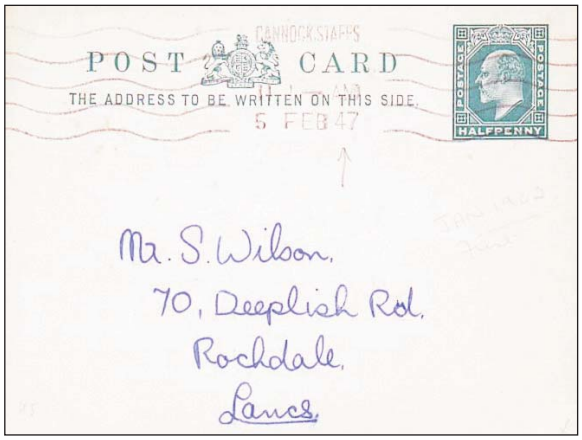


Figure 8. Edwardian postcard used 5 FEB 47.

Examples of use after demonetization can be found. A Victorian postal stationery postcard is shown (Figure 4). The brown ½d stamp is postmarked 1 January 1917, and the card was not surcharged for postage due. Two similar postcards, one cancelled 24 October 17 (Figure 5) has a green ½d George V adhesive added to cover the postage and the other mailed from Peacehaven, 9 May 1939, to Birmingham (Figure 6) has a red 1d George VI stamp added for the correct postage, 1d. Vigilant eyes caught the cover from Cambridge, 2 April 1922, with two brown ½d stamps cut out from Victorian postcards, which were no longer valid (Figure 7). These were not cancelled. As the inland letter rate was 2d/3oz at the time, the deficiency, 1d, was doubled and a 2d postage due label attached.

Some mail with Edwardian stamps passed unnoticed through the system in the 1940s. A postal stationery postcard with a green ½d stamp was used on 5 February 1947 (Figure 8) and a sealed cover with a 4d Edwardian stamp and a 1d George VI stamp (Figure 9) was mailed without surcharge on 8 October 1942, the inland letter rate being 2½d at the time.



Figure 9. Letter with 4d Edwardian stamp cancelled 8 OC 42.



Figure 10. Envelope cancelled Manchester 30 JUN 37, with demonetised Edward VII ½d stamp.

In other cases the invalid stamp is used simply as a label and does not count towards the postage. The window envelope, cancelled Manchester 30 June 1937, has four green ½d stamps, one each from Edward VII, George V, Edward VIII and George VI (Figure 10). As the inland letter rate at that time was 1½d, the Edward VII stamp although cancelled, did not contribute to the postage.

In all the European countries that changed to the Euro, €, currency on 1 January 2002, there would have been a final date for the use of stamps with values solely in the old currency. Germany issued stamps with values in DM and €, in 2001, and in 2002 only with values in €. Stamps with values only in DM ceased to be valid at the end of 2001, although these could be exchanged up to 30 June 2003.

Other Last Day Covers can be found when countries ceased to exist. After the reunification of Germany on 3 October 1990, the stamps of the German Democratic Republic, GDR (DDR, Deutsche Demokratische Republik), with values in DDR Marks became invalid. The DDR stamps were replaced with stamps designated "Deutsche Post" having values in Deutsch Marks and were valid until 31 December 1991. At the same time the stamps of West Berlin, although the values were in Deutsch Marks, ceased to be valid. The earlier special stamps of West Germany, Deutsche Bundespost, had only a relatively short validity. It is a fascinating area where there must be lots of philatelically interesting covers. The illustrations show a picture postcard of East Berlin (Figure 11), and a cover with DDR and Deutsche Bundespost stamps, used on the last day of the DDR, 2 October 1990 (Figure 12). Two covers cancelled 31 December 1991, mark the end of validity of the West Berlin stamps and the East German, Deutsche Post stamps with values in DM (Figures 13 and 14). Despite the scrutiny of the postal officials some invalid stamps did slip through. A commercial cover cancelled Göttingen 3.3. (19) 92, with a 50 Pfennig Berlin stamp is shown (Figure 15). ✉

The author would like to thank Dr. James Gray for his many helpful comments.

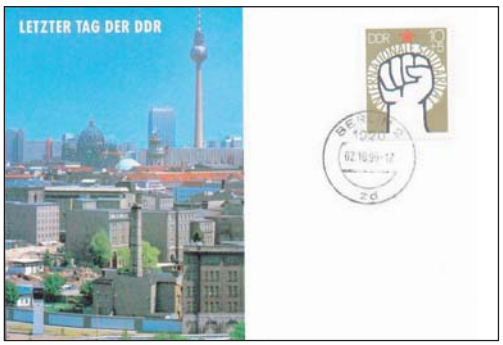


Figure 11. Last Day Postcard of the GDR, 02.10.90.



Figure 12. Last day Cover of the GDR, 02.10.90.



Figure 13. Deutsche Bundespost Post Berlin, 31.12.91.



Figure 14. Deutsche Post, 31.12.91.



Figure 15. Cover with Berlin stamp, cancelled 3.3.92.

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Philatelic Treasures:

Part VII: Overland Mail in Victorian Gold Coast

By Peter Newroth

"The highway to headquarters, Cape Coast Castle, is a yellow thread streaking the green, a hunter's path trodden in the jungle. For 16s 6d a private messenger goes to and returns from the capital, a distance of eighty-two miles, in four or five days."

The above is a quotation from R.F. Burton, describing the route from Axim to Cape Coast about 1881 (Burton and Cameron, 1883).

Part VI outlined Victorian Gold Coast postal markings, overseas rates and usages. This conclusion of my series describes local overland mail systems within Gold Coast that I found to be an engaging postal history topic with considerable human interest.

Gold Coast Geography:

By 1875 a coastal strip, at most 75 miles deep (see Figure 1, in Newroth Part II) remained the effective limit of European interest or influence. Coastal areas of Gold Coast were well known to sailors, traders, and missionaries. But beyond the surf-bound coast there were no roads through the tropical forests, and draft animals could not be used due to the tsetse fly. Gold Coast has no natural harbours and with only one large river penetrating the interior, water access by canoes or motor launches is limited. Head loads remained the main overland means of transport for goods (probably mails) and travellers until well into the 1900s. (Figure 1)

European competition to expand African colonial empires between 1880 and 1910 stimulated inland exploration and conflicts with natives in many areas of West Africa. With incorporation of northern areas in 1901, the Gold Coast colony boundaries were extended about 450 miles into the interior.



Figure 1. Early postcard of travellers using hammocks in the Gold Coast.

Victorian Overland Mail Service:

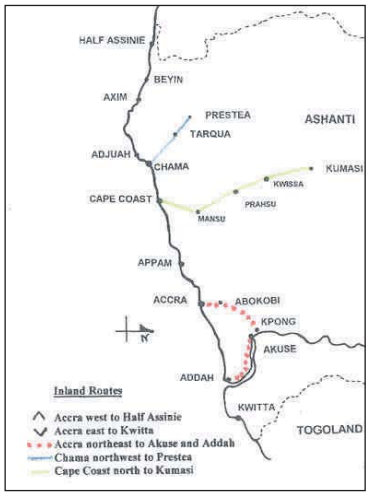


Figure 2. Map of coastal and inland postal routes 1875-1901.

In 1874 suppression of the Ashanti people in the interior and formal consolidation of British control of the Gold Coast encouraged a regular overland mail service. Research on 1875-1901 inland services (Newroth 1999) documented many mail schedules and showed that the local mail system was efficient.

The volume of mail carried on inland routes was very low in the 1870s. Official government mail contributed much of the increased volume in later years. Records indicate 37,000 mail items were carried in 1883, and about 130,000 in 1891. Volume nearly doubled by 1894 but by 1899 only 135,000 inland letters were handled; however, the volume again increased rapidly in the early 1900s.

By 1901, 50 rural postmen carried mails in relays back and forth between about 50 post offices and agencies. Many offices were small spaces, shared with other administrative functions and those in coastal towns were housed in historic trade forts. Around 1900, a large volume of internal mail probably was being exchanged between coastal towns by passing steamers, thereby avoiding overland transport. Administration came from a few Europeans (Postmaster General and District Commissioners) with processing and overseas mail handling by 49 stationary postal and telegraph officials. All were Africans as were the rural mail carriers.

Figure 2 maps the two scheduled coastal and three inland postal routes operating by 1901. Most interior routes developed after 1890, encouraged by growth of trade and administrative needs, several wars with Ashanti, and expansion of telegraphs. The following sections attempt to illustrate and reconstruct inland mail movement along these routes. Remarkably, the often unhealthy climate and primitive conditions did not appear to prevent carriers from moving mails reliably and on time!

Mail Routes along the Coast:



Figure 3. UPU Postcard carried westward from Elmina to Axim, 1892.

Weekly mail routes are known from 1873. From Accra, the centre of government from 1877, western mails were carried to and from Axim, and by 1889 service was expanded to half of Assinie bordering on French territory (Ivory Coast). This tri-weekly western service was using 18 mail carriers by 1888.

The ½d postcard in Figure 3 was carried 75 miles westward along coastal paths from Elmina to Axim. Based on the date-stamps on the card and published schedules for this route (Newroth, 1999), we can attempt to reconstruct the journey. The card was marked on Saturday Feb 6, 1892 and dispatched early the next day to Chama and Sekondi. From Sekondi it went through Adjuah to Dixcove on Monday, and from Dixcove at 05:00 Tuesday morning to arrive at Axim (25 miles away) at 17:00 that same day (Feb 9).

Mails travelled eastward from Accra to Addah, then across the mouth of the Volta River, to Kwitta in a biweekly service 1875-1887. Triweekly mails using eight carriers began in 1888. Regular exchanges began in 1889 and linked Kwitta and German Togoland further east.

Figure 4 shows double-rate registered mail from Axim to Kwitta, a distance of 261 miles along nearly



Figure 4. 1892 Registered Mail carried eastward from Axim to Kwitta.

the entire coast of the Colony. Using schedules for the Axim - Accra - Kwitta routes, this mail probably was dispatched from Axim on Tuesday, November 1, 1892 (day after date-stamp) and arrived at Accra on Sunday, November 6. The next eastward dispatch from Accra was scheduled for Tuesday, with delivery at Kwitta at noon on Friday, November 11 (date-stamp on reverse of cover).

Special wrappers of at least two types were used for "free" official mail in the Gold Coast - probably the one shown in Figure 5 enclosed an issue of the Gold Coast Gazette. This mail was approved by signature of Mark Kerr, the Colonial Secretary, and is date-stamped July 3, 1895. It originated from Victoriaborg (a sub-office in Accra at government administrative buildings) and left Accra by the eastern coastal route on Thursday July 4, arriving at Kwitta at noon on Sunday, July 7.



Figure 5. 1895 Book Post Wrapper sent to Kwitta.

Mails in the Eastern Interior:

In 1887 the first regular interior mail route began overland from Accra to Kpong and Akuse, on the Volta River, connecting by boat down river to Ada at its mouth. This "mountain" route followed paths long used by European missionaries and natives, ascending to villages on a ridge of about 1500 feet



Figure 6. Postcard view of Kpong on the Volta River circa 1905.

elevation. Agriculture and trade in the area about 1880-1900 included palm oil extraction and casks of oil from palm kernels were floated down the Volta from Kpong using steam launches. Palm kernels were moved in sacks by canoe (see Figure 6).

By 1892, six rural postmen operated a tri-weekly schedule in relays and walked the 70-mile distance in three days from Accra to Akuse which is about five miles down river from Kpong. Mail schedules showed the river voyage of 45 miles accounted for two days both downstream and upstream. It operated tri-weekly in 1902. Although steam launches probably were used for mail and other cargo back into the 1880s, they are recorded about 1907 taking mail biweekly from Ada (depart 07:00) upstream to Akuse (arriving 18:30) on Mondays and Thursdays. Return trips were scheduled on Tuesdays and Fridays to arrive in Ada early the following morning.



Figure 7. Postcard carried up the Volta River and over the Mountain Route.

The postcard to Switzerland in Figure 7 was carried up the Volta River from the Basel Mission Factory in Ada and then along the mountain route before overseas dispatch. Dated in Ada on Jan 30, 1902 (Thursday), it was marked at Akuse on Saturday, conforming to 1902 schedules. Also, in accord with this schedule, mails to Accra were dispatched Monday and arrived in Accra on Wednesday (as marked Feb 5 on this card).

Mails to Western Gold Mines:

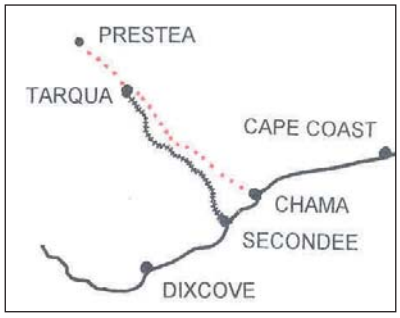


Figure 8. Map showing mail route in red to Prestea gold mines (1889-1901) with 1901 rail line.

A mail route was first established from Chama to Tarkwa in 1889 and the gold mining areas at Prestea in 1891 (see Figure 8). Three rural carriers walked the 76 miles in relays over a three-day period. Railway construction in Gold Coast began in 1898 and reached Tarkwa in April 1901. Figure 9 shows mail to England from Tarkwa that probably travelled the new railway line to the port at Secondee shortly after the line opened.



Figure 9. Envelope from Tarkwa and probably via Secondee to UK, 1901.

Mails to Kumasi in Ashanti:

Ancient trails from Cape Coast to Kumasi became the route of a weekly scheduled mail service in 1896, using four rural carriers over 145 miles. The mail shown in Figure 10 was sent from Kumasi on November 22, 1898, and is backstamped eight days later, November 30, at Cape Coast. Biweekly service covering this route in six days began after 1900.

Early Mail Route to Northern Territories:

Boundaries of Gold Coast were often in dispute until late in 1901, with British annexation of both Ashanti and the Northern Territories. Mails carried north of Kumasi traveled about 400 miles (see Figure 11) through Kintampo to Gambaga, after British forces occupied this area in 1896.



Figure 10 1898 mail from Kumasi to England, via Cape Coast and Liverpool.

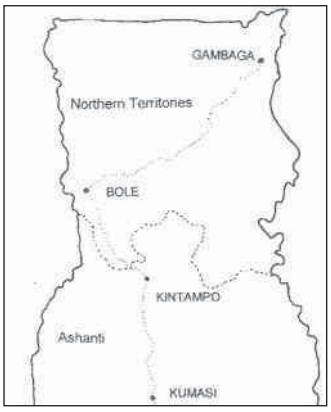


Figure 11 Map showing the route from Kumasi to Gambaga.

Soldiers or other officials probably carried early mail as no regular postal staff was recorded at the time. Figure 12 shows a cover from Gambaga (marked with Type 12 mark dated Jan 16, 1899) to Cape Coast, via Kumasi (dated Feb 8). This mail was heavily overpaid and probably reflects stamp shortages in the remote areas.

Conclusion:

My original goal was to write a few articles and add diversity to *The Canadian Philatelist* while stimulating interest in Gold Coast philately. I hope readers enjoy the attempt that, much to my surprise, grew to seven parts! The process was fun and not as difficult as expected. I also learned much more about my collection. Needless to say, many Gold Coast mysteries remain to be researched. ✉

Acknowledgements:

Thanks are due to philatelic friends for encouragement. One suggested I best indicate that material described is from my collection. Assistance is acknowledged from Postal Heritage Trust (DLR Archives), and the Julian Chapman Memorial Scholarship Fund, and the Royal Philatelic Society London. I encourage readers to contact me through the West Africa Study Circle (www.wasc.org.uk/), which welcomes interested collectors.



Figure 12 1899 mail from Gambaga via Kumasi to Cape Coast.

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SUBSCRIPTIONS PAYABLE IN CANADA

La Poudre Magique de Père Noël

par Claire Doyon

Je n'ai pas l'histoire du début des lettres au Père Noël, mais je peux vous dire l'histoire que je raconte aux enfants lorsque ceux-ci me demandent comment cela se fait que le Père Noël reçoit les lettres aussi vite et répond aussi vite.

Vous savez les enfants, je vais vous dire un secret que le Père Noël partage avec nous, les employés de Postes Canada.

Lorsque vient le temps des Fêtes, le Père Noël nous laisse un petit sac dans lequel se trouve une poudre magique...

Nous assemblons les lettres qui vont au Père Noël et nous prenons une toute petite pincée de cette poudre magique et la jettons sur les lettres.

Pouf! Aussitôt fait, les lettres disparaissent et s'en vont directement chez le Père Noël...

Mais moi, je suis très curieuse. Alors, un jour, j'ai pris une pincée de cette poudre magique et me la suis mise sur la tête... Devinez où je me suis retrouvée??? Directement assise sur une grosse poche remplie de lettres d'enfants qui ont écrit au Père Noël, tout juste devant le Père Noël qui s'affairait à répondre aux lettres des enfants.

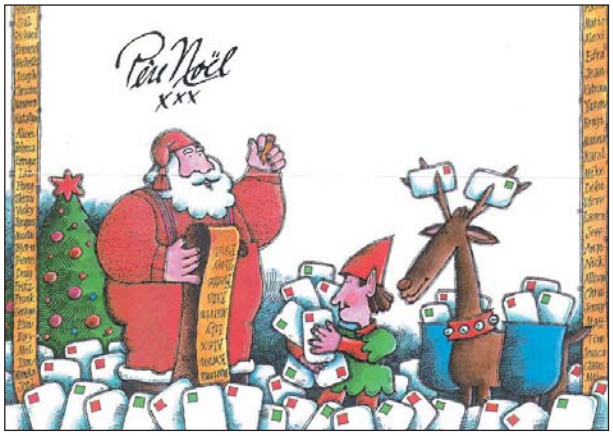
Le Père Noël, tout surpris de me voir là, s'est mis à rire très fort. Puis, son visage changea. Il devint sérieux. Il me gronda d'avoir été curieuse et me fit promettre de ne plus jamais faire ça, sinon, il ne donnerait plus de poudre magique aux employés de Postes Canada pour les lettres des enfants...

Je le remerciai donc et repartis de la même manière que j'étais venue. Ouf! Quelle aventure! Maintenant, je suis certaine que le Père Noël existe et répond lui-même aux lettres des enfants.

Alors, les enfants, ne doutez plus, écrivez au Père Noël et il vous répondra certainement!

Voilà mon histoire.

Je vous souhaite une bonne journée.



Santa's Magic Powder

By Claire Doyon

I don't have the complete history of the Canada Post Santa reply letters, but I can tell you the story that I tell youngsters when they ask me about Santa receiving their letters so quickly and he, in turn, answers them just as fast.

"Children, I will let you in on a little secret that Santa shared with us, the employees of Canada Post.

As Christmas approaches, Santa leaves us a little sack containing magic powder. We assemble the letters addressed to Santa and we sprinkle a little bit of that magic powder on them.

Poof, all of a sudden the letters disappear and go directly to Santa.

As for me, I was very curious. So, one day, I took a little powder and sprinkled it on my head. Guess where I ended up? Sitting right on top of a bag of children's letters to Santa that was sitting in front of him as he was busily engaged answering them.

Santa, who was very surprised to see me, started to laugh loudly. Then his expression changed. He became very serious. He scolded me for having been so curious and he made me promise never to do this again or he would not give any more magic powder to Canada Post employees for the Santa letters.

I then thanked him and left the same way that I came.

Wow, what an adventure I had! Now I'm certain that Santa exists and that he receives and responds to your letters himself.

So my children, don't doubt any more. Write your letters to Santa and he will be certain to write back."



Transcribing Sounds

by Michael Madesker, RDP, FRPSC

BRAILLE ALPHABET: EDUCATIONAL FACILITIES (part I of III)

A July 28, 1853 folded letter from Rockaway, L.I., N.Y., paying the 3c rate with an orange/brown imperforate Washington stamp of the 1851-56 definitive series is illustrated below. It was postmarked at Jamaica, N.Y. on July 29. The letter was written by John King of Rockaway and addressed to Theodore D. Camp, Superintendent of the Manufacturing Department of the New York Institution for the Blind. This school's Board of Managers considered it as their mandate to prepare its pupils to lead an independent life through teaching them trades in addition to scholastic subjects appropriate to their age. The school was tuition free.

The New York Institution for the Blind was incorporated in 1831 as a learning establishment. Its first classes commenced on March 15, 1832 with three pupils. The school's curriculum was identical to that of sighted children with the addition of learning communication skills, verbal and environmental. Older children were also taught daily living skills, much like those in residential schools for the general population. An innovation, added later, was preparing the young pupils for independent living and some skills needed to earn a living. This grew into a manufacturing division which included a mattress production and repair shop. The above letter was an order for a specialty mattress for an obviously tall person. The dimensions of the mattress are given as 6'3" long, 4'7" wide. It had to have the best white hair and a palliasse straw mattress, for an underbed. Palliasse is derived from the Italian word paglia, straw.

The sponsors of the New York Institution for the Blind in 1870 directed the Board of Managers to scale down the Manufacturing Department in favour of greater scholastic training. This was followed by a court order, 20 years later, in 1896 to bring the school under the State Board of Charities based on the fact that neither the pupils nor their parents or guardians paid towards the upkeep of the children. The Board of Managers, headed by Superintendent William Bell Wait, took exception to their children being castigated paupers and filed an appeal. The lower courts reversed the decision and in 1897 the case was heard in the High Court. This Court decided that the school, though educational in character, was indeed dependant on the charity of the State. The Solomonic decision of the Court was that the Institution would henceforth come under the aegis of the State Department of Education with the State Department of Social Welfare limiting its activities there to providing physical care.

In 1912 the Board of Regents of the University of the State of New York, on petition by the Board of Managers, changed the school's name to



The New York Institute for the Education of the Blind. The chief executive's title was changed from Superintendent to Principal, in keeping with the school's new status.

The mattress production and repair shop, its main enterprise, was closed in 1916, thus effectively eliminating the industrial division of the school. ✉

Germany Heligoland's Moon

Germany issued a 6 pf + 94 pf semi-postal stamp in 1940 to commemorate the 50th anniversary of Heligoland's return to Germany. One printing variety shows a "moon" over the island, appearing as a dark spot under the "n" of "Heligoland." The "moon" raises the catalogue value of the stamp from 45 marks mint never hinged or 20 marks used to 300 marks each.

The location of the "moon" is marked on the full image of the stamp. The enlargement shows the "moon" and its location in detail.

"Values:" dividing the variety value by the value of the ordinary stamp will create a multiple the reader can apply to prices from any other catalog. For example, if the ordinary stamp has a used price of 100 marks (or francs), and the variety has a used price of 350 marks (or francs), multiplying a *Scott* or *Unitrade* price for the used stamp by 3.5 will give an approximate value for the variety.





As usual, colour images are available to those who e-mail me with requests (napoleon@voyager.net).

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PHS Inc. Affiliate 5A;
RPSC Affiliate 3

The **Postal History Society of Canada** was founded to promote the study of the postal history of Canada and its provinces. It publishes the quarterly **PHSC Journal**, whose contents range from fully-researched feature articles to items of current interest – from the pre-stamp era through postmark specialties and regional histories to modern mail mechanization.

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BNAPS – The Society for Canadian Philately

This column reports the results of philatelic and literature awards in national-calibre exhibitions in Canada and the awards won by RPSC members, Canadian owned exhibits and exhibits of Canadian material in international exhibitions.

Cette chronique liste les résultats obtenus dans les expositions philatéliques et de littérature nationale et les expositions quasi-nationales d'intérêt aux lecteurs ansi que les résultats obtenus par les Canadiens, les membres du SRPC et les collections de matériel canadien dans les expositions internationales.

By J.J. Danielski

BNAPEX 2005, EDMONTON, AB. • SEPTEMBER 2-4, SEPTEMBRE 2005

Jury: Col. William Robinson, FRPSC (Chair / Président), Doug Lingard, Harry Machum and Hank Narbonne.

HARRISON GRAND AWARD
- *Postal History and Usages of Canada Post Cards 1871-1928, Vic Wilson*

STEINHART RESERVE GRAND AWARD & MEYERSON NEWFOUNDLAND AWARD
- *Pre-Confederation Postal History of Labrador, Kevin O'Reilly*

MEYERSON PROVINCES AWARD
- *Prince Edward Island Postal Rates 1851-1873, Warren Wilkinson*

NICKLE MILITARY AWARD
- *Canadian Internment Camps in WWII, Pete Gray*

ROCKETT REVENUE AWARD
- *Yukon Revenue 1899-1962, Ian Mowat*

BEST JUNIOR AWARDS
- *Christmas in Canada, Kelly Liusz*
- *Maple Leaf Stamps in Canada 1941-1946, Jared Barron*

RICHARDSON RESEARCH AWARD and FELICITATIONS
- *Inside Out: German Prisoner of War Camp 20 Gravenhurst, Susan Sheffield*

BEST NOVICE AWARD
- *The Search for Gold: Airmail History Northwestern Ontario, David Brown*

COLLECTIONS EXHIBITS

GOLD / OR
- *Postal History and Usages of Canada Post Cards 1871-1928, Vic Wilson*
- *Pre-Confederation Postal History of Labrador, Kevin O'Reilly*
- *Prince Edward Island Postal Rates 1851-1873, Warren Wilkinson*
- *Canadian Internment Camps in WWII, Pete Gray*
- *The 1908 Quebec Tercentenary Issue, Herb McNaught*
- *Newfoundland: The Postal Issues 1865-1908, David Piercey*

VERMEIL
- *Yukon Revenue 1899-1962, Ian Mowat*
- *The Postal History of the Issues of 1937-1938, John Burnett*
- *Study of Canadian Victorian 2-Cents Post Card Rates, Marc Isenberg*
- *Remembering the Korean War: 1950-1955, Steven Luciuk*
- *Selected Newfoundland "Paid All" and "Postage Paid" Markings, Dean Mario*
- *Mail by Rail in 19th Century Newfoundland, Brian Stalker*
- *Canadian Re-Entries 1852-1953, Harry Voss*
- *Japanese Internment in Canada 1941-1946, Ken Elison*

SILVER / ARGENT
- *Inside Out: German Prisoner of War Camp 20 Gravenhurst, Susan Sheffield*
- *The Search for Gold: Airmail History Northwestern Ontario, David Brown*
- *What the Canadian Public Saw As Revenue Promotion/Collection for WWII, David Brown*
- *Not All the Mail Get Through Uneventfully, Earle Covert*
- *The Arch Issue, 1930, David Sessions*
- *Golden Prairie Diamonds, Joe Smith*

SILVER-BRONZE / BRONZE ARGENTÉ
- *Tobacco Duty Paids: The Last 30 Years, Earle Covert*
- *Mail by Rail on Both Sides of the Manitoba/USA Border, Robert Lane*
- *Military Conflict and Saskatchewan: North West Uprising to the Cold War, 1885-1966, Steven Luciuk*
- *Town Cancels on 1897-1898 8 Cents Victoria Leaf Issue, John Gordon*
- *A Selection of Canadian Perfins on the Edward VII Issue, Russell Sampson*

BRONZE
- *Canada and the United States Connection, Clinton Phillips*

YOUTH / JEUNESSE

VERMEIL
- *Christmas in Canada, Kelly Liusz*
- *Maple Leaf Stamps of Canada , Jared Barron*

SILVER / ARGENT
- *Got a Nickel? Orrin Esau*

INTERNATIONAL STAMP EXHIBITION "INTEREXPO '05"
EXPOSITION INTERNATIONALE "INTEREXPO '05"

SANTO DOMINGO, DOMINICAN REPUBLIC • OCTOBER 30-NOVEMBER 5, 2005
SAINT DOMINQUE, RÉPUBIQUE DOMINICAINE • 30 OCTOBRE-5 NOVEMBRE, 2005

LARGE GOLD and GRAND PRIX INTERNATIONAL GRAND OR & GRAND PRIX INTERNATIONAL
- *Brasil: "Bull's Eyes" The First Stamps of America 1843-1854", Luis Alemany (Spain)*

GOLD WITH FELICITATIONS and GRAND PRIX NATIONAL OR & FELICITATIONS & GRAND PRIX NATIONAL
- *Dominican Republic 1865-1899, Hansmichael Krug (Dominican Republic)*

LARGE VERMEIL and AWARD for THE BEST YOUTH EXHIBIT GRAND VERMEIL & MEILLEURE COLLECTION - JEUNESSE
- *The Colonial Cuba, Daniel Montes Peralta (Cuba)*

LARGE SILVER and AWARD for THE BEST EXHIBIT in PROMOTIONAL CLASS GRAND ARGENT & MEILLEURE COLLECTION - CLASSE DE PROMOTION

(exhibits accepted by the Organizing Committee with approval of FIAF despite of lack of qualification for international showing according to FIP regulations ex. insufficient medal level or number of frames, were shown in the special promotional class)
- *The Post During Annexation, Isaac Rudman (Dominican Republic)*

GOLD (93) and AWARD for THE BEST ONE FRAME EXHIBIT OR (93) & MEILLEURE COLLECTION - UN CADRE
- *The Hungarian Council Republic Issue, Fred Fawn (Canada)*

PALMARÈS/RÉSULTATS

STAMPEX 2005, TORONTO, ONT. • OCTOBER 14-16 OCTOBRE, 2005

Jury: John G. McEntyre (Chair / Président), Thomas M. Fortunato (USA), Doug Lingard, Peter Madej, and Michael Peach; Apprentices / Apprentis: Robert Anderson and Rodney W. Paige.

GRAND AWARD (donated by the Canadian Stamp Dealers' Association)
- *The Uruguay's Cifras Issue, Bill Longley*

RESERVE GRAND AWARD (donated by the Greater Toronto Area Philatelic Alliance)
- *The Postal History of Saint Domingue, Fred Stubens*

BEST CANADIAN EXHIBIT (donated by Canada Post)
- *Canada: The Half Cent Small Queen, Herb McNaught*

BEST POSTAL HISTORY EXHIBIT (donated by Postal History Society of Canada)
- *The Postal History of Saint Domingue, Fred Stubens*

DOROTHY ATWELLS MEMORIAL AWARD for THE BEST COMMONWEALTH EXHIBIT (donated by the East Toronto Stamp Club)
- *Great Britain: Returned Letter Office, Kenneth Snelson*

EAST TORONTO STAMP CLUB AWARD for THE BEST ONE FRAME EXHIBIT
- *Canada: The Half Cent Small Queen, Herb McNaught*

EAST TORONTO STAMP CLUB AWARD for THE BEST CANADIAN POSTAL HISTORY EXHIBIT
- *Canada: The Welland Railway Post Office, Colin Troup*

B.N.A.P.S. AWARD for THE BEST B.N.A . EXHIBIT
- *Canada: The "Landscape" Issue, 1972-1979, John Hillmer*

ALAN HANKS AWARD for THE BEST THEMATIC EXHIBIT
- *The Atom, Frank Alusio*

STAMPEX SILVER BOWL for THE BEST YOUTH EXHIBIT
- *Les reptiles, F. Lauzon*

A.T.A. YOUTH AWARD for THE BEST YOUTH THEMATIC EXHIBIT
- *Les reptiles, F. Lauzon*

A.P.S. MEDAL OF EXCELLENCE FOR EXHIBITS:
PRE 1900
- *The Uruguay Cifras Issue, Bill Longley, 1900-1940*
- *Origins of the Polish Red Cross, JJ Danielski 1940-1980*
- *Solomon Islands Airmail, Ian Kimmerley*

POST 1980
- *not awarded*

A.P.S. AWARD FOR RESEARCH
- *Internment of Polish Servicemen in Lithuania 1939-1940, JJ Danielski*
  ** exhibition catalogue by mistake listed Latvia instead of Lithuania.*

AAPE AWARDS of HONOUR
- *Canada: The Welland Railway Post Office, Colin Troup*
- *Great Britain: How to Plate the Penny Red Imperfs, Victor Potter*

PHILATELIC SPECIALISTS SOCIETY RESEARCH AWARD
- *Canada: The Admiral Issue, R.M. Morris*

MULTI-FRAME EXHIBITS COLLECTIONS À CADRES MULTIPLES

GOLD / OR
- *The Uruguay Cifras Issue, Bill Longley*
- *Great Britain: Returned Letter Office, Kenneth Snelson*
- *The Postal History of Saint Domingue, Fred Stubens*

VERMEIL
- *Canada: The Admiral Issue, R.M.Morris*
- *Canada: The "Landscape" Issue, 1972-1979, John Hillmer*
- *Canada: The Quebec Tercentenary Issue, Herb McNaught*
- *Canada: The "Caricature" Issue, 1973-1977, John Hillmer*
- *World Tourism, Murray Heifetz*
- *The Atom, Frank Alusio*

SILVER / ARGENT
- *Canada: B.C. and Yukon Law Stamps, Joseph Shelton*
- *Tales of the Vienna Postmarks, Herb Kucera*
- *Canada: The Large Queen Issue, Michael Croy*
- *British Pictorial Envelopes of the 19th Century, D. Wasserson*

ONE FRAME EXHIBITS COLLECTIONS UN CADRES

GOLD / OR
- *Canada: The Half Cent Small Queen, Herb McNaught (89)*
- *Internment of Polish Servicemen in Lithuania 1939-1940, JJ Danielski (88)*
- *The Origins of the Polish Red Cross, JJ Danielski (87)*
- *Solomon Islands Airmail, Ian Kimmerly (86)*

VERMEIL
- *The French Aviation Meetings, 1909-1910, Murray Heifetz (82)*
- *Germany Airmail in the Inflation Period, Murray Heifetz (80)*
- *Canada: The Half Cent Small Queen, Garfield Portch (80)*
- *Great Britain: How to Plate the Penny Red Imperfs, Victor Potter (79)*

SILVER / ARGENT
- *Postal History of the 1867 Austria Coarse Printing Issue, Istvan Kecsedy (74)*
- *Canada: The Welland Railway Post Office, Colin Troup (73)*
- *Canada: 1898 Map Stamp, Unusual Usage, Fred Fawn (67)*

SILVER-BRONZE / BRONZE-ARGENTÉ
- *The Flag of Israel, Murray Heifetz (62)*

BRONZE:
- *Canada: An Introduction to the Small Queen Era, J. Feltwell (58)*
- *Canada: Cancellations on the Three Cent Small Queen, Joe Janthur (56)*
- *Victoria and the Penny Black, Frank Alusio (56)*

CERTIFICATE / CERTIFICAT
- *Special Occasion Cancels of Vienna, Herb Kucera (52)*

YOUTH / JEUNESSE

SILVER / ARGENT
- *La royauté, L. Ciejka*
- *Les reptiles, F. Lauzon*

SILVER-BRONZE / BRONZE-ARGENTÉ
- *Les Canadiens Célèbres, C. Leclerc*

BRONZE:
- *Chat Rabia et ses Cousins Célèbres, F. Bélanger*

G.T.A.P.A. ONE FRAME EXHIBITS COLLECTIONS UN CADRES

CANADIAN STAMP NEWS AWARD for THE BEST NOVICE EXHIBIT
- *Yukon Airways, Steve Johnson*

GOLD / OR
- *The Last Chinese Empire, Sam Chiu (92)*

VERMEIL
- *The Post Office at Drummondville, 1830-1833, Doug Irwin (82)*

SILVER / ARGENT
- *Poland: The Official Stamps, Joshua Hodgson (72)*
- *Yukon Airways, Steve Johnson (71)*
- *Rhodesia: British South Africa Company Stationery, Alan Hanks (70)*

SILVER-BRONZE / BRONZE-ARGENTÉ
- *The Opening of the St. Lawrence Seaway, P. Nicholls (63)*

BRONZE
- *Finland Between the Wars 1918-1940, Aulis Nahri (57)*
- *Modern Latvia from May 4, 1990, Victor Skidra (55)*
- *Significant Railway Personalities, Desmond Fernandes (55)*
- *Canada Postage Due, G. Green (55)*
- *Hong Kong, J. Highet (55)*

CERIFICATE / CERIFICAT
- *Canada: Environment Definitives, 1977-1987, Don Beaumont (51)*

G.T.A.P.A. CHALLEGE AWARD
(for the Highest Aggregate Club Score)
- *North Toronto Stamp Club*

CERTIFICATES OF PARTICIPATION for CLUBS ENTERING THE G.T.A.P.A. CHALLENGE
- *North Toronto Stamp Club*
- *Bramalea Stamp Club*
- *Scarborough Stamp Club*
- *West Toronto Stamp Club*

SINGLE PAGE - ONE FRAME CLUB COMPETITION
(judged according to special rules by Frank Alusio and Rick Penko
- *1st West Toronto Stamp Club*
- *2nd Cobourg Stamp Club*
- *3rd Kawartha Philatelic Society*

Website address of the Greater Toronto Area Philatelic Alliance / Site internet pour la Greater Toronto Area Philatelic Alliance: www.gtapa.org/past_shows

CANADA'S SEVENTH NATIONAL PHILATELIC LITERATURE EXHIBITION
LA 7 EXPOSITION NATIONALE CANADIENNE DE LITTÉRATURE PHILATÉLIQUE
TORONTO, ONT. • OCTOBER 14-16 OCTOBRE 2005

Jury: Michael Nowlan (Chair / Président), Kevin Doyle (USA), Peter Martin (USA), Ken Trettin (USA) and Charles Verge.

GRAND PRIX OF THE EXHIBITION / GRAND PRIX DE L'EXPOSITION
- *Prefilatelia Espanola: Catalogo de las Marcas Postales de Espana y sus Dominios de Indias. Siglos XVIII y XIX, Volumes 1-4, Manuel Tizón (Spain)*

PRIX D'HONNEUR (4)
- *Michel Deutschland-Spezial 2005 [Specialized Catalogue of Germany], Vols. 1-2, Michel (Germany)*
  To Michel for continued excellence in specialized coverage of a major complex collecting area.
- *Postal History Journal (Nos. 127-129, 2004), Diane DeBlois & Robert Dalton Harris, Ed. (USA)*
  For the editors' work in broadening the scope of postal history coverage.
- *The Postage Stamps of the Principality of Trinidad / The Postage Stamps of the Independent State of Acre / The Postage Stamps of the Republic of Independent Guyana (Republic of Counani, Amazonia Locals) / The Postage Stamps of the Kingdom of Sedang, Wolfgang Baldus (Germany)*
  To the author for excellence in exploring and presenting new areas relating to cinderella history.
- *Jean de Sperati – L'homme qui copiait les timbres: Biographie, Lucette Blanc-Girardet (France)*
  For her authoritative research and effective exposition on the life of a key figure in the history of philately.

GOLD / OR
- *Definitive Postage Stamps of Canada (1953-2005): An Analytical Approach, Vols.1-5, Joseph Monteiro (Canada)*
- *Postal Rates and Fees of the Elizabethan Era in Canada 1952-2002. Volume 1 (2 parts), Andrew Chung, Harry W. E. Machum & Roger F. Narbonne (Canada)*
- *The Nile Post - Handbook and Catalogue of Egyptian Stamps, Joseph H. Chalhoub (Canada)*
- *Unitrade Specialized Catalogue of Canadian Stamps, 2006 Edition, Robin Harris, Ed (Canada)*
- *PHSC Journal (Nos. 117-120, 2004), Gus Knierim, Ed (Canada)*

VERMEIL
- *Les Ambulants postaux de la compagnie de chemin de fer du Grand Tronc: Le tronçon Québec à Rivière-du-Loup (1860-1880), Jean-Pierre Forest (Canada)*
- *Catalogue of Canadian Duplex Cancellations, Third Revised Edition, Stéphane Cloutier (Canada)*
- *Early Canada Post Cards, 1871-1911, George Arfken (USA)*
- *Canada - Imperial Penny Postage of 1898, Fred Fawn (Canada)*
- *Travelling Post Office Postmarks of Newfoundland & Labrador, Brian T. Stalker (Great Britain)*
- *Darnell – Le Catalogue des timbres du Canada, 11e éd., 2005, Lyse Rousseau (Canada)*
- *Darnell – Stamps of Canada Catalogue, 11th Ed., 2005, Lyse Rousseau (Canada)*
- *Erreurs philatéliques canadiennes – Édition spécialisée, 3e éd., 2005, Lyse Rousseau (Canada)*
- *Canadian Philatelic E.F.O.'s Errors, Freaks and Oddities, 3rd Ed., Lyse Rousseau (Canada)*
- *Maple Leaves (Vols. 28-29, 2003-2005), David Sessions and Graham P. Searle, Eds. (Great Britain)*
- *Forerunners: Journal of the Philatelic Society for Greater Southern Africa (Vol. 18, 2004-2005), Bill Brooks and Peter Thy, Eds. (Canada)*

SILVER / ARGENT
- *Plating the Canadian X-mas Map Stamp of 1898, Vols 1-3, Kenneth A. Kershaw (Canada)*
- *World War II Mail from Switzerland to Great Britain, Canada and the United States: A Postal History Handbook, Charles LaBlonde (USA)*
- *The Edward M. Gilbert Collection. Part I: Newfoundland Postage Stamps and Postal History (Sale 2949, 2004), H.R.Harmer Inc.of New York (USA)*
- *The Canadian Connection (Vol. 18, 2004), John Peebles, Ed (Canada)*
- *Postal Stationery Notes (Vols 19-20, 2004), Dieter Staecker, Ed. (Canada)*
- *The Shoebox (Nos.54-61, 2004-2005), Raymond Ireson, Ed. (Canada)*
- *The Baton (Nos 108-110, 2004), Alena Pascual, Ed. (Canada)*
- *The Admiral's Log (Vol. 8, 2004), Léopold Beaudet, Ed. (Canada)*
- *Philagems International. Newsletter of the Gems Minerals Jewelry Study Unit (Nos 84-87, 2004), François Brisse, Ed. (Canada)*
- *King George VI Post and Mail (Nos.2-5, 2004), Stephen F. Prest (Canada)*

SILVER-BRONZE / BRONZE ARGENTÉ
- *Canada – Cameo Definitive Issues, John D. Arn (USA)*
- *Force "C" – The Canadian Army's Hong Kong Story 1941-1945, Kenneth Ellison (Canada)*
- *The Law Stamps of British Columbia and their Uses 1879-1984, Ian McTaggart-Cowan (Canada)*
- *The Law Stamps of Yukon, Ian McTaggart-Cowan (Canada)*
- *British Columbia & Vancouver Island Postal History – Colonial Period 1858-1871, Warren Wilkinson (USA)*
- *Calgary Philatelist (Nos. 64-69, 2004), Dale Speirs, Ed. (Canada)*
- *Nova Scotia Stamp Club Newsletter (Vol. 34, 2004-2005), Jeffrey Parks, Ed. (Canada)*
- *The 1898 Christmas Map Stamp Newsletter (Vol. 4, 2003), John T. Anders (Canada)*
- *War Times, Journal of the World War II Study Group of BNAPS (Nos.26-29, 2004-2005), Gary Coates, Ed. (Canada)*
- *St. Pierre & Miquelon Philatelic Journal (Vols. 9-11, 2003-2005), James Taylor, Ed. (Canada)*
- *Joint Stamp Issues (Nos. 24-27, 2004), Richard Zimmermann, Ed. (Canada)*
- *Ajax Philatelic Society [Newsletter] (Vols. 5-6, 2004-2005), Richard Weigand, Ed. (Canada)*

BRONZE
- *British Columbia Hotel Covers, 1880 to 1920, Kenneth V. Ellison (Canada)*
- *Saugeen Stamp Club Bulletin (Nos. 73-84, 2004-2005), Jim Measures, Ed. (Canada)*

CERTIFICATE / CERTIFICAT
- *A Short Guide to Canadian Aerophilately, The Canadian Aerophilatelic Society (Canada)*

Full Palmares available at / Résultats complets disponibles à: www.rpsc.org/awards/c7nple-palmares

PALMARÈS / RÉSULTATS



PRESIDENT'S page
la page du PRÉSIDENT

by / par Charles J.G. Verge, FRPSC

First of all, I would like to extend to all of you my sincerest wishes for a Happy and Prosperous New Year.

The New Year starts with a bang. I am pleased to inform members and readers that Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II has graciously accepted to lend items from The Royal Philatelic Collection to your Society. The pages from the collection will be displayed at our 78th Annual Convention to be held in Calgary, AB, from September 29 to October 1, 2006. This will be the first time ever that material from The Royal Philatelic Collection will be seen in Western Canada. All previous displays were at CAPEXes in Toronto in 1951, 1978, 1987 and 1996.



I had the opportunity in late October 2005 to visit The Royal Philatelic Collection in London and select the material that will be shown in Calgary. The material will be spectacular. In addition to classic British North America, other items never before seen in public will be displayed. Further information on The Royal Philatelic Collection display will be announced in the pages of *The Canadian Philatelist* when it becomes available.

Come to Calgary to the Convention and help us celebrate Her Majesty's 80th birthday. For registration and other information please check www.royal2006royale.com/or contact Janice Brooks, Chairperson, ROYAL* 2006*ROYALE, P.O. Box 1478, Calgary, AB Canada, T2P 2L6.

En premier lieu, je désire vous présenter tous mes vœux de Bonne et Heureuse Année.

La nouvelle année débute d'un bon pied. Il me fait grand plaisir d'informer les membres et les lecteurs que Sa Majesté la Reine Elizabeth II a gracieusement accepté de prêter à notre Société des pièces de la Collection royale de philatélie. Des pages de la collection seront exposer à notre 78e Convention annuelle qui se tiendra à Calgary, AB, du 29 septembre au 1er octobre 2006. C'est la première fois que du matériel de la Collection royale de philatélie est en montre dans l'Ouest du pays. Des portions de la collection avaient été exposées auparavant à CAPEX 1951, 1978, 1987 et 1996 à Toronto.

A la fin d'octobre 2005, j'ai eu le privilège d'aller visiter la Collection royale de philatélie à Londres pour sélectionner le matériel qui sera exposé à Calgary. C'est un choix spectaculaire. En sus du matériel classique de l'Amérique du Nord britannique il y aura plusieurs autres pièces qui n'ont jamais été présenté au public. Des renseignements supplémentaires sur la présentation de la Collection royale de philatélie seront annoncés dans *Le philatéliste canadien* lorsque disponible.

Venez à Calgary pour la Convention et aidez-nous à célébrer le 80e anniversaire de naissance de Sa Majesté. Pour vous inscrire ou pour toute autre information référez-vous au www.royal2006royale.com/ ou par la poste au soin de Janice Brooks, Présidente, ROYAL*2006*ROYALE, P.O. Box 1478, Calgary, AB Canada, T2P 2L6.

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MEMBERSHIP report
rapport de MEMBRES

NEW MEMBERS / NOUVEAUX MEMBRES

The following applications were received and are herewith published in accordance with the Constitution. If no adverse reports are received within 30 days of publication, applicants will be accepted into full membership. Any objections should be sent to the National Office, P.O. Box 929, Station Q, Toronto, ON M4T 2P1.

Les demandes d'adhésion ci-dessous ont été reçues et sont publiées en conformité avec la constitution. Si aucun commentaire 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.

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

INDIVIDUAL MEMBER

I-28362 Cameron Fortin

I-28363 Gregory Spring
INTERESTS: Canada, Yorkshire Postal History, Early Poland

I-28364 Tom Doyle
INTERESTS: mainly North America

I-28365 Lauri Sadko
INTERESTS: Finland

I-28366 Mark Kingston
INTERESTS: Canada, Vatican, UK, UN

I-28369 Andrew Busmanis
INTERESTS: Canada, Great Britain, Switzerland, Poland, Latvia

I-28370 Anthony Fimiani
INTERESTS: BNA, Europe

I-28371 John Lipinski
INTERESTS: BNA, Europe, China

I-28376 Raymond Dubeau
INTERESTS: Canada, small Queens, particularly 3 Cent Canada - mint

I-28378 James Fisher

I-28379 Patricia Brown

I-28380 Sylvain Valcourt

I-28381 Jeannine Bruni

I-28382 Donald Billett

I-28383 Hoshang Master

I-28384 Sandra Cheng

I-28385 Nick Overduin

I-28387 Edith Paquet

I-28388 Marlene Girard

I-28390 Jacques Pagé

I-28391 Carmelle Goupil

I-28392 Gilles Bégin

I-28393 Michel Guimond

I-28394 Robert Bourque
INTERESTS: Barbados, Canada, Pstal History, Wells Fargol 12+ 4 Ring Num

I-28395 Marsha King
INTERESTS: Pre WWII Canadian Stamps

PROSPECT MEMBER

P-28373 Thomas Hanaway

P-28374 Bevan King

P-28377 Peter Opar
INTERESTS: Canada and U.S.A.

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Oisugi, Takeharu (I-27470)

DECEASED MEMBERS / MEMBRES DÉCÉDÉS

Thompson, Richard R. (I-20124) - Willowdale, ON
Owens, Mary Ann - Life Member

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❒ *Oui! Je voudrais profiter de cette offre spéciale. Veuillez envoyer une adhésion-cadeau d'une année comme membre de La Société royale de philatélie du Canada à l'individu nommé ci-dessous.** Vous trouverez ci-joint le paiement de 35$ (payable en devises canadiennes si résident au Canada. Autrement en devises américaines ou l'équivalent canadien.)*

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coming EVENTS
CALENDIER

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 1-888-285-4143 or e-mail to info@rpsc.org. 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 1-888-285-4143 ou par poste-électronique à info@rpsc.org. Aucune information ne sera acceptée par téléphone. CECI EST UN SERVICE GRATUIT DE LA SRPC.

REGIONAL EVENTS / ÉVÉNEMENTS RÉGIONAUX

JANUARY 14 JANVIER, 2006:
BRANTFORD STAMP CLUB SHOW at the Woodman Community Centre, 491 Grey Street (at James Avenue) Brantford, Ontario. 10:00 am - 4:00 pm. 15 dealers, sales circuit, exhibits, lunchroom & draws. For more information contact George Speers 519-759-6594 or gspeers@worldchat.com

FEBRUARY 4 FÉVRIER, 2006:
BRAMALEA STAMP CLUB invites you to its Annual Show and Bourse, Saturday February 4 2006, 10:00 am - 4:00 pm. Located at the Jim Archdekin Recreation Centre - High School Cafeteria, 292 Conestoga Drive, Brampton, Ontario, between Kennedy Road and Highway 10 North of Bovaird (Hwy 7). Featuring: 10 dealers, judged exhibits, table auctions, youth table, club circuit books, refreshment area, free admission and parking. For more information contact: Ingo Nessel, b62hkg@yahoo.ca

FEBRUARY 18 FÉVRIER, 2006:
NIPEX 2006 Stamp Exibition and Bourse is sponsored by the Niagara Philatelic Society will be held at Stamford Lions Club Hall, 3846 Postage Rd., Niagara Falls, Ontario . Hours are 10-5 Free admission. Further information from Ed Yonelinas email: stamps@canada.com

MARCH 18 MARS, 2006:
57th annual OXPEX 2006, and 26th annual OTEX 2006, both sponsored by the Oxford Philatelic Society will be held at John Knox Christian School, 800 Juliana Dr. (Hwys 401 & 59 North), Woodstock, ON from 9:30 am - 4:30 pm. Featuring competitive exhibits, judges critique, 16 dealers, youth area, Canada Post counter, prize draws, annual show cover, and snack booth. Free admission and parking. For more info contact Jim Watson, Show Chairman 2006, Box 20113, Woodstock ON, N4S 8X8

MARCH 31 - APRIL 2, 2006
31 MARS - 2 AVRIL, 2006:
The Lakeshore Stamp Club's LAKESHORE 2006 annual exhibition will be held at the Sarto Desnoyers Community Center, 1335 Lakeshore Drive, Dorval, QC. Free admission and ample free parking. Snack bar on premises. Door prizes. Competitive exhibition, dealers from Canada and USA, bourses, show covers and commemorative postmarks. Hours: Friday and Saturday: 10 a.m. to 6 p.m.; Sunday: 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Information: François Brisse, P.O. Box # 1, Pointe-Claire/Dorval, QC, H9R 4N5. Email: fsbrisse@sympatico.ca /L'exposition philatélique annuelle LAKESHORE 2006 du Club philatélique Lakeshore se tiendra du 31 mars au 2 avril 2006 au Centre communautaire Sarto Desnoyers, 1335 Promenade Lakeshore, Dorval, QC. Entrée gratuite et grand stationnement gratuit. Service de sandwichs et de boissons. Nombreux prix de présence. Exposition compétitive, négociants du Canada et des États-Unis, bourses, plis souvenirs et oblitérations commémoratives. Horaire: vendredi et samedi: 10h00 à 18h00; dimanche 10h00 à 16h00. Information: François Brisse, C.P. # 1, Pointe-Claire/Dorval, QC, H9R 4N5. Courriel: fsbrisse@sympatico.ca

APRIL 22 AVRIL, 2006:
Stampfest, the Kitchener-Waterloo Philatelic Society annual show and bourse will be held at the Community Christian Reformed Church 1275 Bleams Road, at Fischer-Hallman Road, Kitchener, Ontario. Hours: 10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. Featuring an exciting dealer bourse, exhibits, free parking, free admission, hourly and special draws, stamp pull, lunch counter, and other surprises. For additional information 'phone Jim Oliver at 1-519-893-4092 or e-mail:jimoliver10@hotmail.com

SEPTEMBER 23 SEPTEMBRE, 2006:
LAMPEX 2006. Sarnia Stamp Club Show and Bourse being held at the Pt. Edward Arena Community Hall, 210 Monk Street, Pt. Edward, ON. 9:30-4:00. 10 dealers, circuit books, exhibits, lunchroom and draws.Convenor: Dave Burwell,(519)337-9104 or dburwell@sympatico.ca

NATIONAL EXHIBITIONS / EXPOSITIONS NATIONALES

MARCH 24-26 MARS, 2006:
EDMONTON SPRING NATIONAL 2006; Conference Centre, Fantasyland Hotel, West Edmonton Mall, Edmonton AB. Contact and general information Christopher Miller (780) 436-4172 or no.113@shaw.ca, bourse information Keith Spencer (780) 437-1787 or krs2@ualberta.ca, and exhibits information David Piercey (780) 437-2771 or david.piercey@epsb.ca, or mail to Edmonton Stamp Club, PO Box 399, Edmonton, AB T5J 2J6.

APRIL 7-9 AVRIL, 2006:
Toronto, Ontario AmeriStampExpo the annual convention and exhibition of the American Association of Philatelic Exhibitors. Co-sponsored by the Royal Philatelic Society of Canada, Canadian Stamp Dealers' Association, and the Greater Toronto Area Philatelic Alliance. There will be hundreds of frames of exhibits plus dealers from Canada and the United States. Seminars for beginning and advanced collectors, special area for kids of all ages, including Stamp Camp, with hands-on fun and instruction about stamp collecting and exhibiting, plus much more! Queen Elizabeth Building of the CNE. Show admission is free. Dealer information is available from the Secretary, CSDA. Information e-mail: secretary@csdaonline.com. Exhibit information from Alan Hanks at alan.hanks@sympatico.ca or 34 Seaton Drive, Aurora, ON L4G 2K1

MAY 6-7 MAI, 2006:
ORAPEX 2006, Ottawa's National Stamp Show, the 45th Annual Stamp Exhibition and Bourse with over 40 dealers, will be held in the RA Centre Curling Rink, Saturday, 6 May 2006, 10 am to 6 pm, and Sunday, 7 May 2006, 10 am to 4 pm . The address is RA Centre, 2451 Riverside Drive, Ottawa, Ontario. The theme is "A Tribute to the CAF Snowbirds". Those wishing to exhibit should contact Tom Hare at thare@sutton.com. For bourse data contact Alain Racicot at AJRACICOT@rogers.com . Admission and Parking are FREE. Dick Malott, Publicity Officer at (613) 829-0280 or rmalott@magma.ca.

AUGUST 31 - SEPTEMBER 3, 2006
31 AOÛT - 3 SEPTEMBRE, 2006:
BNAPEX 2006, the annual convention and exhibition of the British North America Philatelic Society, Holiday Inn, Sudbury, ON. Members' exhibits; study group seminars; local tours; spousal activities; awards banquet; dealers' bourse; etc. Contact: BNAPEX 2006, Harry Machum, Box 123, Little Current, ON P0P 1K0, (705) 368-2212; or John Firth at johnfirth.sudburystamps@sympatico.ca; or view the Society's website at www.bnaps.org.

SEPTEMBER 15-17 SEPTEMBRE, 2006:
NOVAPEX 2006, Atlantic Canada's Premier National Stamp Exhibition and Bourse. Dartmouth Sportsplex, 110 Wyse Road, Dartmouth, NS: Friday 2 p.m. to 8 p.m., Saturday 9:30 a.m. to 5 p.m., Sunday 9:30 a.m. to 3 p.m. The show features a 160 frame exhibit, 20 dealer tables, youth table, and more. Further information and details on the web site: <www.nsstampclub.ca>www.nsstampclub.ca or contact Michael Peach, 1-902-832-1662, michael.peach@ns.sympatico.ca. FREE admission and parking.

SEPTEMBER 29 - OCTOBER 1, 2006
29 SEPTEMBRE - 1 OCTOBRE, 2006:
ROYAL *2006* ROYALE: The Royal Philatelic Society of Canada's 78th Annual exhibition and convention will be held in Calgary, AB. Further details yet to come. Dates and locations for forthcoming years:
2007, Toronto, Ontario.
2008, Québec, Québec.
2009, St. Catharines, Ontario.
2010, Windsor, Ontario
2011, Montréal, Québec.

NOVEMBER 2-5 NOVEMBRE, 2006:
KIWIPEX 2006 - Christchurch, New Zealand.

MAY 5-6 MAI, 2007:
ORAPEX 2007, Ottawa. Details to follow at a later date.

MAY 3-4 MAI, 2008:
ORAPEX 2008, Ottawa. Details to follow at a later date.

INTERNATIONAL EXHIBITIONS / EXPOSITIONS INTERNATIONALES

MAY 27 - JUNE 3, 2006
27 MAI - 3 JUIN, 2006:
World Philatelic Exhibition under the FIP auspices WASHINGTON 2006. Bulletin # 1 and Entry Form available now. Commissioner Dr. JJ Danielski, for Ontario and East, 71 Gennela Square, Toronto, Ontario M1B-5M7, tel: 416-283-2047, email: jj.danielski@sympatico.ca

OCTOBER 7-13 OCTOBRE, 2006:
Màlaga Spain. Espana 2006, World Philatelic Exhibition under F.I.P.Auspices. Commissioner: Charles J.G. Verge, P.O. box 2788 Station D, Ottawa, ON K1P 5W8. E-mail: verge@sympatico.ca. Tel: (613) 738-2770, fax: (613) 738-7863.

NOVEMBER 16-20 NOVEMBRE, 2006:
Brussels. BELGICA 2006 World Championship of Youth Philately, plus three competion classes for adults: Thematic, Open Class, and One Frame Class. www.BELGICA2006.be. Info available from Canadian Commissioner Yvan Latulippe, 326 Jean-Guy, St-Joachim-de-Shefford, QC J0E 2G0 Canada. E-mail: yvan.latulippe@sympatico.ca

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See us at the shows

Regina
Feb.18-19, 2006, Seven Oaks Regina Philatelic Society

Royale 2006....Calgary
Sept.29, 30, & October 1, 2006.

Calgary Philatelic Society at Coast Plaza Hotel

for info contact Dwayne Miner 403-251-6475
www.royal2006royale.com

Greetings! All the best for 2006

Joyeux Fêtes et bonne année . . .



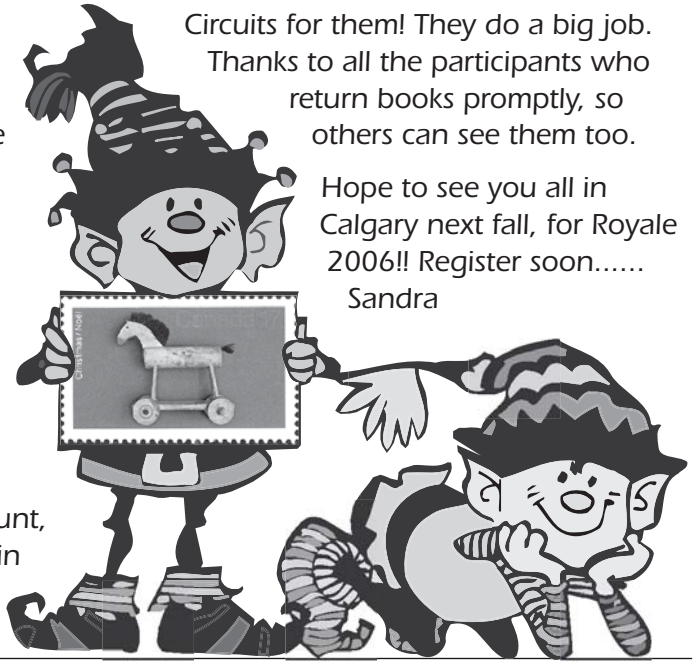
and a healthy, happy year, with lots of great stamp collecting!

Thanks to all of you who help us keep the Circuits going, with your ideas, suggestions, comments and patience, and great Circuit books!!! We have lots of choice new material for the discriminating buyer. If you haven't heard from us recently, do remind us. It may be you requested material we don't have! It may be that you live outside Canada - and with "free trade", we have big challenges when we ship across borders! We have high demand for lots more good Circuit books -and thanks for keeping the damaged stamps out of those books!! Currently, there is more foreign material, and less Canada in the Circuit, but that shifts and changes on a daily basis.

Special thanks to Marge Hunt, who has helped regularly in the office, but will be moving soon! Thanks to Doug Sephton, of Bragg Creek AB, who designs our ads and to talented Ladysmith, BC artist/cartoonist Peter Lynde, whose caricatures and cartoons appear occasionally in these ads. Thanks to everyone - the sellers, the buyers and all the volunteers! Chapters should make sure they give a big thank you to the members who coordinate the Circuits for them! They do a big job.

Thanks to all the participants who return books promptly, so others can see them too.

Hope to see you all in Calgary next fall, for Royale 2006!! Register soon.....
Sandra



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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 at101 Ardagh Road, Barrie, ON. Table auction at every meeting. Contact: Marjorie Coakwell, PO Box 2, Orrillia, ON L3V 6H9, (705) 323-9072.

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
Meetings occur Wednesday nights at 7:30 PM from Sept. to June, at West Burnaby United Church, 6050 Sussex Ave., Burnaby BC, near the Metrotown Skytrain station. See our website at www.bcphilatelic.org for details of meeting times and locations. For more information call Bob Ingraham, President, at (604) 694-0014.

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
Chapter 4 - Meets on the 1st Friday of the month [all year] at the Allan Reuter Centre - 507 King Street, Cambridge; and on the 3rd Monday of the month [September to June] at the Allen Bradley Plant (Cafeteria) - 135 Dundas Road, Cambridge. Visitors welcome. Information: Mr. Ron Adkin, 1736 Briarwood Dr., Cambridge, ON N3H 5A7; (519) 650-5136.

CANADIAN AEROPHILATELIC SOCIETY
RPSC Chapter 187, yearly membership for Canadians $20 Cdn, for Americans $22 Cdn. and for all other countries $25. 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: Brian Wolfenden, 203A Woodfield Drive, Nepean ON K2G 4P2. (613) 226-2045.

CANADIAN ASSOCIATION FOR ISRAEL PHILATELY
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. Tom Barber (613) 736-9741.

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-email dorahrh@eagle.ca.

COLBORNE STAMP CLUB
Chapter 205 meets on the 2nd and 4th Tues. Sept. to May at 7 p.m. in the Seniors' Drop-In, Vourneen "Buff" Jack Memorial Centre, 14 Victoria Square. Contact: Box 1073, Colborne, ON K0K 1S0.

COLLINGWOOD - GEORGIAN BAY COIN & STAMP CLUB
Chapter 168 meets on the 2nd Wednesday of the month at the Wasaga Beach Library, and on the 4th Tuesday of the month at the Collingwood Library. Meetings are from 7:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m.

CREDIT VALLEY PHILATELIC SOCIETY - MISSISSAUGA
Chapter 67 of The RPSC meets on the 1st and 3rd Wed. at 7 p.m. in the Texaco Room 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) 608-9794.

DELTA STAMP CLUB
Club meetings on the 2nd and 4th Tues. Sept. to May at 7:30 p.m. at the Beach Grove Elementary School, 5955 17A 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 1st and 3rd Wednesday of the month (except no second meeting in July, August and December), at 7:00 p.m. at 5050 Howard Ave, Windsor, ON. Contact: David L. Newman, President, at 1165 Wigle Ave, Windsor, ON, N9C 3M9. Tel.: (519) 977-5967. E-mail: lacumo@cogeco.ca.

FENELON STAMP CLUB
The club meets on the second monday of each month at 7:30 p.m. at Fenelon Falls Baptist Church on Colbourne Street in Fenelon Falls. For more information, contact President, Harry Pearson, at (705) 324-5269 or write to 5 Heritage Way - Unit 5, Lindsay, ON, K9V 5Y6.

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, e-mail: rsmith0225@rogers.com

FUNDY STAMP COLLECTOR'S CLUB
Meets the 1st Thurs, except July and August, at 7 PM at the CN Pensioners Centre, 1 Curry Street. Contact Mike Leighton at (506) 389-8083 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 Rd. and Albright St. Contact: Clare Maitland (Secretary), Box 60510, 673 Upper James St., Hamilton, ON, L9C 7N7; e-mail: stamps@hwcn.org or online at: www.hwcn.org/-ip029

INSURANCE AND BANKING PHILATELIC SOCIETY OF GREAT BRITAIN - CANADIAN BRANCH
Chapter 82 meets on the 3rd Thursday of the month (except July, August and December) at 5:30 p.m. Location: 320 Bay Street (southwest corner of Bay St and Adelaide St), 13th floor, Toronto, ON, M5H 4A6. These are the premises of Canaccord Capital Corporation. Contact: Don Peach, Secretary of the I&BPSGB/CB, 83 Nymark Avenue, Toronto, ON M2J 2H1.

KAWARTHA STAMP CLUB
The Kawartha Stamp Club, meets on the second and fourth Tuesday of every month (except July and August) at 6:30 p.m. at the Immanuel Alliance Church, 1600 Sherbrook Street West, Peterborough, ON K9J 6X4. Contact Marie Olver at 705-745-4993 for more info.

KELOWNA & DISTRICT STAMP CLUB
Chapter 90 meets on the 1st Wed. Sept. to June at 7 p.m. at the Odd Fellows Hall, 2597 Richter St., Kelowna, BC. 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.

KINCARDINE STAMP CLUB
Chapter C-196 meets the 1st Wed. in the back of the Anglican Church on Russel St. at 7:30. Contact the club at Box 192, Kincardine, ON N2Z 2Y7 or call John Cortan at (519) 395-5819 or e-mail jcortan@hurontel.on.ca

KINGSTON STAMP CLUB
Meets 7-9 p.m. on the 2nd and 4th Mon. Sept. to May at the Ongwanada Resource Centre, 191 Portsmouth Ave. Free parking and wheelchair access. Consignment table, auctions, bourse, OXFAM, and trading. Contact President Bob Chadwick, 31 Abbey Dawn Drive, Bath, ON K0H 1G0. Tel: (613) 352-1052.

KITCHENER-WATERLOO PHILATELIC SOCIETY
Chapter 13 meets the 2nd Thurs. Sept. to June at Albert McCormick Arena, Parkside Dr., Waterloo. Contact: James Oliver, P.O. Box 43007, Eastwood Square PO, Kitchener, ON N2H 6S9, (519) 893-4092.

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.

chapter MEETINGS
RÉUNIONS des clubs membres



LAKESHORE STAMP CLUB – CLUB PHILATÉLIQUE DE LAKESHORE
Chapter 84 meets at St. John the Baptist Church, 233 Ste-Claire Street in Pointe-Claire, on the 2nd and 4th Thurs. Sept. to June at 7:30 p.m. Contact: François Brisse, President, PO Box 1, Pointe Claire/Dorval, QC, H9R 4N5. / Le chapitre 84, se réunit tous les jeudis du début septembre à fin juin, à 19h30. Les réunions ont lieu à l'Église St. John the Baptist, 233 rue Ste-Claire à Pointe-Claire. Information: François Brisse, Président, Case Postale 1, Pointe Claire/Dorval, QC, H9R 4N5.

LETHBRIDGE PHILATELIC SOCIETY
Chapter 57, The Lethbridge Philatelic Society, meets on the second Thursday of the month (except June, July or August) at 7 p.m. in the community room of Save on Foods, 1112 2nd A Ave N, Lethbridge, AB

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: Manfred Sievert, 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 first Wednesday of each month at Bracebridge Public School, 90 McMurray Street, Bracebridge, ON. (Location for July & August will vary). Contact Tom Anderson (President) 7 Sadler Drive, Bracebridge ON P1L 1K4; (705) 645-3330; e-mail eltomander@sympatico.ca

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
The North Bay and District Stamp Club meets every second and fourth Wednesday of the month, September to May at Empire Living Centre, 425 Fraser Street, North Bay at 6:30 PM. Visitors are always welcome. Contact person is Deb Desjardins, 606 Tackaberry Drive, North Bay, P1B 9L1; telephone number 1-705-840-1700; email address grammadee54@hotmail.com

NORTH TORONTO STAMP CLUB
Chapter 5 meets on the 2nd and 4th Thursday of the month from January to June and from September to November. Meetings are held at Yorkminster Park Baptist Church, 1585 Yonge Street, one block north of St. Clair Avenue. Stamp sales circuit opens at 6:30 p.m and meetings start at 8:00 p.m. Contact Herb Letsche, tel: (416) 445-7720, fax: (416) 444-1273, or e-mail: ntstampclub@yahoo.ca.

NORTH YORK PHILATELIC SOCIETY
Chapter 21 meets on the 1st and 3rd Wednesdays of each month from September to the 1st Wednesday in June, and on the 3rd Wednesday of July and August. Meetings are held from 6:30 p.m. to 9:00 p.m. in the Skaters' Lounge at the Carnegie Centennial Arena, 580 Finch Avenue West (1 1/2 blocks west of Bathurst), Toronto, Ontario. Meetings feature a convivial atmosphere, speakers, auctions, a sales circuit, and a number of dealer members. Membership is only $10 per year. Ample parking is free. For more information, contact Art Halpert, tel. 416-643-2020 (days), 416-499-4406 (evenings/weekends), e-mail ahalpert@sympatico.ca

NOVA SCOTIA STAMP CLUB
We invite you to join us at a monthly meeting on the second Tuesday of the month at 7:30 pm in the auditoriam - lower level (except July & August). Nova Scotia Museum of Natural History, 1747 Summer St., Halifax, NS B3H 3A6, www.nsstampclub.ca.

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 Thursday at 7:30pm, September to June at the Hintonburg Community Centre, 1064 Wellington Street, Ottawa, Ontario. Contact: Richard Logan, President, 213 Beech Street, Ottawa, Ontario, K1Y 3T3 or dicklogan@rogers.com

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 Sunday of each month, from Sept. to May, from 2-4 p.m. at the Penticton Library Auditorium, 785 Main St. Contact: Dorothy Karslake (Secretary), 203-22 Abbott Street, Penticton, BC V2A 4J2.

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 2nd Thurs. except July and Aug., 7 p.m. at the New Westminster Public Library, 716-6th Ave., New Westminster, BC. Contact: Box 145, Milner, BC V0X 1T0. (604) 534-1884.

SAINT JOHN STAMP CLUB
Saint John Stamp Club meets at 7:00 pm the fourth Wednesday of each month, except July and August, at the Atlantic Superstore, Millidgeville. Visitors and new members welcome. Please call 849-2250 for more information

ST. CATHARINES STAMP CLUB
Meets on the 1st and 3rd Tues. Sept. to June at Holy Cross secondary, St. Catharines, ON. Contact: Stuart Keeley, 15 Baxter Cres., Thorold, ON L2V 4S1, (905) 227-9251,.stuart.keeley@sympatico.ca

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

SARNIA STAMP CLUB
Chapter 45 meets on the 4th Sunday of the month, September through June, with the exception of December which is held on the 2nd. Sunday. Meetings are held at the Kinsmen Club of Sarnia at 656 Lakeshore Road in Sarnia, Ontario, from 2:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m. Activities include circuit books, silent auction, and dealers. Contact: Doug Fox at 1849 LaSalle Line, RR4, Sarnia, ON N7T 7H5. Telephone: (519) 332-0378.

SASKATOON STAMP CLUB
Chapter 80 meets the 2nd and 4th Mon. Sept. to May, 7-9 p.m. at the Saskatoon Public Library - Rusty McDonald Branch, 225 Primrose Dr., Saskatoon, SK S7K 5E4. Contact: secretary: Doug Smith, (306) 249-3092; e-mail: douglasmichaelsmith@shaw.ca.

SCARBOROUGH STAMP CLUB
Chapter 223 meets the 1st and 3rd Tues. Sept. to June at 7 p.m. at Cedarbrook Community Centre, Contact Don Beaumont, 22 Gregson Street, Ajax, ON L1T 3Z9.

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@log.on.ca, Club President Peter Kritz, RR3, Hanover, ON N4N 3B9, (519 364-4752, Club Secretary Jim Measures, PO Box 11, Clifford, ON N0G 1M0, (519) 327-8265

STRATFORD STAMP CLUB
Chapter 92 The Stratford Stamp Club meets on the 4th Thursday from September to June (except December when it meets on the 3rd Thursday), 7pm at the Stratford Kiwanis Community Centre, 111 Lakeside Drive, Stratford, Ontario. There is something of interest for all ages from beginner to the advance collector.Visitors are always welcome. For information please send inquiries to the following address: Stratford Stamp Club, Suite 273, 356 Ontario Street, Stratford, ON N5A 7X6

SUDBURY STAMP CLUB
Chapter 85 meets on the 2nd Tuesday of the month, September through June at 7:00 p.m. Meetings are held at the Delki Dozzi Playground Fieldhouse. Slides, presentations, auction. Contact: Edward O'Callaghan at P.O. Box 2211, Station A, Sudbury, Ontario, P3A 4S1.

THE PHILATELIC CLUB OF MONTRÉAL
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 on the first Monday of the month, except July and August, at 7:30 p.m. in a member's house. New members or visitors are always welcome. For further information, call Joachim (Jake) Doehler at 416-438-4862.

TRURO PHILATELIC SOCIETY
Meets the 2nd Thurs. Sept. to June at 7:30 p.m. at the Sobey'scommunity room, Prince St.,.for a general meeting followed by a program and auction. Fourth Thurs is trading night.

UNION DES PHILATÉLISTES DE MONTRÉAL
Le chapitre no. 3 de la Société se réunit à 19 h 00 tous les 2es et 4es mardis de septembre à juin au 7110, 8e avenue, Montréal, QC, H2A 3C4. Visiteurs bienvenus. / Chapter 3 meets at 7:00 p.m. on the 2nd and 4th Tues. from September to June at 7110 8th Avenue, Montreal, QC, H2A 3C4. Visitors welcome.

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, 205 - 651 Jolly Pl, Victoria, BC, V8Z 6R9.

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.

news, views & HAPPENINGS
nouvelles, opinions et ÉVÉNEMENTS

2005 President's Medal Goes To Richard Mallot

Charles J.G. Verge, President of The Royal Philatelic Society of Canada (RPSC), has announced that Richard K. Malott is the 2005 recipient of the President's Medal which honours individuals or organizations for their outstanding contribution to the hobby.

Verge, who instituted the President's Medal in 2000, did not "think it would be awarded annually, but the vibrancy of our hobby has allowed me to make it an annul presentation." The 2004 medal was merited by Michael Madesker, RDP, FRPSC,. Richard Malott also joins Kasimir Bileski, (2000) Denis Masse (2001) and Ron Brigham (2002) as recipients of the president's medal. The 2003 winner was the Canadian Postal Archives.

Richard (Dick) Kenneth Malott was born in Windsor, Ontario and grew up in nearby Kingsville where he started collecting stamps at five years of age at the suggestion of a United Church minister. Rev. Creasy provided monthly packages of free stamps to youngsters "who neatly prepared their postage stamp albums."

The plan worked well for the young Malott because it was a pattern he took into his lifetime of collecting having won numerous national and international awards for his exhibits, including at least eight large golds at the international level.

Malott's central focus for many years has been aerophilately. In the 1950s, he "got hooked" on pilot-signed flight covers, pioneer flights, and related material. He sold a collection of OHMS and G stamps plate blocks and "started on my air mail quest."

His quest saw him to amass extensive data on air mail philately which is now housed at the Canadian Postal Archives and Library. This exceptional collection of material required a 110-page finder's guide.

At present Dick Malott is a member of almost 20 philatelic or aerophilatelic societies. He has been a long-time member of The RPSC where he has held several positions, especially appointments as commissioner and judge to many international philatelic exhibitions. He has been president of the Canadian Aerophilatelic Society since 1993. For his contribution to stamp collecting, he was named a Fellow of the RPSC in 1986.

Other awards include membership in the AAMS Aerophilatelic Hall of Fame (1996), and the Gus Lancaster Award of the Metropolitan Airmail Philatelic Society for the Advancement of Aerophilately in the U.S. and Canada.

Dick Malott says "it is a special honour to receive the President's Medal." For Charles Verge, he is a "worthy recipient who has always given his best effort to the hobby. His work for and interest in aerophilately is probably unmatched in North America."

David Piercey to Head RPSC Judging Program

Charles J.G. Verge, FRPSC, FRPSL, President of The Royal Philatelic Society of Canada (RPSC), has announced Dr. David Piercey of Edmonton, Alberta has accepted the position of Chairman, Judging Programme and Co-ordinator of Reciprocity Agreements for the RPSC with the United States, Australia, and New Zealand.

Dr. Piercey succeeds Dr. John Powell, FRPSC, whose untimely death occurred during the summer.

Dr. Piercey's responsibilities will include overseeing all national-level shows in Canada in co-operation with the RPSC director/co-ordinator of that show.

David Piercey, who has been a stamp collector since youth, has exhibited extensively and has been a national accredited judge for over a decade. He says "one of my proudest achievements was to serve as Chief Judge at ROYAL*2004*ROYALE in Halifax.

Among the honours he has earned is the 1995 PHSC's Frank W. Campbell award for "North of 60: The Postal History of the Canadian North West Territories" which was published in *The American Philatelist* (September 1995). He is also a recipient of the BNAPS Jack Levine Fellowship award for his work in establishing and maintaining a BNAPS regional group.

Dr. Piercey says accepting the chair of the RPSC Judging Program "is a very great honour, especially to follow in the footsteps of John Powell who so ably served in this role for the past several years."

His goal will be to "continue" the work Powell started by "enhancing standards for judging stamp exhibits, increasing skill sets in judging practice, working with exhibitors to demystify the judging process, and aligning our work with current trends in the United States and other countries." If he can do that, he will be "satisfied."

The "challenge," he says will be to "keep judging practices abreast of contemporary changes whether they be new exhibiting classes that stretch our imagination, new ways of incorporating collateral material to tell a philatelic story, or even new ways of presentation that arise through innovations in technology."

David Piercey, a psychologist by profession, is married and has two teenaged children.

New Chairman, Canada Post Stamp Advisory Committee



Robert Waite

Robert Waite, Senior Vice-President, Communications and Stakeholder Relations, for Canada Post, has been appointed Chairman of the Canada Post Stamp Advisory Committee by the Board of Directors of Canada Post. As Senior Vice-President his areas of responsibility include brand management and corporate advertising, internal and external communications, government issues and advocacy, stamp design, sponsorship, donations and community relations. This means that he is also the liaison person between Canada Post and The RPSC.

Mr. Waite has more than 30 years experience running communications, marketing and government relations organizations in the public and private sectors. His former employers included CIBC, CAE Inc., IBM Canada, Ford of Canada, the Export-Import Bank of the United States and two United States Senators, Bob Dole of Kansas and Edward W. Brooke of Massachusetts.

An immigrant to Canada, he became a citizen in 1995. Married to Karen Shigeishi-Waite, he has two children, Joseph Wataru, 14, and Emily Akada, 12.

Nouveau président, Comité consultatif sur le timbres-poste de Postes Canada.

Robert Waite, premier vice-président, Communications et relations avec les groupes d'intérêt a été nommé Président du Comité consultatif sur le timbres-poste de Postes Canada par le Conseil de direction de Postes Canada. Comme premier vice-président ses secteurs de responsabilité comportent la gestion de la marque et la publicité institutionnelle, les communications internes et externes, les questions gouvernementales et la défense des droits gouvernementaux, la conception de timbres, le parrainage, les donations et les relations communautaires. Un élément de ses fonctions est la liaison entre Postes Canada et La SRPC.

M. Waite possède plus de 30 ans d'expérience de direction au sein d'organisations spécialisées en communications, en marketing et en relations gouvernementales dans les secteurs public et privé. On compte parmi ses employeurs précédents la Banque Canadienne Impériale de Commerce, les Canadian Aviation Electronic Industries Ltd., IBM Canada Limitée, Ford du Canada Limitée, la Export Import Bank of the United States et deux sénateurs des États Unis, Bob Dole du Kansas et Edward W. Brooke du Massachusetts.

Immigrant au Canada, il y a obtenu sa citoyenneté en 1995. Il est marié à Karen Shigeishi Waite et il a deux enfants, Joseph Wataru, 14 ans, et Emily Akada, 12 ans.

SPECIAL NOTICE TO AUTHORS OF
THE CANADIAN PHILATELIST

The Royal Philatelic Society of Canada is moving towards the implementation of a new database management system for its membership with the capability of on-line distribution of *The Canadian Philatelist* to its readers and to universities, libraries, and other educational institutions effective January 1, 2006. For this purpose, The RPSC has assumed copyright for all articles and other material published in *The Canadian Philatelist* starting with the January-February 2006 (Volume 57, No. 1) issue. From January 2006, authors may use any article, or part thereof, submitted by them and published in *The Canadian Philatelist* without fee and/or without further permission from The RPSC.

AVIS SPÉCIAL AUX AUTEURS
DU PHILATÉLISTE CANADIEN

La Société royale de philatélie du Canada prépare la mise en place d'un nouveau système de gestion des données pour ses membres. Ce système permettra la distribution en ligne du *Philatéliste canadien* à ses lecteurs, aux universités, aux bibliothèques et aux institutions à vocation éducative, dès janvier 2006. À cette fin, la SRPC s'assuré les droits d'auteur sur tous les articles et tous les autres éléments qui seront publiés dans *le Philatéliste* à compter du numéro de janvier-février 2006 (Volume 57, No 1). Dès lors, à partir de janvier 2006, les auteurs pourront utiliser, en tout ou en partie, des articles qu'ils auront soumis, et qui auront été publiés dans *le Philatéliste*, sans frais et sans autre permission de la SRPC.

news, views & HAPPENINGS
nouvelles, opinions et ÉVÉNEMENTS

APS Summer Seminar Was a Success

The 2005 American Philatelic Society Summer Seminar on Philately was a successful week-long learning adventure for more than 60 students and 10 instructors.

The seminar is unique in the hobby, offering detailed instruction in specific philatelic focus areas through a combination of lectures and workshops. This year's participants chose one of five major courses offered:

"Exhibiting - A Hands-On Workshop" with Jeff Shapiro as instructor; "The Liberty Series" with Ken Lawrence, Tony Wawrukiewicz, and David Eeles; "The Washington/Franklin Issues" with Dennis Gilson, George Fekete, and Carol Hoffman; "U.S. Revenues" with Ron Lesher; and "Stamp Technology" with Wayne Youngblood. Courses featured in-class discussions, question-and-answer opportunities, and informal, hands-on workshops.

The week began with a Sunday dinner and Herb Trenchard, renowned philatelic researcher, as the Guest Speaker. Herb's slide presentation about "Collecting Philatelic Memorabilia" showed seals and labels issued at stamp shows over the last 125 years.

Mornings began with Early Bird Electives. Early Bird speakers included Herb Trenchard, expanding on his dinner speech about "Philatelic Souvenirs"; Bob Lamb, talking about "Illegal Stamps"; and Peter Butler with a program titled "One-Page Exhibit: Successful in Attracting New Exhibitors?"

For the not-so-early birds the morning began with a General Session, before the Major Classes began. Speakers at the General Sessions were Jeff Shapiro: "The Ramblings of a PHat PHilatelist," Wayne Youngblood: "Modern Postal History," Ron Lesher: "The Progressive Era: The Use of Taxation to Safeguard Our Food Supply," and Tony Wawrukiewicz: "Important Elements of Exhibiting."

Afternoon electives included Irv Miller: "Buying & Selling at Auction," Mercer Bristow: "Expertizing Stamps," Jerry Lifsey: "Adventures in Advertising Booklet Stamps," Barb Boal: "Scanning Stamps & Covers," Tony Wawrukiewicz: "Postcards," Clark Frazier: "How to Spot Fakes & Forgeries on the Internet," and Bill Lehr, "Collecting U.S. Postal Stationery Beyond the Scott Specialized Catalogue."

At the Thursday evening dinner, Seminar participants were enthralled by Rob Haeseler and his slide presentation on "Unabomber Postal History."

While Seminar students were slaving in the classrooms, the Stampless Others - those who accompany APS Summer Seminar participants - were spending the week vacationing. The Stampless Others could be spotted touring Bellefonte, shopping at the local malls, and, yes, even eating ice cream from the Penn State Creamery - rated one of the ten best ice creams nationwide by the New York Times.

The 2006 seminar is tentatively scheduled for June 4-9, immediately following Washington 2006. For more information please contact Janet Houser at jehouser@stamps.org or 814-933-3820.

Dana Guyer

Official Hotel for AMERISTAMP EXPO 2006 in Toronto

Peter Butler, co-ordinator for AMERISTAMP EXPO 2006 has announced that Toronto's Radisson Admiral Hotel, Harbourfront will be the show hotel for the annual convention of the American Association of Philatelic Exhibitors (AAPE) scheduled for Toronto, April 7-9, 2006.

As previously announced, the exhibition, bourse, and meetings will be held in the Queen Elizabeth Building at Exhibition Place, formerly the CNE grounds.

Since 1999, the AAPE held AMERISTAMP EXPO during the American Philatelic Society winter show, but the APS cancelled its winter event in favour of the international FIP show in Washington May 27-June 3, 2006.

In looking for a new site, organizers accepted the invitation co-ordinated by The Royal Philatelic Society of Canada (RPSC), the Greater Toronto Association Philatelic Alliance (GTAPA) and the Canadian Stamp Dealers' Association (CSDA) to come to Toronto.

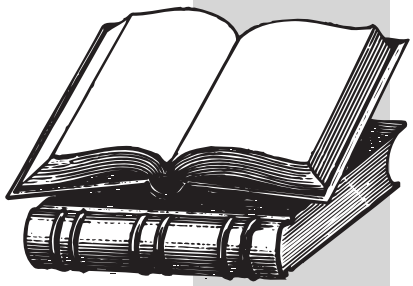
AMERISTAMP EXPO is a major stamp show for which an international jury and a new team competition have already been announced.

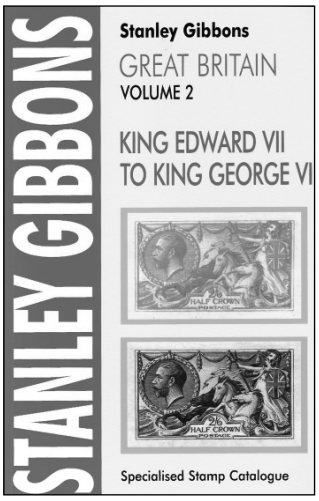
Peter Butler says "it will be an important show for Toronto and all of Canada, especially for those who specialize in or want to try one-frame competitions and postcard exhibits."

To make reservations, participants may contact the Radisson Admiral Hotel, 249 Queen's Quay, Toronto, Ontario M5J 2N5; telephone 1-800-333-3333 and ask for the special rate for postage stamp shows ($139 CDN per night); or visit the hotel's website www.radissonadmiral.com. Look for the special promotion code button and click CSDA 2 for AMERISTAMP EXPO April 7, 8, 9, 2006.

Complete information relating to and the prospectus for AMERISTAMP EXPO is available from Alan J. Hanks, 34 Seaton Drive, Aurora, ON L4G 2K1, Canada or e-mail: alan.hanks@sympatico.ca.

BOOK REVIEWS
OUVRAGES PARUS





STANLEY GIBBONS GREAT BRITAIN VOLUME 2 KING EDWARD VII TO KING GEORGE VI

published by Stanley Gibbons Publications. ISBN 0-85259-566-2. Soft cover, 517 pages, 137 X 215 mm; Retail price 29.95 British pounds. Orders can be placed by telephone:01425-472363 or by e-mail: sales@stanleygibbons.co.uk Also available from the publisher at 5 Parkside, Christchurch Road, Ringwood, Hampshire, BH24 3SH or from www.stanleygibbons.com

The twelfth edition of the *Stanley Gibbons Great Britain Volume 2 King Edward VII to King George VI* is the first reprint of this popular catalogue in six years. Also known as the 'Four Kings' catalogue, this updated version has been extensively revised since the 11th edition was printed in October 1999.

Most notable change, aside from the significant price increases throughout most sections, is the addition of the listings of plate markings for the Royal Cypher watermarked stamps along with their official plate numbers. Also new is the Postage Dues section that comprises some six pages of revisions and updates.

In addition to a section devoted to each of the four kings, including a checklist for each, the catalogue also includes the aforementioned Postage Dues section with a separate listing for King George V, King Edward VIII, and King George VI. (No postage due stamps were in existence during the reign of King Edward VII (1901-10).)

Another of the major enhancements of the current edition is the inclusion of work conducted by Tony Lawrence, whose research on the King George V 'profile head' plates has been included, notwithstanding that his research has not been completed. However, Lawrence's work in linking the 'philatelic' plate numbers, previously published, with the 'official' plates is of sufficient importance to warrant the inclusion of this new information despite its status as a "work in progress." Lawrence has also shown that plates previously thought to be two different ones are, in fact, one and the same.

Collectors will also find the listings of an additional number of high values of the King George VI 'Arms' issues of benefit. Issued between 1939 and 1948, the plates from which these issues were printed are unnumbered and can only be differentiated by their marginal markings. The additional varieties uncovered for the 2s.6d. values, for both brown and green printings, are now listed.

All reproductions are in black and white although for a highly specialized work such as this, the lack of colour does not detract from the catalogue's usefulness. Presumably the majority of potential users will have a more-than-passing familiarity with the listed stamps.

Amply illustrated and accompanied by clear annotations and explanations of the more esoteric aspects of the stamps released during the first 50 years of the 20th century this highly specialized catalogue is indispensable for all collectors of the stamps of Great Britain with an above-average interest in the issues of the "Four Kings."

Tony Shaman

BID OR BUY SALE



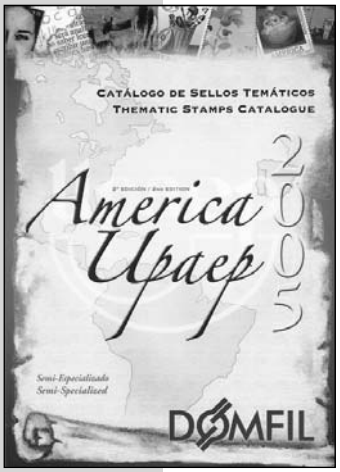
K. Bileski Ltd is expanding the reach of our very sucessful Bid or Buy sale that took place in spring 2005. We featured over 70 lots of first class Canada and BNA philatelic material, and many collectors came away with bargains. There are NO buyer premiums, and all bidding/buying is in Canadian dollars.

Please e-mail or write for the free colour listing for our second Bid and Buy sale, to take place in February-March 2006. This listing includes the minimums, buy prices, as well as the bid/buy form and conditions of sale. A customer said, ***"a very relaxed way to purchase fine Canadian material at a good price, Thank you"***.

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AMERICA UPAEP 2005

ISBN 84-95615-27-4. Published by Domfil Groupo Afinsa, Dr. Puig, 33 (Apartado de Correos 271) E-08202 Sabadell, Barcelona, Spain. E-mail:domfil@afinsa.com Internet:www.domfil.com Soft cover, 96 pages, 170X240 mm; Retail price 15 Euros.

Although this is the second edition of the *America Upaep 2005* catalogue, it is still not widely known among English-speaking collectors in North America. The publication, a semi-specialized work, lists stamps commemorating the most significant events related to Hispanic countries or countries where a significant segment of the population speaks Spanish.

Listed under the United States, for example, are two issues for 1989. One of the pair of stamps, the 25-cent value, depicts the Southwest Carved Figure issue; its companion stamp, the 45-cent airmail issue, picturing the Southeast Carved Wood Figure, features the Emblem of the Postal Union of the Americas and of Spain.

Listed in the catalogue are the stamps issued from 1989 up to and including issues released in 2004. Each stamp, or set of stamps, is accompanied by a brief description, in Spanish and English, of the depicted subject matter. Also pictured on the header for every listed country is that nation's flag along with the date of issue of every listed stamp. Prices are quoted in U.S. dollars and in Euros.

Common to all *Domfil* catalogues that I have had occasion to review are the corresponding catalogue numbers of stamps listed in *Yves & Tellier, Michel, Scott*, and *Unificato* stamp catalogues. Needless to say, this feature is useful for collectors who are, or have been, using one of these catalogues for numbering the stamps in their collections.

Another unique aspect of Domfil catalogues is the catalogue's numbering system. For instance, each stamp's identification number consists of the first three letters of the name of the issuing country, the last three numbers of the year in which the stamp was issued, and the order position of the stamp within the year. The set of stamps issued by Honduras to commemorate the 500th anniversary of Christopher Columbus's 1492 crossing of the Atlantic, for example, is numbered HND–992.6/8.

Complementing this all-colour work is a summary of stamp issues by country giving the year of issue and the catalogue page number on which the specific stamp or set of stamps appear. A four-page Annual Issues Summary lists the stamp catalogue number by year of issue together with the name of the issuing country.

The *America Upaep 2005* catalogue is a work that has the potential of opening a new area of collecting that philatelists may not have previously considered.

Priced at a nominal 15 euros, we can recommend this work for anyone with an interest in any aspect of Hispanic postal history or for other collectors looking for a new philatelic challenge.

Tony Shaman



THE LAW STAMPS OF BRITISH COLUMBIA AND THEIR USES 1879-1984

by Ian McTaggart-Cowan. Spiral Bound, 170 pages, 8.5 x 11 - BNAPS Exhibit Series #36. ISBN: 0-919854-65-6 Published by the British North America Philatelic Society (BNAPS). Colour version $C104.50; Black & White $C37.95. Shipping is extra. Credit card orders (Visa, Mastercard) will be billed for exact amount of shipping plus $2 per order; for payment by cheque or money order add 10% in Canada, 15% to the US, 20% overseas. GST is payable for Canadian orders. BNAPS members receive a 40% discount from retail prices. Available from Ian Kimmerly Stamps, 112 Sparks Street, Ottawa, Ontario K1P 5B6, Canada; Phone: (613) 235-9119. Internet orders can be placed via www.iankimmerly.com/books/

The Law Stamps Of British Columbia And Their Uses 1879-1984 is the 36th volume in the BNAPS Exhibit Series. Included in the exhibit, besides the various law stamps, are a number of legal documents bearing a variety of law stamps that illustrate their use. For example, two of the exhibited documents were presented to the Privy Council in London, England. Another pair of documents was processed by courts in France prior to their entry into the Canadian judicial system.

From this award-winning exhibit we learn that British Columbia began providing legal services, along with the necessary record keeping, as a partner in Confederation. Vancouver Island united with the BC mainland in 1866 (the author gives the date as 1861) and the two former British colonies joined the Canadian Federation in 1871. Prior to that time, the Colonial Office in London was responsible for the provision of legal services for the province.

Although BC became a full partner in Canadian Confederation of 1871, the province did not issue its own law

stamps until eight years later with the introduction of the Law Stamp Act in 1879. The designs of the stamps were based on the Law Stamps of Ontario in an effort to save money, with only minor variations other than the substitution of the name British Columbia for Ontario and the adoption of a different colour scheme.

A 5-cent Ontario law stamp is shown in the exhibit as an example of the model on which the BC law stamps were based. It was originally envisioned that eight denominations, from 2 cents to $2.00, would be issued but only four values were ultimately printed. They consisted of the values as follows: 10c, 30c, 50c, and $1.00. All were issued in an identical shade of blue.

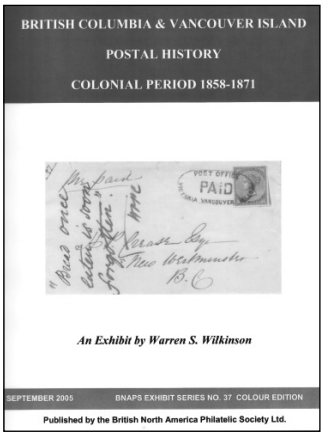
Included in the exhibit are examples of trial colour proofs of the 1st set, or series, of stamps. Shown also is a unique 30-cent trial colour die proof in green, as are examples of the 10-cent and $1.00 proofs on India paper.

Each of the next 12 series, released during the last 100 or so years, is amply illustrated in used and in unused condition. Series two, for instance, departed from the monochrome blue of the 1st series with each denomination printed in a different colour. Also unique for the issue was the first-time use of watermarked paper.

Readers may find the numerous typographical errors throughout this work somewhat distracting. There is no way for me to know if the jurors judging this exhibit took cognisance of these "typos" in their adjudication of the exhibit but that is of no comfort to readers who are forced to endure a seemingly endless string of errors that include the use of lower case letters where capitals are needed, capitalized words that should be in lower case, inconsistent use of spaces, letters that are missing, misspelled words, and duplication of letters and numbers. For example, 11970 for 1970; 948 for 1948, and 1199558 for, presumably, 1958. And the list of typographical errors goes on.

However, this criticism undoubtedly reflects the editor in me and in no way should it be construed to mean that the material in the exhibit is somehow lacking in quality: quite the opposite. It is first rate and this work will be useful, and is recommended for anyone with an interest in revenue stamps and for collectors needing, or wanting, more information about exhibiting revenue stamps and associated material.

Tony Shaman



BRITISH COLUMBIA & VANCOUVER ISLAND POSTAL HISTORY, COLONIAL PERIOD 1858-1871

by Warren S. Wilkinson. Spiral Bound, 160 pages, 8.5 x 11. BNAPS Exhibit Series #37. ISBN: 0-919854-67-2. Published by the British North America Philatelic Society (BNAPS) 2005. Colour version $C102.00; Black & White $C36.95. Shipping is extra. Credit card orders (Visa, Mastercard) will be billed for exact amount of shipping plus $2 per order. For payment by cheque or money order add 10% in Canada, 15% to the US, 20% overseas. GST is payable for Canadian orders. BNAPS members receive a 40% discount from retail prices. BNAPS books are available from Ian Kimmerly Stamps, 112 Sparks Street, Ottawa, Ontario K1P 5B6, Canada; Phone: (613) 235-9119. Internet orders can be placed via www.iankimmerly.com/books/

Warren S. Wilkinson's *British Columbia & Vancouver Island Postal History, Colonial Period 1858-1871* is the 37th volume in the BNAPS Exhibits series. It is also an exhibit containing a plethora of unusual, rare, and unique items. For the benefit of readers, and obviously members of judging juries not familiar with pre-confederation British Columbia postal history, the exhibit makes judicious use of identification markings in the form of little red seals to denote covers that are unique or otherwise outstanding in some way even in an exhibit that includes little, if any, ordinary material.

For example, the very first item in the exhibit, an undated cover believed to date from either 1858 or 1859 bears the first handstamp used at the Victoria, BC post office signifying 2½ pence postage. The device, manufactured in England in 1856, was for use by the Vancouver Island Customs Office.

The exhibit, essentially, is a chronological history of postal rates, routes, and post office markings. Many of the earliest covers in the exhibit are U.S. postal stationery envelopes franked with the red 3 cent George Washington imprint paying the USA west coast rate and the green, 10 cent transcontinental rate.

Included in the exhibit are examples of 10-cent Freeman & Co's Express covers originating in British Columbia but without the addition of colonial postage. This was a violation of the 1858 Postal Act and such covers are extremely rare.

Another rare cover, ex Johnstone and illustrated in the CAPEX 1996 *Gems of Canadian Philately* publication, illustrates a postally used Victoria Post Office frank cancelled in San Francisco on November 9, 1860. In addition to the 2½ pence colonial postage paid by the sender, the cover also has 10 cents in U.S. adhesives sold by the Victoria post office, and cancelled with the Victoria frank device to make up the 10-cent transcontinental rate.

Much of the exhibit deals with covers carried by express and other transportation companies, including Wells Fargo, Barnard'd British Columbia Express, Ballou's Express, and Upper Columbia Company, from Vancouver Island and the B.C. mainland to the United States, other parts of Canada, and overseas.

There is essentially no area of the exhibit that is not outstanding in some way. Covers representative of the British Columbia 1862 Postal Act are well represented, showing rates and routes within the colony, the transcontinental rate to the U.S., and the overseas rate to countries such as Italy carried the Cunard Lines *Arabia*.

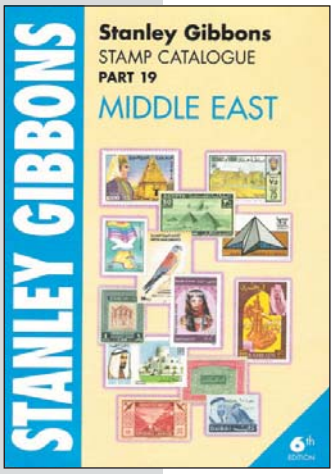
Covers to various destinations throughout Great Britain are numerous, with each one seemingly more visually attractive than the other. This exhibit is an outstanding example of the truism that philately is a visual hobby.

Although the exhibit is ostensibly restricted to the BC and Vancouver Island colonial period 1858-1871, it is complemented with a section showing a number of covers from the post confederation era.

This book demonstrates the rationale for the production of the BNAPS exhibits series. There is no place other than at a BNAPS convention and exhibition where stamp enthusiasts could see a collection of BC philatelic material such as the collection assembled by Wilkinson and reproduced in this publication.

The colour version of this book, although not inexpensive at $102 for non-BNAPS members, is worth every dollar when one considers that the pictured material cannot be duplicated for any amount of money.

Tony Shaman



STANLEY GIBBONS STAMP CATALOGUE PART 19 MIDDLE EAST

published by Stanley Gibbons Publications. ISBN 0-85259-576-X. Soft cover, 408 pages, 297 X 210 mm; Retail price 34.95 British pounds. Orders can be placed by telephone:01425-472363 or by e-mail: sales@stanleygibbons.co.uk Also available from the publisher at 5 Parkside, Christchurch Road, Ringwood, Hampshire, BH24 3SH or from www.stanleygibbons.com

The 6th edition of the *Stanley Gibbons Stamp Catalogue Part 19 Middle East*, the first reprint since 1996, is now available in vivid colour. Only a scattering of some of the early stamp issues are reproduced in black and white. With the tendency of evermore philatelic publications produced in full colour, this revamped catalogue, printed in ISO format A4 paper size, has not been left behind.

Prices of listed stamps have been updated in keeping with market conditions as they existed in mid-2005 when this catalogue went to press. According to information provided by the publishers, listed prices for mint and used copies are for stamps in fine condition. Stamps of a better grade than 'fine' command a premium; stamps in poorer condition than 'fine' sell for less.

With the release of this all-new work, the stamps of the British Post Offices in the Gulf States are now all listed in a single publication. Also included in this catalogue are the stamps of Aden and the South Arabian Federation.

Explanatory notes for various stamp issues, where applicable, accompany the corresponding illustrations. For example, three columns of data, the equivalent of a full page of text, precede the Bahrain section. A similar amount of information is also provided for Iraq's early adhesives.

Another useful feature added by the editors is a listing of the latest known varieties. Collectors specializing in a particular country or countries listed in this Middle East catalogue should find these additional listings useful.

Four full pages of small print spelling out "General Philatelic Information and Guidelines to the Scope of Stanley Gibbons Foreign Catalogues" is of equal efficacy for beginner and expert collectors alike. It offers valuable advice on how to make best use of the information provided in the catalogue. A three-page International Philatelic Glossary of common philatelic terms undoubtedly broadens this work's appeal to non-English-speaking collectors.

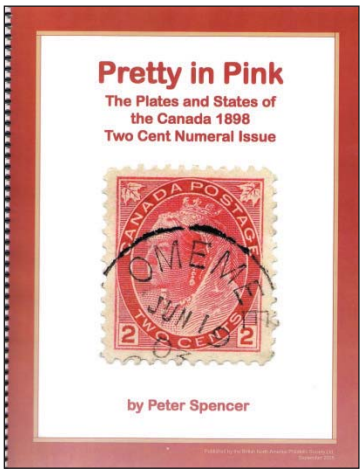
The stamps of thirty-one Middle East postal administrations is listed in this work. Exquisitely prepared with pride of workmanship apparent throughout, this catalogue should prove invaluable for both general collectors and for collectors with a specific interest in the stamps of the Middle East.

Tony Shaman

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PRETTY IN PINK: THE PLATES AND STATES OF THE CANADA 1898 TWO CENT NUMERAL ISSUE

by Peter Spencer. Spiral Bound, 106 pages in colour, 8.5 x 11 inches. ISBN: 0-919854-58-3. Published by the British North America Philatelic Society (BNAPS) 2005. $C74.00; Shipping extra. Credit card orders (Visa, Mastercard) will be billed for exact amount of shipping plus $2 per order. For payment by cheque or money order add 10% in Canada, 15% to the US, 20% overseas. GST is payable for Canadian orders. BNAPS members receive a 40% discount from retail prices. BNAPS books are available from Ian Kimmerly Stamps, 112 Sparks Street, Ottawa, Ontario K1P 5B6, Canada; Phone: (613) 235-9119. Internet orders can be placed via www.iankimmerly.com/books/

For anyone who has ever thought of plating the Two Cent Numeral issue, the task has just become considerably easier with the publication of *Pretty in Pink The Plates and States of the Canada 1898 Two Cent Numeral Issue.* In an effort to begin identifying each of the 4,400 stamp impressions produced by 22 printing plates with 200 stamps per plate, the author begins by introducing readers to what he describes as "ghost dots" in this groundbreaking new work. The author selected the term "ghost dots" simply because these dots are not visible to the naked eye.

A ten-power eye loupe, we are told, is the minimum requirement needed to spot these "ghost dots", which are key in starting the plating process for this stamp issue.

The first eight pages of this all-colour publication are devoted to these constant print flecks and precisely where they appear on the stamps or on their margins. Explained on the next two pages are the differences between stamps printed on horizontal and vertical mesh paper although it is not immediately clear what, if anything, stamps printed on paper that is fed through the printing press vertically or horizontally have to do with determining from which plate they were printed. We need to read on to discover why.

The reasons soon become apparent, as do the reasons why the author, who has an extensive background as a high school teacher, chose to present the subject in the manner that he did. Equally important, perhaps more so, are the extensive, crisply reproduced stamp images throughout the book that help clarify the text.

Each of the plate characteristics from every plate, and how the stamps from these plates can be differentiated, is the subject matter that takes up the bulk of the book. For example, the defining characteristics of plates 1b and 2b and plates 5a and 5b (remember that there are 200 stamps on two panes of 100 stamps each - hence the letters a and b) are as follows: Right Oval 6.0 dot; Left Lower dot; Carmine Colour; and Retouched Right Oval. Each of the remaining plates are similarly described and illustrated.

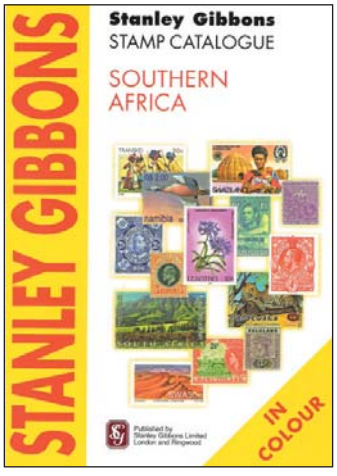
A visual summary of plates from the two dies used to print this issue complements this excellent work.

I would not have wanted to tackle plating this issue if left to my own devices, but with the help of this book the task seems manageable and definitely less daunting.

Perhaps the biggest challenge still lies ahead: learning to recognize the more difficult-to-identify states; that is, the minor states of any given plate number. The author suggests that the answer may lie in the study of re-entries and retouches.

Pretty in Pink: The Plates and States of the Canada 1898 Two Cent Numeral Issue is a well-written and profusely illustrated publication that has gone a long way in shedding new light on a stamp issue that is sure to receive more attention from collectors as a result of this new work. The author's work has been considerable but additional challenges lie ahead, particularly for anyone with an interest in the stamp production process or, more specifically, in the "plating" exercise with the long and proud tradition that it has enjoyed, with ebbs and flows, almost since our hobby established itself 150 years ago.

Tony Shaman



STANLEY GIBBONS STAMP CATALOGUE SOUTHERN AFRICA

published by Stanley Gibbons Limited. ISBN 0-85259-594-8. Soft cover, 144 pages, 220 X 297 mm; Retail price 19.95 British pounds. Orders can be placed by telephone:01425-472363 or by e-mail: sales@stanleygibbons.co.uk Also available from the publisher at 5 Parkside, Christchurch Road, Ringwood, Hampshire, BH24 3SH or from www.stanleygibbons.com

The 1st edition of the *Stanley Gibbons Stamp Catalogue Southern Africa* is an all-colour publication. Although its print size is small, it is, nevertheless, crisp and easily readable. As suggested by the catalogue's title this new publication contains a listing of much more than the stamps of South Africa - a nation rather than merely a geographic region at the southern tip of Africa.

As a group, the postage stamps of South Africa consist of a number of stamp-issuing republics and former British colonies including, besides the Union of South Africa, Cape of Good Hope, Griqualand West, Natal, New Republic, Orange Free State, Transvaal, and Zululand. Also listed under the South

Africa section are the stamps of Great Britain that were used, and consequently cancelled, by the British Army Field Offices during the South African War, 1899 - 1902.

Because the publisher also retails many of the stamps listed in the catalogue, included is an eight-page introduction that provides readers with information including stamp prices, the firm's guarantee policy, its definition of a stamp's condition, and philatelic information of a technical nature. Of particular value to collectors are the illustrated examples of cancellations, centering, gum and margins for each of the five categories that the firm uses to grade its stamps: poor, average, fine, very fine, and superb. Only prices for mint and used stamps are listed.

The catalogue's three-page 'International Philatelic Glossary' will be useful for collectors using a foreign-language catalogue or for non-English-speaking collectors.

Although considered as a One-Country catalogue, an index or table of contents would have been useful.

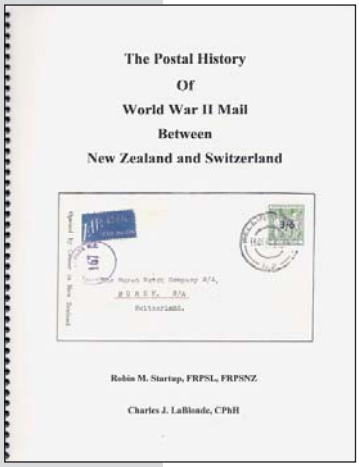
As with the other eight catalogues in the publisher's One-Country series, its prices and listings are at a level similar in detail to those contained in the *British Commonwealth Part 1* catalogue. Its listings encompass the stamps from SG No. 1 to those released in mid-to-late 2004.

In addition to the issues included under the South Africa section of the catalogue, it also includes the stamps of the Homelands issue of Bophuthatswana, Ciskei, Transkei and Venda. Also listed are Botswana, Lesotho, Namibia and Swaziland.

Prices up to 1952 were taken from the 2005 edition of the *Commonwealth and Empire Stamp Catalogue;* subsequent issues were specially priced for this new publication.

Priced at a reasonable 19.95 British pounds, this publication is a good investment for collectors specializing in the stamps and postmarks of the stamp-issuing countries and postal administrations of southern Africa, as well as for philatelists looking to expand their collecting horizons.

Tony Shaman



THE POSTAL HISTORY OF WORLD WAR II MAIL BETWEEN NEW ZEALAND AND SWITZERLAND

by Robin M. Startup & Charles J. LaBlonde. U.S. edition published by The American Helvetia Philatelic Society. (ISBN 0-9742619-1-2) 134 pages 8½" X 11" spiral bound, paperback. Price in the U.S. and Canada $20 U.S. postpaid. Overseas: 15 British pounds or Euro 25 (cash) postpaid. Available from the U.S. author Charles J. LaBlonde, 15091 Ridgefield Lane, Colorado Springs, CO 80921-3554, USA.

Although Switzerland is not a large country with large numbers of its citizens emigrating to reside in overseas countries, there were about 600 Swiss-born individuals, mostly shopkeepers and small farmers, living in New Zealand at the outbreak of World War II in 1939. Prior to the war, Switzerland also conducted a significant amount of trade with New Zealand, mostly consisting of timepieces such as wrist and pocket watches and clocks.

By 1942, more than 6,000 New Zealand troops had been captured by the German and Italian armies and held as prisoners of war in western European countries overrun by the Axis powers. For that reason alone, an urgent need arose to communicate with these prisoners but mail between the two warring factions ceased abruptly with the outbreak of hostilities and a way needed to be found to restore some semblance of mail service.

Neutral Switzerland served as the clearing-house for mail originating in New Zealand and this book looks at and lists the Swiss and New Zealand postal rates in effect during World War II.

The main body of this work is divided into eight sections. Each is amply illustrated with examples of covers to help clarify the relevant text. Three pages of a four-page outline explain the need of a book such as this and the conventions used by the authors in their published work; the fourth page depicts a hand-sketched map of New Zealand showing the country's key cities, ports, and censorship locations related to World War II mail.

Three appendices in seven pages provide a comprehensive summary of New Zealand postal rates, Swiss postal rates, and the *General Post Office Pamphlets P2280E and P2327B.*

A three-page bibliography of relevant references complements this exhaustive postal history study.

It is a publication that will appeal to a broad spectrum of collectors. Of obvious interest to military postal history aficionados, it is also a work that will appeal to historians and collectors whose interests include postal history in general.

Priced at a reasonable $20, this well-researched and amply illustrated book is a bargain. We do not hesitate in recommending it to philatelists with an interest in World War II postal history, military mail, the International Red Cross, wartime airmail rates and routes, censorship markings, collectors of prisoner of war covers, and philatelists in general who have even a remote interest in the stamps of New Zealand and Switzerland.

Tony Shaman

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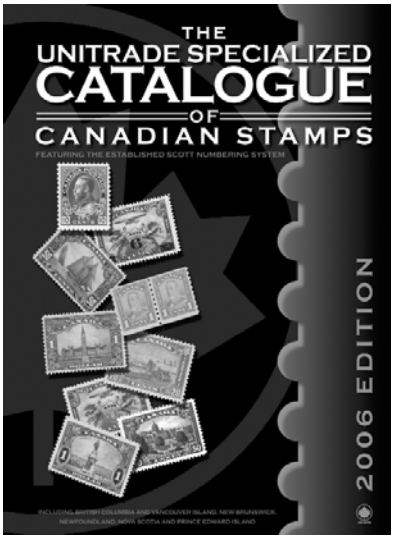
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Santa Visits School Kids

By Tony Shaman

Santa Claus, accompanied by several of his trusted elves, paid a pre-Christmas visit to Black Creek Pioneer Village in Toronto to pick up "Dear Santa" letters penned by the students of Maurice Cody Junior Public School. Two Grade 3 classes are spending a week role-playing and studying in the 1861-era Dickson's Hill School one-room schoolhouse located on the grounds of Black Creek Pioneer Village.

Wearing homemade period costumes, the youngsters appear in keeping with their historic classroom surroundings that included a wood burning stove, old desks and benches designed to seat two students side-by-side, and historic reading and writing materials. The students' week at the Pioneer Village is part of an integrated approach to learning, according to a Canada Post press release. Each student wrote Santa a letter that they personally handed to jolly old St. Nick at the village post office.

Canada Post's chief letter-writing elf, Don Capalbo, made the Black Creek Pioneer Village circular date stamp along with an old-time, inked stamp pad available for students to cancel their individual covers to Santa. To frank their letters to the North Pole, Canada Post provided the students with the 50-cent Snowman stamps, released November 3, 2005. Elf Capalbo assured the students that Santa will answer all letters; the only stipulation is that each letter must have a readable return address.

To receive a reply from Santa, letters must be addressed to: Santa Claus, North Pole, H0H 0H0. ✉



Keisha McIntosh, Canada Post Communications

Letters enclosed in covers showing Santa's unique H0H 0H0 postal code, as illustrated on the pictured envelope addressed by Max McQuaig, will reach the North Pole in a magical way. To learn how, read the story by Claire Doyon on page 38.

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Student Barbara Lem (back row) may have made a spelling mistake or forgotten to list a wished-for gift in her letter after sealing her envelope, while Erika Brones (foreground right) is contentedly inserting her finished letter into an envelope for Santa. Catherine Quinn is either smiling for the camera or anticipating what Santa will bring her for Christmas.



Timothee Hintzy (foreground) is engrossed in composing his gift list while his seatmate, Liam Jessup is having a jolly time chit chatting with Aidan Polese seated behind him. Nicholas Blake appears to be thinking about putting pencil to paper, or reflecting on what to list first.



Sally Cooke, Officer Corporate Communications, Canada Post, displays the 2005 H0H 0H0 poster publicizing the Santa Letter-Writing program. Looking on is Don Capalbo, Canada Post Chief Elf who has assumed responsibility for some of the letters sent to Santa by non-English speaking children from around the globe.



Teacher Bev Bruce appears quite proud of her students who have just completed a segment on letter writing as part of their integrated learning approach taking place for a week at Black Creek Pioneer Village. Posing with her in the festively decorated classroom are Lizzie Sullivan, Katherine Quinn, and Don Capalbo.





LEFT: The highlight of any children's Christmas gathering is, of course, Santa. A group of smiling youngsters happily handed him their letters that he promptly placed into the Canada Post mailbag for delivery to the North Pole.

FAR LEFT: One of Santa's elves is handing out candy canes to the period-costumed Grade 3 students who have written, signed, and sealed their "Dear Santa" letters and handed them to St. Nick who made a special pre-Christmas appearance at the Toronto Pioneer Village to make sure that the children's letters get to the North Pole on time for Santa to pen his replies.



in my OPINION
à mon AVIS

by Bret Evans

Specialization is one of the great blessings and one of the great curses of stamp collecting.

While some collectors choose to remain generalists, the vast majority choose to specialize in one way or another.

This is good because it allows us to customize our collecting to match our interests. Both the topical collector and the expert in century-old printing variations are specialists in their own ways. Both have picked something that interests them and integrated it into their collecting. If carried to the logical conclusions both will become experts in their own chosen fields. They may even choose to exhibit or write about their specialty. That is good because if we do not share our research, the next generation of collectors will have to do it all over again.

Specialization is really nothing more than a reflection of how incredibly diverse and adaptable the hobby of stamp collecting can be.

By now you are probably wondering why I say it is also a curse. Well, that is simple. As collectors specialize, several things can happen. As their focus narrows down, possibly to a very small area, they become proud of their knowledge and their collection. All too often, that pride turns into arrogance, and a lack of respect for the specialities of other collectors.

To make my point, let's look at three hypothetical specialists. The first is a postal history nut that specializes in one county. Within his area, he knows the name of every post office and of every postmaster. He even knows how and who moved mail between communities and all sorts of variations. The second collector has picked one specific issue and studied it in depth. He knows how many printing plates were used and their number. He even has most sheet positions figured out and has all those telltale printer's flaws memorized. The third collector is a topical nut that has spent the past three years gathering up stamps featuring his favourite animal. Almost nothing in his collection is more than 15 years old and most of it has little value.

If you were to put the three of them together and ask them to share their collections, it probably would not work. There is a good chance that they would judge the others' collections against their own and not understand each other. The postal historian would probably be viewed as making too much about too little and the non-philatelic material would be viewed as insignificant. The single-issue collection would probably be dismissed as flyspeck collecting. As for the topical collector, the others would probably consider his collection little more than junk. In extreme cases, one or more persons may feel compelled to express their negative views not only in terms of the collection but also about the collector.

Of course there is also the possibility that they would adopt a different approach. Ideally they would see each collection as a reflection not only of that person's interests, or of the time and money they spend of the hobby, but also as a reflection on how each person's enthusiasm has translated into philately.

Which type of collector are you? Do you greet other collectors with enthusiasm and show a genuine interest in what they have found exciting, or are you derisive of anyone whose interests and practices are beneath you?

Long ago, when I first started writing about collecting, I learned not to be judgmental about what people collect, especially if I do not want them to judge what I collect.

For me, such a policy is not only common courtesy, but also good business. I suggest that the same policy is also good for the entire hobby.



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