VOLUME XVII NUMBER 5
SEPTEMBER - OCTOBER, 1966
WHOLE NUMBER 96

The CANADIAN PHILATELIST



Journal of the
ROYAL PHILATELIC SOCIETY of CANADA

Half Ton Air Cargo From Europe

September 1, 1966

Dear Friends:—

Early in August we received a shipment of stamps via Air Cargo from Europe weighing 950 pounds. Although we have been buying stamps from all over the world for many years this shipment of over 5 million stamps is the largest to arrive via air. The lot consisted of attractive sets and singles of European countries. When it comes to size, this has been the month. A collection was received in a specially built trunk containing 42 Scotts Specialty Albums and weighs a ton—not really, but in trying to move it to my office for valuation it seemed like a ton. This collection coming from the mid-west took ten weeks in transit by a moving firm, whereas, the European shipment was delivered to us only a couple of days after leaving the Continent.

Then there was the big lot of Indonesia stamps received from Hong Kong in three parcels. You might be interested to know that these were dispatched by our supplier through the Foreign Exchange Bank in Hong Kong, and sent to our branch of the Imperial Bank of Commerce with draft attached. With this procedure we have to pay for the stamps before taking possession and this protects our supplier from the chance of our reneging on the deal. "Fat chance" but then he is on the other side of the world and you can hardly blame him, particularly when you know how desperate they are for Canadian dollars over there. As a matter of fact we always suggest this method to clients wishing to sell their stamps as one way to give them double assurance of the safety of their stamps pending agreement and settlement.

On the "Canada Scene" we have purchased some really nice collections and lots during the summer. No pence issues in wholesale quantities and no Jubilee dollars in large blocks, but a good range of most everything else and quite strong in depth.

Bigwin Inn Deal—At the end of July a New York dealer who is a very good friend of mine, came to Canada for a visit and we stayed at the famous Muskoka Hotel. With the hot summer weather and the beautiful surroundings it was easy to make him amenable to reasonable prices. He called them (Harry Kari) prices, and in short order we completed our business and went for a swim. Incidentally my purchase was for $30,000.00 in face value mint British Colonies.

Quickies—A $13,000.00 lot of British Colonies in stock cards, a fantastic mint stock of Brazil cataloguing over $200,000.00, A Canada plate block stock $3,300.00, and first issues of Austria and Belgium in bundles, Panama mint over $5,000.00, and oh yes, many small deals all the way down to $10.00.

The Toronto Stamp Collectors Club summer party was held last week at Jarretts. Next door his new home, "The Cathedral in the Hill" is near completion and is an ideal residence for the Dean of Canadian Philately. Noted in the stamp crowd mixture were Smiling Vinny, Danny Drake, Short Shorts Sutherland, Wilson Imperf. Pair, Young-Youngs, Judge Sissons, Wee Woolley and others, unclassified.

Philatelically yours,

Harry Martin

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The CANADIAN PHILATELIST

EDITORIAL OFFICES:
155 Forest Hill Rd.
Toronto 7, Canada

VOLUME XVII, NUMBER 5 SEPTEMBER - OCTOBER, 1966 WHOLE NUMBER 96

Official Journal of the

ROYAL PHILATELIC SOCIETY OF CANADA

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Published in Toronto 6 Times a Year

Authorized as Second Class Mail by the Post Office Dept., Ottawa and for payment of postage in cash. Published in Port Perry, Ont.

PUBLICATION DATES
1st January, March, May, July, September and November

ADVERTISING
Special Low Rates for listing Chapter Meetings.

All advertising correspondence and copy to be addressed to:—

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Covers	$28.00	24.00
Full page	24.00	21.00
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Deadline for advertising & editorial copy: FIRST OF MONTH preceding publication date.

Opinions expressed in the various articles in this journal are those of the writers, and not necessarily endorsed by the Society.

The Editor Speaks Out . . . .

OUR READERS will be shocked to hear of the sudden death of our former editor, Mr. Louis Marius Lamouroux, on July 15, 1966. An obituary appears elsewhere in this issue He is and will be much missed by all who knew him.

☆ ☆ ☆

As an interim measure an Editorial Committee has been appointed to carry on the publication of C.P. The Committee is composed of R. T. Waines, Kenneth Rowe and H. Sutherland, all of Toronto. Communications to the editors should, until further notice, be addressed to 155 Forest Hill Road, Toronto, Ontario.

☆ ☆ ☆

An international exhibition in Amsterdam takes place next year from May 11 to May 21. The Canadian Commissioner is W. H. P. Maresch, 628 Yonge Street, Toronto, Ontario. Full details are not yet available but frames are expected to cost approximately $6 each and applications for entry should be made to the Canadian Commissioner as soon as possible.

☆ ☆ ☆

Congratulations are in order to Jim Kraemer (a Vice-President of R.P.S.C.) and his wife Fern. Last July 20th, at Ottawa General Civic Hospital, they became the proud parents of another baby boy, a brother for James and Vaughan.

☆ ☆ ☆

On July 12th, Leicester James Gilbert-Lodge, honorary Secretary of the Royal Philatelic Society, London, for 35 years, died at his home in Hove, Essex, aged 81. A considerable number of the members of the R.P.S.C. are also members of the Royal of London and they will greatly regret the passing of this grand old man of philately.

☆ ☆ ☆

We have often pondered on the reason for so many collectors dropping out of the stamp-collecting hobby after a few years of collecting. Apparently they lose interest and give up and for the remainder of their lives talk about "the collection I once had".

There are probably various reasons for this sad state of affairs: lack of knowledge, a belief on their part that the catalogue is the final word on the subject, a misguided idea that the collecting of topicals is only an adjunct to the embellishing of the album pages, the desire to have their stamps admired and to be spoken of as an ardent collector but, on the other hand, no desire to become actually informed; and so on.

Whatever is worth while doing is worth while doing well; at least we believe this to be so, even as regards a hobby. True philately begins where the catalogue leaves off. This means searching out all the information available on a particular subject and then researching and most likely adding to the information available.

If this sounds like work, you will find that it is work but work of the most rewarding type, and also the most pleasurable. Besides, in doing this research the collector will find that he must gain a vast knowledge of the basic elements of philately.

Besides the knowledge gained the collector will of necessity make the acquaintance of other collectors interested in the same aspect, or related aspects, of philately. Like calls unto like and great friendships are frequently established this way.

Join a local society, if such is available. Not only do you meet other stamp "friends" but frequently you can pick up wanted material and generally so at a very reasonable amount. Let your dealers know where your interest lies. They often come across lots which they couldn't bother picking up unless they knew they had a probable customer for them.

Before the collector commences on any philatelic research he should consider very carefully the availability of quantities of material, the cost of the material and his available funds, and also whether the problem actually is attractive to him.

By all means attend every stamp exhibition you are able to because a very careful scrutiny of the exhibits is bound to increase your knowledge or to give you a new slant on your own specialty. Exhibiting is also a very good way of learning what is important and what is only second-rate or secondary material.

Generalising on the above, the only way to succeed in philately is to jump in and get your feet wet. A collector can only get out of his hobby as much as he puts into it and the choice is his. We feel certain that if the average collector were to take his hobby seriously there wouldn't be as many drop-outs.

☆ ☆ ☆

At some time or other a collector must run up against problems which he cannot solve himself. We ourselves have been puzzled for years over the identity of a French cancellation and the answer has just come to us in the last month from a back copy of "TPO" magazine. In order to assist our members, it has been suggested that the CANADIAN PHILATELIST run a small Query and Answer column in which a few queries from our members are published each month along with answers, as they come in, to these queries. It is not suggested that we have an appointed philatelist to answer these queries, but rather that the members who are able to do so write in the answers to the magazine. Of course, there will be a certain amount of "vetting", but no more than is necessary.

If you, as a member, are interested, please write to the editors, indicating your approval. It depends upon the amount of interest shown whether this suggestion is adopted or not.

Martin Apfelbaum:



During the course of a year I probably examine well over a thousand stamp collections. What constantly amazes me is that a high percentage of these collections do not carry any kind of owner identification. Just think about this for a minute. Do you have notated anywhere on the pages or attached to the binders of your albums any indication that they are your property? Your automobile has a license and serial number for easy identification. Your stocks and bonds all carry your name, and U.S. savings bonds, in addition, carry serial numbers. In the case of many stamp collectors their philatelic property, which can account for a large portion of their assets, does not even have their name marked in it.

To solve this problem we now have available attractive labels that provide a space for your name, address and telephone number. They are printed in maroon on gray paper and can be affixed to the inside of your albums. They are free for the asking; just send us your name and address together with the quantity you need. Address your request to me, and I'll see that you get your labels by return mail.

Martin L. Apfelbaum

Executive Vice-President.

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In Memoriam



LOUIS MARIUS LAMOUROUX

F. R. P. S. C.

1893 - 1966

LOUIS M. LAMOUROUX, F.R.P.S.C.

A Philatelist who has endeared himself to thousands of stamp collectors throughout Canada, Louis Marius Lamouroux, F.R.P.S.C., Editor of "The Canadian Philatelist", the official journal of The Royal Philatelic Society of Canada and the immediate Past-President of the Society, died in Toronto on July 15.

He was born at Bordeaux, France, on March 24, 1893 and at the age of seven went to London,England, where he received his early schooling later returning to finish his education.

He then went back to London to work for the Gresham Life returning to France to do his Military Service and was there on the outbreak of the First World War. He fought in the French Army throughout the War with the Chasseurs Alpines.

After the war he again returned to London to the Gresham Life and while in England was an active member of the Bath Road Cycling Club. He came to live in Canada in 1929 and was married in Toronto in 1930 to May Hambling who he had met in London. During the Second World War he was on the reserve list of the Queen's York Rangers in Toronto.

He was with the Confederation Life at their Head Office in Toronto for 30 years as translator in their French department until his retirement in 1959. He was a leading authority on the translation of technical insurance matters into the French language.

Louis Lamouroux was an ardent stamp collector and gave many talks to Chapters of the Society on his favourite subject, the stamps and postal history of his native land.

He was a founder member of the North Toronto Stamp Club, was president for several years and Editor of their Newsletter until the time of his death.

In 1953 he was elected President of the Canadian Philatelic Society at the Toronto Convention and served for five years as President of the Society, during which time he travelled extensively in Canada visiting local clubs and making contact with collectors.

On his retirement as President at the Victoria Convention in 1958 he took on the task as Editor of "The Canadian Philatelist" and continued to devote himself wholeheartedly to the interests of the Society. He has been honoured by being made an Honorary Life Member of a number of the Chapters of the Society.

As one who has been closely associated with Louis since he became an officer of the Society—in fact it was at my persuasion that he became president in 1953—I should like to pay a sincere personal tribute to him as being one of the most likeable personalities and one of the finest people with whom I have ever had the privilege of being associated.

He gave his time and energies unstintingly to the Society whose interests were always his first consideration. I know that Louis derived a great deal of pleasure from his stamps and from the many long hours he put into working for the Society.

Many prominent philatelists and personal friends paid tribute to him at his funeral at which the honorary pall bearers were members of a number of Toronto Stamp Clubs, including the North Toronto Stamp Club. The Royal Philatelic Society of Canada was represented by six of the directors, the President, Dr. G. M. Geldert of Ottawa who was accompanied by Mrs. Geldert, Vice-Presidents A. H. Christensen of Westmount and H. Sutherland of Toronto and Directors James Law of London, Colin H. Bayley of Ottawa and Kenneth Rowe of Toronto.

Louis will be greatly missed by all who knew him, by his innumerable friends from coast to coast across the continent and by his fellow directors of the Royal Philatelic Society of Canada, whose deepest sympathies are extended to his widow, son and daughter and their families. —A.H.C.

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THE POSTAGE STAMPS OF ETHIOPIA

Situated in northeastern Africa, the empire of Ethiopia, more than four times the size of Great Britain with only a third of her population, is the oldest of the independent countries in that continent. Indeed, the Ethiopians can trace their ancestry back to Biblical times; the title of Son of the Lion of Judah, borne by successive rulers right down to the present, springs from the tradition that the emperors of Ethiopia are descended from King Solomon and The Queen of Sheba through their son Mene'ek I. A highly developed civilzation existed in the kingdom of Axum (the present day Aksum) centuries before the Christian era. In the year A.D. 324 the Emperor Azana, King of Axum, was converted to Christianity and since that time the highland Ethiopians have remained staunchly Coptic Christians. The empire of Ethiopia extended over large areas of the present-day Sudan and Somaliland and even for a time in the sixth century held the Yemen as its dependency, but the rise of Islam in the seventh century swiftly destroyed the power of Axum and, in the words of Edward Gibbon the Ethiopians "slept near a thousand years, forgetful of the world by whom they were forgotten".

The Christian Ethiopians withdrew into the highlands and were completely cut off from the rest of the world till the beginning of the sixteenth century when the Portuguese, seeking the legendary Christian Kingdom of Prester John in the heart of Africa penetrated the country in 1520. Portuguese troops and warships helped to defeat the Moslem armies of Achmed Gragne and for more than a century Portuguese power was strong in Ethiopia. The tactless proselytizing of the Jesuit missionaries, however, led to their expulsion in 1632 by the Emperor Fasilidas and from that date Portuguese influence in Ethiopia declined.

During the next hundred years Ethiopia consisted of a loose confederation of petty kingdoms, often at war with each other and barely owing allegiance to the emperor or **negusa nagast** (king of kings). In 1855, however, there arose to imperial power a minor prince named Kassa who was enthroned as the Emperor Theodore. He was the first Westernizing monarch in Ethiopia but, after falling foul of the British government, he was defeated and deposed by Lord Napier's expedition (1867-8) and committed suicide. Earlier he had defeated the king of Shoa and kept his son, Menelek, as a hostage. Menelek imbibed Western ideas at Theodore's court which later stood him in good stead. In 1888 he succeeded the Emperor John IV who had been killed fighting the Mahdi and set about modernizing his country. He annexed vast areas to the south and west of Ethiopia and surprised the world by defeating an Italian army at Adowa in 1896. He founded the capital of Addis Ababa and introduced the first roads, railways, schools and hospitals in Ethiopia. In 1894 he established a postal service and introduced postage stamps.

A series of seven, in denominations from ¼ guerche to 16 guerche, was produced typographically at the French Government Works in Paris. The designs, by the noted French artist E. Mouchon, portrayed the Emperor on the low values and the symbolic Lion of the Tribe of Judah on the high values. The inscription was entirely in Amharic and following the admission of the country to the Universal Postal Union in 1901 the stamps were overprinted "Ethiopie". The overprints may be found in either violet or blue and the ¼ guerche value also exists with the overprint in black. In 1902 the series was further overprinted with the Amharic letters for **Bosata** (post) and the year following with the word **Malekathe** (message). A

larger version of the last overprint appeared in 1904. In 1905 the currency, which had hitherto consisted of 16 guerches, equivalent to a Maria Theresa silver dollar or thaler, was converted to centimes and francs; subsequently the definitive series was in that year surcharged in decimal currency.

In 1907, however, the former currency of 16 guerches equal to one piastre, mehalek or Maria Theresa thaler was reverted to and the stamps overprinted with figures and the Amharic word for "piastre". The following year the surcharging was carried out with the unit of currency expressed in European lettering. Examples exist with the figures of value missing. These overprints and surcharges on the first fourteen years of Ethiopian stamps offer a bewildering array of inverted, double, omitted **se-tenant** settings in blue, violet, pink, grey or black but there is much in them to reward study by the serious philatelist.



A new definitive series made its appearance in 1909. The ¼, ½ and 1 guerche denominations depicted the ornate Throne of Solomon, the 2 and 4 guerche values featured the turbanned Emperor Menelek II, while the 8 and 16 guerche stamps depicted the negus in full regalia. These designs were the work of M. V. Marec and the dies were engraved **en épargne** by M. E. Dete at the French Government Printing Works as before. The 1894 series was revalued in 1911 by the overprint AFF. EXCEP. FAUTE TIMBRE and surcharged with new values in pen and ink.

Though Menelek did not die until 1913, on account of old age he delegated his powers to his grandson Lij Yasu who assumed virtually dictatorial power in 1909. The emperor Lij Yasu swiftly alienated his people by his tyrannical and dissolute conduct and upset the three European powers, France, Britain and Italy, by his pro-Moslem, pro-Axis sympathies on the outbreak of the First World War. In September 1916 he was excommunicated by the **abuna**, the head of the Church of Ethiopia, and shortly afterwards deposed by the great **rases** who proclaimed Zauditu (Judith), a daughter of Menelek II, as empress and Ras Tafari, the son of Menelek's nephew, Ras Makonnen, as regent and heir to the throne. The stamps of the 1909 series were overprinted with a four line inscription to commemorate the coronation of the Empress Zauditu on the 11th February 1917. A similar Amharic overprint, but in three lines and unframed, was also applied to the 1909



series. Four denominations of the second series were also surcharged ¼, ½, 1 or 2 guerche. Both the coronation series abound in errors such as inverted or double overprint, but the errors are almost as common as the normals and do not command a great premium.

A pictorial definitive series wax typographed in 1919 by the firm of "Busag" in Berne, from designs prepared by W. Plattner. The fauna of Ethiopia, including, giraffes, gazelles, leopards, ostriches, rhinoceros and lions, occupied most of the designs, not only in the vignettes but often engraved into the frames as well. St. George's Cathedral in Addis Ababa appeared on the 6 guerche and portraits of Ras Tafari graced the 1, 2 and 4 guerche values. The three highest denominations 4, 5 and 10 mehaleks, were reserved for portraits of the empress in different poses. The 4 mehalek denomination was surcharged the following year for re-use as a 4 guerche stamp. Numerous other provisional surcharges on the 1919 series appeared between 1921 and 1927; these are characterized by a chaotic array of double, inverted or double and inverted settings with minor typographic defects which are of interest to the specialist.

Ethiopia's currency underwent yet another change in 1928 when a system of 16 mehaleks or guerches equal to one thaler was introduced. A new series consisting of portraits of either Ras Tafari or the Empress Zauditu was typographed at the French Government Printing Works. The series was issued on the 1st September overprinted to commemorate the opening of the new Post Office in Addis Ababa and the unoverprinted set did not appear until five days later. As with the earlier issues numerous varieties and errors exist in the overprinted series.

For many years friction had existed between the ultra-conservative empress and the progressive forward-looking crown prince. In 1928 both the abuna and the commander-in-chief of the armed forces died, thereby giving Ras Tafari his opportunity to overthrow the empress. With his own troops from Harar he carried out a **coup d'état** and extracted from Zauditu the title of negus (king) and practically all executive power. On the 7th October he was crowned negus in St. George's Cathedral and those five denominations of the new definitive series which bore his portrait were given a commemorative overprint to mark the occasion. Zauditu was allowed to retain the empty title of empress until her death in 1930, when Tafari was proclaimed emperor under the title of Haile Selassie I. The 1928 series was re-issued on the 3rd April 1930

overprinted in French and Amharic. Two settings exist, differing in the size of lettering and in the spelling of the emperor's name (HAYLE or HAILE). On the 2nd November the definitive series appeared with a large inscription entirely in Amharic which signified "The Emperor of the Kings of Ethopia, Haile Selassie". A proper Coronation series appeared simultaneously; recess-printed at the Institut de Gravure, Paris, it featured the conquering Lion of Judah, the Star of David and the sceptre and orb of imperial power.

On the 25th March 1931 the definitive series was issued re-valued by surcharging ⅛, ¼, ½ or 1 mehalek on higher values to fill a demand for lower denominations. On the 17th August 1929 a limited airmail service of irregular flights from Addis Ababa to Dire Dasun and Djibouti on the French Somali Cost was inaugurated. The 1928 definitive series was overprinted in Amharic signifying "16 August 1929 — Ethiopian Government Airmail" with the silhouette of an aircraft. These stamps were superseded on the 17th June 1931 by a series of seven ranging from 1 guerche to 3 thalers, featuring a monoplane in flight over the map of Ethiopia. A new definitive series, recess-printed, like the airmails, at the Institut de Gravure, Paris, appeared at the same time. Various portraits of Haile Selassie, his wife, the Empress Waizeru Menen, or the Emperor Menelek II appeared on every value except the ¼ guerche denomination which featured the recently completed railway bridge over the river Hawash.

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The early years of the Emperor Haile Selassie's reign were hampered by the growing friction with Italy whose colonies in Eritrea and Somaliland bordered on Ethiopia. On the 5th December 1934 a clash between Ethiopians' and Italian troops occurred at Wal Wal on the frontier and signalized the start of Mussolini's first campaign of territorial aggrandizement, though the full-scale invasion did not begin till nine months later. The Italians were overwhelmingly superior in modern weapons but nonethe'ess took seven months to overrun the country. Philatelically the Abyssinian War was marked by the re-issue of five denominations of the 1931 series in new colours overprinted with a red cross. These stamps were sold with a 100 per cent premium in aid of the Red Cross war funds. The currency was belatedly decimalized in 1936, with 100 centimes equal to one thaler and denominations of 1 centime, 2, 3, 5 and 10 centimes were produced by surcharging the lower values of the 1928 series. A second Red Cross series, photogravure printed by Courvoisier S.A., La Chaux-de-Fonds, Switzerland, was prepared for use but never issued on account of the fall of Addis Ababa on the 5th May 1936.

On the 9th May King Victor Emmanuel III of Italy was proclaimed "Emperor of Ethiopia" and the country quickly merged into a new administrative system, known as Italian East Africa and comprising Ethiopia, Eritrea and Italian Somaliland. A set of seven stamps portraying Emmanuel III and inscribed "Etiopia" was issued to commemorate the annexation of Ethiopia.

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OTTAWA 2, ONTARIO, CANADA





The first stamps inscribed "Africa Orientale Italiana" did not appear until 1938. These pictorials and airmails, together with stamps commemorating the bi-millenary of Augustus Caesar, the Naples Exhibition of 1940 and the Rome-Berlin Axis reflect the chauvinism of Mussolini's empire at the height of his power. Although the Italians poured vast amounts of money and resources into Ethiopia during the five years of their rule their power was virtually confined to the large towns and garrisons, the **shiftas** or guerillas being in command elsewhere. After the entry of Italy into the Second World War much of British Somaliland was initially occupied by the Axis forces and it was not until January 1941 that British and Ethiopian troops assumed the offensive. In that month the Emperor Haile Selassie re-entered the south-western district of Ethiopia and commanded the Ethiopian forces which were largely instrumental in driving out the Italians. British troops attacked from both north and south and the liberation of the country was completed on the 27th November. Haile Selassie re-entered Addis Ababa on the 5th May, exactly five years to the day after the Italians had occupied the city.

The first stamps of the restored empire of Ethiopia appeared on the 23rd March 1942. Inscribed in Amharic and English the three denominations of 4, 10 and 20 centimes were lithographed at the Security Printing Press at Nasik in India and portrayed the emperor in his coronation robes. The values were inserted in black letterpress at Khartoum—a unique instance of stamps printed in two operations in two countries for use in a third. A subsequent printing of this issue was completely lithographed and can easily be distinguished from the first since the word CENTIMES appears in capitals whereas in the original series the word was in upper and lower case lettering. Additional denominations from 8 c. to 60 c. were added between June 1942 and April 1943. The series was overprinted on the 3rd November 1943 to mark the restoration of the Obelisk and the thirteenth anniversary of the coronation of the emperor.

Ethiopia's first commemorative series to have been specifically printed for that purpose (other than the 1930 coronations featured the portraits, statue and mausoleum of Menelek II to mark his birth centenary. The unissued Red Cross stamps of 1936 were eventually put into circulation overprinted with a large red V for Victory in 1945. The Maria

Theresea thaler was officially prohibited in 1946 and its withdrawal ordered at the rate of two thalers to three Ethiopian dollars. This change was marked philatelically by the airmail stamps of 1946, commemorating the resumption of the government airmail service, which were surcharged in the new currency.

Most Ethiopian stamps since World War II have been printed either by Bradbury, Wilkinson & Co. Ltd. or Thomas De La Rue & Co. Ltd., or more recently, photogravure printed by Harrison & Sons Ltd. Since November 1950 they have, moreover, been inscribed in English so that both in appearance and inscription the stamps of Ethiopia have a familiarity to collectors in Britain and the United States used to stamps of the British Commonwealth, and yet they are distinctive and appealing, reflecting as they do the advance of one of the most progressive states in Africa which, at the same time, is also steeped in the history and traditions of an ancient civilization.

A number of stamps have commemorated the Emperor and his family, ranging from the set of three issued in 1947 to mark the sesquicentennial of the Negus Sahle Selassie, founder of the Selassie Dynasty, to the impressive set of three triangular stamps issued on the 27th July 1961 to celebrate the Imperial Golden Wedding. The Emperor and his consort, the Empress Waizeru Menen, were depicted seated on thrones. Stamps have also been issued to commemorate the 20th and 30th anniversaries of Haile Selassie's coronation, his Silver Jubilee in 1955 and his 60th birthday in 1952. Three stamps released on the 23rd July 1962 to mark the emperor's 70th birthday also emphasized Ethiopia's role in international affairs by depicting an Ethiopian soldier of the U.N. peace-keeping force against a map of the Congo.

The definitive series of 1947-55 has been augmented in recent years by short sets of thematic stamps featuring animals, birds, flowers and sports of Ethiopia (the last-mentioned series also including a stamp portraying Abbebe

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No.	Val.	Pl. Blk.	Unused	Used
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02	2c.	67.50	1.30	1.20
03	3c.	4.00	.16	.13
04	4c.	4.50	.18	.09
06	10c.	3.20	.40	.08
07	14c.	3.00	.60	.24
08	20c.	9.00	1.35	.22
09	50c.	235.00	40.00	40.00
010	$1.00	67.50	10.00	10.00
011	50c.	26.50	3.75	3.50
012	1c.	1.50	.09	.06
013	2c.	2.40	.17	.14
014	3c.	2.35	.16	.08
015	4c.	3.00	.14	.05
015A	5c.	5.00	.25	.18
016	1c.	.90	.04	.03
017	2c.	3.75	.13	.09
018	3c.	1.40	.13	.04
019	4c.	1.50	.21	.04
020	5c.	12.00	.25	.11
021	10c.	2.25	.35	.09
022	14c.	4.75	1.20	.35
023	20c.	9.00	1.75	.17
024	50c.	13.00	1.60	1.30
025	$1.00	80.00	17.00	17.00
026	10c.	2.75	.32	.06
027	$1.00	160.00	16.00	16.00
028	2c.	1.00	.07	.03
029	4c.	1.15	.13	.03
030	20c.	3.00	.50	.04
031	7c.	2.75	.50	.20
032	$1.00	6.25	1.40	.75
034	2c.	.37	.08	.04
035	3c.	.38	.07	.03
036	4c.	.50	.12	.03
037	5c.	.55	.12	.05
038	50c.	5.50	1.00	.20
039	10c.	1.30	.16	.04
040	1c.	.65	.03	.02
041	2c.	.55	.07	.02
043	4c.	.80	.12	.02
044	5c.	.15	.09	.02
045	20c.	4.00	.32	.04
046-9	Set	N. I.	.65	—
C01	7c.	5.25	1.10	1.10
C02	7c.	9.75	1.40	1.40
E01	10c.	11.50	2.00	2.00
E02	10c.	21.00	3.50	3.50

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Bikela, winner of the Marathon in the Rome Olympics of 1960). The long history of the country has been reflected in the series of 1957 which depicted the ancient capitals of Aksum, Lalibela, Gondar, Maqualle and Ankober. In the last three years sets of stamps have portrayed respectively rulers, spiritual leaders and empresses of Ethiopia. The last series, issued last year, ranged from the legendary Sheba to the widow of Menelek II, the Empress Taitu who ruled wisely during the minority of Lij Yasu.

Ethiopia's emergence as a modern state has been commemorated philatelically too. The 55th anniversary of the Battle of Adowa was commemorated by a set of six stamps featuring the tomb of Ras Makonnen, Haile Selassie's father and architect of the victory over the Italians. The 70th anniversary of the foundation of Addis Ababa was marked in 1957 by a set of six stamps each of which showed one of the Amharic letters which spell the name of the capital. The federation of Eritrea with Ethiopia in 1952 was heralded by a series of nine stamps showing views of Eritrea. The top value, $3, depicted the historic scene of the 30th June 1936 when Haile Selassie presented his case against Italian aggression at the League of Nations. The first and tenth anniversaries of the federation of Ethiopian and Eritrea have been commemorated by stamps in 1953 and 1962.

Ethiopia has participated in a number of the world campaigns waged by agencies of the United Nations Organization, notably World Refugee Year (1960), Anti-Malaria (1962) and Freedom from Hunger (1963). The country's role as a leader of the African continent has been mirrored in stamps such as those issued to mark the first session of the United Nations Economic Conference on Africa and the second conference of African States, convened in Addis Ababa in 1958 and 1960 respectively. The Conference of African Heads of State, held in Addis Ababa in 1963, was marked by a set of three stamps featuring a map of the continent surmounted by the Dove of Peace, symbolizing African solidarity.

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RPSC 3229

RUSTINGTON, SUSSEX, ENGLAND

Material progress has been publicized by stamps honouring the Ethiopian State Airline (1955), the opening of Abbaye Bridge (1951) and the inauguration of the Industrial and Agricultural Exhibition (1949). The welfare of the sick has not been overlooked either. The Ethiopian Red Cross Society was commemorated in 1955 by a set of three stamps showing Princess Tsahai, who gave her life in hospital work, and its silver jubilee was celebrated in 1960 by overprinting some of the unissued Red Cross stamps of 1936. Stamps for anti-tuberculosis and Aid for the Disabled funds were released between 1951 and 1963.

Among the most colourful of recent issues were the three stamps honouring the visit of Queen Elizabeth to Ethiopia in 1965. The Dorothy Wilding portrait of Her Majesty and a profile of the Emperor in Field Marshal's dress uniform graced the stamps which also depicted both national flags in full colour.

A new definitive series, printed in two colour photogravure by Courvoisier, was released on the 19th July. Each stamp depicts a different subject of great importance in the progress of the country and the Emperor's portrait is inset in the upper right corner. A third of the stamps highlight new developments in transport with such scenes as road construction (20 c.), a modern motor bus (25 c.), an electric train (30 c.) the Addis Ababa Railway Station (35 c.) and a Boeing 707 of Ethiopian Airlines ($5). Sugar growng (15 c.) and processing (10 c.) and a coffee tree (80 c.) represent agriculture while the watering of cattle and camels is depicted on the $1 and $3 stamps respectively. Modern techniques are represented by the splendidly equipped science laboratory shown on the 3 c., the textile factory (5 c.) and the hydro-electric plant at Koka Dam (40 c.) Nor is the scenery of Ethiopia overlooked: an aerial view of the bridge over the Blue Nile Gorge appears on the 50 c. and the Castles at Gondar, one of the country's principal tourist attractions, are shown on the 60 c.

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(CHAPTER No. 40)



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#831—THE 10c. ENVELOPE OF 1860

The first issue of Canadian envelopes, those issued and used before Confederation, the envelopes of 1860-64 are quite elusive. In 1860 both the 5c. and 10c. were issued on watermarked, laid paper, with broadly curved flag points. The watermark was a large "Ca / POD". In 1864 the 5c. only was reissued exactly like the 1860 issue but with a different knife. The flag point is narrowly curved.

While the 5c. is not easy to obtain, especially the 1864 issue in used condition,—the 10c. used is the toughie. This was intended for use to the United States. It is much more common in mint condition than in used.

I have noted some five copies of the used 10c. coming onto the market in the past six years, and they have brought prices ranging from $180 to $350.

* * * *

#832—MANITOBA ROULETTE VARIETY

Way back in #596 we were the first to report the 10c. Manitoba Law, Six Scallops, with "C.F." overprint with roulette instead of perforations. We were fortunate in finding two of these.

These are now listed as Sissons #R55 and list at $250. Sometimes we do report new varieties which turn out to be good. Another good one we recall writing up in the Hollow Tree for the first time, was back in packet #210 when we reported discovering Saskatchewan Law #R17a, the 75c. double print.

#833—MANITOBA LAWS DOUBLE OVERPRINTS

The only double overprint now listed in any revenue catalogue is the 20c. 1st issue with "C.F." doubled, Sissons #R8a.

I have reported one or two new varieties before, but to bring the list up to date I now list all the known varieties of double overprints in the Manitoba Laws, together with tentative catalogue values.

	M.	U.
#R7a C.F.—1st issue 10c..... (at least two var. of this)	$20.	$20.
#R8a C.F.—1st issue 20c.	35.	35.
#R10a C.F.—1st issue 50c	—	35.
#R11a C.F.—1st issue $1.00....	—	35.
#R?8a JF on a doubled L.S. $1.00 1886, 9 scallops	—	25.
#R100a Large Blue J.F. $1.00	—	25.

These are all printed overprints, not handstamps. There are also a number of doubles in the handstamps, but in my book they are no where near as interesting. So happy hunting!

* * * *

#834—CANADIAN VOYAGEUR'S NILE EXPEDITION COVER

In packet #659 we reported on a number of covers known to exist addressed to Surgeon Major Neilson, a member of that expedition. Eight covers were known. One of these came onto the market earlier this year, thru a Sisson's sale. This was one of the eight already known. In fact it is the same cover used to illustrate Gilbert's article which appeared in the **London Philatelist** in October-November 1962. The cover, bearing a 5c. small queen and addressed to Wady Halfa, Egypt, brought $130.00.

#835—MANITOBA "BLUE" HANDSTAMPS

The 1887 issue law stamps, nine scallops with the "BF" handstamp in red is well known, it comes in the 10c., 25c. and 50c. values. Sissons numbers are R73-75.

The 1892 issue law stamps, also nine scallops come with the "JF" handstamp also in red. These are Sissons numbers R93-97.

According to previous records, which Sisson Catalogue reflects, only one variety was known with the handstamp in Blue instead of red, this was R93a, the 10c. with Blue "JF". However there are five of these known to come with the Blue handstamp, these being:—

R73a—10c. "BF"	——	7.50
R74a—25c. "BF"	——	25.00
R93a—10c. "JF"	5.00	——
R95a—25c. "JF"	——	7.50
R96a—50c. "JF"	——	7.50

So once again, here's some good prospecting for the revenue enthusiast!

* * * *

#836—MORE EARLY IMPERFORATE PLATE BLOCKS LISTED

In checking over the Jarrett catalogs and our own collection we found a number of imperforate plate blocks not listed in Bileski's 6th edition. These are:—

Scotts' #72 8c. Leaf plate #1 upper
" #81 7c. Num. plate #1 upper
" #89 1c. Edward, plate #1 upper
" #90 2c. Edward, plate #1 upper
plate #2, upper
" #90b 2c. booklet, tête-bêche panes of 12, plate 1, Upper L & R
" #91 5c. Edward, plate #1 upper
" #92 7c. Edward, plate #1 upper
" #93 10c. Edward, plate #1 upper
"#97 1c. Quebec, Plate 3, lower not inverted
" #98 2c. Quebec, plate 2, upper
" #99 5c. Quebec, plate 2, upper

Incidently, Kass Bileski would like to make his plate block catalogue as complete and accurate as possible. He especially "would appreciate the help of anyone who knows Newfoundland plates" and "any other section that needs corrections or additions". So hop to it plate block fans!

* * * *

#837—SOME INTERESTING EDWARD PLATE BLOCKS

Almost any issue has some interesting plate block varieties but to my way of thinking none can compare with the Edward Issues.

In the first place you have the early plate numbers coming with both thin (the early) and thick numerals.

In the 1c you have such things as the "spinning top" on plate #34. Some of the plates had the word "TOP" added to the imprint. In most cases these were thick engraved letters. In others they were crudely punchd in, sometimes with some of the letters put in backwards, as in plate #32. Then there are the various Printing order (PO) numbers.

In the 2c. you have some hand punched plate numbers, like plate 70 with the 7 put in backwards. And in plate #74 you have the word "TOP" added to the imprint, even though it appears in the bottom margin inverted!

Only a relatively few plates come with the word "TOP". While there were 200 subject and 400 subject plates, almost all plates are "uppers", and it is almost impossible to tell which are left and which are right panes, so the collector is generally satisfied to obtain one example of each plate number.

* * * *

#838—SOME RECENT ELECTION ENVELOPES

Haven't had much new to report in this field for some time,—our last report being packet #688 in which we tried to give a complete listing of the Elizabeth Election envelopes. We can only add three varieties since:—

FORM 95 6-63-175M on white paper '61 Eliz. design 5c.—as above—overprinted twice "SPECIMEN"

ENVELOPE N (no form number) on white, '61 Eliz. 2c.

We would welcome any news of election envelopes used since the 1962 series.

* * * *

#839—A NEW "IN PRIZE" VARIETY

Back in packet #713 we reported the "IN PRIZE" overprint being **struck twice in red** on the 10c. blue Widow Queen Supreme Court. This would make it tentatively numbered #R80b in Sissons' listing. Jack St. Laurent of Clinton, B.C. now reports that he has a copy of the 25c. Supreme Court of 1915 with a similar twice in red overprint. This would tentatively be numbered #R82a.

It does not surprise us that another in the twice in red variety is reported. Nelson Bond stated that a number of such varieties had been reported to him. Who else can so report?

* * * *

#840—LIBERATED PRISONER OF WAR POSTAGE FREE AEROGRAMS

During 1945, the Canadian Post Office Department issued three interesting and rare aerogram varieties,—those issued for the use of the next of kin of liberated prisoners of war, to write to them, postage free.

All three of these varieties were created by using the then current stampless civilian aerogram forms, and handstamping them.

Var. 1—"LIBERATED / PRISONER OF WAR MAIL / POSTAGE FREE" in three lines, in black. Large type—middle line measuring over 60mm. "L" of Liberated is over "N" of Prisoner.

Var. 2—similar handstamp, "L" of Liberated over "E" of Prisoner.

Var. 3—similar handstamp, but much smaller, middle line measuring approx. 43mm.

None of these seem to be common, and the last two seem to be quite scarce. None of these are listed in Holmes, but all three varieties are listed in Vol. 1 of the Kessler Catalogue of Aerograms.

#841—THOSE ALBERTA ANTELOPE LICENSE "STAMPS" '64-65

We have been very much interested in the Alberta Wildlife Certificate stamps of 1964 and 1965 and have mentioned them on occasion here in the Hollow Tree. These are, in our book, revenue stamps that should be listed,—they are adhesive stamps, and bear a face value denomination. They definately are not Tax Paid items.

However the Antelope License "stamps" are of a different color. We have at last seen a copy. They are blue, and bear a red control number. However these do not bear any denomination, and they may have been issued without gum.

Antelope permits are issued only thru a drawing, and in relatively small numbers. Hence there is no place on the certificates for these, and are not in the same category as the other Alberta Wildlife stamps.

We rather suspect that the 1964 and 1965 issues of these Tax Paids are the same or very similar.

* * * *

#842—CANADIAN AIRWAYS VARIETY

In going thru some early issues of **Aero Philatelist Annals,** I found illustrated in the April 1954 issue a variety which I have never seen, nor recall having had reported before. This is Sanabria #S49. The variety is one of poor registry. The orange portion is far above its normal position. The orange background behind the top panel is completely in the margin above and extending into the stamp above. The two orange backgrounds to the "geese panels" are likewise far above normal position, the white outline of the geese far above the blue portion.

While more in the nature of a curiosity, rather than a true variety, it is still an interesting item. Can other collectors report on this iitem?

CANADA REVENUES

We have a long standing affection for Canadian revenues and as time permits continue to publish special catalog and album sections for various groups. Completed earlier this year was the section covering the Federal revenues dealing with Weights and Measures, Gas and Electric Light Inspection. The complete illustrated section is a joy to behold and we must thank Ed. Richardson of La Marque, Texas for supplying us not only with valuable advice as to what actually exists as well as certain so called "inexpensive" varieties for illustration purposes. They must be worth something if the dealer who has handled by now easily over half a million dollars net worth of Canadian revenues has never had them or even seen them previously!

Another section published in 1957 is the one dealing with Manitoba Law stamps and it is the only publication in the world that shows every single known Manitoba Law stamp in full colour. (We got permission from the Manitoba Attorney General's department to publish in this manner). Most of the stamps illustrated were from the famous Isaac Pitblado collection and he of course gave us the famous Isaac Pitblado collection and he of course gave us the greatest possible other help in compiling this section just as 60 years previously in 1897 he had helped in setting up the pioneer Hall revenue catalog. In fact we still have some sections that have Mr. Pitblado's autograph, in itself a collector's prize of the greatest interest as not only was the late Mr. Pitblado a pioneer collector of Canadiana, he actually was a devoted philatelist for 89 of his 98 years, starting long ago in Nova Scotia, when, as he told us, it was a game amongst the young boys to see who could locate the most "square cut" Nova Scotian stamps. Similiar New Brunswick did not count.

One of the beauties of collecting Canadian revenues is that many a rarity can still be picked up for pennies provided one knows what to look for. We supply that information in our publications, and these are inexpensive. They actually are sent out at no charge as part of our Canadian revenue stamp approval service.

Still some left of the last 2 editions of the Canada Basic and Plate Block catalogs. $5.00 gets both. (Next editions not out till 1968). Valuable Complete listings of the Flying G varieties, Tagged stamps, Perf. O.H.M.S., etc., etc.

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FROM THE PAST

A SUBSTITUTE FOR GUM

To the Editor of 'THE STAMP-COLLECTOR'S MAGAZINE.'

SIR,—I have, in two or three numbers of your nicely-conducted periodical on stamps, observed the difficulty experienced by stamp collectors in hitting upon a suitable matter for affixing stamps in their albums. Since I have been a collector, I also have been alive to this difficulty, and have tried several-ways of mounting stamps, and from my own experience I can, therefore, suggest one simple process, which, as it offers the advantage of simplicity, cleanliness, and immediate adhesiveness, I trust will be found useful to my **confrères** in stamp collecting. This process consists in using **gelatine**, which is a matter that photographers make use of in mounting photographs on cardboard. It is obtained in long, thin slips, and is prepared by simply boiling some of these slips in a small proportion of water until they become liquid, but **not thick**. This fluid is passed through a clean thin piece of linen, as filter, and is then ready. Whenever it is required for use, it must always be warmed, and a small quantity of it applied with a brush on the back of the stamp, which fixes itself at once on the book. If there is any stain round the stamp, caused by the inexperienced handling of the collector, it can be easily taken off by cleaning it with a small sponge slightly wetted. Every one that has seen how beautifully photographs are mounted now-a-day, and how easily they are removed from the cardboard, by putting them merely in water for half an hour, must at once perceive the beauty, simplicity, and excellence of this over all other adhesive matter. There is another way of sticking stamps in albums, which I have used until now, namely, to gum the backs of stamps and leave them to dry, and then use them as new stamps. But this operation, although simple in its appearance, requires great patience, time, and no end of trouble.

With regard to stamps being made moveable, I consider, that it is now too late for introducing such a change in postage stamp albums. An album having on each page fourteen or twenty square cuttings the size of a stamp, with moveable cardboards bearing the marked names of the stamps, introduced between the pages, on the plan of photographic albums, would offer a double advantage. Collectors would easily, and without spoiling or soiling their albums, change any of the stamps for new or less obliterated specimens; and by making the backs transparent, as suggested by the same correspondent, numbers, watermarks, colour of paper, and silk thread would be easily distinguished.

Believe me, dear sir,

Yours very truly,

J. S.

☆ ☆ ☆

Editorial Note: The above is taken from The Stamp-Collector's Magazine for August 1, 1866. We intend to make this column a regular feature of CP. The comments are interesting, but of course no modern philatelist would adopt the suggestion as to gelatine!

Our thanks are due to W. H. Slate who will contribute this column regularly.

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QUEBEC "12 OCTBR 1764" COVER

By J. J. CHARRON, RPSC 6741

Recently, this writer became the proud owner of what he believes to be one of the oldest known B.N.A. covers, if not the oldest, in private hands. It is dated October 12, 1764.

In "THE CANADIAN PHILATELIST", page 256, No. 6, Vol. 14 (1963), Frank Campbell, well known postal historian, referring to this Quebec City marking, states:

> "The first mark, writing in red ink, known to me is "Q3" on a letter to Montreal, October 12, 1764. The "3" is pennyweights of silver".

In "NOTES ON THE POSTAL HISTORY OF CANADA" by W. E. Durant Halliday, the author states that:

> "The earliest postally marked cover is one in the Public Archives of Canada, dated August 26th, 1763".

The article goes on to say that:

> "The earliest combined post office and rate mark, also in the Public Archives appears on a letter dated November 10, 1764 . . . "

Consequently: 1) the cover, Fig. 1, is 13½ months later than the earliest (Aug. 26, 1763) B.N.A. cover known and which is in the Archives and 2) a month earlier than the earliest (Nov. 10, 1764) "combined post office and rate mark", also in the Archives.

The following is a transcript of the letter which is of interest, if only to discuss the day and the date on which the letter was written:

Mr. John Grant

Quebec Monday 12 Octbr 1764

I got here at 12 Oc'ok (sic) Saturday evening. Mr. Jacobs is gone up with a Mill Wright to examine the best place



Fig.1



Fig. 2

on Bourdon Isles for building a mill. I beg youll inform me fully of his proceedings. Mr. Dobie carried a letter with him for me which he did not deliver when I met him at St. Sulpice. Get it and send it down first oportunity(sic). Do not neglect to send the apples and furrs (sic) by first vessel also all the ordonnances every occasion. I have ordered Jaumande (?) and Rousel to take paper which they are to send you. I have sold the gray horse open cariol(sic) and harness to Mr. (?). You'll not omitt (sic) sending him down as soon as possible and rep'ace him by the brown horse at Sorrell (sic).

The goods ordered are shiping (sic). I have only 4 puncheons rhum in place of 50 barrels the rest was sold ere I got down.

Yours All

(signed) William Grant

If you have opened the letter by Dobie keep the contents to yourself.

W.G.

Upon checking several sources, it has been definitely established that "12 Octbr 1764" fell on a Friday and not on a "Monday", as clearly indicated in Fig. 2. The so'ution to this enigma is to be found in either of the three following hypotheses:

(1) "William Grant" confused Monday for Friday. This hypothesis I discarded since it is highly improbable that Grant would let a Sunday, a day of rest, go by unnoticed. Furthermore, he says he "got here at 12 Oclok Saturday evening", presumab'y, he wrote the letter two days after his arrival in Quebec.

(2) The second hypothesis rests on the fact that the persons involved being Scottish and presumably Presbyterian, still adhered to the Old Style calendar, which, in 1764, was at least ten days late on the New Style or Gregorian calendar. The latter had been in use generally in Continental Europe since the 16th Century, however, it is only by an Act of 1751 that the British Government converted to the New Style. The English waited two centuries for the change over, possibly because of their opposition to a papal bull, dated March 1, 1582, annulling ten days. The Scots, again I presume, delayed converting to the New Style since it was an English and Anglican decree (Act). If the ten days are added to "12 Octbr 1764", the date Oct. 22nd 1764 falls equal'y on a Monday. Therefore, "Monday 12 Octbr 1764" (Old Style) was the same as Monday, Oct. 22nd 1764 (New Style). I have again discarded this second solution since in 1752, the Old Style calendar was 11 days late on



Fig. 3

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the New Style. (Encyc. Britannica—"Calendar").

(3) Finally, the more acceptable solution is that Grant must have confused the date of the month, mistakenly thinking it was the 12th instead of the 15th of October, which, of course was a Monday.

Should any reader have a more plausible solution to this day-date problem, I would be very grateful to hear from him.

Concerning some of the persons mentioned in this letter, a short biography may be of interest:

John Grant: of Montreal was apparently a brother of William Grant of St. Roch, near Quebec. He appears to have come to Canada as early as 1764; and he married before 1774 Anne Freeman, the illegitimate daughter of Richard Dobie. By her, he had at least five daughters, one of whom, Ann, married Samuel Gerrard and another Elizabeth, married James Finlay Jr. in 1798. From 1779 to 1785, John Grant was engaged in company with Gabriel Cotté and Maurice Blondeau, in trading to Lake Superior, but in 1798 he is described as "at present absent from this province". He died in 1809, and his will is in the Montreal Court House. (Documents relating to the North West Company—The Champlain Society, 1934).

William Grant: of St. Roch, merchant, was born in Scotland in 1741, and came to Canada in 1763, an agent of the London firm of Robert Grant and Co., which had engaged in the trade with Canada. In 1763, he purchased from the Marquis de Vaudreuil a grant of the fur-trading rights in La Baye, Lake Michigan; but this grant was voided, and William Grant appears to have taken no direct part subsequently in the fur-trade. But most of the Grants who embarked in the fur-trade appear to have been related to him, though the exact relationship is difficult to determine. He himself concentrated his energies about Quebec and the Lower St. Lawrence. In 1770, he married the widow of Charles Jacques Le Moyne, third Baron of Longueuil; and his nephew, Capt. David Alexander Grant, married her daughter who was heiress to the title. In 1777, William Grant was appointed Deputy Receiver-General of Quebec; and in 1778, he was appointed a member of the Legislative Council of the Province. In 1784, he was relieved of his duties as Deputy Receiver-General, because of serious deficiencies in his accounts; and he was not appointed to the Legislative Council of Lower Canada on its creation in 1791. From 1792 to his death, however, he represented the Upper Town of Quebec in the Legislative Assembly of Lower Canada. He purchased a large number of Seigneuries along the banks of the St. Lawrence, and he had extensive interests in Quebec, near which, at St. Roch, he had a large house. But he evidently died insolvent, for after his death, his Seigneuries were put up to auction. He died at Quebec on October 5th, 1805. (William Grant, Nova Francia, 1927) (Essays in Canadian History, Toronto, 1939).

Richard Dobie: merchant, was born in Scotland about 1731, and came to Canada about 1772 (?). In 1885, he was described as "the principal merchant and inhabitant" of Montreal. He died in Montreal on March 25th, 1805. (R. Campbell, A History of the Scotch Presbyterian Church, St. Gabriel Street, Montreal, 1887).

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SIPEX

The Sixth International Philatelic Exhibition held in Washington in May was located at the Shoreham Hotel and occupied five large halls. In the Diplomat Room was a series of Government exhibits from seventeen nations and the United Nations. Most of these were of modern stamps, those of Czechoslovakia and the United States being the most beautiful and interesting. Great Britain was the only country to show classics, the display with which many of us are familiar and including the sheet of penny blacks without corner letters. Surprisingly, the Republic of China had entered a display of 1959-1965 Commemorative and thematic issues and your reporter wonders whether the F.B.I. had closed their eyes to this breach of the U.S. regulations or if they had not heard of this importation.

The Court of Honour included eight remarkable exhibits all of which contained U.S.A., and we spent several happy hours drooling over the exhibits of the stamps of the local delivery and independent mail companies (John R. Boker Jr.), the Pony Express covers (Robert W. Baugham and A. J. Hertz), the postal history (Elliott Perry) and the classics (Hugh and David Baker, Mortimer Neinken), the item that appealed to us most was the block of 1860 90 cents used in Shanghai. The Raymond Weill Co. had a fine selection of varieties on display including the famous covers bearing the pair of 2 cents cotton-reels of British Guiana, the Hawaiian Missonaries and the 1d. and 2d. Post Office Mauritius—all old friends from the Burrus collection.

HONOUR CLASS

Here were exhibits with which some of our readers will be familiar, Galvez's Chile, Engle's Denmark, Linder's Finland (reduced to one frame of new discoveries and acquisitions), Rhein's Luxemburg, Garcia's Portugal and Portugese India, Richner's Switzerland, De Troyer's thematics and Joel Olsson's classic Sweden, the latter winning the Grand Award of Honour. This collection has been greatly enlarged since we saw it last, a decade ago, and it was certainly one of the most splendid exhibits of European stamps that we have ever seen.

UNITED STATES

The United States exhibits included several that must have been kept in moth-balls for years as they contained so many pieces that we had heard about but never seen. The wonderful display formed by the late Christian Hirzel and now owned by the Swiss P.T.T. Museum at Berne won a gold, as did Mortimer Neinken's 1851-59 One Cent, Paul Rohloff's classics, William Middendorf's Carriers and Locals (more drooling), Robert Cunliffe's Revenues and Harold Levitt's Hawaii. The National Grand Award went to a joint exhibit by Charles and Mrs. Kilbourne for their wonderful showing of the postal history of the Confederate States. In passing I believe that this is the first time that a postal history display has won a grand award at an international philatelic exhibition.

One exhibit in this group was "The Markings of the Forwarding Agents" shewn by Kenneth Rowe of Toronto. Among his covers was the earliest known New York forwarding Agent, 1794; the U.S. Naval Lyceum, N.Y.; William Bryan, Texan Agent in New Orleans and many unusual routes and examples of

letters handled by more than one agent. This exhibitor's new book on the subject only won a bronze but one suspects that no one had had time to read it. The Postal History Society of America awarded this exhibit a Gold.

One could say much about other exhibits that won lesser awards, often giving more pleasure than those of greater value in the eyes of the jury, but this was a tough show and while any of us (including any judge) is loaded with bias, it is unreasonable to criticise the voluntary work of any jury who do their personal best to make their awards with equity. Therefore, in this report only the gold and Canadian awards are mentioned and the absence of comment only means that we are trying to limit the length of this feature to the names and collectors that are most likely to interest our readers.

EUROPE

The exhibits of the European countries were very strong, the, international Grand Award going to General Robert Gill for his exhibit of the classic issues of France; the mint multiples included pieces showing the tête-bêche 1849 10c., 20c., 25c. and 1 fr. vermilion and 1853 1 franc Empire. Included in this outstanding exhibit were many of the lovely pieces which had been included in the Burrus collection which General Gill bought intact a few years ago.

Gold awards in this section went to George Photiadis for his collection of Greek classics and Post Offices Abroad, to Jacob Engel for his Schleswig-Holstein, John Ahlstrom and Lauson Stone for their classics of Sweden and Arthur Salm for his incomparable collection of Thurn and Taxis which is a perfect example of a postal historian's approach to philately (or is it the other way round).

Canadian exhibitors to receive awards were:

Gold-Silver: Mirko R. Rasic of Toronto (Yugo-Slavia classic forerunners)
Sidney W. Ivry of Montreal (Austria 1850).

Bronze-Silver: W. J. Banks of Toronto (Denmark 1851-63)

BRITISH COMMONWEALTH

The Great Britain exhibits were strong but the Gold award went to Max Guggenheim of Switzerland who showed a splendid exhibit. Of the runners-up I would have put Wally Knox's exhibit next for the extraordinary assembly of rare covers.

There were two Canadian exhibitors in the North American group, the "Gold" being awarded to Clare Jephcott of Toronto for his handsome collection of British North American classics. Charles De Volpi of Montreal was awarded a Silver for his exhibit of Canadian Territorial covers 1820-1885 in the present provinces of Manitoba, Saskatchewan, Alberta and the North West Territories.

In the Latin American group, a Gold went to J. L. Messenger for his St. Vincent. The competition was so tough



that Morris Ludington's incomparable Bermuda, easily the finest philatelic study in the section, only won a Gold-silver. J. Watson Yuile of Montreal won two Silver awards with his Chalon heads of Grenada and his classic Nevis.

Most of the African exhibits came from England, the "Gold" going to Maxwell Joseph (Cape of Good Hope) and a Vermeille to Cecil Donne (St. Helena).

In the group entitled Asia and Oceania, the Gold went to Marcel Stanley whose New Zealand steadily improves, among other splendid pages the London prints were shewn mint, used and on entires. Both Canadian exhibitors won a bronze, Andrew Hinrichs of Niagara-on-the-Lake for his study of Indian postal rates in the 18th and 19th centuries, and Anthony Ruta of Toronto for his Jaipur.

There was only one Gold award for the Airmail section—Dr. J. J. Matejka's collection of Newfoundland Airmails. The two Golds in the Latin American group went to General C. W. Wickersham for his classic stamps of Colombia and States and to Norman Hubbard for Guatemala.

ASIA AND AFRICA

Great Britain secured her third Gold and the only one in its class with Lady David's exhibit of China. The Canadian exhibits included Harry Sutherland of Toronto's Chinese Locals (which has been greatly improved) who, won a Bronze-silver, A. Ben David's Safad and Henry Whittaker's Sudan, both of which were awarded a Bronze.

Among the Philatelic Literature awards the Estonia catalogue published by the Philatelic Specialists Society of Canada won a Silver award and Hans Reiche won a Bronze for his Admiral stamps of Canada.

THE POSTAL HISTORY SOCIETY OF THE AMERICAS

This society had its own panel of judges whose duty it was to assess the postal history merits of their own members exhibits at SIPEX. The top award went to their President, Mrs. Edith Faulstich, whose exhibit "The Saga of the Mails" was magnificent. 2600 B.C. to U.P.U. 1874, it demonstrated man's struggle with writing surfaces and tools and ways to mark and secure mail, and included clay tablets (one with cover), papyrus, parchment and paper. Among the adhesives was a Basle Dove on cover. The same exhibit won the special medal given to SIPEX by the Fédération Internationale de Philatélie. The second in the P.H.S.A. awards went to Arthur Salm for his Thurn and Taxis on which comment has been made previously.

* * * *

The oganisation of the exhibition reflected great credit on the President, George Turner, and his colleagues, who did everything possible to see that all ran smoothly and we do not remember attending an International Exhibition where a happier atmosphere prevailed. Bonetired but tireless, all officials carried out their duties with a courtesy that lifted one's heart and might well be remembered by all those who forget at times that our vocation is a hobby and

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one of this life's pleasures; it is not local or party politics or international bickering. Doubtless there were some slip-ups, there always are, but living in the hotel where the Exhibition was held, none came to our attention.

* * * *

There was one incident which may be a straw in the wind. The late Christian Herzel of Geneva left his remarkable collections to the Swiss PTT Museum including a wonderful display of the classic stamps of the United States. A small part, some 240 pages, was entered for competition and rightly awarded a gold medal. This is the first time that we remember seeing a dead man's exhibit entered for competition and by a Museum to whom it has been entrusted.

Collections of stamps get left to institutions for a variety of reasons. some donors leave their collections because they hope to perpetuate their names among future generations (of the some dozen collections in British Museums at the beginning of the century, only one name is still known); others who are suffering from the burden of the world's riches do so to simplify Estate Duty for their Executors and heirs; some collectors leave their treasures in the hope that they will give the same pleasure to others (alas this is a forlorn hope, for our own collection is such a personal relationship, that no one else looks upon our loved one with the same appreciation of the finer points); a very few make a selection of the things they possess that are really of use to Expert Committees and future generations of collectors.

In recent years, Museums have become very rich in stamps. If the present fashion among the rich continues there is a chance that there will be a special competitive class for Museums at International Exhibitions when the philatelic world can judge what is in captivity. This would appear to us to be desirable for two reasons, the collection would start to live again and the curators would be kept on their toes (just suppose that the Wells Fargo Museum received a gold and the British Museum a bronze!). Too often such gifts have created philatelic mausoleums instead of museums.

ONCE ABOARD THE LUGGER

When the R.M.S. Queen Mary sailed from Southhampton on the 12th May our team comprised seven—Adriano Landiniof Milan, Anke Slottke of Ritzebuttel, Hjordis Swift of Stockholm, James Powell of Bournemouth and the London trio—Annabelle Forrest, David Muscott and myself.

From London came Mr. and Mrs. William Lea and Junior, Mr. and Mrs. A. L. Michael, Mr. and Mrs. J. A. L. Franks among others while philately overseas was represented by Dott. Guilio Bolaffi of Milan, Dott. and Signora Renato Mondolfo of Rome and Signorina Nikky Papadopolous. Herr Willi Dan of Germany, Frank Sterling and Roger Weill of America. Mr. and Mrs. R. W. Sheraton were also travelling, taking the Roll of Distinguished Philatelists to Washington.

A special souvenir issue of The Philatelist had been printed and was distributed to all on board. In consequence we met a number of collectors who were new to us and were able to answer a number of curious questions from would be philatelists.

Every morning and afternoon the sitting room was filled with viewers of the Queen Mary auction and almost daily there were several telephone messages from those in dry land who wanted to ensure that their bids were in time.

Two hours before the auction was due to come on the air we talked to London and the reception was as clear as a bell. Some two hundred were in the lounge when the four auctioneers went on the stage but within a few minutes it was obvious that the radio link was not going to work efficiently. David Fortnum in London came through clearly from time to time and was able to compete with the bidding in the room. Peter Kaufman came in strongly on several occasions but Annamaria Landini in Milan, Arthur Pierce in New

York and Jacques Robineau in Paris were all thwarted.

Frank Sterling bought lot 1, the block of four penny blacks for £375 and Bill Lea purchased lot 2, the pane of eighteen of the 60 reis Brazil for £1500.

In all some £85,000 was spent on lots valued just £80,000. One Canadian, who had never bought a stamp before, splurged and bought several fine pieces to take home and show the boys what he did when at sea. One of the chefs from the kitchen came in to bid but alas was not successful. The skipper, Captain Treasure Jones, looked in but remained as immobile as a Buddha just in case something was knocked down to him.

It was a good party and we would not have missed it, but there would have been more glamour if the sun spots had stayed away.

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MINUTES OF THE NORTH-EAST CHEAM AND SUBURBS PHILATELIC SOCIETY

Between 1961 and 1965 there were published in The Philatelic Journal of Great Bri ain the "Minutes" of the North-East Cheam and Suburbs Philatelic Society. These minutes were written by the editor, Mr. Ian T. Hamilton, in a mock serious vein which we feel sure our readers wi l enjoy. We have been granted permission to publish these minutes and it is proposed that this should be a regular feature until they have been reprinted in their entirety. We hope that our readers will enjoy them as much as we did.

NORTH-EAST CHEAM AND SUBURBS PHILATELIC SOCIETY

At the first meeting of the 1961 season Mr. G. Britton (C., Dartford) gave a display entitled "British Empire" and showed pages from his gold medal collection of unique items in Part I. Mr. Longstop (L'b., Dartford) proposed a short vote of thanks and thanked Mr. Britton for letting members see his collection; this occasion, he pointed out, was the first time that anyone had been allowed to look at it. He then recounted a number of stories about his experiences in India, and apologised for his not taking a more active part in the Indian Mutiny but, he explained, he was only a boy at the time. (Laughter.) Dr. Somerville (Lab., Dartford) in supporting Mr. Britton's motions, complained that as there was no such thing as the British Empire (Part I or no Part I) he considered the stamps displayed to be bogus. He hoped that Part I would always remain red. Messrs. Thom, Dick and Harrie also spoke in support of the vote of thanks. The Chairman stopped others from speaking because the visiting speaker had already missed his bus, and he was afraid that he would miss his bus also. The meeting closed at 9.45 p.m.

The Annual General Meeting opened at 6.30 p.m. Apologies for absence were received from Messrs. Perkins, Bacon and Bradbury. The minutes of the last A.G.M. were read inaudibly. Reports were then read by officers of the Society and all passed.

Election of Officers. To the surprise of everybody, Mrs. Potts retired three times!—once as Vice-President, once as Treasurer, and once as a member of the Committee. Mr. Kennedy was elected President, and the three vacancies caused by Mrs. Potts were filled by Messrs. U. Topia, Gilbert and Ellis. The question of reducing the subscription was then discussed at length, but the motion was defeated on the grounds that there was no International Exhibition being held in London in 1961, so why support Stampex!

Major Krysis objected to the way in which the annual competition for the "Stirrup Cup" was judged. In his opinion, marks should not be given for writing-up display or subject matter. What he wanted to see was a competition in which everyone would compete, himself included. Mr. Pott-Hunter, M. F.H., opposed Major Krysis and said that he had won the cup four years running and was quite satisfied with the manner of judging. The matter was referred to the next A.G.M.

The March meeting was held in profound gloom, a circumstance which was brought about by the lecturer arriving ha'f an hour late (no one having met him to show him the way). Mr. Longstop was asked to propose a vote of thanks to the speaker, and began by saying that he had not expected to do this and that his audience must forgive him if he didn't do it as well as Major Krysis. He pointed out that the stamps displayed were quite fantastic considering the inhabitants of the country concerned had already had three revolutions since Independence was granted a year ago. He wondered how the population

had found time to issue so many remainders, and made the bold suggestion that a few of this country's issues might have been made for the benefit of collectors. Mr. Longstop then added some amusing anecdotes which were culled from his memories of the Indian Mutiny. The President (Mr. Kennedy) added his congratulations to the speaker on the excellence of the display, and closed the meeting half an hour after the speaker had departed.

The meeting for April was held on the first day of the month. It opened with an auction, five lots being sold, the remaining fifty-seven being withdrawn as they did not reach the reserve placed upon them. There then followed a lengthy debate upon who was going to represent the Society at Congress. Mr. Pott-Hunter, M.F.H., was willing to go if the Society would pay his expenses; failing this, he suggested that Mrs. Potts would be able to afford it. Mrs. Potts, charmingly dressed in a low-cut frock, said that she would be pleased to go as she had already represented the Society since Congress started (cheers). The matter was referred to the next A.G.M.

The May meeting opened half an hour later than usual because the Secretary found he had two lots of minutes to read instead of the accustomed one. Mr. P. Seed then gave a display entitled "The Postal History of the Rocket Mail". He showed a letter that had been sent to the Moon, and then returned to Kansas City bearing the rare "Address Insufficient" mark. He thought that this might indicate that there was quite a large population on the Moon since the only thing wrong was the omission of the street number. Major Krysis thanked the speaker for his display and said that he just did not believe there could be any postal service on the Moon let alone a male delivery service. Miss Midwife supported this motion.

Members' Night was well attended. Messrs. Thom, Dick and Harrie put up a joint display of Tannou and Touva. Dr. Somerville showed some interesting postmarks of the Chelsea Flower Show, and Mr. Harrison modern G.B. low values, mint and used. Mrs. Potts again displayed.

The Handbook and Catalogue of Canadian Transportation Postmarks

By T. P. G. Shaw, M. A., M. Sc.

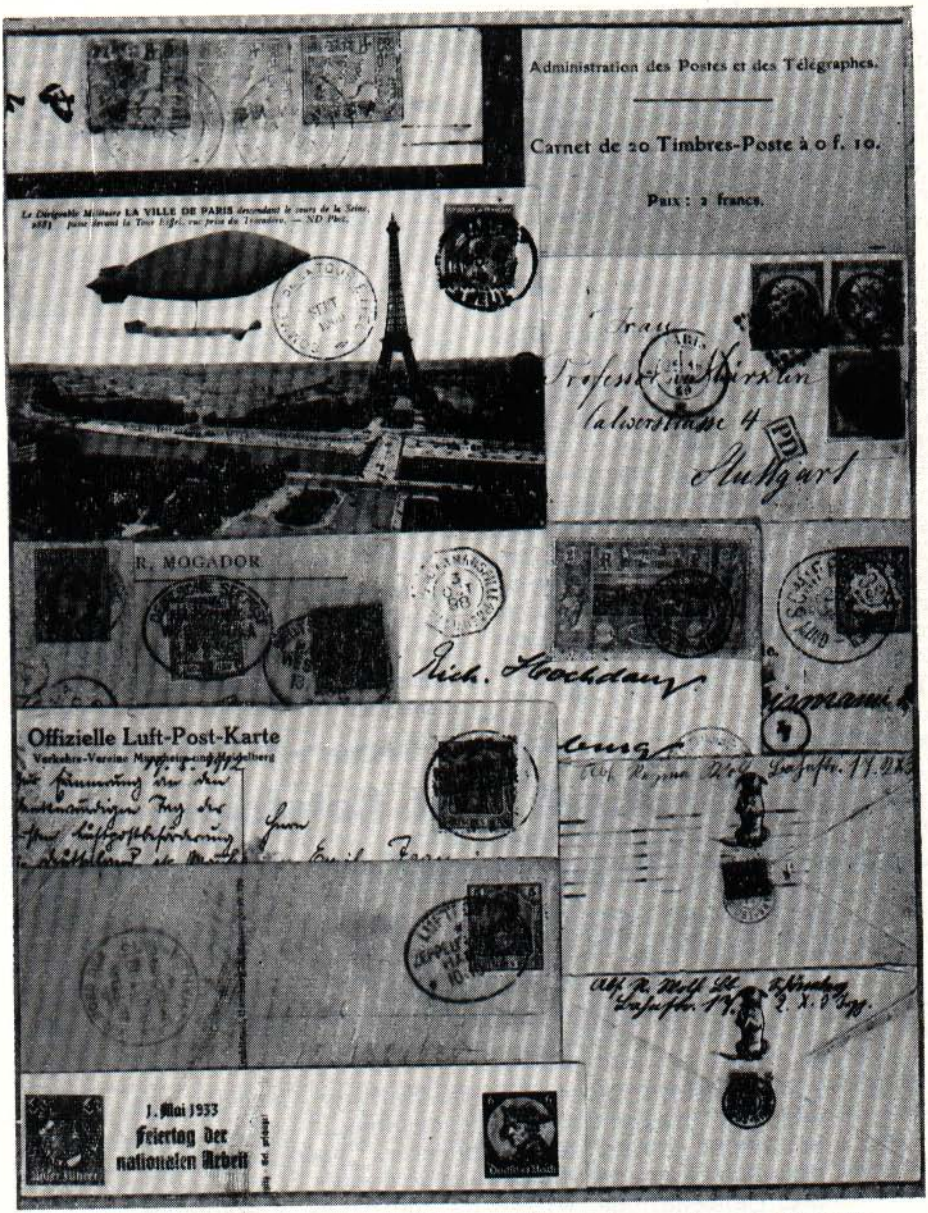
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The Secretary's Page

The applicants listed below have applied for membership in the Society. In accordance with the Constitution, their names are hereby published. If no adverse reports are received within thirty days of publication, they will be admitted to full membership.

New Members

8586 Gross, Philip N., 320 Croydon Ave., Apt. 325, Ottawa 14, Ont.
8587 Tarr, Russell S., 2244 E. 25 Place, Tulsa, Oklahoma, U.S.A.
8588 Bowie, David S., 1224 Lansing Avenue, Sudbury, Ontario
8589 Irwin, Prof. R. W., 14 Tamarack Place, Guelph, Ontario
8590 Lighthouse, Robert W., 728 Broad Street, Rochester, N.Y. 14608, USA
8591 Endres, Raymond E., 7352 No. Seeley Ave., Chicago, Ill. 60645, USA
8592 Williams, Arthur L., Jr., 1612 Madison Ave., Utica, N.Y. 13501, USA
8593 Porter, W. Alan, Box 110, Kelfield, Sask.
8594 Diebel, Mrs. Alberta, Box 1180, Thompson, Manitoba
8595 Sargent, K. S., 975 Gladstone Avenue, Ottawa, Ontario
8596 Nowlan, Michael O., 205 Gilmour Street, Apt. 3, Oromocto, N.B.
8597 Lehman, Peter, 2 Spinks Drive, Saskatoon, Sask.
8598 Bissonnette, Charles, Apt. 706, 4488 St. Catherine Street, W., Westmount, P.Q.
8599 Westwater, John, 69 Pardo Ave., Apt. 108, Pointe Claire, P.Q.
8699 Fitzpatrick, J. R., P.O. Box 2296, Huntington, W. Va., 25724, U.S.A.

Changes of Address

Beatty, Richard H., 131 Balliol Street, Toronto 7, Ontario
Bett, Ian R., 38 Forest Manor Road, Willowdale, Ontario
Bismuth, Dr. Rene, C/o Brock University, St. Catharines, Ontario
Constable, William R., 1595 Alta Vista Drive, Apt. 1, Ottawa 8, Ont.
Cordes, Leonard D., 5765 Westluke Ave., Cote St. Luc, P.Q.
Dahlke, Hans, 32 Kenilworth Avenue, North, Hamilton, Ontario
Dixon, Arthur R., 196 McClennan Street, Peterborough, Ontario
Drew, Thomas D., 30 Church Street, Sturgeon Falls, Ontario
Eaton, Fred E., 7025 Carnarvon Street, Vancouver 13, B.C.
Gilbert, J. H., "Struan" South Brent, Devon, Englond
Hedley, R. P., 7861 Gull Lane, Bridgeport, N.Y. 13030, USA
Hill, Gordon M., 6701 Laird Court, Calgary, Alberta
Howley, James T., 41 Sawley Drive, Willowdale, Ontario
Kearns, P. E., 3615 Ridgewood Ave., Apt. 501 Montreal P.Q.
Kimber, S. B., 496 Pittwater Road, North Manly, N.S.W., Australia.
Meginbir, Otto H., Brooks, Alberta.
Miller, Chester S., R.R. No. 3, Frankford, Ont.
McKibbon, Brig. K. H., 535 Picadilly Ave., Ottawa 3, Ont.
McIntosh, O. E., 8295 Powers Road, Batavia, N.Y. 14020, USA
Nowlan, Michael O., 514 Gardiner St., Oromocto, N.B.
Olson, George T., Jr., 2122 S. 17th St., Moorhead, Minn. 56560, USA
Petta, Armand, General Delivery, General Post Office, Winnipeg, Man.
Price, Gifford C., 12 Roche Place, Ottawa 14, Ontario
Price, John D., 528 Colonial Avenue, Waterloo, Ontario
Ritari, A. R. M., 419 Westview Drive, Sudbury, Ontario
Semaka, Roger A., 275 Duncan Road, Estevan, Sask.
Shelton, J., Apt. 511, 12 Goldfinch Court, Willowdale, Ontario
Snell, Rt. Rev. G. B., 190 Warren Road, Toronto 7, Ontario
Spence, Neville S., 492 Denbury Avenue, Ottawa 13, Ontario
Thomas, Alfred R., 9 Washington Avenue, Cambridge, Mass. 02140, USA
Wait, L. G., 32 Deanefield Crescent, Islington, Ontario
Ward, William E., 48 Brooke Avenue, Toronto 12, Ontario
Wardle, W. A., C/o Mrs. W. Wardle, 170 Olive Street, Victoria, B.C.

Deceased

Campbell, E. F., St. Laurent 9, P.Q.
Lafrance, Rev. Hector, Sherbrooke, P.Q.
Lake, M. B., Seattle, Washington
Lamouroux, Louis M., Toronto, Ontario
McGlashan, John S., Ottawa 4, Ont.
Raymond, L. C., Ste. Anne de Bellevue, P.Q.

Chapter Changes

CHAPTER No. 19—
South Shore Stamp Club, St. Lambert, P.Q.
President Jacques J. Charron
R.P.S.C. Representative
Wayne R. Curtis, Box 33, St. Lambert, P.Q.

CHAPTER No. 37—
Quinte Stamp Club, Belleville, Ontario
President Dr. Peter Belton
R.P.S.C. Representative
C. D. Lundy, Box 477, Belleville, Ont.

CHAPTER No. 75—
Germany Philatelic Society of Kitchener
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Joseph J. Backes, 374 Hazel Street, Waterloo, Ontario

WHEN REPLYING TO ADVERTISEMENTS SAY YOU SAW IT IN CP

LES SEMEUSES — THE SOWERS *

Nowadays, general collecting seems to be on the decline, probably because of the tremendous number of new issues flooding the market, a goodly number of which are, to say the least, of extremely doubtful standing, and more and more collectors tend to concentrate on one country or at the most, a group of countries. Among the numerous collectors of a limited number of countries, some flirt with the idea of specializing on a particular group of stamps, or even of a particular stamp.

While the idea of specialization is a meritorious one, and, I must admit, a very rewarding one, it is not every one's meat. However, in view of the constantly advancing prices of the stamps of some countries—and I particularly have the stamps of Canada in mind when I say this, it might be a change for some collectors to turn to material which, at the present time at least, can lend itself to high specialization and yet remain within the reach of the purse of what one might call the "average collector".

It was with this in mind that some years ago I turned to the SOWERS—Les Semeuses in the vernacular — of France. There was, I must admit, an added attraction in the fact that I grew up with the pleasing effigy of the Sower, as it was in use in France, for most of the basic rates of postage for some 25 years, from 1903 to 1938, when the last one appeared. As may well be imagined, during this long period, and since they were used for ordinary rates of postage, most of the denominations were printed in vast quantities and this in turn results in large numbers being available at low cost for study and examination.

A word of warning, however. The normal stamps may be cheap, a thousand or so can probably be obtained in many of the denominations for a dollar or so, but immediately we penetrate the forest of high specialization and endeavour to obtain other material, we run into the question of cost — and it can be heavy. However, lots of fun can be obtained with a very modest outlay.

The Sage type (Scott #64 to 108) had been abandoned in France at the end of the XIXth Century and replaced with the Blanc and Mouchon types (Scott #109-137), but these three types lacked character and certainly were not up to the usual high level of French stamp designing and printing.

After much cogitation, it was decided to adopt Roty's effigy of the Sower, which had been appearing on the silver coins of France for a few years and had received general approval. It is interesting to note that the gracious Sower has once again returned to the silver coinage of France since the increase in value of the franc one hundred fold which took place on the 1 January 1960, (which, incidentally, gives once again to the franc its old value of about 5 to the dollar, as it was in 1914 before the First World War split the world into convulsions from which we have not yet recovered).

I do not remember having seen any note in English regarding the origin of Roty's famous work, so it may be of interest to our readers to say a few words about it.

Roty, visiting the harsh and severe plateaux of the Cantal in Central France, noticed a beautiful girl in a small market, sitting surrounded by cabbages, carrots and turnips, and he was so struck by her that he made a rapid sketch of her in pencil. Some time later, an agricultural committee, wishing to have a medal to commemorate its workers, requested Roty to design one, and searching among his sketches, he found the one he had made of the country girl and,

FOOTNOTE

* The manuscript of this article was found among the papers of the late Louis M. Lamoureux. Knowing his interest in "Les Semeuses" of France we have assumed that he had intended publishing it in the Canadian Philatelist.

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in the twinkling of an eye, he drew the famous SEMEUSE design from his original sketch. His design was accepted with enthusiasm. And thus the SEMEUSE was born, and a poor country girl became a famous feminine figure. Some years later, the French Mint wished to change the design of its silver coinage and commissioned Roty to present designs. Lazy by nature, Roty went through his sketch books and coming across the drawing for the aforesaid medal, he made a few slight retouches and presented it to the mint. His design was accepted and thus, in 1897, a poor farm girl, was able to exchange the produce of her farm against silver coins bearing her figure. No doubt, she never realized or noticed that she was on the country's coins!

In the early 1900's, the Post Office asked for designs for new stamps, and, amidst a host of designs, the jury accepted unanimously the Sower design, and thus in 1903, the Semeuse commenced her long reign.

Many criticisms were formulated against her, the main being that the wind was blowing her hair backwards but nevertheless she was sowing against the wind, an agricultural "crime", but they were all stifled and the well-known engraver, Mouchon, was entrusted with the preparation of the dies, etc.

At the time, French stamps were typographed, the design was in relief on the die, and the value was left blank, to be filled in later as required by means of a value "plug".

During the first part of the life of the Sowers, the stamps were normally printed on a flat bed in sheets of 300, divided into service sheets of 150 for sale at the Post Offices. The Post Office sheets of 150 were divided into three rows of two panes of 5 x 5 = 25 stamps each, the two panes in each row being separated by a gutter the width of the stamp. On the gutter of the second row down, the mil'ésime appeared, a single figure indicating the year of printing. The sheet was surrounded by selvedge all around, the top selvedge bearing a small dot, used as a perforation guide in conjunction with a small cross on the lower selvedge. The latter also bore certain figures indicating the date of printing, the number of the press and the pressman's initial. The right hand selvedge usually bore a control mark in the shape of a punched out arc.

Other types of sheets were printed for coils, booklets, etc., as will be indicated further on.

The first Sower to be issued was the 15 centimes green, on the 1st April 1903. This was then the basic rate for domestic letters. It was soon followed by the 10c. rose on the 6th May 1903.

Both of those show a lined background with the sun and its rays. This type is known as the lined "Semeuse lignée", in French.

Other values of this type were issued at later rates, but this is not a detailed treatise on the Sowers, so I shall only indicate the values issued at various times, viz: 20c. lilac brown, 30c. violet, 45c. violet, 50c. blue, 50c. olive green, 50c. red, 50c. turquoise, 60c. violet, 65c. olive green, 65c. rose, 76c. lilac, 80c. red, 85c. red, 1 fr. blue.

On the 6th March 1906, a law was enacted reducing the basic domestic rate to 10 centimes and the Post Office therefore took advantage of this change of rate to have the design changed, as many criticisms had been levelled to the original design.

The new design was entrusted to Mouchon and he brought out the "Sower with Ground", in the 10c. value. This appeared on the 16th April 1906 and was the first of the "solid background" type.

There was still some criticism of the design and Mouchon engraved a new die, on which he removed the ground and made the effigy slightly longer. This second design is known as the Sower with thin figures and lettering. This type included another value, 30c. violet. In 1927, this plate was again used for a 10c. green in booklets, bearing advertising for several pharmaceutical products, Minéraline, Ovules Phéna and Phéna Septil.

The fourth group of Sowers started appearing in 1907. Mouchon made the

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lettering and figures much heavier. There are other marked distinctions from the "thin figure type" all easily recognizable.

This could be called the definitive type as it remained in use until 1938. The following values appeared at various time: 1c. olive bistre and brown bistre, 2. dark green, 3c. red orange, 5c. orange, green and rose, 10c. red, green and ultramarine, 15c. lilac brown and brown lilac, 20c. brown lilac and lilac rose, 25c. blue, yellow brown, orange, red, rose, blue and brick red, 35c. violet and green, 40c. olive brown, vermillion, violet and ultramarine, 90c. red, lf. 05 vermillion, and lf. 40 rose.

Besides the above, several values were printed and issued only in various parts of the French Union, Algeria, Andorra, Memel, Cilicia, Syria, Lebanon, etc., and also, with surtax, and in special colours, surcharged for the Sinking Fund campaign.

As can well be imagined, the printings for most of these stamps were vast, meeting, as they did, most of the basic rates of postage during their long life.

As an indication of the variety which can be found, I can mention the 25c. blue, which was the foreign rate of postage for many years.

This 25c. blue comes in seven types, type IV of which was only issued in booklets. Shades were numerous, ranging from a very pale blue to an intense dark blue. The millésimes run from 7 (1907) to 3 (1923).

Besides the normal stamps, there was a spate of surcharges, including the F.M. for the Military Franchise stamps, for several French or French protected territories as mentioned above, and the Sinking Fund issues from 1927 on. One of the very rare overprints was the one used by the Montenego Government in exile in Bordeaux during the first war. We admit to never having seen one nor to have ever noticed an example in any auction that has come our way. Some of the values were also used by the Serbian Army when it was recuperating

and refitting in Corfu during the First War and these are fairly scarce on cover.

The 10c. red was surcharged with a Red Cross and a surtax at the beginning of the first war and one other value was overprinted in commemoration of the International Labour Office Congress in 1930.

Many of the values were also precancelled, but strange to say, our pet 10c. red was never issued thus. Some of the precancels are quite scarce.

Varieties are numerous, it goes without saying, such as the effigy holding a candle in her hand, a ring on the bag, a moon crescent in the sky, no hair, and so on. The "hair line fans" would be in clover in these issues! Nevertheless there are a large number of constant varieties

The last normal stamp to be issued in the Sower type was the 30c. Brick Red in 1937, and in booklets in 1938, and the very last one appeared on the 25th January 1941 in the shape of a surcharge of 30c. on the 35c. green.

As can be gathered from the above, these stamps have and still are, the object of profound studies. There are still many discoveries being made and will still be made in the future. While much help has been derived from the actual dies and plates in the Postal Museum in Paris, there are many problems still to be answered.

May I say however to my readers, that the gracious Sower is still with us. She has re-appeared in a slightly different guise in the course of the last two or three years, not only on the stamps but also on the silver coinage of France.

C-S D-A

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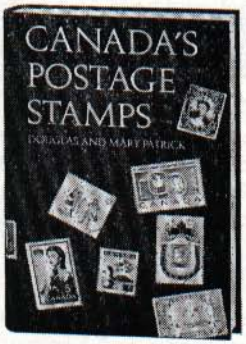
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A five cent commemorative postage stamp will be issued on the 8th September, 1966, by the Canada Post Office to mark convening in Ottawa of the 12th General Conference of the Commonwealth Parliamentary Association.

The new stamp will be purple in colour, of small size and horizontal in format.

The design continues the now apparently fixed insipid and unpleasing trend of Canadian new issues. We feel that if Canada produced fewer stamps we might be able to revert to the classic designs of the 1930's. One thing is certain—this stamp will not be nominated for one of the ten best of the year!

Coming Events

OCTOBER 15 — SASKATOON STAMP CLUB (Chapter 80) will be participating in the "Saskatoon Coin and Stamp Show" at the Holiday House Motor Hotel, Saskatoon, Saskatoon, Sask.

OCTOBER 22—QUINTE STAMP CLUB —Plans are underway for 9th Annual Interclub Exhibition and Bourse to be held in Kiwanis Centre, Belleville from 1 to 10 p.m. Open competitions for exhibitors. Visitors are welcome to Compete and also enter auction lots for evening auction..

OCTOBER 27/29 — EAST TORONTO S.C. Annual Exhibition at Thorncliffe Plaza, Toronto.

NOVEMBER 18/20—SOCIETE PHILATELIQUE DE QUEBEC — Annual Exhibition at Centre Audio-Visuel, Quebec.

APRIL 15/17, 1967 — GRANDPEX (Grand River Valley Ass. Exhibition) More details later. Chairman, Mrs. Gillrie, 630 Rockway Drive, Kitchener, Ont.



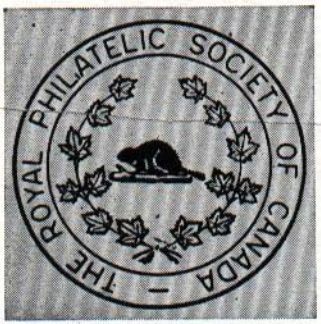
Henry E. Harris of Boston was honored during the Spex Show in Washington with a beautiful inscribed citation for his 50 years devotion to philately and his successful legal fight to bar reprinting the Canal Zone Thatcher Ferry Bridge error sheet.

Harris filed suit in U. S. District Court to block the reprinting, and after two years of costly litigation won his suit, thereby esatablishing the principle that no authority exists to misprint stamps deliberately to devalue errors already in the hands of collectors, and thus protect the value of any printing errors that stamp collectors may be lucky enough to find.

Robert W. Baughman, president of S.P.A. (left) made the preesntation. With them is Maurice H. Thatcher, 95 year old former member of Congress for whom the bridge is named



In 1932, Rockwell Kent, renowned American Artist, designed a 10 ore adhesive to be used on an air service in the Umanak area of Greenland during the Franck Expedition. One of the few copies known on a flown card will be offered at auction by H. R. Harmer Inc. of New York when the "Dr. Shrady" Collection of Air Post Pioneers and Semi-Officials is offered in November.



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Royal Philatelic Society of Canada

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The Honour Roll

On which is inscribed the names of those members who have contributed to the progress of the Society in securing the addition of new members and chapters for 1966.

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Geldert, Mrs. Phyllis, Ottawa (2)
Grace, John P., Peterborough
Grenville, W. A., Hamilton
Hadley, Fred R., Prince Albert
Harris, Edmund A., Flin Flon (2)
Harrison, John B., Trail, B.C.
Hedley, R. P., Bridgeport, N.Y.
Jones, Don I., Willowdale, Ont.
Juneau, Mlle. Yvonne, Montreal
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North York Public Library
(Bathurst Heights Branch)
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White, Jay N., Coaticook, P.Q.
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THE STAMP ON THE COVER

is a reproduction of one of the Sower issues of France

(See the article on page 240)

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TRADE NOTES

Good prices were realized at the 37th-38th Auction Sale of R. Maresch & Son held at the end of June in Toronto. Among the many high prices realized were $140 for a $4 Canadian Jubilee in fine to very fine condition cataloguing $110, $195 for a superb $5 Jubilee cataloguing $110, $285 for a 1 Kr. Yellow of Austria (No. 1) cataloguing $250 and $350 for the 10s. Dollfus of Austria. The 3 stamp Balbo Airmail Issue of Iceland brought $625 as opposed to a catalogue valuation of $500 and the First Issue (including Airmails) of the U.N. in blocks of four brought $80 as opposed to a catalogue valuation of $31.85. All the stamps mentioned were mint.

Notes On Exhibitions

VICPEX '66 was an excellent exhibition, well attended in the main and junior rooms, bourse and auction. Highlights were, the opening speech by His Honour, the Lieutenant-Governor, the Court of Honour with General Pearkes' exhibit of Chinese stamps, Gerald Wellburn's showing of early B. C. stamps and covers, the Canadian Post Office display.

At the banquet Saturday night, Mr. Willard Ireland gave nearly 200 guests an informative and humorous historical outline of British Columbia's development. He was thanked by Gerald Wellburn who, with Mrs. Wellburn, were attired as Sir James and Lady Douglas.

Trophies and medals were distributed by the Chairman of Judges, Dr. Joe Pearce. The Grand Award, with rose bowl trophy donated by General Pearkes, was won by Col. C. L. Marston of Spokane. ..V.I.P.S. winners were: Dr. Horning, reserve grand award and gold medal for New Zealand. Silver medals: A. Garland, historical; Miss J. Gordon, for "Milestones," and E. Lorenson for Airmail Covers. Bronze Medals: Mrs. de Tremaudan, paintings, and Henry Whittaker for South Korea. G.V.P.S.: J. Isaacson, trophy and gold medal for Postal History. Silver Medal, Miss Morley; Bronze, S. T. McDonald, Lester Small (2), Vern Richards. **Juniors:** Gold medal and trophy, W. Hundeby, Gerald Vaulkhart; Medals: Silver to Margaret Hopkins and Keith Morley, and bronze to Janet Arnold. The prize book of stamps was won by Lester E. Small.

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Mail your stamps with confidence for our top offer. Your stamps held intact pending your acceptance.

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THE PARIS STARS

By ANDRE ROCHE

(Translated by John B. Morton, of Buffalo)

In September, 1863, under the Second Empire, the French Postal Adminsstration extended the use of the "star" cancellation to all Paris post offices. The new hand-stamps were to continue in use until 1876, under the Third Republic, and through collecting and studying them, many philatelists developed into postmark enthusiasts. Mr. André Rochette, member of the Académie de Philatélie in Paris has delved deeply into the postal history of this fascinating period and in the fall, 1963 issue of the quarterly Bulletin des Amis Musée Postal (Friends of the Postal Museum), to commemorate the centenary of the branch post office stars, there appeared the introductory chapter of a highly detailed handbook that M. Rochette had in preparation at the time. This work has since been published by the author under the title "PARIS BUREAUX DE QUARTER . . . ETOILES AVEC CHIFFRES" and has given further impetus to the collecting of "Paris Stars".

The first part of M. Rochette's article commemorating the centenary of the Paris district or branch office "star" cancellations, appeared in translation in the May-June 1966 C.P. The article concludes with a discussion of the new series of date-stamps that came into use concurrently with the stars in September, 1863. These postmarks spelled out the locations of the postoffices in the capital — a more colorful and for the public, presumably more useful appelation than the system of initial letters in use during the 103 years from 1760 to 1863.

THE DATE STAMPS

These consisted of two parts, a one piece "crown" and an arrangement of removable date slugs.

The crown was produced by starting with a mother die having two concentric rings in relief, and between them an open trench into which movable characters could be inserted. After these were put in place, molds were taken and, as in producing the stars, molten metal was then poured to obtain finished date-stamps.

The dater block was composed in four movable pieces—the collection number, day of the month, the month, and year. These were inserted into the center of the stamps and held in place by a set-screw.

As time passed, new date-stamps had to be furnished to offices that were moved to a new location or whose street name was changed, or to meet increasing requirements or as replacements. When this happened, the new hand-stamps rarely conformed exactly with original.

Characters were more or less widely spaced. Periods, commas or hyphens were added or omitted and abbreviations appeared in various forms. Moreover, erors such as LUXEMBORG for LUXEMBOURG occurred.

Although the date-stamps with letters indicating the post-office and with the collection numeral in the dater block were retired, the smaller types without the collection number remained in use—principally for registered mail, printed matter, and in general wherever the collection number was not essential. This postmark can however, be found also on ordinary letters.

The **Supplementary Mail** (Levees Exceptionelles—Note 1) postmarks are of three types: octagonal with 1E or 2E, octagonal with E1 or E2, and round with E1 or E2. This service was provided at certain offices, and none of them used all three types of the postmark.

Although supplementary mail collection service had been instituted in May, 1863, in September it was as yet in operation only in the former branch office J, Place de la Bourse, now No. 1, and the former DS2, Rue de Clery, now No. 24. These two offices retained their old "J" and "DS2' lozenge cancels and used them during a brief period after the arrival of their stars.

The so-called "ordinary descriptive" hand-stamp formerly struck on **Registered Mail** (Note 2) was without date or post-office identification, since it had nothing to do with the actual movement of the letter, and it was struck as a backstamp.

In June, 1963, to avoid the extra operation involved in two separate strikes—the straight-line CHARGE and the date-stamp—the "collective descriptive" date-stamp, as it is referred to, came into use. This was applied on the address side, inasmuch as it serves also as the departure postmark, and as such it belongs to cover collections.

Up until September (1863) only four district offices — D, E, J and K—had been supplied with the "collective" registered mail postmark. They continued to use these postmarks (after all, they were about brand-new!—Ed.) along with their new supplies in which the office initials were replaced by the numerals—4, 3, 1 and 2 respectively—assigned to then under the new system of nomenclature.

In 1873 the practice of spelling out the address of the district office was extended to registered mail postmarks and the collection number was added in the dater block. For both the Head Post-Office and the district offices, the larger dater block resulted in elimination of the right and bottom inner frame lines seen in earlier forms.

"Due" date-stamps, indicating the amount of postage to be collected, were furnishd in denominations of 15 and 30 centimes until September 1, 1863 and, conforming with increased rates, 20 and 40 centimes after that date

These normally are seen only on unpaid letters. They can nevertheless be found on prepaid letters as well, due to insufficent prepayment (in which case this fact was further indicated by a special boxed handstamp), or when for one reason or another the "due" postmark did office as a simple departure date-stamp.

Note 1 Under this service, patrons could deposit letters in special boxes at designated district offices (and the Head P.O.) after the normal closing time for the principal evening mail for the provinces. For the first 15-minute supplementary period (E1 or 1E) the extra fee was 20 centimes and for the second 15-minute period (E2 or2E), 40 centimes.

Note 2 The spaces to be filled in by the receiving clerk, besides the registration number, showed the weight of the letter in grams (GR) and centigrams (C), and described the seals on the back as to number (CACH), color (COUL), and initial or other imprint (EMPR) of the sender.

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