CANADIAN PHILATELIST

Journal of the
ROYAL PHILATELIC SOCIETY of CANADA

VOLUME 37 NOV.-DEC., 1986 NUMBER 6

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EDITOR'S NOTES

by Ron Richards

FOND FAREWELLS

As this is my last issue as editor of the Canadian Philatelist, I finally have the opportunity to say "thanks" to all those people who have made the experience memorable.

First and foremost has to be Henry (Hank) Janssen, president of Port Perry Printing. No editor could ask for a better printer than Hank. As inexperienced as I may have been with the first issue, May/June 1982, right from the start I knew I could "click" with Hank and we'd work well together. In the four and a half years I have been editor, I've only met him once, but I feel he is a friend and I'll miss the comraderie of putting each issue of the CP to bed.

An editor is only as good as the articles submitted, and in this respect I've been truly blessed with some of the RPSC's finest. In no particular order, I'd like to thank Leo Beaudet, Jack Arnell, C.F. Black, Dick Malott, Mike Madesker, Allan Steinhart (why did it take you so long?) and of course the dean of the Canadian Philatelist, Hans Reiche. I had the pleasure of receiving columns from two RPSC presidents: Bev Clark and Jim Kraemer, and I hope the tradition continues.

And no thank-you would be complete without mention of the "Toop team". Ritch and I had worked together at Canada Post (yes, some Canada Post employees work!) and it was like old times putting together the C.P. However, for those in the know, Ritch likes to talk and it's his charming better-half Maureen, who I suspect does a lot of the work!

I may not have been the most "diplomatic" of CP editors, and I've been told by Board members that although they may have agreed with the gest of my comments, my "tone" left something to be desired. For that, I make no apologies. After all, if an editor can't editorialize, what good is he?

I hope I leave my successor a journal which is just slightly better than the one I inherited, as my predecessor Peter Mann did for me. With CAPEX '87 coming next year, the new editor faces the task of not only putting together a journal in which Canadian collectors can be proud, but one which will be on display for the entire worldwide philatelic community.

As members know, I have not left the philatelic fraternity but have been performing the functions of editor of Canadian Stamp News. I hope that my past association with the "Royal" will enable these two aspects of Canadian philately to work more closely together, something which appears was sadly lacking in the past.

I have offered my continuing services to the president of the RPSC and if at some point in time, my career takes a different plunge (as it has so often in the past), I would gladly reassume the editorship of this fine journal should the need ever arise!

I hope the new Editor continues to receive the same "silent" support from the Board of Directors which I received. However, they know who they are without my mentioning names, a few Directors and Officers could possibly find the time to report their activities via the CP to the membership at least **once** a year. If not, why did they accept the position in the first place?

As my New Year's wish to the new Editor, I hope he receives more letters to the editor, more positive feedback from ALL members, more fine articles "in the bank", and perhaps a say in who receives the Geldert Award for best article or series of articles published in the CP on an annual basis; as quite frankly, who is perhaps in a better position to comment than the editor?

My best wishes to one and all for a happy Holiday Season!

NEW C.P. EDITOR

The new editor of the Canadian Philatelist, effective with the next issue, is Jim Haskett of Barrie, Ontario.

Born in Clinton, Ontario, Jim was raised in Lambeth, a small village just outside London. After attaining a Bachelor of Arts degree in English from the University of Western Ontario in 1969, Jim began working at the Barrie Examiner as a reporter, sports editor and finally, city editor. After stints as editor of daily papers in Woodstock and Brampton, he returned to Barrie as the managing editor of the Examiner in 1980.

Jim and his wife Earlene have four children, ranging in age from 4 to 11 years old.

Like most of us, Jim got the stamp collecting bug at an early age, dropped it during his teens, and rekindled his interest upon finding old albums at home. Since joining the Barrie District Stamp Club he has begun to specialize in the Numeral Issue of Canada, 19th century Canadian cancellations and PEI.

On behalf of the entire membership I'd like to welcome Jim on board the "Royal roller-coaster". His address is 7 Belcourt Ave., Barrie, ON L4M 4C9. □

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Letters to the Editor

"SECRET" ANNUAL MEETING

Having just received my July-August **Canadian Philatelist,** the first item to catch my eye was Frank Meakes' letter and your comments. Several pages further on, I read the "President's Page". Both referred to the RPSC Annual Meeting on 31 May at AMERIPEX.

Having been at AMERIPEX from start to finish and having manned the RPSC booth on several occasions, when I found it empty, I am fascinated to read that the meeting was held there — and can understand why there were less than 30 people in attendance. As a Fellow of the RPSC, I had the date and time of the "AGM" noted on my program, but on inquiring about it a day or so beforehand, I was informed that it had been cancelled and it was anticipated that it would be held at Stamp Marketplace in Toronto in November instead. I have received nothing since Chicago to suggest that anything is planned for November, which concerns me, as there are at least three long-time members of the Society who have been nominated for Fellowships and who deserve the honor, but will not be considered this year unless the Executive can get its act in order.

In closing, I must state that the RPSC could not have had worse exposure at AMERIPEX, if a group had planned a campaign to discredit it. There was no organization and when the booth was manned, it was generally by volunteers who, finding it empty, sat in it for awhile without having any idea of what was available for handouts, etc. If the RPSC is to be seen as Canada's national philatelic organization, we must project a better image than we did at Chicago — and not turn members away from meetings by passing the word that they were cancelled!

J.C. Arnell
Bermuda

(Jack, my eyes must have been playing tricks on me, because when I gave my annual Editor's report at the meeting, I could have sworn that I saw you in the audience! And the booth to which you refer WAS NOT an RPSC booth, but rather an information booth for CAPEX '87. Although practically every major and minor Society had a booth [including ones specializing in Pitcairn, Tuvalu, Tin Can Mail, etc.], the RPSC did not "get its act together" in time to have its own booth. The Society probably lost thousands of dollars in new members' fees due to the procrastination and ineptitude of someone. You can't blame the RPSC Executive for the poorly manned CAPEX booth — in fact our Annual Meeting was advertised as a "CAPEX" meeting, since without a booth we weren't entitled to hold a meeting! Perhaps the meeting was a "secret" because it was illegal from the point of view of AMERIPEX organizers!

It is, however, refreshing to see that someone like yourself, a respected Fellow of the Society, will finally stand up and say enough is enough and call a spade a spade!

I have had to rewrite the closing of this editorial reply, because in re-reading it, it was far "too honest" to be printed in the CP. I don't want people to say that I'm expousing rebellion within the ranks or suffering from "sour grapes" because this is my last issue. I also don't want to "slam the door shut" on a comraderie (albeit sometimes rocky) that has been built-up between myself and the other Officers and Directors.

I will be watching with great interest to see how the new Editor handles this sticky situation. — Ed.)

GEORGE WEGG
PHILATELIC CONSULTANT

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EXCHANGES WANTED

Since the Royal Philatelic Society of Canada is the national society of philatelists in Canada, many requests for exchange partners are referred to us. As a service to our members, we are pleased to present these names so that those who wish to do so can make overseas contacts. We have no way of checking the credentials of the individuals who write to us asking that their name be published, therefore we urge that caution be taken when answering these requests.

———————————

Mourad Serradj,
40 Rue Dahmane Tabarout,
Leveilly H-Dey,
ALGER,
ALGERIA

A 21 year old stamp collector from Algeria wishes to exchange stamps and post cards. Writes in French and English.

Robert Varengue,
heuri-6 Rue Renault,
94160 Saint-Mande sous bois,
FRANCE

A French collector wishes to buy or exchange Canadian or U.S. stamps and can offer mint and cancelled French stamps from 1950. Writes in French only.

Karl Weigl,
Rishon Lezion,
P.O. Box 80,
ISRAEL

A collector in Israel wishes to exchange stamps with a Canadian collector.

Mikolaj Gawronski,
00-624 Warsaw,
MARSZALKOWSKA 1/52,
POLAND

A Polish collector wishes to correspond with a Canadian for the purpose of exchanging stamps. Writes in English.

Jan Szwej,
ul. Kuhna 39,
42-256 Olsztyn,
woj. Czestochowa,
POLAND

A Polish collector wishes to exchange stamps of USSR, DDR, Bulgaria, Mongolia and Korea for Canadian stamps. Writes in English.

DEMANDES D'ECHANGE

La Royal Philatelic Society ne s'occupe pas normalement des échanges entre philatélistes, mais comme elle est la société philatélique nationale du Canada, on lui transmet de nombreuses demandes de philatélistes désireux de trouver des correspondants pour échanger des timbres. Ainsi a-t-elle décidé, pour rendre service à ses membres, de publier les noms des intéressés d'outre-mer, afin que ceux qui désirent établir des rapports avec eux puissent le faire. Je vous signale toutefois que nous ne savons rien des personnes qui nous demandent de publier leur nom, c'est pourquoi je vous conseille d'être prudent en répondant à ces demandes d'échange.

———————————

Azzouz Benameur,
B.P. 65,
SAIDA,
ALGERIA 20,000

A collector from Algeria wishes to exchange stamps and FDCs with a Canadian collector. Writes in French.

Razik Achila,
Rue ZN = 6 Bouakal III,
BAINA,
ALGERIA

A collector in Algeria wishes to exchange stamps with a Canadian collector. Writes in French.

H.G. Eloy,
M. Acuna 235-1,
Morelos 22150,
TIJUANA B.C.
MEXICO

A collector from Mexico wishes to exchange stamps of the world with a Canadian collector. Writes in Spanish.

Margini Yves,
via L. Spagni 14,
42010 Pratofontana,
Reggio Emilia,
ITALY

An Italian collector wishes to exchange used stamps in large quantities and can offer in exchange used Italian, Vatican and San Marino. Writes in Italian. □

COMING EVENTS

1986

DECEMBER 6 — Annual exhibition and bourse of the Stoney Creek Stamp Club at the Fiesta Mall, Highway #8, Stoney Creek, ON. Sat: 9:30am to 5pm. Information: P.O. Box 9343, Stoney Creek, ON L8G 4S1.

1987

JANUARY 9-11 - PHIL-EX, international stamp bourse at the Sheraton Centre, Queen St., Toronto. Fri.: 10 a.m. to 8 p.m., Sat.: 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. and Sun.: 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Information: David Bastedo, Box 980, Station "K", Toronto, Ont. M4P 2V3.

FEBRUARY 21-22 — NIPEX '87, exhibition and bourse to be held at Stamford Lions Club Hall, 3846 Portage Road, NIAGARA FALLS, ONTARIO. Admission is free. Show will be open from 10am to 5pm Saturday and Sunday. Data from Ed Yonelinas, R.R. #1, Niagara-on-the-Lake, Ont. L0S 1J0, Canada

MARCH 28-29 — 44th annual exhibition and bourse of the North Toronto Stamp Club at the North Toronto Memorial Gardens, 180 Eglinton Ave. W., Toronto. Sat: 10am to 6pm and Sun: 10am to 5pm. Free admission and parking. Information: Stuart Sheppard, 81 Aldershot Cres., Willowdale, ON M2P 1M2.

1987

APRIL 10-12 — STAMPEX Canada, 15th annual exhibition under the rules for National Exhibitions of the R.P.S.C. and bourse at the Sheraton Centre in Toronto. Information against SASE from Michael Madesker, 157 Clifton Ave., Downsview, ON M3H 4L6.

MAY 15-17 — EXUP XVI, annual exhibition which commemorates the 54th anniversary of the Union Philatelique de Montreal at Centre Saint-Mathieu, 7110 8th Ave., Montreal. Friday: 5 to 9pm; Sat: 10am to 9pm; Sun: 10am to 4 pm. Information: EXUP XVI, 72 De Montbrun, Boucherville, PQ J4B 4T9

JUNE 13-21 - CAPEX '87, an F.I.P. sponsored international philatelic exhibition celebrating 100 years of organized philately in Canada, at the Toronto Convention Centre. Information: P.O. Box 204, Station "Q", Toronto, Ont. M4T 2M1.

OCTOBER 16-25 -- HAFNIA '87, FIP-sponsored international exhibition, Copenhagen, Denmark. Canadian Commissioner: R.K. Malott, 16 Harwick Crescent, Nepean, Ont. K2E 6E8.

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PRESIDENT'S PAGE

by

James E. Kraemer

Do plastic sheet protectors really protect your stamps? As a Canadian Commissioner on several occasions I have been entrusted with exhibits for competition at International exhibitions. I have been very concerned about philatelists using various types of plastic as sheet protectors on the exhibits. Collections worth tens of thousands of dollars are in danger of being destroyed.

International Philatelic exhibitions ask that the exhibitors' pages be enclosed in plastic sleeves or envelopes. Often they state flatly that exhibits not protected by a plastic covering will not be accepted. Having spent some years in the plastics industry and also in a museum environment, the writer feels qualified to discuss the use of plastics relative to the protection of stamps.

Acetate has been used in business and industry for years to cover sales brochures, photographs, etc. Since the material enclosed is expendable or required for short periods of time, clear acetate which is readily available as sheet protectors in most stationery stores is satisfactory. Relatively inexpensive, acetate is not recommended for archival storage. It scratches easily. It also has a chemical composition that includes various plasticizers that tend to migrate. Many acetates will discolour paper and are not recommended as protectors to cover valuable papers, covers or stamps. In fairness we should mention that there are some very hard acetates available that will not scratch easily and due to a very low usage of plasticizers will not damage items in contact with it for a long period of time. Acetate sheet protectors vary from .005″ to .015″ in thickness and are generally punched, for use in 3 or 4 ring binders.

Some beautiful exhibits that I have transported use vinyl sheet protectors to protect their exhibit pages. Vinyl is soft and does not have the clarity of acetate. It is much heavier. A sheet tends to be .012″ to .020″ in thickness. Vinyl is highly plasticized and will cause damage to stamps in a relatively short period of time. Often described as an active petroleum product, vinyl will soon show images of the design and the ink colour of the stamps under it. This means that some of the colour of the stamp has been lost since it has migrated to the vinyl. Vinyl discolours and will warp and become brittle as it ages. It will also tend to sweat if humidity is high. I dread to see vinyl used to protect exhibits. Under warm bright lights it has a potential for considerable damage to stamps and covers underneath it. The heavy weight of vinyl means that the person who transports the collections finds the task an odious one. If you use vinyl protectors, check and see if images of your stamps have started to be transferred to the plastic. Some collectors will advise you that if the stamps are in plastic mounts the vinyl covers will not harm your stamps. Personally I would not take the chance. I have seen too many stamps destroyed when stored under plastic.

Cellulose materials are often used for envelopes to hold stamps or covers. It sparkles and is popular with many dealers. A stamp stored under cellopane or similiar material will change dramatically after some months. A green stamp will become blue in colour. If you bend the stamp it will crack and crumble. The plastic has made the stamp very brittle. Museums refrain from using cellopane, scotch tape and similar products. (The adhesive on most Scotch tapes is the greatest culprit.)

A clear hard inert plastic known as MYLAR is recommended. It is very tough, is difficult to scratch, will not tear or break and adds a sparkle to your pages. An optical clear grade known as MYLAR "D" is the type usually recommended. Mylar is expensive but in the long run can save you a lot of grief. It does protect your stamps. Taylor-Made Products of Lima, Pa. will make up protector sheets to any size. As a result they fit your pages much better. The material is so thin it tends to cling to

a page preventing dust from getting underneath. At the same time it gives better protection since it does not move but tends to hold everything in place. There are other suppliers. One is H.J. Ball of Fort Wayne, Indiana. The National Postal Museum uses a mylar protector sheet sealed on three sides over their metric size mounting pages. The supplier is in London, England. Myler sheet protectors, .003″ thick, open on the top and one side are very popular. Personally I prefer the envelope type that is only .001″ in thickness and is sealed on one side as well as on the top and bottom. They are expensive. An order for a quantity of 50 or 100 could cost you 85¢ to a $1.00 each plus shipping and duty.

Now that I have had my say on plastic sheet protectors it's time to wish all our members **SEASONS GREETINGS.** It is my wish that the New Year will bring you many new stamps to add to your collection. As our Society starts to celebrate its Centennial, the year 1987 appears to be shaping up as a memorable one for philatelists and for the "ROYAL". Plan now to vist Capex '87. The R.P.S.C. will be there. □

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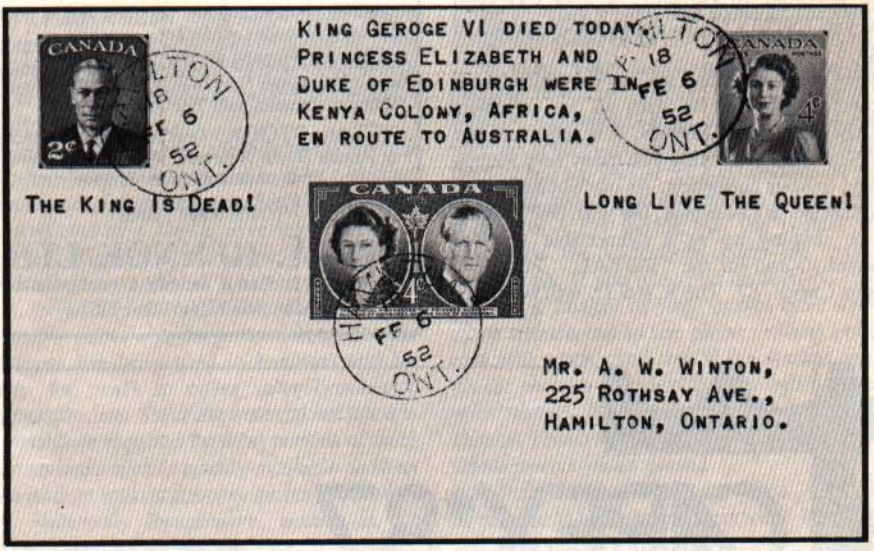
Canada Mourns Her Monarchs Part III

by Ron McGuire

Concluded from last issue



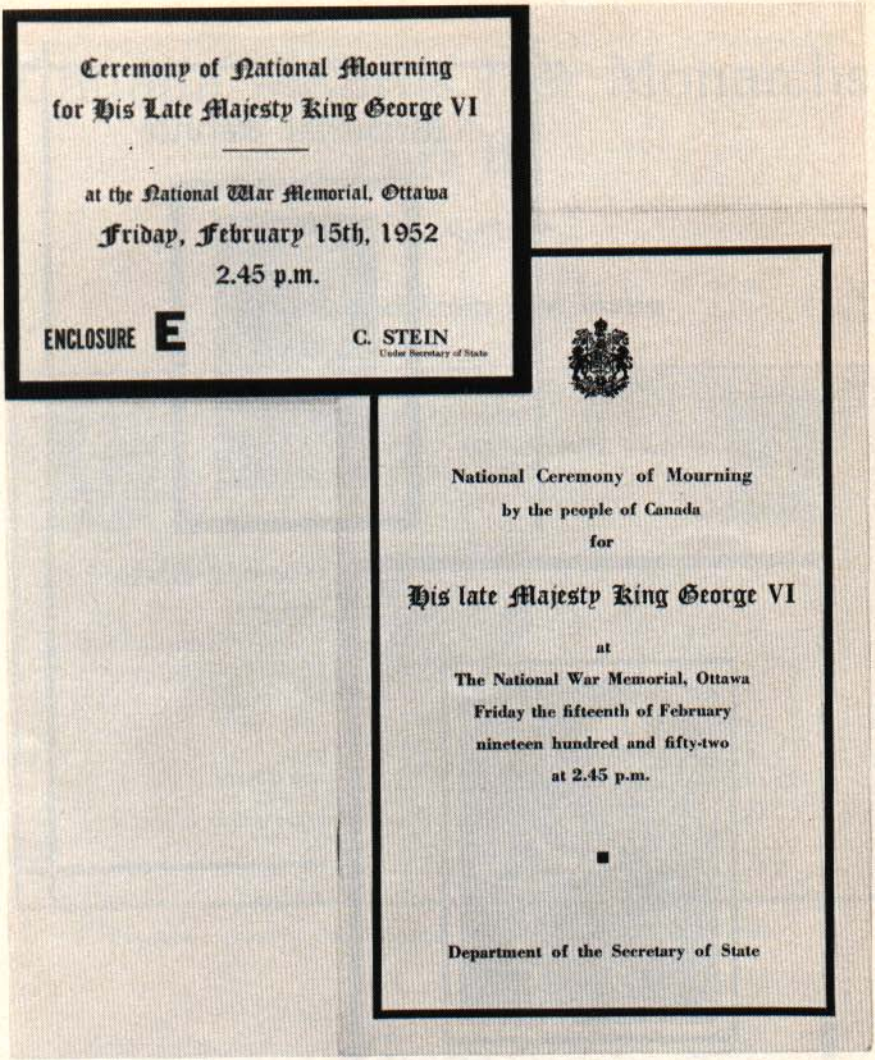
Envelope created by Carl Jennings, Hamilton. The text was typewritten.

George VI

George R.I.

Born: 3:40 am, 14 Dec. 1895 at Sandringham. This date had been a black day in the family calendar because Prince Albert, Victoria's consort and their daughter Alice, both died on that day in 1861 and 1878 respectively. In a past, more superstitious age, the birth would have been considered an ill-omen but nevertheless, Queen Victoria welcomed the Prince with concern. To help her overcome this distress the Queen's eldest daughter, of the same name, wrote encouragingly to her mother in a letter of 17 Dec. 1895 *"...that on this darkest day of your life (sic) a ray of sunshine is sent in after years! and I like to look at it in this light!" This* decision of her grandson Georgie to name his new son Albert finally won over the old matriarch who replied to his letter with *"I cannot tell you how much pleased and gratified I have been..."* to express her approval of his thoughtfulness.

Souvenir folders printed in purple and black typical of those distributed at memorial services. These are much less elaborate than those for Edward VII and Victoria - a sign of changing times.



Ceremony of National Mourning
for His Late Majesty King George VI

at the National War Memorial, Ottawa
Friday, February 15th, 1952
2.45 p.m.

ENCLOSURE E

C. STEIN
Under Secretary of State

National Ceremony of Mourning
by the people of Canada
for
His late Majesty King George VI
at
The National War Memorial, Ottawa
Friday the fifteenth of February
nineteen hundred and fifty-two
at 2.45 p.m.

Department of the Secretary of State

The invitation and program for the National Mourning ceremony for George VI. It is appropriate that the ceremony took place at the National War Memorial because it was unveiled by the King (who was a Veteran) during his visit in 1939.

Christened: Albert, Frederich, Arthur, George at the Church of St. Mary's, Sandringham on 17 Feb. 1895. He became known as *"Bertie"*.
Overview of his life: Bertie spent his youth at York Cottage and was placed under a tutor at age six. At fourteen he followed his father's footsteps by entering the Royal Naval College, Osborne, going onto Darmouth two years later. He saw naval service at home and abroad including taking part in the great battle at Jutland in 1916. By May 1917 he was forced to abandon his naval career due to poor health. After recuperating from an ulcer operation he transferred to the Naval Air Service and was posted to France where he remained until the Armistice. He was the first member of the Royal Family to obtain a pilot's licence and was promoted to squadron leader. After the war he

attended Cambridge and on 3 June 1920 was created the Duke of York and took his seat in the House of Lords soon after.

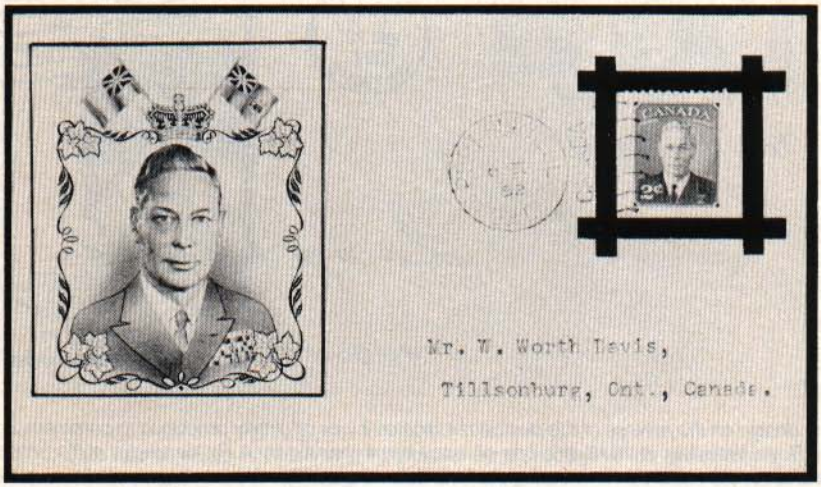
He devoted himself to public duties, particularly to the improvement of social and industrial conditions. He established and supported the Duke of York Camps where less fortunate boys could spend a week as his guests.

On 16 Jan 1923 Albert became engaged to Lady Elizabeth Bowes-Lyon. They married on 26 April at Westminister Abbey. Elizabeth proved to be an ideal wife for George and assisted and supported him through the difficult times he was to face. She was instrumental in helping him overcome a bad stammer and to generally improve his confidence because he was very shy. They had two daughters, Elizabeth who was born on 21 April 1926 and Margaret Rose, born 21 August 1930. The popular young couple performed the usual duties and completed several lengthly tours of Africa, Australia and New Zealand.

Like his father, unforeseen circumstances dictated that he become king, although with far less advance notice, because he ascended the throne after his brother abdicated on 11 Dec. 1936. In respect for his father, Albert chose to be known as George VI and was crowned on 12 May 1937, the same day that had been scheduled for Edward's Coronation. There was little time to enjoy his new duties before the world was at war again. However, one of the few pleasant events was the well-known and successful Royal Tour of North America in 1939. The tour was to yield great benefits after war broke out because it solidified Anglo-Canadian-American relations and laid the ground work for the cooperation that was necessary for an Allied victory.

The postage stamps, railway post office and special cancellation for this tour together are examples of interesting modern postal history which is becoming increasingly popular among collectors. At present, Graham Noble and I are working on producing a comprehensive handbook on the subject.

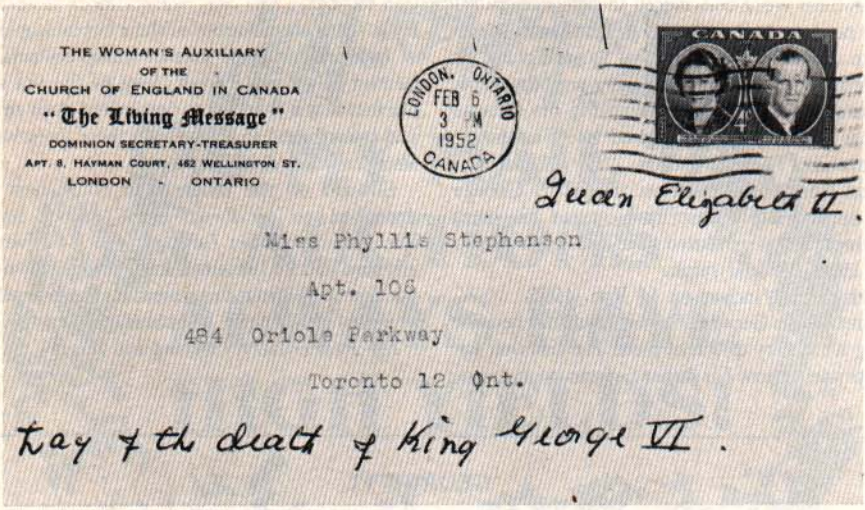
As his parents had done during the First World War, George VI and his family set an outstanding example of courage, self-sacrifice and devotion to duty during the Second one. After the war the many changes that had occurred to the world's map were to continue throughout the British Empire. A successful Royal Tour of Africa in 1947 was to be followed by another of Australia and New Zealand in 1948. It had to be cancelled because the King took ill. In the meantime, the celebration of the King and Queen's Silver Wedding Anniversary and the marriage of Princess Elizabeth to Prince Philip were joyous events, as were the birth of grandchildren. Continuing illness caused and aggravated by the king's long addiction to heavy



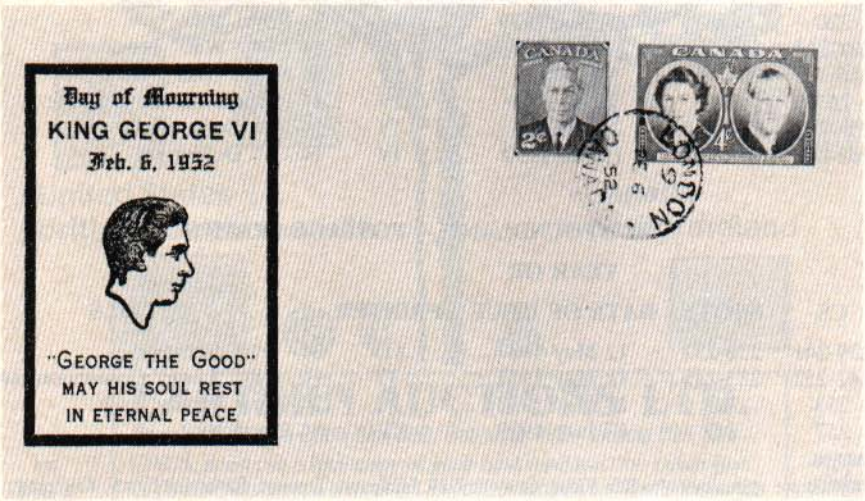
The cachet around which a black border was added was originally produced as a first day cover. W. Worth Davis added the printed black stamp box to a supply of both plain and cacheted envelopes. All known examples are posted at Port Burwell.

This poorly printed cachet in black utilizes one of the last photographs taken of George VI, probably reproduced from a newspaper.

The design on the reverse of this postcard indicates it was originally produced to commemorate the Royal Wedding in 1948. It is one of many items created by A.R. Alexander of Toronto for various royalty related events during the late '40's to mid '50's. Alexander recycled the unused stock of this card by adding text to the address side to make it a George VI mourning card.



This may be a commercial envelope that the addressee recognized was posted on 6 Feb. and wrote the notation "Day of the death of King George VI".



This cachet exists in black or grey printed by a process which raises the printing similiar to "Verco".

cigarette smoking required serious surgery for arteriosclerosis and lung cancer. While the operations were considered to be successful it was not long before George VI died in his sleep from coronary thrombosis at Sandringham on 6 Feb. 1952. Among the many wreaths at his funeral there was one resembling the George Cross bearing a card signed by Winston S. Churchill. The two words, *"For Gallantry"* taken from this decoration created by George VI appropriately described one of his main characteristics exhibited time and again during his short life and reign.

Buried: at Windsor on 15 Feb. 1952.

Summation: George V's two sons who became king were very different men. The one that appropriately chose his father's name upon ascending the throne was much like him. The Georges' life styles, values, outlooks, dedication to family and duty were almost identical. Even the circumstances of their becoming king — by accident, their love of stamp collecting, pursuit of a naval career, love of the sea and the fact that a world war dominated their reign and contributed to shortening their lives were also common denominators.

Edward on the other hand could best be described as a *"devil-may-care"* playboy, much like his grandfather Edward VII. However, I am sure had he remained king, Edward would not have exhibited the statemanship and other qualities that made his namesake known as *"The Peacemaker"* during his reign. □

GEORGE VI

DOMINION OF CANADA — POSTAGE STAMPS

CS	SCOTT	YEAR OR DATE OF ISSUE	PRINTER	DETAILS
184	212	4 May 1935	IV	2¢ Silver Jubilee
202-207	231-236	1 Apr/10 May '37	IV	1¢ - 8¢ Definitive
208	237	10 May 1937	IV	3¢ Coronation
220	248	15 May 1939	IV	3¢ Royal Visit
221-224	249-252	1942-43	IV	1¢ - 3¢ "War" Issue
226-227	254-255	1942	IV	4¢ & 5¢ "War" Issue
253	277	1 Oct 1948	IV	4¢ Responsible Government
256-262	284-288	1949-51	IV	1¢ - 5¢ Definitives
263-267	289-293	19 Jan 1950	IV	1¢ - 5¢ Definitives

NEWFOUNDLAND — POSTAGE STAMPS

CS	SCOTT	YEAR OR DATE OF ISSUE	PRINTER	DETAILS
239-241	230-232	12 May 1937	XIV	2¢ - 5¢ Coronation
242-252	233-243	12 May 1937	VI	1¢ - 48¢ "Long" Coronation Issue
253	245	12 May 1938	VI	2¢ Royal Family Issue
257	249	17 June 1939	XIV	5¢ Royal Visit

My sincere appreciation to Ken Elder, Ottawa; R.H. Jamieson, Toronto; Katherine Lamb, Kitchener; E.R. Toop, Ottawa; and Harry Dingenthal, Garland, Texas for their assistance with the preparation of this article.

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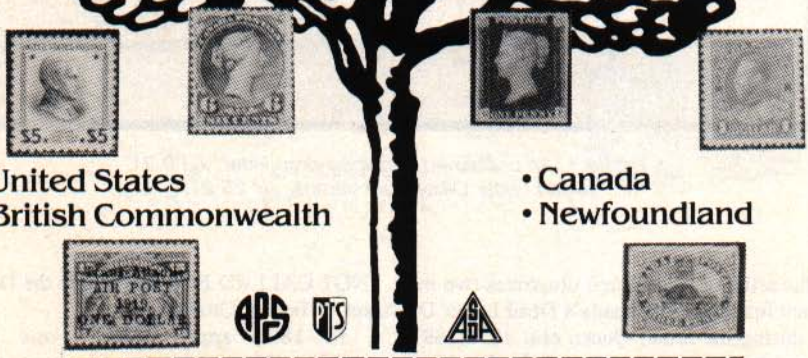

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Canada's Dead Letter Office: The Small Queen Era

by George B. Arfken

Figure 1. An unclaimed Winnipeg drop letter, JU 9 91. Dead Letter Office backstamps, JU 25 91.

This article explores and illustrates two important functions of Canada's Dead Letter Office during the Small Queen era, 1870-1897. The most important function of the Dead Letter Office was to return undeliverable mail (when possible). Figure 1 shows an example of this. The cover is a 2¢ drop letter to a Thomas E. Smith mailed in Winnipeg, 9 June 1891. Winnipeg had received free carrier delivery 1 April 1882 so 2¢ was the proper prepayment. With no address beyond Winnipeg, Manitoba, the letter was probably held at the post office. Thomas E. Smith never came to pick up his letter so the cover was stamped NOT CALLED FOR and sent to the Dead Letter Office in Ottawa.

In 1891 approximately one million undeliverable postal items were sent to the Dead Letter Office. On the back of this particular cover are handstamps RECEIVED DEAD LETTER OFFICE CANADA / 2 / JU 25 / 91, *DEAD LETTER OFFICE*CANADA /JU 25/ 1891 and 2 in a square with the initials D, L AND O in three of the corners. The clerks at the Dead Letter Office opened Thomas Smith's letter, found that it had come from someone at the Land Title Office in Winnipeg and returned it to that office. The front of the cover bears

two receiving handstamps of the Land Title Office, one blue and one purple, both dated 30 June 1891.

This description of the travels of the Smith cover does not answer the question "How did the letter get from the Dead Letter Office in Ottawa back to Winnipeg? Clearly the address of the Land Title Office has not been written on the cover. As a start in tackling this question we note that the return of letters by the Dead Letter Office was covered in Section 40 of the Postal Act of 1867 (1).

> " . . . be transmitted by Postmasters to the Post Office Department as Dead Letters, there to be opened and returned to the writers on payment of any postage due thereon, with five cents additional on each Dead Letter to defray the costs of returning the same, . . . "

The 1874 Report of the Postmaster General (D.A. MacDonald) noted that in the past only those letters of special importance or value were returned to writers. As of September last (1874?) all dead letters originating were being returned (where possible).

The Post Office Act of 1875 reduced the 5¢ return fee to 3¢ effective 1 October 1875. This new fee appeared in the October Postal Guide (p.vii) as

> "The charge on dead letters returned to the writers, is three cents on each letter in addition to the postage."

This 3¢ return fee held for the remainder of the Small Queen era.

Another change in 1875 was the recognition of "request" letters. From 8 November 1875 (2) undeliverable letters having a printed return address and request for return were returned directly to the writer without going through the Dead Letter Office and without the 3¢ return fee. This speeded the return of some undeliverable mail and eased the burden on the Dead Letter Office.

So much for the regulations. What about the mechanism for the return of undeliverable letters? Figure 2 shows an undeliverable registered letter with a LONDON, CANADA, DE 14 93 circular date stamp. The handstamp RETURNED FOR BETTER DIRECTION did not mean immediate return to the writer. There was no printed return address and request for return. Instead, in accordance with postal regulations, the Hamilton post office sent the letter to the Dead Letter Office. The cover was backstamped DEAD LETTER OFFICE CANADA, DE 18 1893. When opened, the registered letter was found to have come from Fraser and Fraser, Solicitors, of London, Ont.

Figure 2. An undeliverable registered letter, LONDON, CANADA, DE 14 93. HAMILTON, CANADA, DE 15 93 and DEAD LETTER OFFICE CANADA, DE 18 1893 Backstamps.

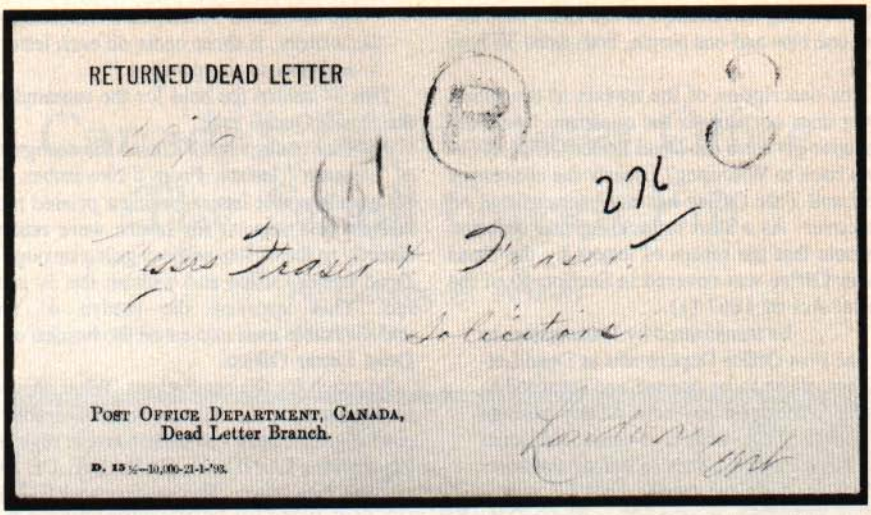


Figure 3. The envelope used to return the cover of Figure 2. RETURNED DEAD LETTER, (due) 3.

The registered letter was returned to them in the large brown envelope shown in Figure 3. The return envelope is stamped RETURNED DEAD LETTER and 3 for the 3¢ return fee. Because the original letter was registered, the return envelope was registered — at no extra charge.

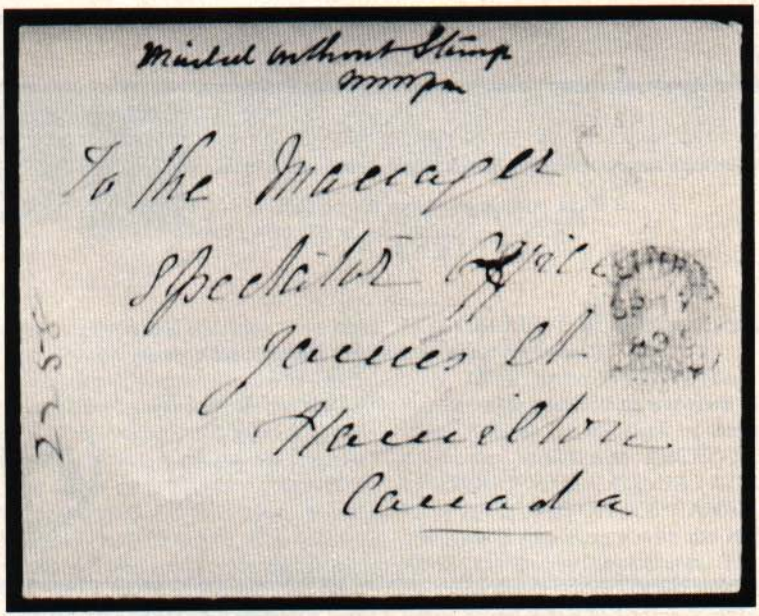


Figure 4. Posted without a stamp, NIAGARA FALLS, ONT., SP 13 95. DEAD LETTER OFFICE CANADA, SP 14 1895 backstamp.

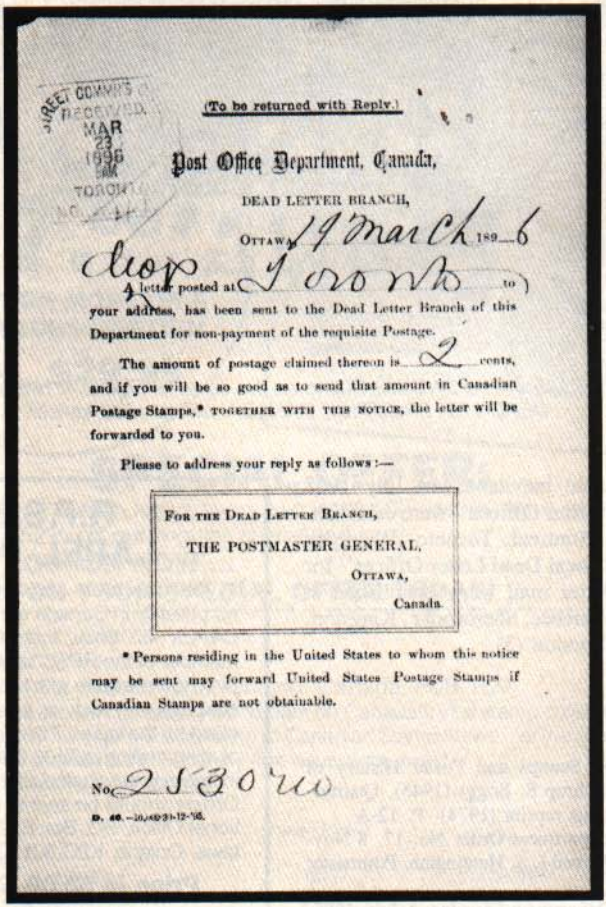
A secondary but still important function of the Dead Letter Office was handling unpaid mail. The cover shown in Figure 4, was posted in Niagara Falls, Ont., 13 September 1895 *without a stamp!* The relevant postal regulation was given on p.v of the 1895 Postal Guide:

> "Wholly unpaid letters are not to be forwarded to destination at all, but are to be sent by *first mail* to the Dead Letter Office, for return to the writers."

(This quotation referred to inland mail, not to UPU overseas mail.)

At the top of the cover we see the written "Mailed without Stamp" and in the center a rectangular handstamp "RETURNED FOR . . . . . 3¢" The wording of this handstamp is deceptive. The letter was not returned directly to the writer, rather the Niagara Falls post office sent the letter to the Dead Letter Office, Ottawa, as required by postal regulations. The letter was opened and the address of the writer determined. A notice similar to the one shown in Figure 5, was sent to the writer requesting him (or her) to send back 3¢ in stamps. Apparently the writer did send back a 3¢ Small Queen for the cover carries a 3¢ Small Queen cancelled with a Dead Letter Office circular date stamp, SP 17 95. Figure 6 shows a closeup of the stamp and cancel. Finally, with proper postage paid, the letter was sent on its way.

Epilogue. Throughout the Small Queen era there was just one Dead Letter Office, located in Ottawa. With Canada's expanding population, demands upon the office grew and decen-



(To be returned with Reply.)

Post Office Department, Canada,

DEAD LETTER BRANCH,

OTTAWA, 19 March 189 6

A letter posted at Toronto to [illegible] your address, has been sent to the Dead Letter Branch of this Department for non-payment of the requisite Postage.

The amount of postage claimed thereon is 2 cents, and if you will be so good as to send that amount in Canadian Postage Stamps,* TOGETHER WITH THIS NOTICE, the letter will be forwarded to you.

Please to address your reply as follows:—

FOR THE DEAD LETTER BRANCH,
THE POSTMASTER GENERAL,
OTTAWA,
Canada.

* Persons residing in the United States to whom this notice may be sent may forward United States Postage Stamps if Canadian Stamps are not obtainable.

No. 25302

D. 46.—10,000-31-12-95.

Figure 5. Form used by the Dead Letter Office to request postage for unpaid letters.

Figure 6. The 3¢ Small Queen on the cover of Figure 4. bears a DEAD LETTER OFFICE CANADA, SP 19 1895 cancel.

tralization became inevitable. In July 1898 "Branch Dead Letter Offices" were established in Halifax, Montreal, Toronto, Winnipeg and Victoria. "Local Dead Letter Offices" for handling non letter mail were established in Charlottetown, Quebec, Sherbrooke, Kingston, Hamilton and London (3).

References:

(1) "The Postage Stamps and Postal History of Canada", Winthrop S. Boggs (1945), Quarterman Publications reprint (1974), P. 12-A.
(2) Post Office Department Order No. 17, 8 November 1875. Signed L.S. Huntington, Postmaster General.
(3) Post Office Department Circular, 1 July 1898. Unsigned. □

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First Day Covers of Indonesia

by M. Hardjasudarma

Figure 1. Private FDC with three low values of overprinted Netherlands Indies definitives. Circular date stamp (CDS) Soerabaja 31. 12. 48.

Mention first day covers (FDC's) these days and you are likely to be greeted with mixed reactions, at best. You will be told that boxes of FDC's can be had at auction for a fraction of the prices paid by their original owners. What tends to be forgotten is that these are usually the results of "investments" gone sour. Besides, certain FDC's can not be obtained even if one is willing to pay an arm and a leg for them. For those of us who like complete series of stamps on specially prepared covers, this is a practical way to start a collection. And if you wish a personal touch, have them sent to you by registered mail. That way they will have been postally used, with the appropriate stickers and postmarks on front and back to prove it. Of course they will always remain philatelic, but that's the name of the game, certainly as regards modern day FDC's. Why Indonesia, you'd ask. This is of course a subjective decision. But if you wish to learn more about a huge, and yet relatively unknown country, this is a point in favor of this nation. It has a reasonable stamp issuing policy, although souvenir sheets were at times released rather too generously. However, because of the favorable exchange rate, $1 (Canadian) equals approximately 800 Indonesian rupiahs (Rp) at this writing, no fortunes need to be spent to form a good collection.

Next question: where does Indonesia "start"? The Scott catalogue lists the first Indonesian stamp under number 333. That's because they just continued the numbering sequence of the Netherlands Indies, the official name of the country when still occupied by the Dutch. Some catalogues consider the eleven Netherlands Indies stamps overprinted with "Indonesia" in 1948-49 as the first regular stamps of that country. This is a practical approach, since Indonesian stamps issued between 1945-49 are provisionals issued by the struggling young republic, and FDC's of that period are unknown.

The one rupiah stamp at the top of the cover in figure 2, is part of a large series of definitives, the first for Indonesia if one disregards the 1948-49 overprints. The Avezaat - Okker catalogue (in Dutch), notes that this stamp is known with a postmark as early as 27 September 1949. However, specific data is lacking, as it is

Figure 2. Private FDC for the first Indonesian commemoratives. These were issued for the 75th Anniversary of the Universal Postal Union. CDS Soerabaja 1. 10. 49

for many of the early definitives, making these issues extremely challenging. Even some of the recent definitives are difficult, since they were released separately, at irregular periods following the issue of the "main" series. Precise dates of issuance of these "stragglers" is often unknown, and there are no official FDC's or special postmarks. Privately made FDC's using regular CDS are sometimes available. However, note that a sticker is used for registration in Indonesia, and this is tied to the cover by a postmark.

A certain time lag between the first day cancellation of the stamp, and registration is not uncommon. It is allowed, and as long as the delay is not excessive, stamps already stuck and cancelled on the cover are counted as payment of postal fees, including registration. If insufficient, additional postage needs to be affixed. Note that the cancels in figure 3 are different in type as well. The one used on the stamps lacks any lettering in its bottom portion. The cancel was devised by Indonesian authorities some years previously. The words REP(ublik)

Figure 3. Private FDC. Series commemorating five years of independence. CDS Medan 17. 8. 50 (But 18. 8. 50 on the registration label). First stamps to carry REPUBLIK INDONESIA inscription.

Figure 4. Private FDC. First Asian Games in New Delhi, India. CDS Medan 2. 1. 51

Figure 5. Sixth anniversary of the United Nations. Special cancel Bandung 24. 10. 1951

Figure 6. Surcharged issue for victims of volcanic eruption.
Private FDC with special cancel Djakarta 15-4-1954

INDONESIA used to be included, the former in the small empty rectangle, the latter in the semicircular strip below. Following re-occupation of the Medan area by the Dutch, the two words were removed, and the cancel used in its altered state. By August 1950, the area was again Indonesian, and usage of the cancel was continued for some time thereafter.

The first surcharged stamps were issued in 1951 (figure 4). This became a tradition, at least until 1970. The surcharges were for charitable purposes, usually sports events, social agencies, and victims of natural disasters. A few surcharged issues were again released in 1983 and 1984.

The series in figure 5 represents the only one totally printed outside Indonesia, in this case by the American Banknote Company. They bear the first cancel ever produced to mark a first day of issue. The envelope itself was still produced privately, not by the postal service. The head offices of the latter, incidentally, are in the city of Bandung, province of West Java.

The "Merapi volcano" FDC (figure 6) is generally considered to be the most difficult to acquire nowadays. Certain "reprints" exist which differ from the original in several respects, among others a loss of fine detail in the cachet. The English text at the bottom is rather confusing unless one replaces "erosion" with "eruption".

The FDC depicted in figure 7 was the first to be fully serviced by the postal service. Both the envelope and the cancel (and of course the stamps) were produced for this specific purpose. The special cancel was not allowed on private covers, only regular CDS' were applied.

The postal service was unable to provide serviced FDC's for the first National Elections set (figure 8) and the Memorial Day issue of November 1955. Stamps of the former were even issued without gum. Only special cancels were provided. One unique method to get these (which has since been discontinued) was to buy the stamps at the local post office on the first day of issue, affix them on envelopes bearing one's own address, and depositing same in the mail box. Sometime later the envelopes were returned, after receiving the special cancel. The covers therefore traveled without postmark on the stamps or envelopes, until they reached Bandung. However, the cover in figure 8 must have been returned to its owner in another envelope. He or she then mailed it, more than six weeks later. The set was accepted as (partial) payment of the postage charges, including registration. There were likely additional stamps on the back, which are no longer present.

Figure 7. Tenth Independence Day. Bandung 17-8-55

Figure 8. First National Elections. Bandung 29-9-1955. Front of registered cover mailed from Jogjakarta on 14-11-1955 to Brockville, Ontario.

Figure 9. Private FDC with cachet, Indonesian Red Cross series. CDS Tandjung Balai 26. 7. 56

The postal service provided fully serviced FDC's for the above issue, and therefore only allowed ordinary CDS' on private FDC's.

First day of issue folders were introduced to the public in February 1961 (figure 11). This particular carnet consisted of a cardboard cover and one page, folded in the middle. The stamp was affixed with a hinge on the right side of the inner page. The special cancel was applied to the inside of the rear cover, not on the stamp. Philatelic circles voiced disappointment at this arrangement. Subsequently, a batch of carnets received an additional cancel, this time tying the stamp, as seen in figure 11. Folders could not be mailed, unless enclosed in an envelope. They have been issued sporadically since 1961, and are usually of a large size, up to 14 x 21 cm, folded. (see figure 14)

Figure 10. An unusual twist - a private "Last Day Cover" (the nice round cancel in the centre is also unofficial) with five definitives which were valid from January 1953 to 31 December 1960

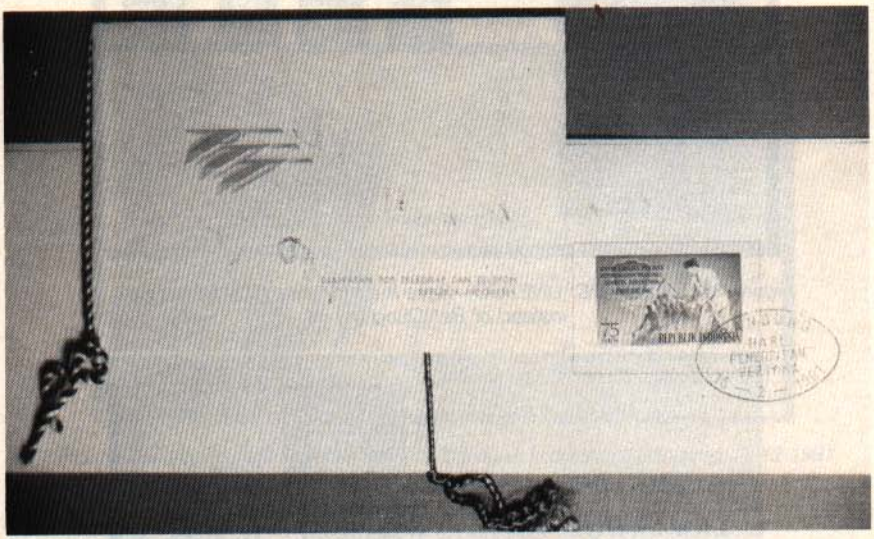

Figure 11. National Development stamp. Bandung 15-2-1961. Two folders (carnets) are illustrated. The folder on top shows the front page, the one at the bottom is opened in the middle.

The cancels depicted in figure 12 are red, a colour commonly used for special first day of issue postmarks in the 1960's and well into the 1970's. The covers were not standardized in size, being quite large at times such as this one (23 x 11.5 cm). This official FDC carries the PTT (Postal, Telegraphic and Telephone services) logo at top left, which was later changed. (See figures 13, 16 and 17)

A rare spelling error in a special cancel is seen in figure 13. A large quantity was produced though, and they are therefore inexpensive. Most of these FDC's have the cancel with the correct spelling. At this time the official logo

Figure 12. Asian - African Journalists' Conference. Bandung 24-4-1963

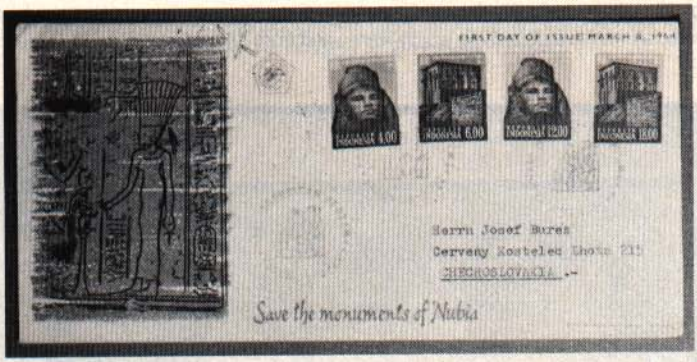

Figure 13. Official FDC: UNESCO - Save the Monuments of Nubia BaDung instead of BaNDung 8-2-64

Figure 14. Inside of large official folder (carnet) issued for the 1968 Mexico Olympic Games.

Figure 15. Official FDC's of 1971 (bottom right: UNICEF) and 1976 (top left: Anti blindness campaign)

Figure 16. Official FDC number SHP 103, Fauna protection. Bandung 10-12-1981

next to the Rp 4,00 stamp consists of a stylized PT (= Post and Telecommunications) following renaming of the postal services (see figures 12, 16 and 17). Official FDC's and some private issues as well, carry helpful inserts printed in Indonesian and English. These list pertinent data such as information about the theme of the stamps, printing process, name of the designer, and instructions for ordering. In later years, totals of stamps printed, and the price of the FDC were also included.

The two FDC's in figure 15 carry the current postal logo, i.e. a stylized dove superimposed on the globe, enclosed in a pentagon. Only official FDC's carry this logo. Cover size was still not standardized at this time, as can be seen from the difference between the two FDC's. However, a numbering system was started with the Maritime Memorial issue of January 1974. The Anti blindness campaign cover bears number 23.

In the 1980's, official FDC's (see figures 16

Figure 17. Official FDC number SHP 182, Expo 86, Vancouver. Jakarta 2-5-1986

and 17) have become standard in size, about 18.5 x 10 cm, and are thus easily accommodated on album pages or transparent stock sheets available in North America. Every issue has a unique number. SHP = Surat Hari Pertama = FDC. The cancels are again in black. FDC's of souvenir sheets are also provided (figure 16). Incidentally, the first souvenir sheets were issued in 1961 for the Tourism series. These were imperforate.

Although one was cancelled in Bandung, and the other in Jakarta, both covers (figures 16 and 17) were mailed from the Philatelic Bureau in Jakarta. To end on an interesting note, current stamps have been printed with multiple small postal logos on them. This is presumably done with a phosphorescent substance, since the postal service says that they are only detectable under ultraviolet light. However, you can see them quite easily when you hold the stamps up against a common light source, at a particular angle. □

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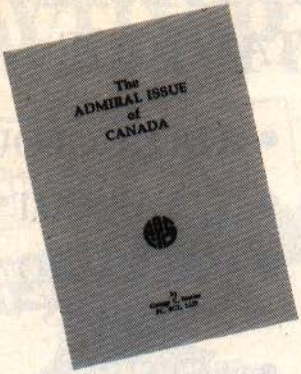

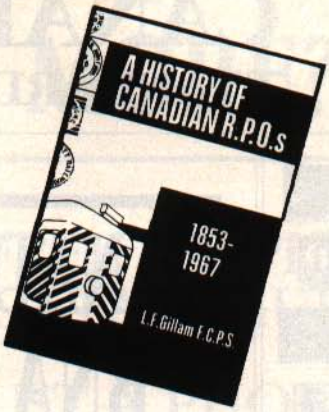

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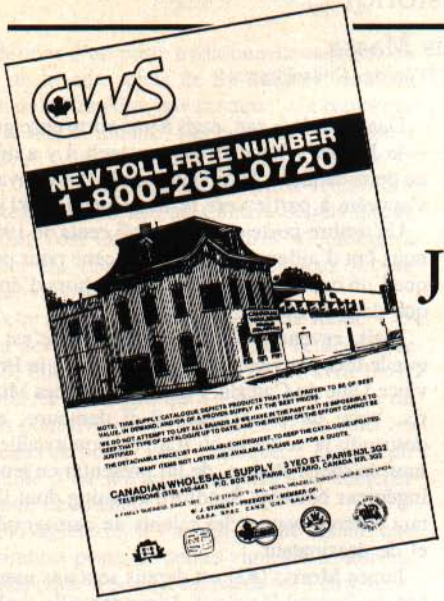

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De la Rencontre de 3 Ecossais, Naîtra le castor de 3-pence, le Premier Timbre - Poste Canadien

(Récit Historique)

par Denis Masse
(Académie Québecoise D'études Philatéliques)

Même si l'hiver montre encore des dents et que de légers flocons saupoudrent de blanc le centre-ville de Toronto, il y a, comme tous les lundis matins, beaucoup d'animation, aujourd'hui, 24 février 1851, autour de l'hôtel Ellah, rue King, un peu à l'ouest de Bay Street.

L'hôtel acquis depuis peu par John Ellah qui tenait jusque là le British Coffee House, situé en face, jouit de l'excellente réputation établie au cours des années précédentes par l'hôtel Stone.

En plus de chambres claires et propres, éclairées à profusion par des lampes à l'huile de baleine, les écuries aménagées dans la cour sont spacieuses, bien entretenues et l'on y trouve des remises pour garer les voitures, des "coaches", comme on dit.

Elément non négligeable, les clients n'ont qu'à traverser la rue pour prendre un bain où Angus Blue a établi les Bains Royal.

Aussi, bien que l'hôtel soit passé à une toute nouvelle administration, les hommes d'affaires de la capitale continuent de s'y donner rendez-vous tôt le matin car John Ellah y sert des déjeuners copieux dans une ambiance qui favorise les rencontres et les échanges discrets tout en permettant à la clientèle bourgeoise des marchands, des notables et des personnalités politiques de se croiser dans le grand lobby attenant à la salle à manger.

Dans la même rue, mais à une autre enseigne -- le Jordan's York Hôtel-construit il y a déjà un demi-siècle --, la diligence de la Poste royale s'apprête à partir vers le Bas-Canada. (#1)

Un timbre-poste canadien de 7 cents de 1951 nous fait d'ailleurs assister à la scène pour peu que l'on oublie l'avion résolument hors d'époque dans le décor.

Mais, revenons à l'hôtel Ellah, car c'est là que le tout nouveau maître de poste de la Province Unie du Canada, l'honorable James Morris, venu de Brockville où il demeure, est descendu la veille et où il a prié son excellent ami, le shérif Ruttan, de lui présenter ce jeune ingénieur écossais Sandford Fleming dont il a tant entendu vanter les talents de cartographe et de dessinateur.

James Morris (#2) est depuis sept ans membre du Conseil législatif. L'avant-veille seulement de cette rencontre mémorable avec Sandford Fleming, il a été appelé par le ministère Lafontaine-Baldwin (#3) à réorganiser la poste de fond en combles. Cette nomination lui assure un fauteuil au Cabinet.

Figure 1

Figure 2

Figure 3

Héritier d'un poste traditionnellement détenu par de loyaux sujets de Sa Majesté,-dont un Benjamin Franklin, par exemple, n'a certes pas été le moins illustre,-James Morris succède à Thomas Allen Stayner et devient, à l'âge de 52 ans, le premier titulaire du porte-feuille des Postes en résidence au Canada depuis que le British Post Office de Londres a consenti à laisser les colonies administrer leur propre système postal.

Cette loi a été promulguée par la Reine Victoria devant le Conseil Privé, le 12 décembre 1850. Elle doit entrer en vigueur le 6 avril 1851.

Morris sait donc qu'il lui reste à peine un mois pour avoir des timbres en vente dans les bureaux de poste. Pour l'époque, c'est un défi de taille d'où son empressement à se dénicher un bon dessinateur.

En Angleterre, il y a déjà plus de dix ans que les timbres-poste, de petites vignettes adhésives, attestant que la poste a été payée par l'envoyeur, ont fait leur apparition.

Même le Brésil qui n'est en somme qu'une vaste jungle, utilise des timbres depuis huit ans.

Et, sans l'avouer ouvertement, Morris voudrait bien damer le pion aux provinces maritimes du Nouveau-Brunswick et de la Nouvelle-Ecosse qui, elles aussi, ont été gratifiées par la Couronne du même privilège.

À défaut des timbres, l'administration centrale des Postes, à Londres, a fourni aux bureaux canadiens des tampons qui inscrivent le mot "PAID" sur les lettres et colis confiés à la Poste.

Les tarifs dépendent de la distance parcourue et du poids des lettres par tranches de ½ once. Le tarif de la poste était marqué en ROUGE quand les frais étaient assumés par l'envoyeur, en NOIR s'ils devaient être payés par le destinataire.

Voyons maintenant qui sont ces trois hommes attablés à l'hôtel Ellah pour le petit déjeuner de ce matin 24 février 1851.

(Il est convenu de parler d'une rencontre à trois, mais l'on sait que le nouveau Postmaster General a emmené avec lui l'un de ses neuf enfants, son fils aîné James Jr., et que celui-ci assiste lui aussi au déjeuner).

C'est une rencontre entre Ecossais.

Morris est né à Paisley, dans le comté de Renfrew, en Ecosse.

Mr. Ruttan était un ami du père de Sandford Fleming, en Ecosse.

Et le jeune Sandford, qui a 24 ans (#4) est originaire de Kirkaldy, dans le comté de Fife.

Figure 4

La famille Morris s'est établie à Brockville, en Ontario, mais James a été envoyé, pour parfaire son éducation, à la réputée Académie que dirige William Nelson, le père de Wolfred Nelson, à William Henry, une localité du Bas-Canada connue aujourd'hui sous le nom de Sorel.

Dès 1836, James Morris était directeur-général de la Commercial Bank à Brockville, et ses affaires étaient florissantes.

Morris s'adonna pendant toute sa vie à des activités commerciales et bancaires, à partir de Brockville, et il fut l'un des porte-parole des banquiers à l'Assemblée législative.

À plusieurs reprises, il s'est associé à un autre homme d'affaires d'envergure, dont les timbres-poste canadiens conservent les traits,

William Hamilton Merritt. (#5)

Une fille de Morris, Janet, épousera plus tard le fils aîné de Merritt, William Hamilton Jr.

Figure 5

James Morris a fait ses débuts dans la vie publique comme juge de paix en 1825. En 1835, il est coroner du district.

En 1838, les résidents de Brockville et des environs souscrivent à des obligations devant servir à construire un système de canaux sur le fleuve. Les services de Morris sont retenus pour gérer ces fonds.

La petite localité qui s'établit sur le chantier reçoit le nom de Morrisburg en souvenir de son oeuvre.

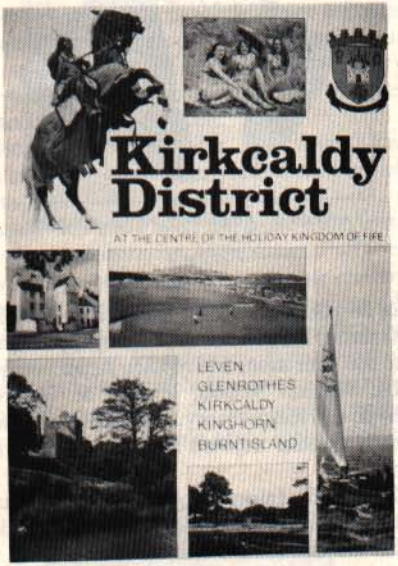


Figure 6

Quant à Sandford Fleming, il est né à Kirkaldy (#6), une ville qui compte aujourd'hui quelque 50 000 âmes et dont la fondation remonte avant l'ère des Vikings, soit en l'an 596.

Figure 7

Les armoiries (#7) représentent au premier plan une abbaye, ce qui évoque sa vieille cathédrale; au bas de l'écu, une galère qui rappelle son rôle portuaire; deux autres éléments décoratifs: une gerbe de blé symbolisant les champs de culture de la région et une boucle de ceinture apparentée à une vieille légende.

La devise "Vigilando Munio" signifie quelque chose comme "Je monte la garde".

Un plan de Grande-Bretagne nous indique que Kirkaldy est située plutôt au nord du pays.

Chef-lieu du comté de Fife, la ville commande un position stratégique sur l'estuaire.

La maison natale de Fleming, était située dans la rue Glasswork, non loin de l'esplanade du port. Elle n'existe plus cependant de nos jours. À la place, se trouve la cour arrière de quelques boutiques qui donnent façade sur la rue voisine.

Sur la place de l'hôtel de ville, a été élevée (#8) une plaque commémorative en souvenir de cet illustre fils de Kirkaldy.

Figure 8

Entré jeune comme apprenti ingénieur chez un Monsieur Sang, à l'époque où la Grande-Bretagne commençait à édifier son réseau ferroviaire, Sandford démontra des talents sûrs pour le dessin. On lui fit décorer les plans et cartes de banderoles et figures ornementales de toutes sortes avant de les envoyer à l'atelier de lithographie où elles étaient reproduites en plusieurs copies.

Sandford rêvait souvent du Canada où l'un de ses oncles avait servi sous les ordres du général Wolfe, à Québec. (#9)

Figure 9

Au début de 1845, son père monte à Glasgow voir quels arrangements il pourrait faire pour faire voyager ses deux fils, Sandford et David, en direction du Nouveau Monde.

Il trouve finalement un voilier, le "Brilliant" qui charge pour Québec. Le capitaine accepte de prendre les deux garçons pour 13 livres sterling chacun.

Les deux frères s'embarquent donc à Glasgow le 24 avril et arrivent à Québec le 6 juin, après une traversée difficile de 33 jours.

Il y a six ans de cela quand il est introduit au ministre James Morris.

Après avoir vu Québec, les deux frères décident de monter à Montréal par le premier "steamboat".

Arrivés à Montréal, la dernière personne que les deux frères s'attendaient d'y rencontrer, c'était bien leur vieux professeur de Kirkaldy. Celui-ci avait en effet abandonné l'enseignement, était devenu ministre du culte et avait émigré au Canada. Maintenant, il se dirigeait avec sa femme sur la rive nord du lac Erié où ils allaient ouvrir une mission. Ils offrirent spontanément aux deux jeunes Fleming de les emmener avec eux.

Après plusieurs déplacements en Ontario, Sandford trouva du travail à Peterboro. Il s'agissait d'illustrer un plan de cette ville pour le compte d'un lithographe professionnel.

En effectuant ce travail, l'apprenti ingénieur eut l'idée d'apprendre le métier d'arpenteur. À cette fin, il s'inscrivit à Weston, en Ontario, où il demeura trois ans.

Puis, en décembre 1848, une nouvelle loi signifia à tous les arpenteurs d'origine étrangère de suivre des cours dans la capitale qui se trouvait être Montréal à ce moment-là.

Les cours allaient débuter à la mi-janvier et se donneraient dans la salle de l'Assemblée législative, dans un bâtiment qui avait servi auparavant de marché, le Marché Sainte-Anne.

> Aujourd'hui, vous trouvez sur cet emplacement une caserne de pompiers désaffectée qui vient d'être transformée en Centre d'Interprétation de l'Histoire de Montréal.

Pendant qu'il suivait ses cours, le jeune Fleming avait eu l'occasion de fixer souvent son regard sur une immense peinture suspendue au-dessus du Trône. C'était un grand portrait de la reine Victoria apparaissant dans sa robe du couronnement qu'un peintre de la Cour, Edouard Chalon, avait fait de plein pied. (#10) Le gouvernement des Canada Unis en avait commandé une copie au peintre John Partridge et c'est cette copie en tout point identique à l'original qui ornait la salle de l'Assemblée législative.

Figure 10

Figure 11

Finalement, Fleming passe ses examens et reçoit instructions de se présenter à l'édifice du Parlement le mercredi 25 avril. Nous sommes toujours en 1849.

Cette date est importante car elle aura une incidence sur la composition de la première série de timbres canadiens.

À Montréal, la vie politique est chauffée à blanc depuis plusieurs semaines. La populace anglophone se soulève contre un projet de loi du gouverneur Elgin à l'effet d'indemniser tous ceux qui ont subi des pertes lors des soulèvements de 1837-38.

Le 25 avril, les manifestants partent du Champ-de-Mars et se rendent aux abords du Parlement. Bientôt, les trottoirs de bois servent à alimenter des bûchers et des manifestants commencent à lancer les pièces de bois en flammes dans les fenêtres de l'édifice. Bientôt, l'immeuble est livré aux flammes. (#11)

Ce que voit Sandford Fleming en arrivant sur la place, est une fournaise ardente. Subitement, il pense au tableau représentant la souveraine et il lui prend l'idée de tenter de le soustraire aux flammes s'il en est encore temps.

Avec quelques compagnons, il se fraie un chemin jusque dans la pièce, décroche le lourd tableau et l'emporte.

Une fois dans la rue, il se défait du cadre encombrant, roule la toile et avec l'accord des compagnons qui ont sauvé le précieux tableau, il l'emporte avec lui.

Le lendemain matin, Sandford Fleming rentrait à Toronto; le portrait de la reine Victoria faisait partie de ses bagages.

Nous allons reparler de ce tableau un peu plus tard.

Pour le moment, reportons-nous encore une fois au déjeuner qui se tient à l'hôtel Ellah.

Vous connaissez bien maintenant la scène; les circonstances vont ont été expliquées. Les acteurs sont là. Tout est prêt maintenant pour la naissance du timbre.

Peut-on conclure que le premier timbre-poste canadien a vu le jour entre deux pots de confitures sur un coin de table de restaurant?

Si la phrase fait sourire, elle correspond cependant assez bien à la réalité.

C'est Sandford Fleming lui-même qui a noté dans son journal, en date du lundi 24 février 1851:

"Ce matin, ai déjeuné à l'hôtel Ellah's en compagnie de Mr. Ruttan et de l'honorable James Morris, le Postmaster General. Ai dessiné des timbres-poste pour lui".

Une fois mis au courant du but de la rencontre, Fleming avait mûri une idée qu'il s'agissait maintenant de "vendre" au ministre.

Selon lui, c'est un animal, le castor, qui devrait faire le sujet de la première émission

de timbres du Canada, et rien d'autre.

Le castor est déjà l'emblème du Canada; il colle à la réalité canadienne qui est celle d'un peuple industrieux, besogneux, tout occupé à construire son avenir.

Le castor a aussi l'avantage d'être un animal particulier à la faune de ce pays.

Mais il fallait avoir un sens de l'originalité peu commun pour avoir osé avec tant de conviction, à l'époque, écarter l'idée de l'effigie habituelle de la reine et lui substituer l'image d'un animal comme sujet des tout premiers timbres du Canada et qui, s'il est mal dessiné, a toutes les chances de ressembler à un gros rat.

Jusqu'à maintenant, la mère-patrie et presque toutes les autres colonies, telles l'Ile Maurice, dans l'Océan Indien; Victoria, à l'extrémité sud-est de l'Australie, ont implanté la tradition voulant que l'effigie de Victoria, soit le sujet sacré de leurs premières émissions de timbres.

Morris écoute et se laisse convaincre. Le castor, c'est vrai, est un excellent symbole de l'intelligence, de la débrouillardise et du travail dont le peuple canadien encore jeune fait preuve tous les jours pour bâtir un pays au nord du 55e parallèle.

Pour Fleming, en tout cas, lui qui nourrit une vive passion pour sa profession, le castor est d'abord et avant tout le **premier** ingénieur canadien.

Mais il faut trois timbres.

À part le castor, Fleming suggère un portrait de Son Altesse Royale le prince Albert, l'époux bien-aimé de la reine Victoria mais qui n'a pas encore reçu le titre de prince-consort.

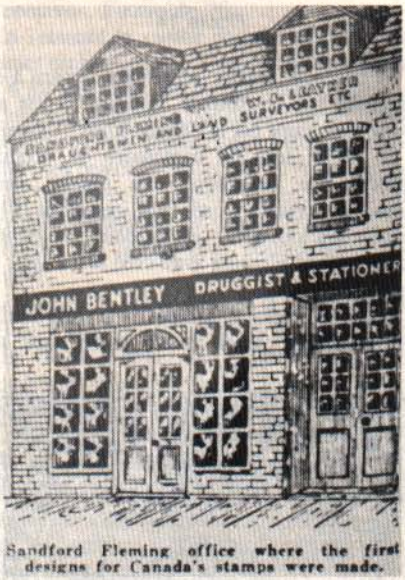
Figure 12

Justement, une belle lithographie du prince Albert, due à William Henry Egleton, (#12), circule depuis peu à Toronto. Il est convenu entre les deux hommes de s'en servir en l'adaptant aux dimensions réduites d'un timbre-poste.

Pour le 3e timbre du trio prévu, Fleming propose à nouveau son castor, mais dans un cadre différent.

Les trois timbres doivent être émis en dénominations 1) de 3 pence, qui sera le tarif lettre par demi-once pour tout le pays, y compris les provinces maritimes; 2) un 2e timbre de 6 pence pour le courrier à destination des Etats-Unis, ou encore pour doubler le premier tarif dans le cas de lettres pesant jusqu'à une once; 3) enfin un timbre d'un shilling pour les lettres d'une demi-once à destination de Terre-Neuve, des Antilles, et pour assurer des multiples de tarifs plus élevés.

Tout est bien. M. Morris est satisfait de l'entretien; il demande à Fleming de fignoler l'esquisse que celui-ci a tracée tout-à-l'heure sur une feuille de papier blanc.



Sandford Fleming office where the first designs for Canada's stamps were made.

Figure 13

Fleming emporte donc son esquisse à l'atelier de dessinateur-arpenteur (#13) qu'il partage avec W.B. Leather, au premier étage de la pharmacie-librairie John Bentley, au 110-112 rue Yonge, à Toronto.

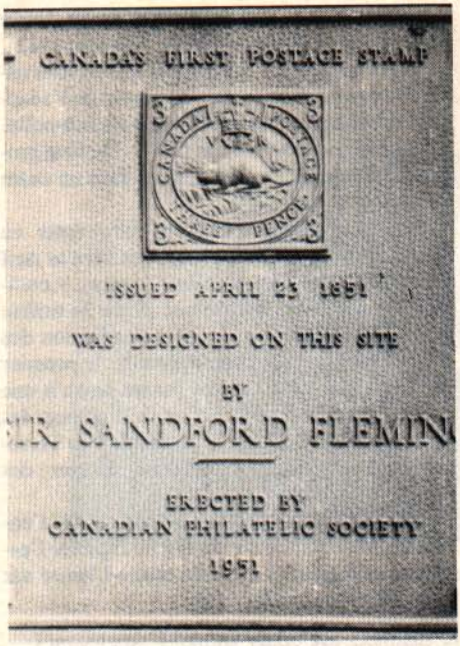


Figure 14

Ce bâtiment depuis longtemps disparu a été remplacé par le Romain Building et est aujourd'hui occupé par la Canada Trust Company.

En 1951, lors du centenaire du premier timbre-poste canadien, une plague commémorative était apposée sur l'immeuble (#14) rappelant à tous que c'est là, dans son atelier, que Sandford Fleming avait créé le "Castor de 3-pence".

Le motif central du timbre créé par Fleming représente un castor vu de profil dans son habitat naturel, près d'un torrent et d'une digue faite de branchages. (#15)

Figure 15

Dans le ciel, au-dessus de cette scène bucolique, il place les symboles: la couronne royale d'Angleterre, plus précisément la Couronne de l'Empire très différente d'ailleurs de la Couronne des Tudor (#16) que l'on verra près de 50 ans plus tard sur les timbres du Jubilé de la reine.

Figure 16

La couronne est posée sur un coussin de fleurs héraldiques représentant les trois Etats qui forment le Royaume-Uni: la rose, le chardon et le trèfle.

De chaque côté de cet élément figuratif sont disposées les lettres "V" et "R" mises pour "Victoria Regina".

Fantaisiste, jeune, Fleming n'a pas hésité à piquer une note d'humour dans son dessin. Dans le ciel, il a mis un soleil orné comme il se doit de rayons auquel il a ajouté des petits points qui semblent donner à l'astre une figure humaine.

À droite, des taches blanches rappellent la présence de fleurs aquatiques, en bas de la digue. Certains y reconnaissent même la trille, emblème de l'Ontario.

À l'arrière-plan, se profile le versant d'une montagne plantée de pins.

Le dessin central est entouré d'une large bordure ovale dans laquelle sont insérés les mots "Canada Postage Three Pence" en lettres blanches sur un fond de couleur solide.

À remarquer -- comme c'est la mode à l'époque --: le point après le mot "pence".

Le chiffre de la valeur nominale "3", apparaît aux quatre coins, sur un fond de feuilles de chênes.

Tel que convenu avec le ministre, Fleming répète le même dessin dans son projet pour un timbre d'un shilling, sauf qu'il l'insère dans un cadre octogonal.

Cette esquisse demeurera cependant un essai.

En effet, pendant que Fleming se consacrait à ses dessins définitifs, le ministre l'avisa que la dénomination d'un shilling posait quelques problèmes car le shilling n'avait pas la même valeur à Toronto qu'à Halifax et était aussi perçu différemment aux Etats-Unis.

D'autre part, il lui semblait que celui des trois timbres qui circulerait à l'étranger, surtout en Grande-Bretagne, devrait décemment porter une effigie de la reine. Il était parfaitement d'accord cependant pour que le timbre qui serait en usage au pays, soit celui de 3 pence, propose aux usagers l'image du castor.

À tout événement, il pria le jeune ingénieur de passer le voir et ils discuteraient du projet dans son ensemble.

Toujours imaginatif, jamais en panne de solutions, Fleming trouva vite le moyen de contourner la difficulté que posait l'expression des devises sur les nouveaux timbres.

Sa solution était simple: au lieu d'inscrire "un" shilling sur le timbre, on écrirait "12 pence", les pence étant considérés comme menue monnaie et échappant, de ce fait, aux fluctuations de la monnaie d'une province à l'autre.

Figure 17

Quant à l'effigie de la reine souhaitée par le ministre (#17), Fleming, encore une fois, allait se montrer d'un grand secours.

Il se mit à raconter au Postmaster General les événements dramatiques; auxquels il avait été mêlé à Montréal, deux ans auparavant et comment il avait été amené à préserver de la destruction le portrait de la reine Victoria. Cette toile, il l'avait encore en sa possession et il la tenait, bien entendu, à la disposition des autorités. On pourrait, concluait-il, s'en servir pour orner le timbre prévu de 12 pence.

La proposition de ce diable d'homme qui semblait avoir réponses à tous les problèmes, ne tomba pas dans l'oreille d'un sourd.

En proposant au ministre l'image d'un castor comme sujet du premier timbre-poste canadien, le Canada sera devenu, grâce à l'imagination de son auteur, le chef de file de la philatélie thématique. Cette administration postale devient, en effet, la première au monde à illustrer l'un de ses timbres de l'image d'un mammifère, si l'on fait exception des "Ours de Saint-Louis" qui relèvent davantage de la poste locale et qui sont considérés comme des précurseurs de l'organisation postale américaine plutôt que comme des timbres-poste réguliers.

Pour les représentants du règne animal, il y a eu aussi, bien sûr, les célèbres "Colombes de Bâle" classées elles aussi dans la catégorie des timbres locaux, qui ont précédé les émissions régulières de Suisse.

Le castor de Fleming restera en tout cas le seul rongeur à décorer un timbre pendant près d'un siècle, alors qu'en 1939, la Bolivie choisira un chinchilla pour deux de ses timbres, l'un de 60 centavos, l'autre de 70.

En retenant le castor comme sujet de son premier timbre-poste, il n'est pas sûr que Fleming n'ait pas voulu du même coup évoquer la valeur marchande attachée depuis les débuts de la colonie à cette espèce caractéristique de nos forêts. Les peaux de castor ont servi de troc entre les Indiens et les premiers Blancs; elles ont eu pendant longtemps sur tout ce territoire d'explorations un attrait plus considérable que l'argent.

Si bien que le gouverneur de la Compagnie de la Baie d'Hudson est toujours tenu, en vertu d'une vieille entente, de remettre deux peaux de castor au souverain chaque fois que celui-ci visitera notre pays. Et il s'est effectivement acquitté de cette redevance lorsque George VI foula le sol canadien, le 24 mai 1939.

Les premiers billets de banqe émis par les banques canadiennes étaient ornés d'images du castor ressemblant fort à celui de notre premier timbre. (#18)

Vous voyez ici, par exemple, un fac-similé de la Banque du Canada sur un billet de "3 chelins".

De nos jours encore, l'image du castor n'est pas une inconnue de notre système monétaire.

Fleming pensait que les nouveaux timbres seraient lithographiés comme les plans qu'il

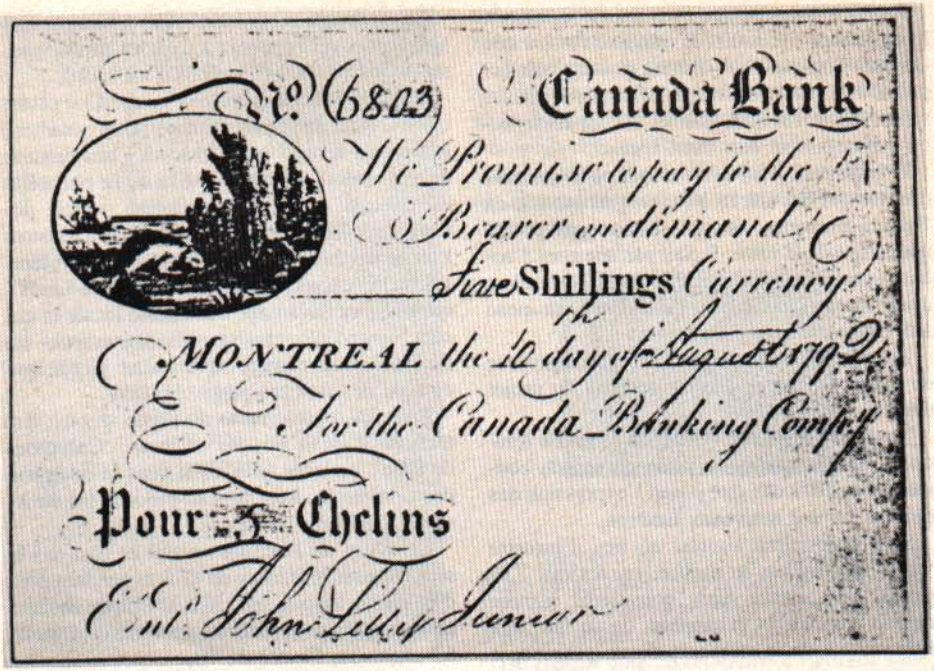


Figure 18

décorait de banderoles, de frises et autres ornements.

Il aurait même souhaité produire lui-même les timbres au moyen de la lithographie qu'il maîtrisait bien, et il en fit une proposition ferme aux autorités mais celles-ci ne l'entendaient pas de la même façon et préférèrent s'adresser à des imprimeurs déjà passés maîtres dans la production de titres et valeurs.

Pour produire ses premiers timbres, l'adminstration postale fit largement appel à l'expertise de ses voisins américains. Ainsi, le contrat pour l'impression de ses premières figurines postales, fut-il confié à la firme Rawdon, Wright, Hatch and Edson, de New York, qui, non seulement imprimait déjà les timbres américains, mais aussi les débentures du gouvernement canadien et les billets de plusieurs banques canadiennes.

L'impression fut exécutée selon le procédé "sidérographique" Perkins mis au point par Jacob Perkins, l'un des partenaires d'origine de la firme Rawdon, Wright, Hatch and Edson.

Cette méthode consiste à reproduire un coin en acier sur une plaque en acier par renfoncement. À ce procédé doit être attribuée également la production de la première émission de timbres-poste anglais de 1840. Peu de philatélistes de Grande-Bretane savent qu'ils doivent à un Américain la production de leurs célèbres "Penny Black", les premiers timbres-poste au monde.

Les coins pour le premier timbre canadien furent gravés par la maître-graveur, Mr. Alfred Jones, à l'emploi de la firme Rawdon, Wright, Hatch and Edson. Né à Liverpool, en Angleterre, Jones était entré comme apprenti chez le célèbre imprimeur new yorkais. Sa maîtrise de l'art le mènera plus tard jusqu'à la vice-présidence de la British American Bank Note Company.

Les imprimeurs exécutèrent le travail dans le courant du mois d'avril 1851. Mais les trois timbres prévus ne purent être prêts en même temps.

Le timbre de 3 pence, que l'on peut donc toujours reconnaître comme le premier, fut émis le 23 avril, tandis que les timbres de 6 pence et de 12 pence suivirent en mai et en juin.

Autre contribution américaine: le papier ayant servi à imprimer cette première émission. Il fut fabriqué à la main par la firme Ivy Mill, de

Chester, en Pennsylvanie. Les premiers stocks livrés par l'imprimeur le 15 avril, révélèrent des papiers de différentes épaissseurs.

La première livraison donna un produit sur papier **vergé,** puis, par après, l'administration reçut des timbres sur papier **velin** dans une gamme de papiers poreux, forts, épais et souples.

Ces différentes sortes de papier sont recherchées par les collectionneurs avides de variétés mais une collection simple pourrait se satisfaire d'un exemplaire des "Castors de 3-pence", d'autant plus que, du côté des nuances de teintes, la couleur de ce timbre témoigne d'une stabilité relative.

La première commande du timbre de 3 pence fut de 250 000 exemplaires (livrés en deux tranches) et coûta 20 cents du mille, soit $50 en tout.

En tout, il y eut 500 000 exemplaires de ce premier Castor de 3-pence imprimés et livrés aux Postes canadiennes. □

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142	3.75	.85	1.25	1.75
143	18.75	4.50	6.25	8.75
144	9.75	2.50	3.50	4.90
145	33.75	9.20	12.95	17.95
146	9.00	1.95	2.80	4.00
147	19.50	4.90	6.95	9.80
148	40.50	10.90	15.75	21.90
1928-29 GEORGE V 'SCROLL'				
149	4.35	1.20	1.75	2.50
150	1.85	.55	.80	1.10
151	45.00	7.25	10.50	14.70
152	30.00	7.25	10.50	14.70
153	15.00	2.90	4.20	5.90
154	22.50	5.90	8.40	11.80
155	19.50	4.75	6.70	9.50
156	33.00	7.50	10.50	14.70
157	60.00	15.75	23.10	32.20
158	562.-	203.-	280.-	322.-
159	600.-	231.-	308.-	350.-
160	33.00	9.80	13.90	24.85
161	22.50	6.90	9.80	17.40
1930-31 GEORGE V 'LEAF'				
162	1.55	.40	.55	.75
163	2.00	.75	1.05	1.50
164	1.55	.50	.70	1.00
165A	1.85	.70	1.00	1.40
166	1.55	.50	.70	1.00
167	2.50	.75	1.05	1.50
168	18.75	4.90	6.90	9.90
169	8.10	2.50	3.50	4.90
170	4.65	1.40	1.95	2.80
171	37.50	9.25	12.90	17.90
172	9.35	2.25	3.85	5.50
173	15.00	4.00	5.60	7.90
174	33.75	6.90	9.80	13.75
175	52.50	13.75	19.25	26.90
176	412.-	170.-	252.-	294.-
177	412.-	170.-	252.-	294.-
178	22.50	4.90	6.70	13.80
179	12.00	2.95	4.20	7.75
180	9.75	2.50	3.50	6.20
181	24.00	6.75	10.50	15.50
182	19.50	4.40	6.20	12.10
183	30.00	7.40	10.50	18.60
192	1.50	.40	.55	.80
193	13.50	3.40	4.75	6.75
194	18.75	4.50	6.30	8.90
1932 GEORGE V 'MEDALLION'				
195	1.10	.40	.55	.80
196	1.55	.45	.65	.90
197	1.85	.60	.85	1.20
198	96.20	17.25	24.50	34.50
199	17.50	3.25	4.60	6.40
200	52.50	9.25	11.90	18.75
201	105.-	18.50	26.40	36.75
205	27.00	8.20	11.50	20.50
206	30.00	9.20	12.90	22.95
207	21.00	6.75	9.50	16.75
1931-34 COMMEMORATIVES				
202	16.25	4.90	6.90	9.90
203	62.50	20.90	29.80	41.60
204	15.60	4.90	6.90	9.90
208	7.00	1.50	2.10	2.95
209	43.70	12.75	17.50	24.50
210	3.10	1.15	1.60	2.25
1935 JUBILEE				
211	.75	.25	.30	.40
212	1.40	.45	.65	.90
213	3.75	1.15	1.60	2.25
214	9.10	3.15	4.40	6.20
215	11.70	3.50	4.90	6.90
216	16.25	4.50	6.30	8.90
1935 GEORGE V & PICTORIAL				
217	.40	.15	.20	.30
218	.65	.20	.30	.40
219	.95	.30	.40	.55
220	5.85	1.75	2.50	3.50
221	5.85	1.50	2.10	3.00
222	5.85	1.75	2.50	3.50
223	14.30	4.40	6.15	8.70
224	15.60	4.40	6.15	8.70
225	48.75	13.75	19.30	26.90
226	82.50	18.50	26.50	36.80
227	165.-	39.20	55.90	78.40
228	22.50	6.75	9.50	13.25
229	18.00	5.40	7.70	10.80
230	18.00	5.40	7.70	10.80
1937-39 GEORGE VI & PICTORIAL				
231	.60	.20	.35	.45
232	.95	.30	.45	.65
233	1.10	.35	.55	.75
234	5.95	1.60	2.45	3.25
235	5.25	1.35	1.95	2.75
236	6.30	1.75	2.45	3.50
238	3.15	.75	1.05	1.50
239	4.20	.95	1.40	1.95
240	8.40	1.65	2.30	3.25
241	12.50	2.75	3.85	5.40
242	20.00	4.90	6.90	9.90
243	37.50	9.90	13.90	19.60
244	62.50	12.25	17.50	24.50
245	156.-	37.10	52.50	73.50
1942-43 GEORGE VI 'WAR'				
249	.35	.15	.20	.30
250	.65	.30	.35	.50
251	.65	.30	.35	.50
252	.65	.20	.30	.45
253	2.40	.85	1.20	1.70
254	.65	.20	.30	.45
255	2.10	.60	.85	1.70
256	3.30	1.20	1.75	2.45
257	7.80	2.45	3.50	4.90
258	9.00	3.25	4.50	6.30
259	14.40	4.90	6.90	9.90
260	16.50	4.10	5.90	8.40
261	60.00	15.90	22.75	31.40
262	150.-	44.25	63.00	88.25
263	1.60	.50	.70	.95
264	2.60	.75	1.05	1.50
265	2.60	.75	1.05	1.50
266	4.55	1.25	1.75	2.45
1946 PEACE				
268	2.50	.70	1.05	1.50
269	3.10	.70	1.05	1.50
270	5.60	1.75	2.45	3.50
271	6.25	1.75	2.45	3.50
272	35.00	9.90	13.90	19.60
273	75.00	22.10	31.50	44.25
278	7.10	1.60	2.30	3.25
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Post Paid Withdrawn Ship Letter Covers

by Allan Steinhart

Figure 1. G.B. to Quebec - Post Paid Withdrawn Ship Letter /14 JU 14 1815/London

In early 1814 there were a number of methods of sending a letter from Great Britain to Canada or the other British North American Provinces. The official route was by Falmouth packet, which sailed monthly from Falmouth, England to Halifax, Nova Scotia, direct or to Bermuda– dropping the mails for British North America – which were picked up by another vessel and brought to Halifax. The rate for this route was two shillings two pence starting from London or one shilling one penny from Falmouth to Halifax and inland postage from Halifax to destination was charged in addition. The cheapest method was to have a letter carried by a friend from Britain all the way to Canada and posted in Canada.

A letter could be placed on a private ship directly and carried to Canada or the provinces and received as a ship letter and charged the ship letter fee plus the internal postage. Except during the war period with the United States, a letter could also be sent by an American sailing packet to the U.S.A. addressed to Canada and charged the U.S. ship letter fee plus United

States and Canadian inland postage.

In addition to these routes, a letter could be posted in Britain directed to go by private vessel to Canada, B.N.A. or the United States, prepaid the outwards ship letter rates and then received on this side of the Atlantic as above; or, it could be mailed to a forwarding agent at the port of departure to be placed on a sailing vessel bound for North America.

In 1799 the London Ship Letter office was opened and the Act of 1799 of Great Britain authorized the charge of one half the packet rate on outwards ship letters leaving Great Britain. This was still a considerable charge and most people writing to North America avoided this charge by having letters sent directly on board ship by friends, by forwarding agents or by having such letters dropped into bags (for various vessels) hanging in coffee houses.

The Act of 1814, 54 GEO III, Cap. 169, changed all this. This is the act commonly referred to as the POST PAID WITHDRAWN SHIP LETTER ACT. Under this act people desirous of sending letters to North America by private ship were to hand them in to the post office where a charge of one third the established packet rate was taken as the outwards ship letter fee, and the cover was handed back to the sender so it could be forwrded by whatever private vessel the sender desired. Section 3 of the act noted that "the Post Master General shall receive letters directed to places abroad, both within the King's dominions and kingdoms and countries beyond the seas, from persons who may be desirous to forward them themselves, upon payment of a third of the packet rates; and shall mark the postage and return the letters to the persons, who may forward them by any vessels not being packet boats, without penalty."

Sections 9 and 10 of the Act again allowed customs officials to search ships for contraband letters and to seize such letters if they were found. The ships' captains were obliged to swear an oath they carried no bootleg letters. There were heavy penalties for the evasion of these rules.

This Act was to stem the great loss of revenue to the post office on the great quantity of outward letters from Britain being smuggled on board ships to avoid the postal charges.

As a result of this new Act a new set of datestamps was introduced into use by the British post office. These were double circle handstamps reading POST PAID WITHDRAWN SHIP LETTER with the port at the base. At the top inside the inner circle was a crown and below that a two line date. These were issued to London, Liverpool, and a number of other ports. The strikes of these handstamps are found on the reverse of the self folded letter sheets or covers generally struck across the flap as a seal so that after the payment of the ship letter fee and the handing back of letter, it would be apparent if it was opened and more pieces of paper were added.

This system was quite cumbersome and in general did not work well. Most letters were still being sent aboard outward bound vessels outside the post and in 1815 the POST PAID WITHDRAWN SHIP LETTER system was abandoned by the Act of 55, GEO. III, CAP. 153 of 1815 and the outward ship letter fee was again set at one half the packet rate.

POST PAID WITHDRAWN SHIP LETTERs to B.N.A. in this period are fairly scarce. The great majority of those seen are through London or Liverpool although I have seen one from Greenoch. There were of course others . . .

In my collection I have four examples of these covers which are illustrated here. The first is a cover from Britain addressed to Quebec endorsed "P. Dorothy" which was handed into the post paid withdrawn ship letter office and bears a strike of the London office on the reverse dated June 14, 1815. On the face is an endorsement "rec'd Sept. 11, 1815". The cover is rated, it appears, 2/1½ sterling which would be one third the charge on triple rate letter. It was carried directly to Quebec by a vessel from Britain and bears no Canadian postage or markings. The handstamp of the office is in black.

The second cover is from London, Great Britain to York, Upper Canada and is routed care of Arthur Webster, Esq. at Montreal. The letter is endorsed "P. halus" not in the hand of the writer but in the hand of the forwarding agent endorsement on the reverse. The cover was sent outside the post to Liverpool where it was endorsed on the reverse "Liverpool 5 April 1815 – Received & forwarded by James Chapman & Co." (unrecorded in Rowe) and handed in to the POST PAID WITHDRAWN SHIP LETTER office where a red Liverpool

Figure 2. London, G.B. to York, U.C. - Quebec Ship Letter - Rated P.9 Prepaid and 1/8½ Collect

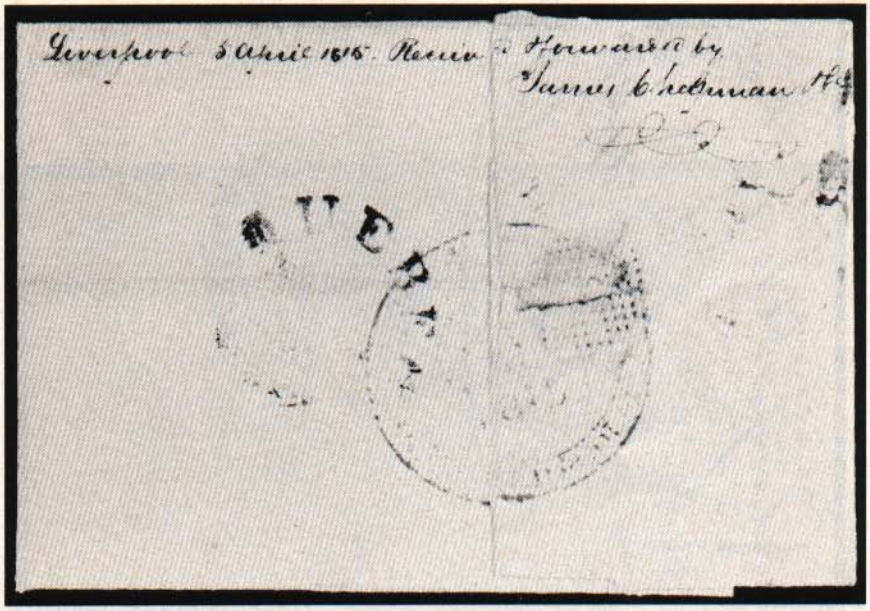

Figure 3. Reverse of Photo #2 - Forwarding Agent Endorsement and Post Paid Withdrawn Ship Letter /5 AP 5/1815/Liverpool

Figure 4. 1815 Trieste to Halifax, N.S.

Figure 5. Reverse #4 - Post Paid Withdrawn Ship Letter /6 My 6/1815/ London and Forwarding Agent

datestamp of the office was applied dated April 5, 1815. The cover was forwarded by the "balus" direct to Quebec where on receipt a Quebec May 26, 1815 fleuron datestamp was applied on the reverse and a double oval "Ship Letter/Crown/Quebec" black handstamp was applied on the face. The cover was rated "P9" or paid 9d stg. in Britain, one third the 2/2 stg. packet rate from London to a North American port, Halifax or New York, and in Canada it was rated 1/8½ collect, 1/6 cy, double the 9dcy rate from Quebec to Montreal plus 2½ dcy, the inwards ship letter fee as charged in Canada. The cover was forwarded by private means from Montreal to York, Upper Canada.

Our third cover is a little more unusual than the previous two pieces. It is dated at Trieste on January 16, 1815 and is addressed to Halifax, Nova Scotia, and is endorsed at the upper right "Uaines & Co" which was probably a forwarding agent somewhere on its route to Great Britain where it was received outside the port. In Britain it was handed in to the POST PAID WITHDRAWN SHIP LETTER office at London, a datestamp of the office of May 6, 1815 applied on the reverse, and the cover rated paid 8½d stg. The cover was sent on to a forwarding agent in Liverpool where it was endorsed "Liverpool 8 May 1815, rec'd & forwarded by Your mo. ob't Serv't, Thos & Webb Earle & Co." on the reverse and "P.Elk, Capt'n Ritchie" on the face and forwarded to Halifax with no additional postal charges.

Our last of the four pieces shown here is even more unusual than the previous three covers. The cover is dated June 28, 1815 and written at Liverpool, Britain and addressed to Montreal, Canada care of Mess. Booman & Johnson at New York and ensorsed "P. Matilda". It was handed in to the POST PAID WITHDRAWN SHIP LETTER office at Liverpool and datestamped there on June 28, 1815. It was rated 9d stg. outwards ship letter fee, about ⅓ the packet rate. On receipt at New York it was charged 9 cents inwards United States ship letter drop letter rate and delivered to Booman & Johnson who endorsed it on the reverse "New York 11th Augt 1815, Rec^{d} & forwarded by yr. mo. Ob. St. Boorman & Johnson" The cover also bears an August 11, New York red datestamp, a New York SHIP handstamp and a PAID handstamp by the 9¢ rate. The cover was again placed in the United States mails and was rated PAID 30 cents postage to the border and 9d. cy collect postage in Canada, the special rate from the border to Montreal.

The American postal rates on the cover make it more interesting than it seems on the surface. The American Act of December 23, 1814 effective February 1, 1815, increased the postal rates by 50%. Thus the 6¢ ship letter fee for

Figure 6. Liverpool to Montreal Via New York

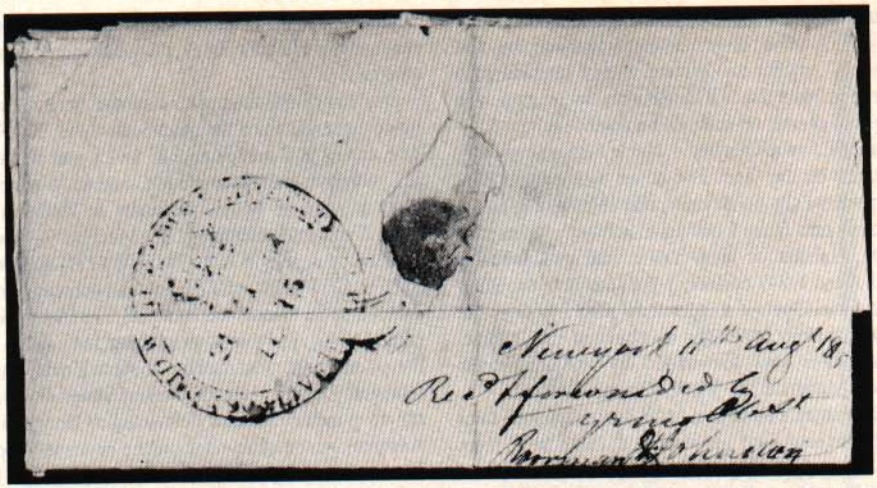

Figure 7. Reverse #6 - Post Paid Withdrawn Ship Letter /28 JU 28/1815/ Liverpool and Forwarding Agent

a cover delivered at the port of arrival was 6¢ plus the 50% surcharge of 3¢ for a total of 9¢ and the 20¢ rate from New York to the border for a distance of 300 to 500 miles was increased 50% or 10¢ to 30¢. This rating structure was effective until March 31, 1816 and so this cover shows a combination of two short lived rating structures whose periods of effectiveness overlapped for a shorter period. The combination of both of these rates on a Trans-Atlantic cross-border cover between Great Britain and Canada is very unusual and very scarce.

The POST PAID WITHDRAWN SHIP LETTER rating structure lasted for about one year and needless to say since most letters were routed either by the Falmouth Packets or by bootlegging the letters on board ship, covers with this type handstamp and rating are not common. In spite of this they pose an interesting challenge for collectors of mail between Britain and Canada. □

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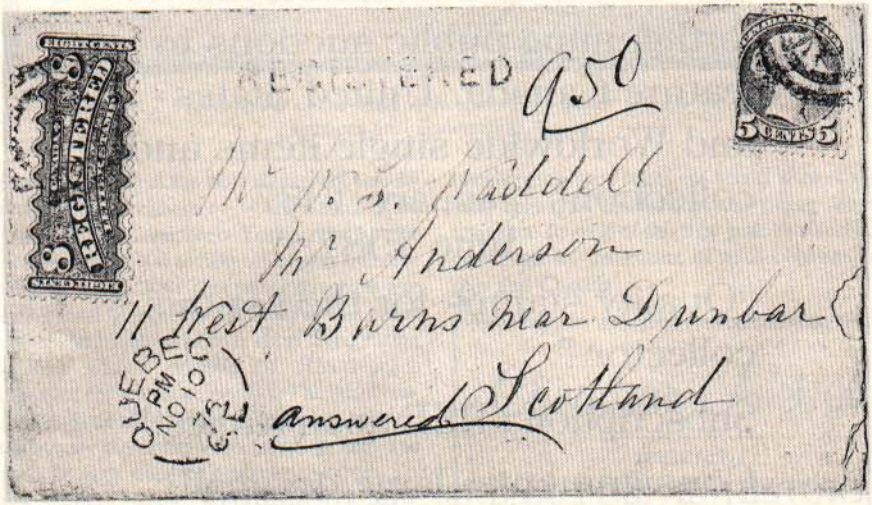

Figure 1. QUEBEC, C.E., NO 10 76. No. 7 on the March-April list. Courtesy of Lex De Ment.

The March-April 1986 Canadian Philatelist carried a list of thirteen 8¢ registered letter stamp covers that satisfied three conditions: (1) paying an 8¢ registry fee, (2) during the period mid November 1875 through December 1877 and (3) addressed to the United Kingdom. Here are additional details on two of the covers in the March-April 1986 list and information on four additional 8¢ RLS covers.

Chronological Number	Date of Posting	From	To	Additional Stamps
Listed in March-April 1986 Canadian Philatelist. Details added.				
3.	JU 2 76	Montreal	London England	5¢
9.	FE 3 77	Halifax N.S.	London England	5¢

Note: 3. This is a front.

Figure 2. HALIFAX, N.S., FE 3 77. No. 9 on the March-April list. Courtesy of William L. Simpson.

Figure 3. QUEBEC, C.E., JY 14 77. No. 12 on the March-April list. Courtesy of William L. Simpson.

Additions to the March-April 1986 Canadian Philatelist list. (Numbers no longer chronological.)

14.	MR 12 76	Hamilton Ont.	Ealing England	missing
15.	SP 25 76	Hamilton Ont.	London England	5¢
16.	DE 23 76	Quebec	London England	5¢
17.	AU 28 77	Weston Ont.	London England	5¢

□

Figure 4. HAMILTON, ONT., SP 25 76. No. 15 of this supplement. Courtesy of William L. Simpson.

Figure 5. WESTON, ONT., AU 28 77. No. 17 of this supplement. Courtesy of John S. Siverts.

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A REGULAR FEATURE

It is amazing how one sometimes comes across a collector who never appears at any stamp club, does not attend exhibitions, does not purchase any stamps, is not a member of any society and still owns a very extensive collection. For anyone doing philatelic research, such an occasion to meet someone like this is of course very rewarding. In my own case, and just by a coincidence through some engineering study, two acquaintances were made over the years. One fellow engineer owned what I considered the largest Large Queen stamp collection. No covers, no special cancels, just stamps. This collection is housed in 23 volumes and as an example there were 51 large multiples of the 1¢ alone. Much of the information published in the Large Queens Report could be confirmed with the actual collection. In another case a collector had a very extensive collection of all the various War Tax stamps which were issued in singles, multiples, covers, cancels, varieties including some yet unrecorded items all mounted in an endless number of albums. The reason why this is mentioned is because normally collectors do not like to tell strangers about their hobby, but sometimes it may bring about the discovery of some interesting material.

For years stamp producing companies have been very careful in releasing any proprietary information which could be used by their competitors. Recently this secrecy has been abandoned by at least some Canadian companies. New issues and new plates of existing stamps now carry, in addition to the normal plate inscriptions, identifications of the type of paper used and the sequence of colours applied for printing. These colour marks and paper indicators are in the form of colour dots and a letter for the paper. For example, an H stands for paper from Harrison coated on one side for litho printing. These new marks will make an interesting new addition to plate block collections.

Once again the two cents Large Queen stamp on laid paper hit the news recently. One of the existing copies was sold for as stated "setting a record price paid for a Dominion of Canada single issue". This announcement was made by F.E. Eaton and Sons. The question of how many of these actually exist remains. Two copies are definitely known, but there has been a suggestion for many years that a third copy is owned by someone. Many years ago an Ottawa collector presented two enlarged photos of the back of a 2 cents Large Queen stamp. The photo indicated that the paper appeared to be some sort of laid structure. The stamp was apparently submitted to some philatelic expertizing organization but no report has been made public to tell us of the opinion. The strong grain indicated some sort of paper not normally seen on this issue, but if this was a laid paper or not could not be certain, at least by this author.

Some new research has now been started by the authors of the book on the Postage Due stamps of Canada. The work is on the various postmarks used for Postage Due and the different forms which have been issued to collect this due. Eventually this information will be published and will complement the book. It is interesting that the U.S. Post Office appears very strict in their method of collecting any postage due. A letter has been received which has a note "return for additional postage". The amount of postage due was one cent!! Anyone having information on this subject should contact us.

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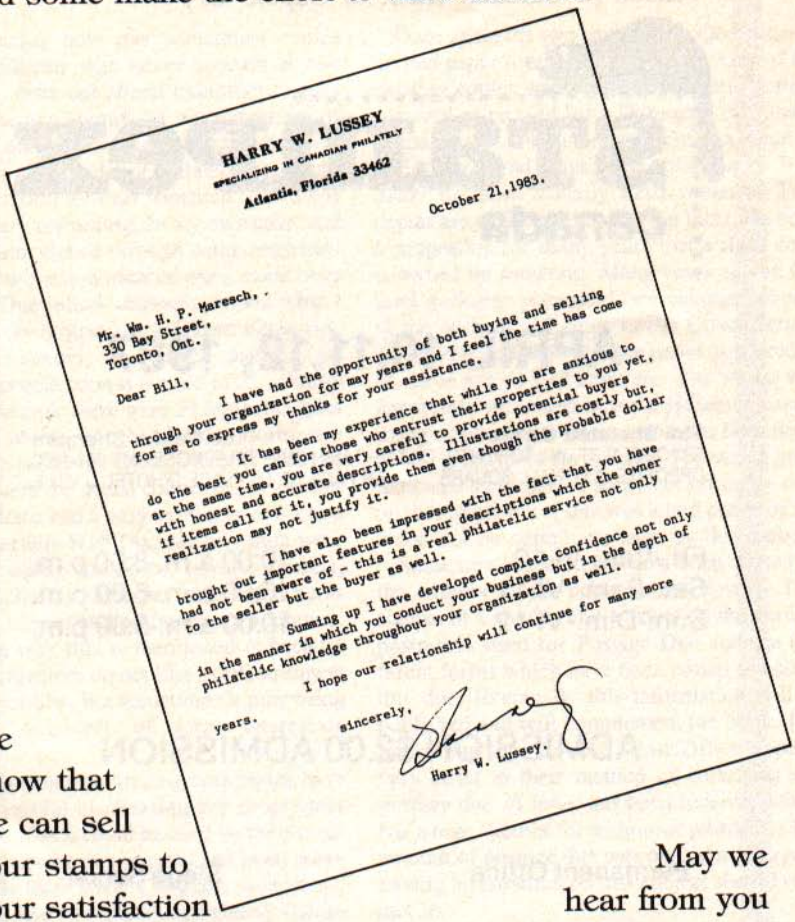

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DECEASED

CUMMINGS, David Thomas (15803L)
GREBLIS, Augusts (9925), **Pierrefonds,** PQ
HARRIS, John (20068), **Calgary,** AB
LANGLOIS, Charles A. (23288), **Ste-Foy,** PQ
MURDIE, M. (11766)
OTTO, Ralph W. (21724), **New Philadelphia,** OH, USA
ROBERTS, George P. (20554), **Napa,** CA, U.S.A.
STEELE, Arthur C. (10273), **Mississauga,** Ont.

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23479 HALL, Howard E. Jr., 992 Helix Ave., **Chula Vista,** CA 92011-2310, U.S.A.

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VAIC, Julius E. (23204)
WADYA-WONG, Maria (23121)
WILSON, Peter C. (20375), **Nepean,** Ont.
WITT, Arthur (20198), **Brantford,** Ont.
WOOD, Nigel G. (22299), **Southampton, Hants,** England
YAP-ALJOFREE, Maria A.C. (23245)

NATIONAL OFFICE - - -

A number of requests have been received at the National Office, as well as by the Editor, for English translations of recent articles in French by various authors. As pointed out in the Editor's Notes (Vol. 37, No. 4, Jul-Aug'86) the manpower and logistics are simply not available at this time, nor is it intended to utilize our current volunteer translator for this type of service. While we have been fortunate in recently obtaining a volunteer translator for incoming and outgoing correspondence in various languages, this applies only to the day to day operations of National Office management and is NOT intended to cater to the translation of articles submitted to the Editor. Any requests I have received from the membership for translation of French articles have been forwarded to our President for a decision. I can only hope that all of us will benefit from the many fine articles our journal produces, regardless of the language in which it is printed. Hopefully a solution to all of this can soon be found — in the meanwhile we shall await further information from our President.

Many requests continue to be received from members seeking information on Insurance, Advertising, Sales Circuit, etc. May I suggest that a direct approach be made to the various officers looking after these services, thereby reducing unnecessary delay which occurs when I have to forward your requests. A list of the Executive, Directors and Officers concerned is contained in the first few pages of each journal.

E.R. Toop
Office Manager

CHAPTER CO-ORDINATORS - - -

Your Chapter Co-Ordinators have found that the cost of duplicating slides lost or damaged in the mail is so high that as of August 1, 1986, the Slide Sets **must** be returned to us by First Class Mail either insured for $100.00 for each slide set in the parcel or registered.

We regret to advise that Slide Set No. 5, The Admiral Issues of Canada by the late G. Drew-Smith has been lost in the mail. A replacement is being made by Dr. Chaplin and it will be advised in the Canadian Philatelist as soon as it is available.

Doris & Ted Lyon
Chapter Co-Ordinators

THE SALES CIRCUIT - - -

We need books of the following countries: Canada, mint, used, singles, blocks, back of book, revenues, perfins, cancels. Newfoundland, mint and used and back of book. Gr. Britain, mint and used and British Europe. USA and U.N., Australia and New Zealand, Netherlands, and Col., Belguim & Col., France and Col., Swiss, Scandinavian, Austria, Germany and Col., States etc. Books of Eastern and Western Europe, Japan, China, Spain and Col., Portugal and Col., Central and South America, Russia, B.W.I, British Africa, Br. Asia, Br. Oceania, and World Wide books, and Egypt.

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CHAPTER MEETINGS

AJAX PHILATELIC SOCIETY

R.P.S.C. Chapter 163 meets 1st and 3rd Mondays of each month, September to June in St. Bernadette's Hall, South-East corner of Harwood and Bayly from 7 to 10 p.m. All visitors welcome, especially junior collectors. Address: P.O. Box 186, Ajax, Ontario L1S 3C3.

AMERICAN AIR MAIL SOCIETY, CANADIAN CHAPTER - #187

Holds regular meetings at major philatelic exhibitions. The Chapter plans to hold meetings and seminars during CAPEX '87 in Toronto between 13-21 June and will be host to the annual congress of the Aerophilatelic Federation of the Americas (AFA). For information on the Chapter, contact the Secretary, Nelson D. Bentley, 3044 Otterson Drive, Ottawa, Ontario K1V 7B6.

AMICALE des PHILATELISTES de l'OUTAOUAIS

R.P.S.C. Chapter 190 meets every Thursday, September to April in the basement of the Saint Benoit Church, 170 Sherbrooke Street, Hull, Qué. Visitors welcome. For information, P.O. Box 422, Gatineau, Qué. J8P 7A1.

BRAMALEA STAMP CLUB

R.P.S.C. Chapter No. 144 meets 1st Sunday (1:30-4:00 p.m.) and 3rd Tuesday (7:30-9:30 p.m.), September to June at Terry Miller Recreation Complex, Meeting Room 2, Williams Parkway (between Dixie Rd. & Bramalea Rd.) Bramalea, Ont. All visitors welcome. Correspondence to: Bramalea Stamp Club, P.O. 2041 Bramalea, Ont. L6T 3S3.

BRITISH COLUMBIA PHILATELIC SOCIETY

Meetings every Wednesday at 8 p.m. in the Kensington Community Centre, 37th Ave. & Dumfries St. (One block east of Knight St.), Vancouver, B.C. Visitors welcome. Mail to the Club, Box 2356, Vancouver, B.C. V6B 3W5.

CALGARY PHILATELIC SOCIETY

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

CANADIAN ASSOCIATION FOR ISRAEL PHILATELY

(C.A.F.I.P.) R.P.S.C. Chapter 76 meets every second Monday of the month (except July and August) at 7:30 p.m. at the Jewish Community Centre, 4588 Bathurst Street, Willowdale, Ontario. President: Dr. Mitchell Levine, 159 Willowdale Avenue, Willowdale, Ontario M2N 4Y7.

COLUMBIA PHILATELIC SOCIETY

Chapter No. 11. Meetings held monthly on the fourth Monday 7:30 p.m. Visitors welcome. P.O. Box 465, Trail, B.C. V1R 4L7.

CREDIT VALLEY PHILATELIC SOCIETY - MISSISSAUGA -

Chapter No. 67 meets the 2nd & 4th Monday of every month (except on holidays and in July & August) at 7:30 p.m. at Forest Avenue Public School, 20 Forest Ave., in Port Credit. Visitors always welcome. Further information, contact E.A. Read, (416) 278-4716.

CHAPTER MEETINGS

DELTA STAMP CLUB

Chapter No. 138 meets on the second and fourth Tuesdays (except June/August) 8 p.m. at the South Delta Library, 1321A - 56th Street, Delta, B.C. Visitors always welcome. Further information: Bill Heather, (604) 943-5303

EAST TORONTO STAMP CLUB

Stan Wadlow Clubhouse, Cedarvale Ave., first east of Woodbine, at Cosburn, north of arena. 1st & 3rd Wednesdays of each month (except in July & August). Sec'y: Raymond Reakes, 188 Woodmount Ave., Toronto, Ont. M4C 3Z4. Visitors always welcome.

EDMONTON STAMP CLUB

Touring stampers welcome. Meetings on alternate Mondays in the cafeteria of St. Joseph Composite High School. Address all mail c/o the club. P.O. Box 399, Edmonton, Alberta T5J 2J6.

ETOBICOKE PHILATELIC SOCIETY

RPSC Chapter 78 will meet for the 1986 - 1987 season as follows:
First Wednesdays - Sept. 3/ Oct. 1/ Nov. 5 - 1986 - at Fairfield Seniors Centre 80 Lothian Ave., Etobicoke. First Wednesday Dec 3 '86 at Montgomery Inn, Etobicoke.
Then the first Wednesdays of Jan; Feb; Mar; Apr; May and June '87 at Fairfield Seniors Centre. Meetings are at 7:30 p.m. - Visitors are welcome. Information from President C.E. Allen, 5 Aintree Court, Toronto, M8W 2E1, telephone: 251-3425.

FENELON STAMP CLUB

Fenelon Stamp Club R.P.S.C. Chapter 176 meets the 2nd Monday of each month in the Fenelon Falls Public Library at 7:30 p.m. President Ron Thoburn, P.O. Box 646, Fenelon Falls, Ont. K0M 1N0. Visitors welcome.

HAMILTON PHILATELIC SOCIETY

Welcome all visitors to our membership meetings held twice monthly on the second and fourth Monday of each month except June, July and August when the Society meets on the second Monday only. We meet at the Hamilton Fire Fighters Club 501 Concession Street (off Upper Wentworth) in Hamilton at 6:30 p.m. (Entrance and parking at rear of building). A bourse of up to 14 dealers attend every meeting with the Society's Sales Circuit and Library. Admission - Visitors - 75¢.

KAWARTHA PHILATELIC SOCIETY

Chapter 58, R.P.S.C. Meetings 2nd and 4th Tuesdays of months September through June (exclude 4th Tuesday in December and June) 7:30 p.m. Meeting place St. Johns' School, corner of Braidwood and Jane St., Peterborough, Ont. Contact Art Dixon, Pres. Home 742-0650, Bus. 742-9656. Mailing address of Club: Box 2222, Peterborough, Ont. K9J 7Y4.

KELOWNA & DISTRICT STAMP CLUB

Chapter 90 meets monthly, 1st Wednesday, Sept. to June, from 7 - 10 p.m. in the Kelowna Secondary School Cafeteria, 575 Harvey Ave. Business meeting 8 p.m. followed by an auction - visitors always welcome. Address: Box 1185, Kelowna, B.C. V1Y 7P8.

KENT COUNTY STAMP CLUB

Chapter No. 7. Regular meetings the fourth Wednesday of each month (except July, August and December) in the cafeteria of John McGregor Secondary School, 300 Cecile at 7:30 p.m. Visitors always welcome. Secretary Jake Mieras, 38 Lincoln Road, Chatham, Ontario N7M 4Y7.

KINGSTON STAMP CLUB

RPSC Chapter 49 meets the second & fourth Monday, Sept. to May, at 6 p.m. for juniors and 7 p.m. for all members, at the Hall of St. George Cathedral, Johnson and Wellington Sts., Kingston, Ont. Correspondence to: Kingston Stamp Club, c/o Ronald Tritton, P.O. Box 1202, Kingston, Ont. K7L 4Y8.

KITCHENER-WATERLOO PHILATELIC SOCIETY

(Chapter 13) Meets on the 2nd Thursday of each month (except July and August) in the Elizabethan Room of St. Andrews Presbyterian Church (Queen St. entrance) at 7:30 p.m. Visitors welcome. Pres. Enn Glaaser, 34 Glenwood Drive, Kitchener, Ont., N2A 1H7, who may be contacted for information.

LAKEHEAD STAMP CLUB

R.P.S.C. Chapter No. 33, meets scond Wednesday and last Friday monthly from September to June in the Emergency Measures Building. Visitors are welcome. David M. Pugh, Secretary, Lakehead Stamp Club , R.R. 3, Highway 61, Thunder Bay, Ontario P7C 4V2.

CHAPTER MEETINGS

LAKESHORE STAMP CLUB

501 St. John's Blvd., Pointe Claire, Quebec. Meeting nights 2nd and 4th Thursdays, September till June, at 7:30 p.m. President Alan Dean, Secretary, Jean Keep. Mailing Address: P.O. Box 1, Pointe Claire, Dorval, P.Q. H9R 4NS. Visitors Welcome.

NORTH TORONTO STAMP CLUB

Chapter 5 of the Royal. Meetings at 7:30 p.m. on Second and Fourth Thursdays (except in July and August) at Bedford Park United Church, 100 Ranleigh Avenue, Toronto. Visitors Welcome.

NORTH YORK PHILATELIC SOCIETY

Chapter 21 of the Royal meets on the 1st & 3rd Wednesdays of each month - July and August excepted, at the North York Memorial Community Hall, 5090 Younge St., Willowdale, Ontario. Secretary: P.O. Box 62, Willowdale M2N 5S7. Visitors welcome.

NOVA SCOTIA STAMP CLUB

Halifax, Nova Scotia, est. 1922. First affiliate of the R.S.P.C. (1934). Meets 2nd Tuesday of each month, Sept.-June, Nova Scotia Museum. Corr. Sec'y: Hugh Rathbun, Nova Scotia Stamp Club, P.O. Box 2935, Dartmouth E. N.S. B2W 4Y2. Visitors welcome.

OAKVILLE STAMP CLUB

R.P.S.C. Chapter No. 135 meets 7:30 p.m., second and fourth Tuesdays, year round at Trafalgar Hall Auditorium, Trafalgar Road at Hwy. 5, Oakville. R.P.S.C. Representative: Dave Dixon, P.O. Box 524, Oakville, Ont. L6J 5B4. Visitors welcome.

OTTAWA PHILATELIC SOCIETY

R.P.S.C. Chapter No. 16, meets Thursdays at 8:00 p.m. September through May in room 021, Marion Hall, University of Ottawa. Contact President Peter Kaulback, Box 9442, Alta Vista Term., Ottawa, Ont. K1G 3V1; or telephone (613) 728-7863. Visitors welcome.

THE PHILATELIC CLUB OF MONTREAL

(Chapter 122 of the R.P.S.C.) meets the first and third Thursdays of each month, September through June at 7:30 p.m., at Le Manoir, 5319 Notre Dame de Grace Avenue, Montreal. Guests always welcome. Information: P.O. Box 264, Westmount, Quebec H3Z 2T2.

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R A STAMP CLUB - OTTAWA

(Chapter 41, RPSC). Meets 7:30 p.m. every Monday at The R.A. Centre, 2451 Riverside Drive, Ottawa, Ontario. (Except June, July and August). Visitors welcome - phone 733-5100.

SAINT JOHN STAMP CLUB

Meets 2nd and 4th Wednesdays 8 p.m. at St. Malachy's High School with exception of June to August. Auction at each meeting. Secretary, Saint John Stamp Club, Box 6783, Station A, Saint John, N.B. E2L 4S2.

LA SOCIÉTÉ PHILATÉLIQUE DE QUÉBEC

Regular meetings will be held in the basement of The Saint Charles Garnier Church, 1215 Chanoine Morel, Sillery. As in the past, we will hold meetings on the first and third Wednesdays of the month - 7:30 hr., to 10:00.

TORONTO HARMONIE STAMP CLUB

R.P.S.C. Chapter 94 meets every 3rd Thursday of the month at Victoria Park Secondary School, 15 Wallingford Rd., Don Mills. We start at 7:30 p.m. in the Library Seminar Room. Visitors are always welcome and enquiries should be directed to J. Doehler (416-438-4862) at the above address or P. Mustard (690-9711).

UNION PHILATÉLIQUE DE MONTRÉAL

(RPSC Chapter No. 3) meets every second and fourth Tuesday, September to June, at 7 p.m., 7110 8th ave., Montréal (St. Michel) P.Q. Visitors always welcomed. Postal address: P.O. Box 398, Station A, Montreal, Quebec H3C 2T1.

WEST TORONTO STAMP CLUB

Meets 7:30 p.m. second and fourth Tuesdays, except July and August at St. Pauls Runnymede Church, 404 Willard Ave., near Jane and Annette, Toronto. West Toronto Stamp Club, c/o 331 Rathburn Rd., Islington, Ont. M9B 2L9. Visitors welcome.

CHAPTER MEETINGS

WINNIPEG PHILATELIC SOCIETY
Meetings: 1st & 3rd Thursdays (except July & August), 7:30 p.m., Veterans Club Room, downstairs, C.N. Union Station, Main St. at Broadway, Box 1425, Winnipeg, Manitoba R3C 2Z1. Visitors always welcome.

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R.P.S.C. CHAPTER PRESIDENTS

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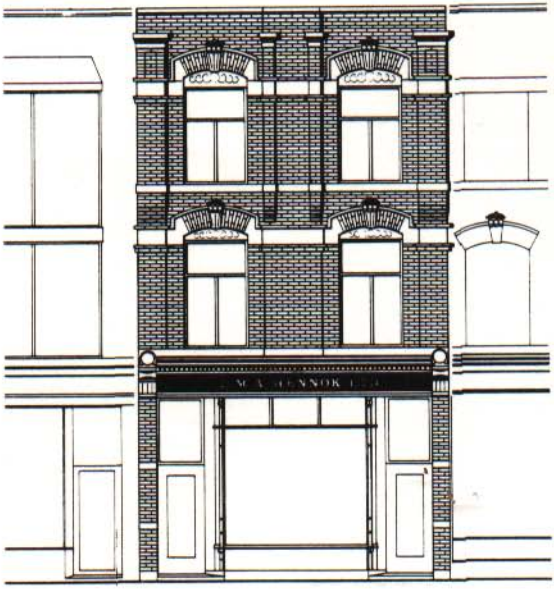

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