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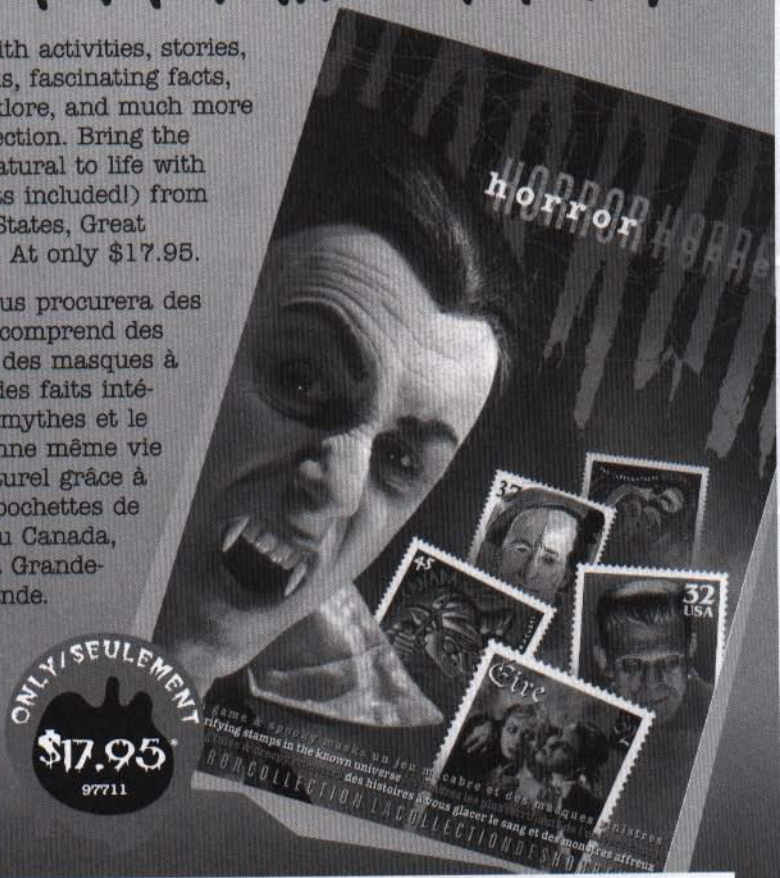

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The Canadian Philatelist
Le philatéliste canadien

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THE ROYAL PHILATELIC SOCIETY OF CANADA
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1997- 1998

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From the Editor's Desk

by J.J. Macdonald

The Royal Philatelic Society of Canada recently needed an editor for *The Canadian Philatelist* and your President was very effective at persuading the Executive that someone had to take on the responsibility of the position, at least on a temporary basis. So here I am. I never expected to write editorials even though I have been wiring and submitting articles to at least four different philatelic journals for over thirty years.

I have no training as an editor at all and our membership may well come to regret my appointment. For the time being, however, remember to do everything I ask. Two statements must be made immediately. First, we owe a great debt and many thanks to my predecessor, Steve Thorning, for all the work he has done. We must accept retirement from the position due to personal circumstances. Second, we have no backlog of articles available for publication. I appeal, therefore, to all members to send in articles as soon as possible. If you have work in progress, please give Mr. Andrew Parr, at the National Office, a telephone call. He, you and I can confer and provide advice and encouragement.

A society such as ours is, by its very nature, diverse, with members spread across the whole gamut of stamp collecting. Many of you are experienced collectors, some world experts, others interested in obscure countries and topics, still others in postal history. Few are, I suspect, recent converts to the hobby. So what should a Journal such as ours be?

If we were a specialized society with a specific focus, the task of producing a journal would be much simpler in that most members would have at least some background in the material in published articles. However, as long as the article contains interesting information or raises issues, asks questions or tells a good story, it should be acceptable to our membership. As Editor, I would like to ask the membership what you really want to see in *The Canadian Philatelist*? One way you can answer my question is by sending in material for us to publish.

I do have some ideas of where we should go in future issues and I will be expanding on this in the months ahead. For now, I will only say that I believe we must have three arrows for our bow. The first should be general interest articles, of the kind we have always published. For the second, we might look at where we came from, our history and beginnings are very interesting and filled with intrigue and controversy. We can look to the past. Finally, and more importantly, we must try, as a Society and as individual collectors, to understand the future and where the hobby is going. Big changes to postal systems, to the issue of stamps, to mail delivery and even to mail itself are staring down at us. We will try to develop a debate of experts in philately around this most important of topics.

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Here is the situation. Just about every dealer has a box of these that can be picked up reasonably. All auctions have collections and accumulations, and tremendous bargains are fairly normal. Even when prices look high, you usually wind up with stamps that exist not in the hundreds or thousands but in 10 to 50!

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As I've pointed out before, nearly all come engraved (mostly the work of the American Bank Note Company) and if you think the 504 Canada Bluenose or the $1 USA Trans-Mississippi is the height of beautiful engraving, wait until you see any of the Canada Supreme Court Law Stamps.

Here is an excellent start. I recently purchased 100 packets of 200 different from a dealer who spent several years assembling the lot. Now a packet of 100 different sells at $25 or more every time. This 200 lot is well worth $100.

To it I'm adding more revenues, including complete sets all well worth $300 alone.

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The best and only Canadian Revenue Catalogue on the market is by E.S.J. van Dam. Ill have the latest edition just coming out at $20. It has the easy-to-use spiral binding.

I have two addresses. If you live in the USA, ALWAYS use the Pembina address. For Canadian collectors, there has been a change in my Canadian address. The old Station B (no, it did not stand for Bileski) which live used for 57 years is no more. The old Station B post office, built before 1900, has been retired. All else remains the same, except the replacement for Station B. This is now RPO Redwood Centre.

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Question Period

Partly returning to *From the Editorís Desk*, I wish to ask a couple of questions of all members.

Question 1

Who or what determines what you collect? I know the answer is of course - 'you do' - but what influences your choices? I appreciate that your answer will vary considerably depending on your level of collecting, but my concern is with what is the 'key' influence in determining the focus of your collection.

Is it the national post office agency? Is it your local dealer or your friends at the local club? Could it possibly be national societies like The Royal? I doubt it. One surprising answer I got to this question recently came from a friendly local stamp dealer. He said that for many people, particularly those who have started collecting in the last few years, the most important influence seemed to be the album makers. No, not the catalogue makers. My dealer friend pointed out that if there was no printed place on which to mount an item, many people did not want it.

I know that the availability of scarce cancels or varieties often depends on auction catalogues, favourite national dealers or national stamp shows. But what influences your choices and why? Please let me know, either through the National Office or directly to my home address, 1070 Bland Street, Halifax, N. S. B3H 2S8.

Question 2

When are you going to send me an article for *The Canadian Philatelist*? The length is not critical; I welcome both long and short articles. I need material as I do not have any backlog. I also encourage expressions of opinion from more of the members.

Since becoming editor, I have read many other editorials. The following is a slight paraphrase of an editorial written in another stamp publication. Can you guess in what publication? Those who get it right will be acknowledged in these pages. It comes from the first number of the first volume published a few years ago. If you suggest it could apply to almost any journal anywhere, you may be correct. Does it now apply to *The Canadian Philatelist*?

To Our Readers

Since the first stamp, Penny Black, made its debut in 1840, philately has made great strides and consequently the stamp has attained a magnitude far beyond the imagination of its inventor, Sir Rowland Hill. Nowadays, stamp collecting has become part of culture. The fact that the stamp has played a part in enhancing mutual understanding among nations and promoting the common cause of the progress of mankind is growingly manifest. This explains why so many collectors abroad show great interest in _____stamps. They expect to see, through the medium of _____ stamps, the various aspects of a country peopled with many souls of many nationalities and a brilliant cultural tradition several thousand years old.

_____ is an informative, academic and commercial

journal. It keeps readers informed on new issues of _____ stamps, and acquaints readers with _____ philatelic activities both at home and abroad. It provides an academic forum for philatelic discussion and carries the result of the study of our stamps as well as the trends in its development. It also offers information on the stamp market in _____.

The journal aims at a readership of collectors, researchers and dealers. As a prerequisite for successful publication of this journal, we shall always try to find out what our readers require of us and take heed of their criticisms and suggestions. Therefore, comments and criticisms from our readers will be much appreciated.

J.J.M.

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A WEB SITE PHILATELIC LIBRARY

The Royal Philatelic Society of Canada (RPSC) is pleased to announce a new feature at its Website **(http://www.interlog.com/~rpsc)**. The RPSC has instituted a new ON-LINE PHILATELIC LIBRARY of original philatelic studies for the Internet thanks to the generous work of Col. A. (Tony) R. Brown of Gloucester, Ontario. Col. Brown has authored two works to start the library off. The first, entitled "Selvedge Art and Information on Canadian Postal Issues", is a study of the development of selvedges and tabs on stamp panes, miniature sheets or souvenir sheets. It shows how the printers and Canada Post have used these to impart technical, design and historical information.

The second work by Col. Brown, "The Admirals of Canada" is a profusely illustrated compendium of information on one of Canada's favourite collecting areas. It also introduces a new feature to this kind of library. It allows for the future establishment of a discussion group on the subject.

Charles Verge, Vice-President and Historian of The RPSC, after previewing both documents said that "Tony Brown's easy style and interest in a varied number of subjects has opened a completely new approach to philatelic literature. I am pleased to see this new addition to our Website and on behalf of the Society, am very grateful to Tony Brown for making these two studies available to The RPSC."

Andrew Parr, The RPSC's administrator, invites all other collectors now preparing html- based philatelic studies to make arrangements to include them on the RPSC's Website. Information on how to proceed can be obtained at **rpsc@interlog.com** to the attention of Daryl Oliver, The RPSC's Webmaster.

Col. Brown can also be reached by e-mail at:

ax234@freenet.carleton.ca

UNE BIBLIOTHÈQUE PHILATÉLIQUE À LEUR SITE D'INTERNET

La Société royale de philatélie du Canada (SRPC) a le plaisir d'annoncer un nouvel élément pour leur site d'internet **(http://www.interlog.com/~rpsc)**. La SRPC vient d'instituer une bibliothèque philatélique "online" d'études philatéliques originales pour l'Internet grâce au travail généreux du Col. A (Tony) R. Brown de Gloucester, Ontario. Pour commencer la bibliothèque, le Col. Brown a écrit deux oeuvres. La première, intitulée "Selvedge Art and Information on Canadian Postal Issues", est une étude du développement des lisières et des étiquettes sur les feuilles de timbres, feuilles miniatures et feuilles souvenirs. Elle démontre comment les imprimeurs et Postes Canada ont utilisés celles-ci pour transmettre de l'information technique, esthétique et historique.

La deuxième étude du Col. Brown, "The Admirals of Canada" est un compendium illustré d'information

sur un des domaines de collection préféré au Canada. Elle introduit une nouvelle caractéristique à cette sorte de bibliothèque: l'établissement futur d'un groupe de discussion sur ce sujet.

Charles Verge, vice-président et historien de La SRPC, après avoir revu les documents, a dit que "le style aisé de Tony Brown et son intérêt dans plusieurs sujets représentent une approche complètement nouvelle à la litérature philatélique. Je suis heureux de voir cette nouvelle addition à notre site d'internet et, de la part de la Société, je suis très reconnaissant envers Tony Brown pour avoir céder ces études à la SRPC."

La SRPC invite tous les collectionneurs qui préparent maintenant des études philatéliques à base html de faire des arrangements pour inclure leurs études dans le site d'internet de La SRPC. Pour de l'information sur la façon procéder veuillez envoyer un message à **rpsc@interlog.com** à l'attention de Daryl Oliver, le "Webmaster" de La SRPC.

Le Col. Brown peut aussi être contacté par courrier électronique à **ax234@freenet.carleton.ca**

WORLD CLASS STAMPS RETURN TO TORONTO

The AmeriStamp Expos and NAYSEC youth competition will join with the CSDA National Postage Stamp Show in Toronto in 1998. John Sheffield, President of the Canadian Stamp Dealers' Association announced in Toronto that the CSDA and the American Association of Philatelic Exhibitors have joined to present their stamp show, convention, exhibits, and youth competition together in one location for the fall of 1998.

"The AAPE convention with its one frame and youth competition is a welcome addition to our own Fall National Postage Stamp Show in Toronto and we are very pleased to be able to work in partnership with these groups" said Mr. Sheffield.

In addition to the postage stamp show, this event will feature meetings and seminars as part of the AAPE Convention, up to 15 youth grand exhibits and the many single frame (16 page) exhibits.

"We are delighted to be working in conjunction with the CSDA to bring our annual convention and national show to Toronto and to promote stamp collecting in North America", stated Dr. Peter McCann, President of the American Association of Philatelic Exhibitors.

SHOW DATE CLEARINGHOUSE

The RPSC, in conjunction with the CSDA, has established an exhibition /show date clearinghouse. All show organizers across Canada and the USA are invited to fax or email the dates of your show to The RPSC. As a service to the philatelic community, The RPSC and CSDA will be provide information to anyone planning future shows to help avoid conflicting dates.

FAX: 416/979-1144; E-MAIL rpsc@interlog.com

More details will be released over the coming months confirming the venue/location and dates.

ÉPA ANNOUNCES NEW BOARD AND EXECUTIVE

Henry E. Bright, Chairman of the Election Committee has certified the election of a new Board of Directors for the Eire Philatelic Association, a philatelic association specializing in the stamps and postal history of Ireland.

Elected were: David J. Brennan (Bernardsville, NJ) as President; Joseph E. Foley (Riva, MD) as Vice-President (USA) and Ian Whyte (Dublin, Ireland) as Vice-President (Europe). Directors elected were: Peter Bugg (Franklin, MA); Anthony J. Hughes (Mullinger, Ireland); Peter J. Foote (Chicago, IL); Robert E. Joyce (San Antonio, TX); William A. O'Connor (Fallsbrook, CA) and Dr. Joachim Schaaf (Darmstadt, Germany).

The Board also includes Col. B.B. Zellers, Honorary Chairman of the Board (Riverside, CA), Patrick J. Ryan, Sr., Editor of *The Revealer* (Universal City, TX) and Charles J.G. Verge, Immediate Past President (Ottawa, Canada). The appointed Secretary of the ÉPA is Michael J. Conway (Shelton, CT) and the appointed Treasurer is Barney Clancy (Washington, DC).

Individuals wishing more information on the ÉPA, an APS Chapter or wishing to join are asked to contact the Secretary, Michael J. Conway, 19 Pine Needle Drive, Shelton, CT, 06484, USA.

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NEW BOARD ELECTED
NOUVEAU CONSEIL ÉLU

The Royal Philatelic Society of Canada held its 69th Annual General Meeting in Calgary, Alberta on September 20, 1997 where it elected eight members to the Board of Directors. The RPSC is comprised of 16 Directors, 8 of which are elected each year for a two-year term.

The following individuals were elected for a two-year term on September 20, 1997:

La 69ième réunion annuelle générale de La Société royale de philatélie du Canada a eu lieu à Calgary, Alberta, le 20 septembre, 1997. Huit membres ont été élus au Conseil d'administration. La SRPC est formée de 16 directeurs, dont 8 sont élus à chaque année pour une durée de 2 ans.

Les individus suivants ont été élus le 20 septembre, 1997, pour une durée de 2 ans:

Dr. Françoise Brisse (Beaconsfield, QC)
Mr. Raymond Ireson (Roxboro, QC)
Mr. John Keenlyside (Vancouver, BC)
Père Jean-Claude Lafleur (St-Augustin, QC)
Dr. John James Macdonald (Halifax, NS)
Mr. David Oberholtzer (Waterloo, ON)
Mr. Harry Sutherland (Toronto, ON)
Ms Ann Triggle (Clarence, NY (USA))

Staying on the Board to complete their second year are:

Demeurant sur le Conseil pour compléter leur deuxième année sont:

Mrs. S.A. Clark (Winnipeg, MB)
Mr. Michael Madesker (Downsview, ON)
Dr. J.G. McCleave (Fredericton, NB)
Mr. Alan G. McKanna (Alliston, ON)
Mr. William G. Robinson (Vancouver, BC)
Mr. Keith R. Spencer (Edmonton, AB)
M. Grégoire Teyssier (Charny, QC)
Mr. Charles J.G. Verge (Ottawa, ON)

Immediately following the Annual General Meeting, the Board of Directors held its first meeting to elect its officers. The Board of Directors is pleased to announce the following appointments:

À la suite de la réunion annuelle générale, le Conseil d'administration a immédiatement tenu sa première réunion pour désigner son bureau. Le Conseil d'administration est fier d'annoncer les postes suivants:

President - **Mr. Keith R. Spencer** - Président
First Vice-President - **Mr. Charles J.G. Verge** - Premier Vice-Président
Second Vice-President - **M. Grégoire Teyssier** - Deuxième Vice-Président
Treasurer - **Mr. David Oberholtzer** - Trésorier
Secretary - **Mr. Harry Sutherland** - Secrètaire
Finance Committee Chair - **Mr. Alan G. McKanna** - Président,Comité de Finances
Past President - **Mr. William G. Robinson** - Ancien Président

Keith Spencer, incoming president said: "The new board reflects our renewed commitment to ensuring the future growth and success of The RPSC. One of our biggest challenges in the next 2-3 years is to ensure stamp collecting and The RPSC are valued by the public. This Board is committed to meeting those challenges."

The RPSC is the national philatelic organization for stamp collectors in Canada. The Society is affiliated with a number of local stamp clubs and is working to provide greater services to stamp collectors across Canada.

Le nouveau Président, Keith Spencer a dit: "Le nouveau conseil reflète notre dédication renouvellé pour la croissance et le succès de la SRPC. Un de nos plus grands défis dans les prochains 2 à 3 ans est d'assurer que la collection de timbres et la SRPC sont appréciées par le publique. Le Conseil s'engage à rencontrer ces défis."

La SRPC est une organisation philatélique nationale pour les collectionneurs de timbres au Canada. La Société est affilié à plusieurs clubs de timbres locaux et travaille aussi à accroître les services aux collectionneurs à travers le Canada.

THREE NEW FELLOWS ELECTED
TROIS NOUVEAUX "FELLOWS" ÉLUS

Alan McKanna, Senior Fellow and Director of The Royal Philatelic Society of Canada (RPSC) is pleased to announce the election of three new Fellows of the Society: Ed Harris, Charles Verge and Geoff Walburn. The election was held at the Fellows Annual Meeting in Calgary during The RPSC's 69th Annual Convention last September.

Mr. McKanna said that "to be elected a Fellow, individuals must have had a history of providing services to The Society, been prominent in philately or brought honour to phi-

Alan McKanna, Fellow principal et directeur de La Société royale de philatélie du Canada a le plaisir de vous annoncer l'élection de trois nouveaux Fellows de la Société: Ed Harris, Charles Verge et Geoff Walburn. Cette élection a eu lieu à la Réunion annuelle des Fellows tenue à Calgary lors de la 69ième convention annuelle de la SRPC en septembre dernier.

M. McKanna a dit "pour être élus comme Fellows, les individus doivent avoir pourvu un service continu à la Société, occuper une position importante dans la philatélie ou avoir

lately in Canada. The nominations and election of new Fellows is a process solely under the purview of existing Fellows and is neither controlled nor influenced by the Board of Directors. This makes recognition of individuals as Fellows a distinction and honour.

The three new Fellows join a list a 76 distinguished philatelist who have been elected since fellowships were instituted in 1960. They include some of the greatest names in Canadian philately such as Fred Jarrett, Vinnie Greene, Clare Jephcott and Gerry Wellburn.. Including the three newly elected Fellows there are 42 Fellows still living.

apporter un renom à la philatélie au Canada. La nomination et l'élection des nouveaux Fellows est un processus gérer par les Fellows eux-même, et est aucunement influencé par le conseil d'administration. Ceci fait que la reconnaissance d'individus comme Fellows est une distinction et un honneur.

Les trois nouveaux Fellows se joignent à une liste de 76 philatélistes distingués qui ont été élus depuis l'inauguration du système de Fellows en 1960. Ils incluent un certain nombre des plus grands noms de la philatélie canadienne dont Fred Jarrett, Vinnie Greene, Clare Jephcott et Gerry Wellburn...incluant les trois nouveaux Fellows, il y a 42 Fellows encore vivants.

Ed A. Harris, FRPSC

A retired accountant, who worked in the oil industry, Mr. Harris was born in Edmonton Alberta. He is married to Kathleen (Kay) Dain and has four children and two grandchildren and currently resides in Calgary. Ed Harris is interested in the stamps and postal history of Canada exhibiting at the present time the early mails of Western Canada.

His involvement in organized philately is over 50 years old having joined the Edmonton Stamp Club in January 1947. He was the founder of the Flin Flon stamp club, instrumental in reviving the Edmonton Stamp Club's annual stamp exhibition in 1961 and organizing many other major shows in Western Canada including BNAPEX 1960 and ROYAL * 1980 and 1997, and OLYMPEX '88. He is also a senior

Un comptable retraité qui a travaillé dans l'industrie pétrolière, M. Harris est né à Edmonton, Alberta. Il est marié à Kathleen (Kay) Dain, a quatre enfants, 2 petits-enfants, et réside présentement à Calgary. Ed Harris s'intéresse aux timbres et à l'histoire postale du Canada, et se spécialise dans les premiers systèmes postaux de l'Ouest canadien.

Son début dans la philatélie organisée date de plus de 50 ans, vu qu'il s'est joint au club de timbres d'Edmonton en janvier 1947. Il est le fondateur du club de timbres de Flin Flon, il a grandement contribué à rétablir l'exposition annuelle du club de timbres d'Edmonton en 1961 et il a organisé plusieurs autres expositions principales dans l'Ouest, incluant BNAPEX 1960, ROYALE * 1980 et

statesman in the British North American Philatelic Society (BNAPS) having been a Director, Treasurer and President of between 1975-1988. For these services he was named a Member of their Order of The Beaver in 1987.

1997, et OLYMPEX '88. Il est aussi un doyen de la *British North American Philatelic Society (BNAPS)*, ayant déjà été directeur, trésorier et président entre 1975 et 1988. Pour ses services, il fut nommé membre de leur Ordre du Castor en 1987.

Charles J.G. Verge, FRPSC

Born in Montreal, Charles Verge retired from the Public Service of Canada in 1997 after 27 years of service. An historian by training, he performed many managerial functions for the government culminating in the post of Director of Real Property for Transport Canada. He lives in Ottawa with his wife Alana Forrester and has three daughters. His philatelic interests revolve around those of Ireland, philatelic literature and the history of philately in Canada.

Mr. Verge is currently The RPSC's First Vice-President, Historian and Canada Post Liaison Committee Chairman. From 1990 until 1997 he was Chairman of the Judging Programme for the Society. He is the founder and chairman of Canada's biannual National Philatelic Literature Exhibition which he started in 1991 and which has become the Continent's largest and most prestigious national literature show. He was a member of the Executive and Organizing Committees of Canada's last two international shows: CANADA 92 and CAPEX '96. He has also been involved for many years with the Ottawa National Philatelic Exhibition (ORAPEX) and is a philatelic columnist for the *Ottawa Citizen* and *Scotts Stamp Monthly*. He has written two books and numerous articles on varied aspects of the hobby.

Né à Montréal, Charles Verge a prit sa retraite de la fonction publique du Canada en 1997 après 27 ans de service. Un historien par formation, il a rempli plusieurs postes de gestion pour le gouvernement, culminant dans le poste de Directeur de Gestion Immobilière pour Transports Canada. Il réside à Ottawa avec sa femme Alana Forrester et a trois filles. Ses intérêts philatéliques inclus l'Irlande, la littérature philatélique et l'histoire de la philatélie au Canada.

M. Verge est présentement le Premier vice-président de La SRPC, l'historien de la Société et le président du comité de liaison avec Postes-Canada. De 1990 à 1997, il était le président du programme de juges pour la Société. Il est fondateur et président de l'Exposition nationale de littérature philatélique, une exposition biannuelle canadienne. Etablit en 1991, elle est devenue l'exposition nationale de littérature la plus grande et la plus prestigieuse en Amérique de Nord. Il a été membre des comités exécutif et organisationnel des deux dernières expositions internationales au Canada: CANADA 92 et CAPEX '96. Il est aussi impliqué depuis plusieurs années avec l'Exposition nationale philatélique d'Ottawa (ORAPEX), et travaille comme chroniqueur philatélique pour l'*Ottawa Citizen* et *Scotts Stamp*

Charles Verge is also an international exhibitor and judge.

Monthly. Il a écrit deux livres et de nombreux articles sur des aspects variés du hobby. Charles Verge est aussi un exposant et juge international.

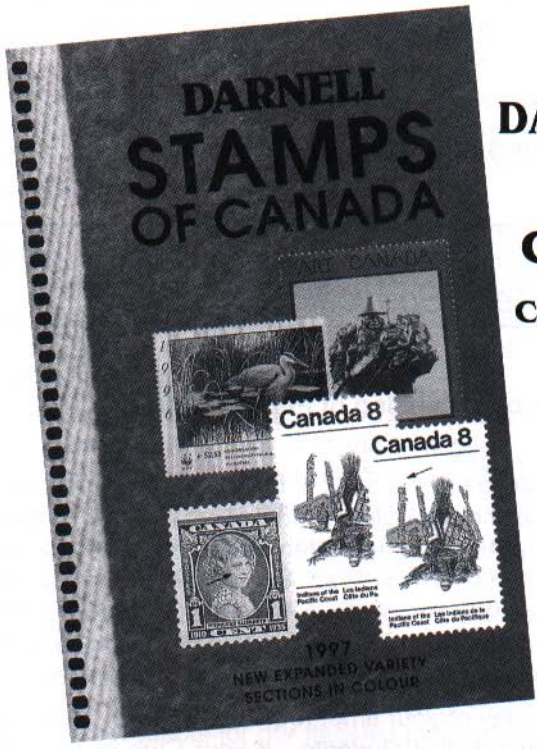
Geoff Walburn, FRPSC

Mr. Walburn was born in Bramhall, Manchester, England and educated in Wales. He joined a real estate firm until 1929 when he moved to Brandon, Manitoba under a Canadian Pacific Railway colonizing scheme. Two years later he headed for Kelowna, BC, where he has lived ever since. He marred Bernice Alberta Gowler of Winnipeg who passed away in 1995. They have no children.

Geoff Walburn has been collecting stamps since his youth when he inherited his father's collection. In Canada he concentrated on Canadian precancels, revenues, RPO and Squared Circle cancels and BC town cancels. In 1940 he met C.C. Carl Sonne, editor of *The Canadian Precancel Catalogue* published by Hoover Brothers of New York. This meeting results in his being asked, in the mid-1940s, by the publishers to become the new editor of the catalogue. Since then, he has edited 11 editions and is recognized as the world's leading authority on Canadian precancels. His catalogues have been noted for their accurate valuations and always quote-current prices. He is currently involved in the 15th edition of the catalogue. For more than 40 years Mr. Walburn has been contributing articles to *The Canadian Philatelist*, *BNA Topics*,

M. Walburn est né à Bramhall, Manchester, Angleterre, et a été éduqué au pays de Galles. Il s'est joint à une compagnie immobilière jusqu'en 1929, quand il a déménagé à Brandon, Manitoba, sous un plan de colonisation du Canadien pacifique. Deux ans plus tard, il s'est dirigé vers Kelowna, CB, et y demeuré enconre. Il s'est marié avec Bernice Alberta Gowler de Winnipeg, qui est décédée en 1995. Ils n'ont pas eu d'enfants.

Geoff Walburn collectionne des timbres depuis son enfance, après avoir hérité de la collection de son père. Au Canada, il s'est concentré sur les pré-oblitérés, les revenus, les oblitérations ferroviaires et de circles carrés ainsi que les oblitérations de la Colombie Britannique. En 1940, il a fait la connaissance de C.C. Carl Sonne, éditeur du *The Canadian Precancel Catalogue* publié par *Hoover Brothers* de New York. À cause de cette rencontre, les imprimeurs lui ont demandé, dans les années quarantes, de devenir le nouvel éditeur du catalogue. Depuis ce temps, il en a édité 11 éditions et est reconnu comme étant l'autorité mondiale sur les pré-oblitérés canadiens. Ses catalogues sont reconnus pour leurs évaluations exactes et prix courants. Il est présentement impliqué dans la 15e édition du catalogue. Pour plus de 40 ans, M. Walburn contribue des articles au *Philatéliste*



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The American Philatelist, *Maple Leaves*, etc. In 1948, he was elected a Fellow of the Canadian Philatelic Society of Great Britain.

canadien, *BNA Topics*, *The American Philatelist*, *Maple Leaves*, etc. Il a été élu un Fellow de la Société philatélique canadienne de la Grande-Bretagne en 1948.

Congratulations to all three new Fellows!

Notice to Chapters...

...From Keith Spencer

EXPEX – A Seminar on Exhibiting of Philatelic Material

The Society is very fortunate to be able to offer, to those Chapters who wish to participate, a seminar on exhibiting philatelic material at local and other exhibitions. This seminar, prepared by the Lakeshore Stamp Club of Dorval, Quebec, is an excellent presentation of the factors involved with exhibiting – as opposed to merely collecting. The Lakeshore Stamp Club has been presenting these seminars over the past 15 years and has "graduated" over 100 potential exhibitors; three of them have garnered the Grand Award at RPSC Exhibitions.

The seminar will take one day of your time, requires up to six presenters, and can accommodate up to twenty-five students. If your Club is interested, please contact our Chapter Coordinator, Ray Ireson, at 86 Cartier, Roxboro, Quebec, H8Y 1G8.

There is no charge for using this seminar, but we must ask you to report when and where it took place, how many presenters and students participated, your comments on the package, suggestions for improvement, and whether you think such instruction is appropriate and will improve the standard of your exhibitions. Such feedback is essential to evaluate the success of this program.

I only wish such instruction had been offered when I started to exhibit. All my showings were developed from scratch with only casual assistance from senior collectors and exhibitors. One wonders how such exhibits could have been improved over a short period of time if this program had been available.

You are being offered the chance of a lifetime – at no charge – and we hope that many Chapters will take advantage of this help.

Yours for the improvement of the hobby, your Clubs, and this society.

Keith Spencer

The Presidents's page
La page du président

by Keith Spencer

It's hard to recall a time when this page wasn't penned by our good pal, Bill Robinson. Bill's service to The Royal and to stamp collecting at large is well known and he was the focus of the many expressions of appreciation made at our recently held Calgary Convention.

In his July-August column, Bill says a thank you to retiring Board members Bill Bailey, Michael Millar and Don Wilson. I second that thanks and take pleasure in welcoming new Boarders John Keelyside of Vancouver and Ann Triggle of New York. John's name alone suggests that he will be an enthusiastic Royal contributor and Ann, our first American Board member, brings a broader, international perspective.

Bill's shoes are large ones to fill but I feel rather confident, especially as I look at the excellent cast of Royal Directors and Society Officers I have inherited. In particular, Vice-President Charles Verge and Grégoire Teyssier represent a great deal of experience and enthusiasm.

As for current Royal agendas – we are most anxious to have *The Canadian Philatelist* appear in a more timely manner, to broaden the range of programs and services we offer and to increase our membership numbers.

The most immediate change Philatelist readers will note is that we have a brand new editor. Our Halifax Director, J.J. MacDonald, brings a wealth of experience and a great deal of enthusiasm to his new position. We are all excited about the prospects for our flagship publication. J.J. will build on the improvements made earlier by Steve Thorning and is dedicated to getting us back on schedule. And if all goes according to plan, readers and advertisers alike will find the Philatelist in their mailboxes right on time. Of course, there is one possible fly in the ointment called "mail delivery", but we are determined that our number one concern be resolved.

I have mentioned new programs and services. One new venture on the books is to offer our Chapter members insurance that would cover their meeting and show activities at a most modest rate. We live in an increasingly litigious society and our thought is that our chapters might well consider such coverage. We are soliciting chapter interest at this point – we need a minimum number to proceed – and we ask that interested Chapters communicate with our National office that is now professionally managed by Parr and Associates.

Let me conclude these notes by returning for a moment to ROYAL *1997* ROYALE held in Calgary in September. Calgarians have no monopoly on hospitality, but they certainly do it well! It was a great event and all that worked to make it so stand congratulated several times over. I often think of our hobby as more about collecting "people" than it is about "stamps" and I look forward already to meeting and greeting friends old and new at our May 29 – 31 1998 Royal in Hamilton. I hope to see you there, so plan now to try out a little of that Hamilton hospitality.

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VICPEX '97

VICPEX '97, a fall stamp and postcard show, was held in Victoria, BC on October 4 and 5. Hosted by the Vancouver Island and Greater Victoria Philatelic Societies, the Junior Stamp Club and the Sidney Stamp Club, this exhibition lived up to its reputation as a major British Columbia show.

The attendance at the show was up, due in large part to the meeting that the BNAPS Pacific Northwest Regional Group held in conjunction with VICPEX '97. The Victoria Stamp Societies are also reaching out to young people and this was reflected in the increased attendance of junior collectors, and, of course, the high quality of exhibits attracted adult collectors from all over Vancouver Island and the lower mainland.

The Junior exhibits at VICPEX '97 were exceptionally well presented, showing that the young collectors understand the principles of collecting.

Collin Youell, age 14, won a gold award and the Canada Post Youth Award with "Hong Kong". Roselynn Verwoord, age 13, won a vermeil award for "Multi-dimensional Stamps". Silver awards went to Scott Youell, age 10, for "Birds"; Jason Gray, age 10, for "Cuba"; and Timon Ferguson, age 6, for "Prehistoric Life". Timon also won the Junior Trophy.

In the adult division, a gold award went to Bob Bayes for "Freemasonry and Its Effect on Our World". Paul Parizeau won a gold and the Clarke Horning Memorial Trophy for "Confederate States of America". Don Shorting also won a gold and the W. (Bill) Sach Memorial Trophy for "Canada's Fairs and Exhibitions".

Gray Scrimgeour won a gold for "The District of Assiniboia" and Gray was also the first recipient of the Allan Steinhart Trophy. His exhibit was voted the most popular in the show!

Luis Martin won a vermeil award and the Lester Small Trophy for "Uruguay by Waterlow" and Vernon Richards won a vermeil and the Gerald E. Wellburn Trophy for "Floral, Trees and Cameo Booklets and Varieties". John Wheeler won a vermeil for "The Lindbergh Circle 1928 – 1931".

Charles Arnold won a silver and the Jubilee Cup for "The Chalon Heads of New Zealand 1855 – 1873". "Yukon Revenues and Documents" earned Ian Mowat a silver and the Hamber Trophy and "From Canada to the World" won Don Shorting a silver and the Frank Dyment Trophy. Jim Brown won a silver with "United States Foreign Airmail Route #2".

"Newfoundland: First Decimal Period 1865 – 1899" won a silver for Ron Battersby and the Reg. Nairne Trophy. As this was Ron's first exhibit, he also won the Novice Trophy. It is interesting to note that last year the Novice Trophy was won by an 85-year-old collector, and this year it was won by a youngster of 78!

Silver-Bronze awards were won by Jim Brown for "Boeing's Contribution to Philately" and Les Martin for "Postal History of India 1854 – 1875".

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Cathie Osborne won a Bronze award for an attractive exhibit "A Town Called Bell".

An extensive dealers' bourse helped to make the show a great philatelic event by making desirable material available to both beginners and advanced collectors.

Canada Post was well represented by Bill Bartlett who had a wealth of attractive material available at face value. Needless to say, this was a popular table.

Canada's Quality Exhibits Do Well at Moscow '97

by James E. Kraemer
Canadian Commissioner

The first World International Philatelic Exhibition ever held in Russia took place October 17-26, 1997, in Moscow.

Although some exhibitors experienced problems with Russian Customs at the airport, the Canadian exhibits cleared in about five minutes.

The exhibition must be considered a major achievement for Russian philately. Credit for its success goes to the Russian Organizing Committee and especially to Michael Adler, of Germany, the F.I.P. (Fédération Internationale de Philatélie) Coordinator.

The exhibition was well attended. The frames and exhibition area were excellent and attendees were well looked after. The exhibits were of a very high quality.

Heifetz Top Canadian

Top Canadian was Murray Heifetz of Don Mills, Ontario who received 93 points and a gold medal with Felicitations from the Jury for his exhibit, "Canadian Airmails, 1918-1939".

Kenneth Magee of Clinton, Ontario also won a gold medal with 90 points for a splendid exhibit of "Ireland 1840 – 1901", showing the Victorian postal issues of Great Britain used in Ireland starting with uniform penny postage.

Major Richard K. Malott (Ret.) of Nepean, Ontario was awarded 84 points and a Vermeil medal for an exhibit of "Canadian Crash Covers to, from and within Canada, 1915-1978". Canada received two other Vermeil medals in literature, *Opusculum I* by the Philatelic Research Foundation (83 points), and *The Canadian Philatelist* (1996) by Philaprint Inc. (80 points).

Karl Valdo Laas of Toronto showed an interesting collection entitled "Estonia in W.W. I – Russian Imperial Fieldpost 1914-1918". It received 75 points and a large silver

Professor Alexander S. Ilyushin (left), Chairman Union of Philatelists of Russia; Victor V. Sinegoubov (right), Vice-Chairman

medal. Piet Steen of Hinton, Alberta received a bronze medal for his quarterly publication devoted to the philately of Central and South America.

An F.I.P. ruling that precludes Youth exhibits from exhibiting more than once per year in F.I.P. exhibitions deprived Canada of a large silver medal in the Youth category.

The Grand Prix National for the best exhibit by a Russian philatelist went to Manfred Dobin of Russia for a magnificent display of "St. Petersburg Postal History".

The Grand Prix International was awarded, in a very close vote, to Richard Schäfer of Switzerland for an exhibit of "History of Swiss Letter Mail to Foreign Destinations, 1849-1875".

The Grand Prix d'Honneur, the F.I.P. Championship Class for the best of those exhibits winning three large gold medals at previous F.I.P. International exhibitions, went to Rolf-Dieter Jaretzky of Germany. Mr. Jaretsky showed "Prussia".

Italy led all the countries in winning four large gold medals. Germany, with approximately 60 exhibits, was the major exhibiting country at Moscow '97. They won a large gold, the Grand Prix d'Honneur, 5 gold, 18 large vermeil, 15 vermeil plus many medals in the other categories. Great Britain, with 24 exhibits, received a large gold medal but disappointingly no gold medals. Russia surprised all with many outstanding exhibits. They won 2 large gold medals, 1 gold, and 5 large silver bronze medals. Canada doubled the U.S.A. in gold medals winning two. The U.S.A. won one gold medal but won many large vermeil and vermeil medals.

There were 50 Jury Members including Apprentice Judges. Andrew Cronin, Toronto, was the Canadian judge and James E. Kraemer, Ottawa, was the Canadian Commissioner. In all, there were 60 Commissioners.

ROYAL CALTAPEX *1997* ROYALE

To quote a number of attendees, this year's ROYAL CALTAPEX *1997* ROYALE in Calgary, September 19th to 21st was "the best ever".

Two hundred and fifty frames (4,000 pages) were on exhibit from collections across the country. Chairman of the Judges, Harry Sutherland, indicated that the panel was impressed with the variety, presentation and high quality of the entries. The panel he headed consisted of four other nationally qualified Judges: Michael Madesker, John Powell, Ed Druce from Australia, and Grégoire Teyssier. The Apprentice Judge was John Keenlyside.

The Canada Post Grand Award was presented to "The Brigham Collection" (Ontario) for the entry "The Province of Canada Issues, 1851 – 1868". Reserve Grand Award from the Calgary Philatelic Society went to Jack Wallace of Victoria, BC for "British Columbia and Vancouver Island".

The committee which planned and prepared for eighteen months to bring the show to fruition, covered every base to ensure that exhibitors, bourse members and the general public were treated "Royally" and had a full program to educate, entertain and satisfy their every philatelic want.

On the Thursday evening before

the show, the Coast Plaza Hotel echoed with the hum of activity from exhibit frame set-up, mounting of exhibits, and dealer booth set-up.

A full program for the next three days, with various meetings and seminars, started off with an official opening sponsored by Canada Post and under the direction of Chairman Hugh Delaney. On the podium were the Honorable "Bud" Olson, Lieutenant Governor of Alberta, RPSC President William Robinson, Alderman Ray Clark from the City of Calgary, Ms. Micheline Montreuil from Canada Post and Rev. Fr. Randy Yackimec from St. Stephen's Byzantine Ukrainian Catholic Church in Calgary.

During proceedings, Bill Robinson was "White Hatted" by Alderman Clark, a ceremony making him an Honorary Citizen of Calgary. Micheline Montreuil, of Canada Post, unveiled a picture of one of St. Stephen's Church stained-glass windows. The 90 cents value of the 1997 Christmas issue depicts this image. Father Yackimec accepted the framed picture on behalf of his congregation and noted that it would have a prominent place in their church. The Lt. Governor then officially opened ROYAL CALTAPEX *1997* ROYALE and was given a tour of the show by Bill Robinson. to the bourse and exhibition area.

A Spouses' Coffee Party was held andon Saturday, a few people travelled to Drumheller to visit our Royal Tyrrell Museum.

A special room for beginners, young and old, provided seminars on the basics of stamp collecting. Seven thousand stamps were selected and sold to new collectors during the three-day show.

Several meetings were held during the weekend with the annual meeting of the Fellows of The Royal Philatelic Society of Canada electing three new Fellows. A meeting was held by The RPSC Philatelic Research Foundation and the Directors of The Royal conducted a business session. At the Annual Meeting of the Society on Saturday, Dr. Keith Spencer of Edmonton was elected as the new President. Interesting seminars were held with Earle Covert speaking on "Collecting Postal Stationery", and with Maj. Dick Malott (Ret.) announcing the publication of a new catalogue by the Aerophilatelic Society.

On Friday evening, two busloads traveled to Bragg Creek, just west of Calgary, to participate in a Western Show and Bar-B-Que at Elkana Ranch. A well-known western rancher explained the value of cutting horses to his guests with a live demonstration complete with horses and cattle. Miss Molly and her Group entertained after the steak dinner and recruited members of the audience to be part of the fun-filled evening.

The President's Reception was held on Saturday evening prior to the Awards Banquet. The guest speaker for the evening was Kent Sedgewick of Prince George, BC who is a supporter of the Alexander Mackenzie Voyageur Route Association. Kent delivered his entertaining talk dressed as a 'Coureur de Bois'. The awards were presented by Chief Judge Harry Sutherland and Exhibits Chairman Dr. Fitz Roett. Charles Verge, acting for

(Continued on page 390)

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...Michael Miller, FRPSC

The Royal Mail still keeps rolling with the 'steel wheel on the steel rail'.

A news item in the May-June 1997 issue of The Canadian Philatelist recorded the demise of Railway Post Offices (R.P.O.) in Denmark. As a former Railway Mail Clerk, this item had more than a passing interest for me and set me wondering just how many countries are still using R.P.O's. Canada, of course, shut down its Railway Mail Service on the 24th of April 1971, followed not too long after that by the United States Post Office. But in the country where sorting of mail on the rails began in 1838, Great Britain, the mail continues to be moved and sorted by rail - significant amounts of it.

I came across this information in the July 1997 issue of *The Railway Magazine* from Britain in an article on Railnet, the Royal Mail distribution system. Royal Mail is in the process of investing £150m in its distribution system, which includes a ten-year contract with the railways. The hub of this network is the new London Distribution Centre - L.D.C. - in Northwest London at Willesden. This massive facility was formally opened by Her Royal Highness the Princess Royal on the 20th of May 1997 and was then named the Princess Royal Distribution Centre. All mail trains to and from London originate or terminate here. No mail is now conveyed in regular passenger trains.

The article notes that Willesden became operational at the end of September 1996, allowing mail to be withdrawn from all London passenger stations. The facility has seven loading platforms, 860 feet in length, that can handle trains of up to twelve cars. All platforms have overhead electrification and diesel fume extraction equipment. The trains are a mixture of converted diesel and electric multiple-unit passenger cars, as well as conventional diesel and electric locomotive hauled stock. Outward opening doors have been replaced with the roll-up type and at stations where mails are transferred, platforms have been raised to accommodate a "roll on, roll off" operation. Time is of the essence and, as here in Canada, mail is handled in bulk containers. It is essential that platform and vehicle heights match up to allow access with forklifts with minimum difficulty.

According to the article, the Royal Mail Railnet plan comprises sixty-five dedicated trains, eighteen of which are T.P.O's, which also carry containers. Another twenty-two are formed by electric multiple units and the remainder are locomotive hauled van formations. The trains are handled in three groups. First, early afternoon for second class mail; second, mid-evening for first class mail from the early afternoon collections; and third, the overnight trains, which include the T.P.O's conveying the

(Continued on page 390)

(Continued from page 387)

the new President who was called away, made a special presentation to the retiring President, Bill Robinson. The dinner guests were then invited to participate in a Calgary Philatelic Society tradition, the "Exhibit Walk-through". Judges, exhibitors and guests were allowed to view exhibits and to discuss their merits in an informal atmosphere.

The last day of the show, Sunday, started with a breakfast sponsored by the BNAPS Calgary Group. The speaker, Ed Harris, showed slides of his collection of early Calgary Hotel covers. Later in the morning, a Judges' Critique was held to answer questions by the exhibitors on how to better their exhibits. The exhibition and bourse closed at 5 p.m.

The Calgary Philatelic Society celebrated its 75th anniversary at the show and special envelopes featured a picture of its first President, Dr. Edward G. Mason. These special postal stationery envelopes were provided by Canada Post, and collectors obtained cancellations representing Calgary and The RPSC. The designs for these cancellations were created by John Delaney.

The Canada Post booth sold the new commemorative stamp depicting Canada's hockey victory over Russia 25 years ago. First Day Covers bearing these stamps were available.

The Calgary Philatelic Society printed a special 60-page booklet for the show covering all convention activities.

Yes, it was a great success and will go into the book of memories!

(Continued from page 389)

majority of first class mail from the late afternoon and evening collections. It sounds like quite an efficient system.

We should compare this with Canada where it seems to take a minimum of four or five days to get a letter mailed in Barrie delivered in Barrie. This is, of course, after the letter has travelled to Stoney Creek (L8E 2R0) and back. Contrast this with a final quote from the article: "Many of the trains connect with one another. Some combine as one train, others transfer containers between trains.....Some connections, particularly from incoming to outgoing trains at the L.D.C., give new opportunities for first class mail to achieve first delivery next day if those connections are reliably made." The article does not list the T.P.O's nor does it say what this new system has done to the underground Post Office Railway in London. But it does highlight the fact that, after 160 years, British Post Office management still thinks well enough of "rail" to lay out over £100 million on a new facility and new rail cars.

Mention R.P.O. to any long-time Canada Post manager - that is anyone with more than three years service - and they'll start talking about Shopper's Drug Mart, not about mail conveyance by train. Only in the U. K., you say? Pity.

To reach Michael Millar via E-mail: mmillar@cois.on.ca

Death & Taxes

by Harry Sutherland, RDP, FRPSC, RRPSL

Unfortunately, all of us must die sooner or later. When we die, each of us has possessions. In many cases, these will pose no practical problems of disposal, but a stamp collector who dies can present real problems to his Executors.

The ownership of possessions implies the proper care and attention to the possessions while in our control and in this regard, insurance is important. The Royal Philatelic Society of Canada provides a group policy for its members at attractive rates into which you might wish to look. Contact Darlene Lawson at Hugh Wood Ltd. (416) 481-4211 (who are our insurance agents). In order to take advantage of this group insurance, you must be a member of The Royal Philatelic Society of Canada. As part of this care and handling, a knowledge or at least a rough idea of the value of the collection is important. We should all remember that value could change very quickly, particularly when our collection is in a "fashionable" field.

It is of the utmost importance to leave instruction as to how your stamp collection is to be disposed of, together with a rough idea of what it may be expected to bring. The average Executor knows little or nothing about stamps or their value or how to realize that value. It is very easy for the family to obtain a totally incorrect impression of the value of the collection following the death of the collector. Examples from real life are as follows:

1 The collector tells the spouse that there need be no worry about money, as his collection can always be sold after his death. The collection is discovered to contain sheets of low value modern Canadian issues which might have a face value of say $5,000. The Executors would certainly feel that they are being cheated when they were offered less than face value for the collection, as would almost certainly be the case.

2 At the other extreme, the statement can be made that only a few pennies or dollars are being spent on the hobby of stamp collecting and that no money of any consequence is being taken from the family budget. Upon the death of the collector, the collection is found to be replete with mint 3d Beavers of Canada 1851 on both laid and wove paper. The Executor, not realizing the value, gives the collection to little Johnnie or runs into unscrupulous friends or dealers who will give a fraction of the true value of the items.

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These problems and others can be overcome by leaving a memorandum to the Executors or legatees as to how the collection is to be dealt with. There are a number of ways that this can be done.

1 By a legacy to an institution. Generally speaking, this is not a good idea. If, over a period of time, all the best stamps are left to institutions, there will be nothing left for the collector to collect. Just as the collector has had pleasure in acquiring the items for his collection, so he should give pleasure to others by giving them an opportunity to acquire the items he himself has collected over the years.

2 A legacy of the collection to a family member or making a gift prior to death. Generally speaking, this also is questionable. Since a collector will have his or her own interests and unless the person to whom the collection is left is knowledgeable, there will or can be problems in disposing of it. It is not generally a good idea for the family to preserve the collection as a memento or memorial of the deceased. Usually the family will have no idea how to look after it or to keep it safely, unless the recipient is a stamp collector himself. One example of this was a superb collection of Montreal, Canada which, following the death of the owner, was stored in the cellar. Damp affected the gum on every stamp and the value of the collection was reduced by many thousands of dollars.

3 Sale by the Executors or heirs. This is the best method of disposal but raises questions as to how the best price is to be obtained and also raises the question of the unscrupulous collector or dealer who can say that the deceased wanted him to have a particular item in memory of him – which by merest chance happens to be Canada Scott No. 3, the 12d.! There are cases, of course, in which two collectors are both pursuing the same item. One says to the other that he will let the other collector have the item on condition that he has first refusal if the collector sells it during his life or that it is to be left to him following the death of the collector. These cases are few in numbers.

The best method of helping your heirs or executors is to leave a memorandum instructing them as to how the collection is to be sold or make specific mention of this in your Will or in the codicil to your Will. There are two basic methods to dispose of a collection: (1) by sale at auction using a knowledgeable auction house and (2) by sale to a dealer. If a sale to a dealer is proposed, it is often a good idea to go to three dealers and obtain offers for the collection or parts thereof. If the collection is one that is highly specialized, for example the local issues of the Chinese Treaty Ports, often a better price can be obtained from a dealer in these issues than proceeding by way of auction. It is often desirable to name a knowledgeable philatelist who is a

friend of the deceased collector to act as an advisor in disposing of the collection. If you wish to transact business with a dealer or auctioneer, make sure he is a member of the Canadian Stamp Dealers' Association (CSDA) or an equivalent body.

When you are using an auctioneer, do not forget that selling stamps is his profession and that he will know much more about it than anyone who does not deal in stamps or the average stamp collector. For example, most auctioneers will make some large lots out of any collection as opposed to selling the items all individually. This is done for two reasons; first, so that a better overall price may be obtained and second, so that items which cannot be sold individually (because it would be uneconomic) to do so can be grouped to make a lot that is economic to sell.

Not only is death a tragic loss, but to add insult to injury, the assets of the deceased are deemed to be realized at the date of death and where a capital gain is made in connection with a stamp collection, it can be taxable. Fortunately, each item is deemed to have a capital cost of $1,000 and so it is only items sold for over $1,000 that will concern an Executor. Ordinarily, if the stamp collection is sold within a reasonable period following death, the sale price will be taken as the value at the date of death. A stamp collection constitutes "listed personal property" as defined in the *Income Tax Act* and capital losses on stamps can be deducted from capital gains from stamps or other listed personal property for that year or for the five preceding years or one year following. If the collection is sold as one property there may be difficulty in establishing with the tax department that the $1,000 exemption applies to the individual item rather than the overall collection. Ordinarily, if a letter is obtained from the purchaser that no single item was valued at more than $1,000 there should be no practical difficulty in convincing the tax department to grant a wider exemption. It will be noted that where the property cost is more than $1,000 that actual cost can be utilized instead of the $1,000 figure. In cases of a substantial collection, professional advice should be sought in every case.

In many cases, the best way of disposing of a collection is for the collector to do it himself rather than leave it for his Estate. The collector will have the best idea as to what he owns – he will usually know the best dealer or auctioneer to deal with – and if it is to be auctioned he will have an opportunity to review the lotting by the auctioneer, as well as the estimates. It is important when considering the estimates to be guided by the auctioneer – sometimes a low estimate can attract bids or a high one discourage them.

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Whereis Franz Josef Land?

by Jay J. Edward

In 1872, an enterprise financed by the Austrian Count Hans Wilczek and the "Society for the Promotion of an Austrian North Pole Expedition" (with headquarters in Vienna) became interested in searching for a route to the North Pole. At the same time, they were to endeavour to find the long sought-after Northeast Passage, that fabulous route to China along the northern coasts of Europe and Asia through the Bering Strait.

Little was known of the area. It had severe cold, the darkness of the Arctic winter, fierce winds and a constant dreariness for those spending any period of time there. These were the conditions that existed a hundred and twenty-five years ago, when on June 13, 1872, a new three-masted schooner that had set out from Bremerhaven was sailing down the Weser River. The vessel was the "Admiral Tegetthoff". Her Captain was Karl Weyprecht and she was flying the flag of Austria-Hungary. The daring voyage of the Austrian polar expedition had started. The team of Austrian explorers on board were pursuing an ambitious voyage of discovery.

Josef von Payer, a man of large proportions, had been entrusted with the expedition's scientific direction. Payer was a born expedition leader and was an excellent cartographer. He had mapped numerous unknown mountains and glaciers in the Alps. On another expedition of discovery, he had travelled by sled over 600 kilometres in Greenland. Both Payer and Weyprecht were young officers in the Austrian Royal Army and Navy respectively. They were modest, self-assured and marked by destiny to bear responsibility under adverse conditions and circumstances. After stopping at the Norwegian harbour of Tromsö to take on provisions for a two and a half year period, the expedition set out on July 14, 1872, for the obscure world of the Arctic. Each of the men in the expedition had declared of their own free will that no search party need be dispatched should they not return by the autumn of 1874.

Following the west coast of the Island of Novaya Zemlya, the vessel advanced northward. The drifting ice floes were getting thicker leaving little room for passage until, according to Payer's entry in his diary, "There was no more water around us." From all sides, ice floes as high as a house were pressing against the "Tegetthoff", lifting her up and crushing her stern. The vessel was at the mercy of the winds and currents. Fettered by the ice, she drifted north-westward for one hundred and thirty days in the darkness of the Arctic winter.

Finally, in mid-February the sun reappeared. The men conceived the hope that the Arctic summer would permit them to break through the pressure ridges and reach open water. They dug, sawed and tried to use gun

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powder in order to clear openings in the ice. Yet the ridges persisted, at times reaching a thickness of thirteen metres. Even the warmth from the sun had no effect. The drift to the northwest continued. Another Arctic winter loomed ahead. By this time, the men had abandoned all hope of achieving their objectives.

Suddenly, on August 30, 1873, the thick fog suddenly lifted and, to use Payer's own words, "A grandiose Alpine scene unfolded before us." The territory so discovered was named after their monarch, "Emperor Franz Josef Land". Although the territory was only 22 kilometres in the distance, it seemed impossible to proceed to it, with ice ridges and drift ice thwarting every attempt. At last, some rocks were sighted about 5 kilometres away. On November 1, with the temperature at -30°C, the team set foot on what is now Wilczek Island. The mainland, however, lay at an inaccessible distance. A second Arctic winter loomed ahead. It was clear that another winter in the Arctic would bring a fatal end to the expedition. Returning to an inhabited region became an absolute necessity. But first, Payer and his men wanted to reach and explore Franz Josef Land which was within sight.

On March 10, 1874, the first of a number of daring sled journeys took place. With the termperature reading -50°C, two more journeys followed. The parties of six men and three dogs each experienced hardships. Both the northern part and sections of the part of Franz Josef Land which is made up of 100 islands were explored. More than 840 kilometres of this unknown land had been traversed. The expeditions mapped fjords, mountains, glaciers and straits giving them Austrian names.

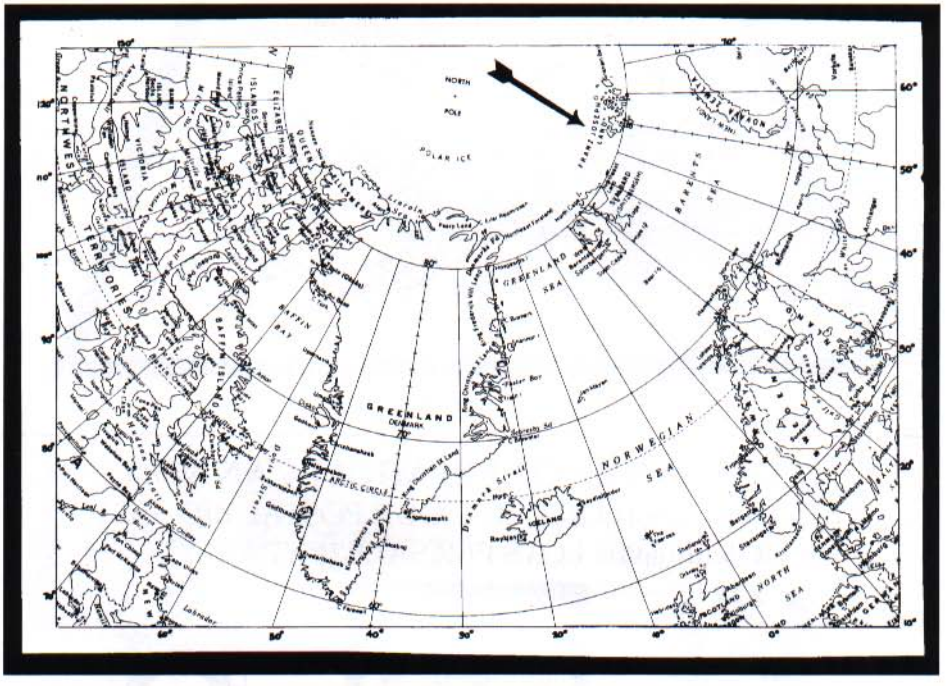
It was high time to return to the south. On May 21, 1874, the men left the "Tegetthoff". Dragging four boats and four sleds, each loaded with about 800 kilograms of freight, they began their march over the ice. Two months later, after tremendous hardships, they found that thery were only 15 kilometres south of the vessel. Constant southerly winds caused the ice to drift northward. The situation had become desperate.

Suddenly, the wind changed. It drove the ice floes 450 kilometres to the south in twenty days. On August 18, the men reached the Island of Novaya Zemlya. A few days later, the Russian whaler "Nikolay" came in sight and took the crew of the "Tegetthoff" back to Norway. They had been on the sea ice of the Arctic Ocean for three months.

It was not until 1879, that the islands were sighted again. This time it was a Dutchman, A. De Bruyne, but he did not attempt a landing. British explorers visited the area in 1880 – 1882. Late in the 1800's and early 1900's, many polar expeditions used Franz Josef Land as a base. One of these was W. Wellman who led an American expedition in 1898 - 1899. In 1926, the U.S.S.R. proclaimed sovereignty over the archipelago and, in 1929, erected a weather station. Today, Franz Josef Land has one airport. Three scientific/weather stations were set up in the 1960's and are visited by ships

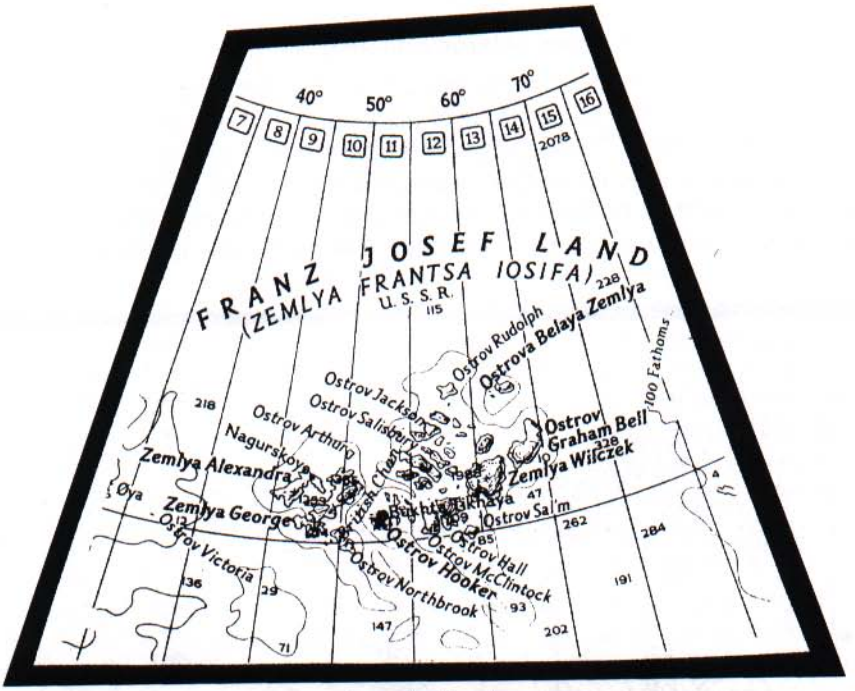
every summer. Bear and fox are the only mammals found on the islands, but there are many species of birds and also walrus.

Although the Austrian polar expedition did not attain its goals, its discovery of Franz Josef Land brought the opening of a Northeast passage a step closer to reality. Today, jet aircraft operate over the North Pole, atomic-powered submarines make their way under the ice and radar and weather stations, as well as military posts, scan the Arctic skies. The resources of this northern land cannot be evaluated. It is part of the Land of Tomorrow.



Above: North Pole region showing location of Franz Josef Land.

Left: Austria 2.50 Schilling stamp Scott # 949 issued August 30, 1973 to mark the Centenary of the discovery of Franz Josef land (Zemlya Frantsa - Iosifa). The Tegetthoff off Franz Josef Land from a painting at the Museum of Natural History, Vienna.
Colour: Dark Green Blue (Prussian Blue)
Perforation: 13.45 X 14
Engraver: Kurt Leitgeb
Designer: Prof. Adalbert Pilch



Franz Josef Land.

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The Search for El Dorado

by Ray Ireson

When the news of Columbus' discovery of the New World reached Europe, it did not take very long for the Spanish 'conquistadors' to set out and seek the vast riches that those lands contained. *Gonzalo Jiménez de Quesada* first explored the land known today as COLOMBIA. He founded the capital city of Bogotá, in 1538. In his day, that was the territory of the MUISCA culture. It was there that he first heard of EL DORADO.

According to the legend, upon the accession of a new Muisca 'cacique' (chieftain), he would seclude himself in a cave for several days of meditation. He would then emerge naked and his entourage would proceed to cover him with mud, after which they sprinkled gold dust all over him. Then they would embark upon a raft and paddle to the middle of their sacred lake. There the EL DORADO (the gilded one) would jump into the lake to wash himself clean, and his followers would toss gold ornaments and emeralds into the waters as an offering to their water-mountain-earth deity.

In vain did the Spaniards search for this mythical EL DORADO. Their quest could be likened to seeking the pot of gold at the end of a rainbow.

During the presidency of *Mariano Ospina*, a law was enacted on April 27, 1859, which completely reformed the Colombian postal system and introduced the use of adhesive postage stamps to prepay carriage of mail. However, that legislation recognized the fact that the State could not provide countrywide mail service, and provision was made for the contracting out of some mail transportation to independent parties. Later, those independent carriers were permitted to issue their own "stamps" to denote payment of their fee, but the Government postal charges were also levied.

The only catalogue to list these private carrier issues is that of LEO TEMPRANO of Bogotá, Colombia. A total of 14 entities issued stamps for their private mail service, but, with only two exceptions, all those companies operated during the 1920's and 1930's...long after that legislation was introduced. The first private carrier service listed by Temprano is that of the...CORREO SEMANAL DEL DORADO

CORREO SEMANAL DEL DORADO.- Este servicio de correos fue establecido por una compañía inglesa hacia los años 1863 a 1866 entre Bogotá y la Laguna de Siecha

1.863? ?.- 1a. EMISION. Impresas una por una en papel de color y blanco. Sin dentar.

1	1 Real	Rojo ladrillo	30000	x1.5
		a) Papel azuloso	x1.5	"
		b) Tete - bech	x3	"
		EMISION		
		P.D.C.		

Weekly Mail of El Dorado

This mail service was established by an English company around the years 1863-1866 (to operate) between Bogotá and the Lagoon of Siecha.

The contents of this article are part of a "find" made some time ago at a dealer's business in Trois Rivières, Québec. The dealer had no recollection of where he had acquired the material, but he did say that he had been holding it for many years. The contents of the numerous letters (all written in Spanish) make fascinating reading, and it started a search for more background information on this service.

The American Philatelic Research Library could find nothing about the Correo Semanal del Dorado in their vast resources, and, apart from Leo Temprano's catalogue, it would appear that nothing has ever been documented about this carrier and the single stamp it used. However, it was ascertained that Temprano's listing was based upon a cover that once belonged to a Mr. J. Kettijer, and the cover now reposes in the Philatelic Museum of the Central Bank of Colombia in Medillin. Until the "find" in Québec, that cover was believed to be the only one known in existence. As for single copies of the stamp, only three are known and all are in a private collection in Bogotá.

Temprano states that it was an English company that operated this service, and this seems to be corroborated by the correspondence. A Mr. ENRIQUE URDANETA, a Colombian national, seemingly came upon (from what source is not revealed) reliable (?) information the Muiscas' sacred lake was the LAGOON OF SIECHA. If this was true, then a sizeable fortune must lay under its waters. He formed a partnership with an English engineer, GEORGE CROWTHER, with the objective of draining the lake and recovering the treasures from the lake bed. So far, neither the name of the partnership nor the company formed have been determined.

An original Notarial Deed prepared by Narciso Sánchez of the Bogotá Circuit Registry, dated December 5, 1866, whereby Guillermo Paris and Rafael Chacon "cede, endorse and transfer" their shares in

the Lagoon known as SIECHA, in the District of GUASCA, to ENRIQUE URDANETA. The latter undertakes to drain the lagoon and share with the other parties the proceeds of whatever treasure he locates therein: that was the consideration for the Agreement...all costs to be borne by Urdaneta.

It would seem from the correspondence that the project of draining the lake did not go well; however, in the process of that endeavour, Crowther discovered a lode of iridium and apparently he persuaded his partner, Urdaneta, to abandon the project to drain the lake and mine the iridium instead.

The correspondence is all from Crowther at the mine site to Urdaneta in Bogotá and describes the progress being made during their mining endeavours. The first letter in the series of correspondence was datelined MARCH 6, 1870: unfranked with manuscript "CORREO SEMANAL DE LA LAGUNA" and bearing an additional notation, "Porte un real pagadero en Bogotá". Incidentally, just as there is no such currency as a 'dime', there was no 'real' in Colombia. Both are slang for 10 cents.

Question: to WHOM was that postage payable in Bogotá? The author believes that this Private Carrier Mail was conveyed by a 'peon' of the Company, who just jogged down from Siecha to Bogotá to deliver it to Mr. Urdaneta. In which case: WHY was 'post-age' required?

The whole of this correspondence once belonged to a Mr. Fernando Nieto Ramos, of Bogotá, who was a descendant of ENRIQUE URDANETA. Copies of his correspondence with Scott Publishing Co. in 1940-1941 (he was trying to have them give a catalogue listing to this CORREO SEMANAL DEL DORADO "stamp") tells the tragic end of the mining venture.

Only a final blasting operation was needed before the mine could enter into production. The two operatives who had gone down the shaft to fix the detonators failed to surface. After a while, two more men went below to investigate. They, too, did not return. In all, thirteen men – including the Englishman, Crowther – entered that mine shaft, which became their tomb. Obviously, they had been felled by deadly gas seep-age.

The mine entrance was sealed, and that was the end of the Company...and of the CORREO SEMANAL DEL DORADO. Unfortu-

nately, none of the correspondence sheds any light on the beginnings and operations of that Private Mail Carrier service.

This area today forms part of the CHINGAZA NATIONAL PARK, where bears and deer roam, and occasionally a condor can be spotted. The area abounds with the "frailejon", a wild plant that will not grow below an elevation of 3,400 metres; and it grows at the rate of only 1 centimetre per year!

The Stamp

The name of the printer is unknown, but it is speculated to be George Crowther himself. The work is crude in the extreme, as is self-evident. The design would appear to have been carved from a block of wood and each stamp printed individually. The red ink used was quite greasy, typical of many inks used in that period. A wide variety of papers were used, which suggests that any odd scrap at hand was utilized. There is no way of telling how many stamps there were to a sheet, that is IF they were printed in sheet form (highly doubtful).

(Incidentally, the initials EUC at the top of the design stand for ESTADOS UNIDOS DE COLOMBIA)

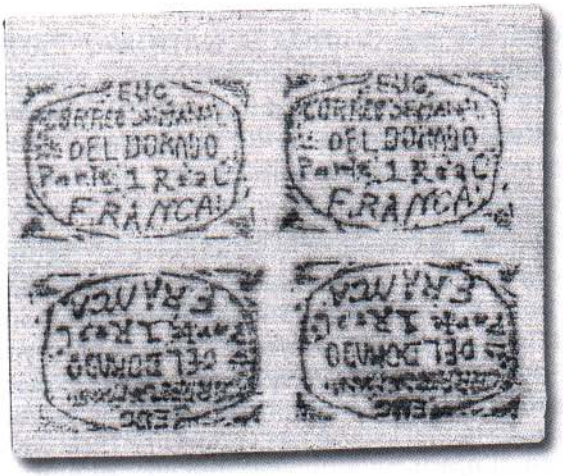
Laid Paper

Laid Paper

Leo Temprano's catalogue listing does mention a tête-bêche variety and he gives it a price multiple of three times that of a single stamp, which would seem to indicate that it is no great rarity. However, it is suggested that only three single stamps are known to exist apart from the "find". If that is really the case, then this tête-bêche block of four must be unique. If these stamps were hand printed, one by one, it is difficult to understand how this variety occurred, unless it was made intentionally. But for what purpose? The paucity of stamps now known to exist would suggest that the printer was catering to stamp collectors in his printing production.

All this correspondence from George Crowther to Enrique Urdaneta

Wove Paper



is datelined "Las Lagunas". There are three small lagoons relatively close to each other and the still visible man-made scars on the middle one would suggest that this is the LAGOON OF SIECHA, the Muiscas' Sacred Lake. But there is no sign of human habitation for miles around, any vestige of the mining camp having long since vanished. Even in Crowther's day, it is doubtful if there was a township of any sort, the nearest village being GUASCA. The isolation of the site lends weight to the theory that this "private mail carrier service" was simply a worker dispatched once a week to civilization for supplies, mail, etc. Again, the need for a "stamp" under such circumstances cries out for an explanation!

March 22, 1870. Stamp: greenish pelure paper

It should be noted that all the stamps on these folded letters are hand cancelled with the initial "G". Question: what does "G" stand for? And who would have penned it? Pen cancellations were common at that time, because not all official post offices had yet received a hand stamp cancellation device. But, the postal regulations required that those post offices lacking hand stamps were to write the whole name of their township across the stamp to cancel it. In any event, there is no evidence that these letters were handled by the Guasca Post Office. Speculation: seeing that the correspondence...and maybe even the 'provenance' of this "stamp"...originated from GEORGE CROWTHER, it is possibly his

penmanship.

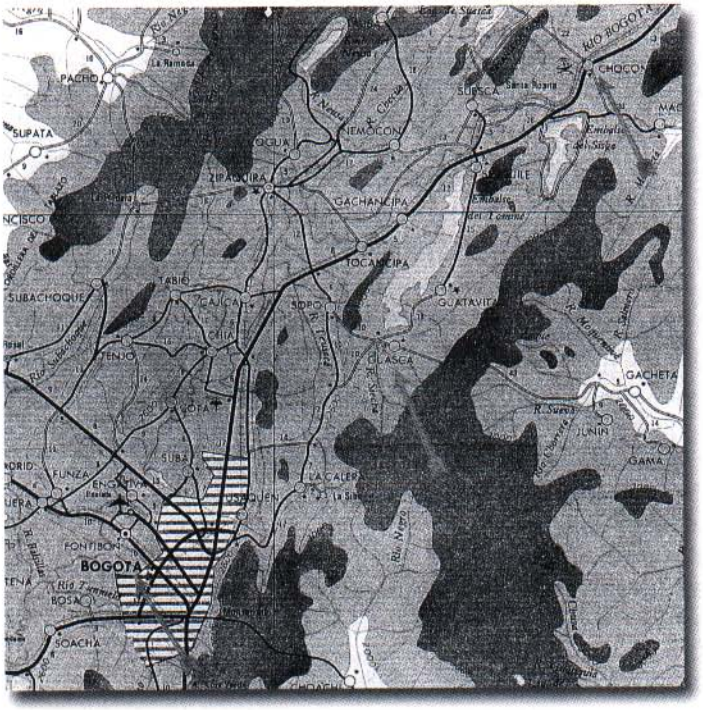
This collection of "correspondence" is by no means complete. But there was enough covers dated seven days apart to appreciate the fact that George Crowther wrote to his partner, Enrique Urdaneta, once a week to report on progress with the works at hand. Hence, it may be that, the "CORREO SEMANAL DEL DORADO" ("SEMANAL" meaning "WEEKLY") denoted the frequency of the "service". But exactly WHO operated that service! A Company "peon" perhaps?

Semptember 23, 1870. Stamp: wove paper.

So, this is the story of the CORREO SEMANAL DEL DORADO. The search for answers to the many questions goes on. A recognized Colombian specialist (who has a marvellous collection of Colombian Private Carrier mail) maintains that this whole affair is a philatelic hoax...admittedly perpetrated over a century ago, whereas other Colombian authorities are convinced that this service did exist and that the material shown here is authentic.

Editor's Footnote:

A very recent communication from the author adds the following: "I received word from an old friend in Bogotá with the amazing news that one tête-bêche block of four and one cover, datelined November 14, 1870, have just surfaced! The usual old story: an elderly gentleman passed away and this "find" was discovered in an old trunk in his attic...the cover was the last one that George Crowther wrote. He and his men perished on November 17th in the mine disaster."



Map showing the general area of the "El Dorado" district: territory of the vanished Muisca tribe. Unfortunately, the three lagoons are so small that they do not appear on the map. However, the River Siecha is shown: it flows past the township of Guasca, which was on the Choconta-Bogotá mail route.

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The Short Story Column

by "Raconteur"
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Any British schoolboy who doesn't know what happened in 1066 in Britain deserves a real good old-fashioned caning! I'll forgive **you**, my dear readers, if the significance of that date fails to ring a bell with you. **It was the last time that England was successfully invaded!** And by none other than William the Conqueror, from Normandy, in France. The English King, Harold, lost the fight at the Battle of Hastings when he caught an eye-full of arrow! *(Ouch!!! Damn it: you win!)* [We can't vouch that those were Harold's last words, but we suspect they were!]

In 1708, William built the oldest and central part of what is today known as the **Tower of London**. Over the years it was enlarged. The Tower is really more than one tower: it is a group of buildings. One was a fortress, another was a home for royalty, and another was a prison. It is located on the north bank of the Thames River in London. In all it covers eighteen acres, twelve of which are within the outer walls which were once surrounded by a wide, deep moat (long since dry and used as a parade ground today).

William's original structure is known as the White Tower: it is a castle in itself.

It houses the Chapel of St. John (an exceptionally fine example of Norman architecture), the record room, the Tudor room (with Henry VIII's armour), and a large collection of cannon and other armament. The White Tower was held in pledge by the citizens of London for the completion of the Magna Carta.

Over the centuries many illustrious prisoners were lodged there, including Elizabeth and Mary Tudor.

The royal palace was destroyed by Oliver Cromwell, and the site is now occupied by a large modern barracks. Nearby is the chapel of St. Peter, containing, among others, the graves of Anne Boleyn and Catherine Howard, wives of Henry VIII, who were beheaded a few yards away from the chapel.

The Beauchamp Tower is on an inner wall, and dates from the twelfth century. Among famous persons imprisoned there were Lady Jane Grey and Sir Walter Raleigh. The King's House, where Anne Boleyn lodged before her execution, is a private residence. The Wakefield Tower houses the Crown Jewels which are used on state occasions.

Visitors can view the crowns,

rings, sceptres and orbs, rods and spurs, swords and bracelets set with precious stones, and other regalia. These treasures are guarded by the famous Yeomen of the Guard, or "Beefeaters" as they are more commonly known. Their uniform is of the original Tudor design.

Then there are the Ravens, which have inhabited the green for several hundred years. Legend has it that if the ravens should disappear, so will the monarchy. The ravens are very well taken care of!

Every evening the Yeoman Warder locks the ancient doors of the Byward Tower, and the Tower is then considered closed until dawn. This custom has been unbroken for more

than 600 years ... a considerably longer time than when postage stamps first made their debut over 150 years ago. But just stop and consider how the postage stamp designers of today evoke the history and traditions of our past. These little pieces of paper which carry our mail also carry vibrant visual reminders of our ancestral origins, our flora and fauna, and countless other facets affecting our daily lives.

Quite honestly: I can't understand how anyone wanting to broaden their horizons of general knowledge would not want to get involved with PHILATELY. Stamps are a real Lilliputian encyclopaedia!

New on the Philatelic Bookshelf ...

CANADIAN MILITARY POSTAL MARKINGS. Authors: W.J. Bailey and E.R. Toop, Edited by W.J. Bailey, 2 vols. 1996. Available through Charles G. Firby Publications, 6695 Highland Road, Suite #107, Waterford, MI, 48327, USA. Price $150 CAD per set.

Many of our members have an interest in the markings used in the Military Posts of Canada (M.P.O.), and this new compilation will be essential to them. The authors have written many articles on the subject for this and other publications, and have published several books starting with a budget-priced paperback pamphlet in 1978.

The present books assemble all this information in one place – commencing with the Military District No. 4 Brigade Camp split circle of 1886 and continuing to the current markings of Canadian Forces Bases and UN Peacekeeping Forces. This should be the definitive listing of such markings for years to come.

The books are well produced by Don Bowen of Calgary, the layout is clear and easily readable, and the many illustrations of covers and personnel are generally well produced.

A simple index allows you to find particular markings easily. The numbering system is simple and logical. For example, the early markings in Chapter 1 have the prefix M1-. This is followed by a sequential number starting with 1 for the Aldershot Camp split circle, and ending with 14 for the Yukon Field Force orderly room marking.

Some difficulty may be found in Chapter 13, which lists the Military Post Office markings inside Canada during World War II. They range from M13-1 for M.P.O.101 at St. Thomas, Ontario (Page 234) to M13-494 for M.P.O.1317 at Calgary, Alberta (Page 332). Markings located after compilation of the initial list have been added to these – commencing with M13-495, a roller for M.P.O.101 (Page 332) and ending with M14-667, a MOTO for

M.P.O.1317 (Page 367). If you realize this, and check for later entries, you should have no difficulty.

Approximate rarity factors ranging from "A" for common items to "E", where ten or less examples have been reported, are shown. Markings known only from the Post Office Proof Books are allotted a "*" rating, while a "U" shows that the marking has been seen on other documents, but postal use is not known. These ratings give an indication of relative rarity when comparing like items, but cannot be used directly to assess a dollar value for any marking. There are too many variables – such as condition, whether on cover, piece or stamp, a dispatching or receiving mark, on front or back.

For anyone interested in or collecting the Military Postal Markings of Canada, these books will be indispensable.

William G. Robinson

New from Canada Post / Nouveautés de Postes Canada

Stampville – a CD-ROM Review

In time for the Christmas market, Canada Post has released a new CD-ROM about stamp collecting. It was developed in association with the Canadian Museum of Civilization and the Canadian Postal Museum. While primarily targeted to children, the information should prove useful to many beginning and medium advanced collectors. It certainly provides an opportunity for collectors and their progeny to share experiences.

Canada Post states that: "Users will learn about stamps, collecting and countless other subjects portrayed on stamps, such as engineering, crafts, Native studies, science, wildlife, ship wrecks and famous explorers. They can arrange stamps of all their favourite places and topics and they can even catalogue their own collection of Canadian stamps." All of this is true and the information appears concise and accurate. It is well done and to be recommended.

There is one caveat, however. Be certain you have sufficient computer memory on your home computer. The computer must be operating with Windows 95 or Mac 0S systems. There is a lot of fun to be had with this CD-ROM and much good information to boot. The disk has both English and French versions. Canada Post is distributing discount coupons that will reduce the $35 purchase price. The CD-ROM is available at all postal outlets.

J.J. Macdonald

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Collections Canada 97 – Canada Post Corporation

In November, Canada Post released the 25th in its Collection Canada series which began in 1972. This year, it features an embossed grizzly bear and gold stamping on the cover and spine and comes in an attractive dust cover. As the promo states, "It is a concise, rich and riveting collection of Canadian heritage..."celebrating our wildlife, sporting heroes, prominent individuals, organizations and events. It is available from postal outlets across the land and from the National Philatelic Centre.

Apart from a mint copy of each stamp issued in 1997, the book itself is meant to be a "coffee table" type volume for adults and not just beginning collectors. Those interested in geography, culture or the sociology of our country will find it well written and full of interesting details on the features shown on our stamps. The quality of the print and the presentation are first rate. The book itself lives up to all the previous volumes, if not the very best yet issued. The book contains about $28 worth of new stamps, out of a total cost of $45. Hence, the informative text is only about $17 of the price. You would be hard pressed to find a comparable volume in any good book store for that price.

Having said all this, what's in it for stamp collectors? A table at the back of the book gives details on printers, tagging, number issued and plate layouts. Unfortunately, it is silent on the one detail that most interests many serious collectors, namely the perforation values. There is one other substantial flaw in the otherwise wonderful volume – the mounts that hold the stamps on the appropriate pages are often placed close to the inside of the page and hence subject to bending when the volume is opened. Canada Post should consider moving all the mounts to the outside edges in the future.

J.J. Macdonald

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...Charles J.G. Verge, FRPSC
President/Président

Our Annual General Meeting was held in Calgary last September in conjunction with the 69th convention of The Royal Philatelic Society of Canada (RPSC).

At that meeting Directors were elected or re-elected to the Board. They are Richard K. Malott (Ottawa, ON), James E. Kraemer (Ottawa, ON), Cimon Morin (Aylmer, QC), Michael Madesker (Downsview, ON) and William G. Robinson (Vancouver, BC). Directors by right of office are Keith Spencer (Edmonton, AB) and Charles J. G. Verge (Ottawa, ON), President and First Vice-President respectively of The RPSC. The directors re-elected Mr. Verge as President for another term. Harry Sutherland, Secretary and Alan G. McKanna, Treasurer were re-appointed to their positions.

At the same meeting Ms. Angie Anders of Edmonton, AB was announced as Canada's 1997 Young Philatelist of the Year. There will be more about Ms. Anders in a subsequent report.

Toronto will host the North American Youth Stamp Exhibiting Championship next October. The Foundation will have a major presence and will support the Exhibition. Your donations, which are tax deductible, will help make the event memorable for young collectors. Please send them to The Foundation's office at P.O. Box 929, Station "Q", Toronto, ON, M4T 2P1.

Notre réunion générale annuelle fut tenue à Calgary en septembre dernier en même temps que la 69e Convention de La Société royale de philatélie du Canada (SRPC).

À cette réunion les directeurs suivants furent élus ou ré-élus: Richard K. Malott (Ottawa, ON), James E. Kraemer (Ottawa, ON), Cimon Morin (Aylmer, QC), Michael Madesker (Downsview, ON) et William G. Robinson (Vancouver, CB). Deux directeurs sont nommés d'office à cause de leurs postes de Président et de Premier Vice-président de La SRPC. Ce sont, respectivement, Keith R. Spencer (Edmonton, AB) et Charles J. G. Verge (Ottawa, ON). Les directeurs ont ré-élu M. Verge comme Président pour une autre année, Harry Sutherland, Secrétaire et Alan G. McKanna, Trésorier ont été réappointés à leur poste.

À la même réunion, on a annonçé le choix de Mlle Angie Anders d'Edmonton, AB comme la Jeune philatéliste canadienne de l'année pour 1997. Nous aurons une biographie de Mlle Anders dans une colonne subséquente.

Toronto sera l'hôte du Championnat nord-américan des jeunes champions d'expositions philatéliques en Octobre prochain. La Fondation sera une des organisations qui supporteront financièrement le Championnat. Vos dons, qui sont déductibles d'impôts, permettront de rendre l'occasion mémorable pour les jeunes. Veuillez les faire parvenir au bureau de la Fondation au CP 929, Succ. 'Q', Toronto, ON, M4T 2P1.

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Society Reports / Rapports de la société

Anti-Theft Committee

F. Warren Dickson

Three MacDonald-Cartier large die essays being forwarded by mail to a buyer in the United States are missing. The three pieces were sent by registered mail from Canada on July 30, 1997. When they had not been received by September 5, 1997, the theft was reported to the security of the Canadian and United States post offices. To date, the items have not bee located.

Undoubtedly, they are of such classical nature that eventually they will show up for sale. A detailed description is as follows:

MacDonald-Cartier Large Die Essays

1. 2 cent, carmine die sunk on card, with die number G)-50. Not issued OG-50 at lower right "Index Copy" in green. Only 3 known, value: $2,350.00
2. 10 cent, MacDonald-Cartier large die essay in maroon, die sunk on card with die number G)-52, lower left "Index Copy" in green. Value: $2,500.00. Possibly unique.
3. 20 cent, MacDonald-Cartier large die essay in olive green, die sunk on card with die number G-O-58 in pencil, not issued on lower left. "Index Copy" in green. Only two recorded, value: $2,500.00

NOTICE TO MEMBERS

A call for nominations of Directors of The Royal Philatelic Society of Canada is hereby set forth.

Eight (8) Directors will be elected at the annual meeting to be held in Hamilton, Ontario at ROYAL * 1998 * ROYALE on May 30, 1998.

"Nominations must be in writing and be made and seconded by members in good standing of the Corporation. The person nominated must consent to his or her nomination and such nomination to be valid must be received by the National Office or by the President by February 1, 1998. All nominations will be placed before the Nomination Committee who will prepare a slate of Directors of those nominated to ensure national representation based on levels of membership."

The proposed slate of Directors will be published in the March – April, 1998 issue of *The Canadian Philatelist* along with a short biography of each nominee.

AVIS AUX MEMBRES

Ceci est un appel pour la nomination de candidats aux postes de directeurs de La Société royale de philatélie du Canada.

Huit directeurs seront élus à l'assemblée annuelle qui se tiendra à Hamilton, Ontario à ROYAL * 1998 * ROYALE le 30 mai 1998.

"Les nominations doivent être présentées par écrit et faites et secondées par des membres en due forme de la corporation. La personne présentée doit être d'accord avec sa nomination. Les nominations doivent être reçues par le bureau national ou par le Président au plus tard le premier février. Toutes les nominations seront envoyées au comité de nomination qui établira une liste de candidats pour assurera une représentation nationale basée sur le ratio des membres."

La liste des candidats proposés sera publiée dans *Le Philatéliste canadien* de mars-avril, 1998. On y inclura une courte biographie de chaque candidat.

Membership Reports / Rapports des membres

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

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

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3610 McTavish, Apt. 24
Montréal, QC H3A 1Y2
lsirois@medphys.mgh.mcgill.ca
Canadian mint never hinged single stamps, errors & varieties

I-26624 Mr. Daniel Specht
Box 402
Duffield, AB T0E 0N0
Edible berries & fruit trees

I-26625 Mr. Asher Breatross
5050 Dufferin Street, Suite 127
Toronto, ON M3H 5T5
Israel, Canada, US

I-26628 Mr. Michael T. Brolly
286 Little Whaleneck Road
Merrick, NY 11566
USA
Canada, St. Pierre & Miquelon, US, France

I-26629 Mr. Peter N. Gregory
P.O. Box 972
Cardston, AB T0K 0K0

I-26630* Mr. Valdemar Zikmanis
Canada, USA, Gemany, Latvia

I-26631 Mr. Frank Daems
Julius De Geyterstraat 85 bus 4
B-2020 Antwerpen
BELGIUM
fradaems@glo.be
All unmounted mint/mint never hinged: Belgium, Luxembourg

I-26632 Mr. Peter Bulloch
2112 Mississauga Road
Mississauga, ON L5H 2K6
pbulloch@netsurf.net
Canada/BNA/US - VF - NH

I-26633* Mr. Andrew D. Parr
aparr@parrassoc.com

I-26634 Mr. Robert A. Spencer
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Postal history, North America, Scandinavia

I-26635 Mr. Pierre Lafond
3670, Papineau
Trois-Rivieres, QC G8Y 1N8
Canada, Colombie Britanique, Terre-Neuve, Nouvelle-Ecosse

I-26638* Mr. Leyland Stoddart
I-26640 Ms. Maureen Patrick
551 N.W. 80th Terrace
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I-2664 Mr. Leon Karanfil
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I-26648 Mr. Chris Harvie
10-5651 Lackner Crescent
Richmond, BC V7E 6E8
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Boyd, William E., Point Edward, ON (20264)
Hazlewood, James M., Agincourt, ON (22626)
Jones, Alfred D., Brockville, ON (21542)
McVey, E.B., Garson, ON (08756)
Petker, Bern, Tory Hill, ON (24774)
Stegenga, William, Olympia, WA (09250)

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Marchant, M. S. (26051) 91 Leuty Avenue , Toronto, ON, M4E 2R2
Mark, Frazer (14024) 34 Oxford Street , Woodstock, ON, N4S 6A3
McCoy, Raymond H. (22068) 5902 Parham Road , Franklim, TN, 37064, USA
Morton, Timothy D. (23990) 507-36 Herkimer Street , Hamilton, ON, L8P 2G3
Nesbitt, Bruce (25397) 76 John Street , Ottawa, ON, K1M 1N4
Oswald, Marcy H. (23212) 1091 Kingston Road #820, Scarborough, ON, M1N 4E5
Owens, Mary Ann (19792) 134 Berkezey Place #2R, Brooklyn, NY, 11217-3656, USA
Pageau, Gerard J.A. (22698) 505 Main West , Cookshire, QC, J0B 1M0
Rance, Derek C. (25960) 330 Bay Street, Suite 303 , Toronto, ON, M5H 2S8
Robinson, Campbell W. (19057) 12 - 251 East 11th Street , North Vancouver, BC, V7L 2G8
Robinson, Joseph J. (07310) 1420 20th Street N.W. , Calgary, AB, T2N 2L3
Rood, Lindsay (22947) 12300 Vonn Rd Apt# 6308, Largo, FL, 34644, USA
Simao, Luis (26386) 129 Park St. N. , Hamilton, ON, L8R 2N4
Schwartz, Jason (26531) 411 Catherine Street Unit B, Thunder Bay, ON, P7E 1K9
Strohl, Arnold (22482) 7906 Wavell Road , Côte St Luc, QC, H4W 1H5
Swainston, Daniel T.(23669) P.O. Box 70059 Bowness Postal Outlet, Calgary, AB, T3B 5K3
Vadeboncoeur, Guillaume (26544) 22 rue du Solstice , Hull, QC, J9A 3E2
Van Andel, Roger James (13335) 4209 Dauphine Drive , Austin, TX, 78727, USA
Wales, William (09450) 1804 Highway 2 R.R. 1, Milford Station, NS, B0N 1Y0
Woolsey, William J. (26297) General Delivery , Telkwa, BC, V0J 2X0
Young, Andrew C. (23115) Avenue de Gallatin 3 , Geneve, , 1203, SWITZERLAND

The Royal Philatelic Society of Canada

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Exchanges Wanted / Demandes d'échange

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

La Société royale de philatélie du Canada 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 philatélists désireux de trouver des correspondants pour échanger des timbres. Ainsi a-t-elle décidé, pour rendre service à ses membres, de publier les noms de personnes intéressées d'outremer, afin que ceux qui désirent établir des rapports avec eux puissent la faire. Nous vous signalons toutefois que nous ne savons rien des personnes qui nous demandent de publier leur nom, c'est pourquoi nous vous conseille d'être prudent en répondant à ces demandes d'échange.

Jan Szwej
jl Kühna 39
42-256 Olsztyn
woj Czestochowa
POLAND
"I have in exchange mint complete ets, s. sheets from Poland, Czechoslovakia, Bulgaria, Romania, Hungary, Cuba, Mongolia, North Korea, Vietnam, USSR and all new ex-USSR countries."

Sonia Sahuquillo
Rioja, 13
28042 Madrid
SPAIN
"Would like to exchange stamps."

Horuath Antal
1012 Budapest
Attilau, 129
HUNGARY
"Wishes to exchange used and FDC stamps."

Yuri Kaminski
Box 1172
Khabarousk - 38
RUSSIA
680038
"Wishes to exchange USSR & Russia for Canada."

ORAPEX '98
APRIL 25 - 26
Sponsored by the R.A. Stamp Club
R.A. Centre
2451 Riverside Drive
Ottawa, ON.
Information:
Paul Burega
16 Aldgate Crescent
Nepean, ON K2J 2G4
(613) 797-6259

NATIONAL POSTAGE STAMP SHOWS

Presented by the
Canadian Stamp Dealers' Association

Toronto
April 3-5, 1998
Queen Elizabeth Building

Montréal
April 17, 18, 19, 1998
Place Bonaventure

NATIONAL EXHIBITIONS / EXPOSTITIONS NATIONALES 1998

MARCH 20 - 22: EDMONTON SPRING NATIONAL AND REGIONAL SHOW '98, hosted by the Edmonton Stamp Club at the Conference Centre, Fantasyland Hotel, West Edmonton Mall, Edmonton. Open exhibits, bourse, and seminars. Information: Keith Spencer or John Powell, Box 399, Edmonton, AB T5J 2J6; phone (403) 437-1787 or (403) 435-7006.

APRIL 25 - 26: ORAPEX '98, Ottawa's National Stamp Exhibition, sponsored by the R.A. Stamp Club at the R.A. Centre, 2451 Riverside Drive, Ottawa. Extensive exhibition and 30 plus dealers' bourse. Information: Paul Burega, 16 Aldgate Crescent, Nepean, ON K2J 2G4; (613) 797-6259.

MAY 8 - 10: PIPEX '98, National show of the Northwest Federation of Stamp Clubs, hosted by the Okanagan Mainline Philatelic Association, at Best Western Vernon Lodge, 3914 - 32 Street, Vernon, BC V1T 5P1. Information: Jon Johnson, Box 923, Vernon, BC V1T 6M8; (250) 549-1838 or jcjohnso@junction.net

MAY 29 - 31: ROYAL *1998* ROYALE, annual convention, exhibition and dealers' bourse of The RPSC, sponsored by the Hamilton Philatelic Society, at the Hamilton Convention Centre, King Street West, Hamilton. Hours Friday 10 am to 6 pm, Saturday 9 am to 5 pm, sunday 10 am to 5 pm. Information: box 1998, LCD 1, Hamilton, ON L8L 8J5. E-mail: royal98@interlynx.net

Website: http://home.interlynx.net/~royal98

REGIONAL EVENTS / ÉVÉNEMENTS RÉGIONAUX

1998

FEBRUARY 7: Bramalea Stamp Club's Annual Exhibition and Bourse, at the Jim Archdekin Recreation Centre, 292 Conestoga Drive, Brampton, Ontario. Free admission. Open local exhibits (6-page frames). Judging/exhibiting seminar, American Association of Philatelic Exhibitors meeting. Information: Show Chairman, Box 92531, Brampton, ON L6W 4R1.

FEBRUARY 14: BURLPEX '98, 17th annual exhibition and dealer's bourse sponsored by the Burlington Stamp Club, at Appleby Mall, corner of Appleby Line and New St., Burlington. Hours: 9:30 am to 5:30 pm. Information: Frank Haller, 430 Belvenia Rd.; Burlington ON L7L 2G6.

FEBRUARY 21-22: VICTOPICAL, exhibition, postcard show and bourse sponsored by the Greater Victoria Philatelic Society, the Vancouver Island Philatelic Society, and the Victoria Junior Stamp Club. Admission is by donation; special show cancel; numerous door prizes. For information or Prospectus, please write Show Chairman, Box 5164, Station B, Victoria, BC, V8R 6N4. (250) 721-1940 (evenings).

FEBRUARY 21-28: NIPEX 98, exhibition and bourse sponsored by the Niagara Philatelic Society, at the Stamford Lions Club Hall, 3846 Portage Road, Niagara Falls, Ont. Hours: 10 am to 5 pm. Information: Ed Yonelinas, R R 1, Niagara-on-the-Lake, ON L0S 1J0. E-mail: mastamps@computan.on.ca

FEBRUARY 28: APEX 98, 18th annual exhibition and dealers' bourse of the Ajax

Stamp Club, at Annandale Golf and Curling Club, Church St. and Bayly St. W., Ajax, Ont. 10 am to 4 pm. Free admission, 15 dealers, exhibits, youth booth, snack bar, door prizes. Information: Sam Calnek, Box 107, Ajax ON L1S 3C2; (905) 831-9886.

MARCH 14: OAKPEX '98, annual exhibition and bourse sponsored by the Oakville Stamp Club, at St. Paul's United Church (east of the 4th Line on Rebecca Street, Oakville). Hours: 10 am to 5 pm. Information: Jim Stanley, Box 69643, Oakville, ON L6J 7R4.

MARCH 21: OXPEX '98 and OTPEX '98 (Oxford Philatelic Society Annual Exhibition Topical Exhibition), at John Knox Christian School, 800 Juliana Drive, Woodstock, Ont. (off Hwy. 59 near Hwy 401). 10 am to 5 pm. Show features 160 frames of competitive exhibits, judging critique, prize draws, youth booth, Canada Post counter, displays and refreshments. Information: Gib Stephens, Box 20113, Woodstock, ON N4S 8X8.

MARCH 28-29: North Toronto Stamp Club's 55th annual exhibition and bourse at the Civic Garden Centre, Edwards Gardens, 777 Lawrence Ave. E. at Leslie St., North York. 10 am to 6 pm Sat.; 10 am to 5 pm Sun. Free parking, free admission, wheelchair access, competitive exhibits, 22 dealers, refreshments. Information: Ben Marier, (416) 492-9311.

INTERNATIONAL EXHIBITIONS / EXPOSITIONS INTERNATIONALE

1998

MAY 13 - 21: ISRAEL '98, International Show held under FIP patronage in Tel Aviv, Israel. Information from the Commissioner: Mr. Wm. G. Robinson, 5830 Cartier St., Vancouver, BC V6M 3A7.

JUNE 18 - 21: JUVALUX '98, an FIP Sponsored Youth and Postal History show to be held in Luxembourg. Commissioner: Père Jean-Claude Lafleur, 4900 rue St-Félix, St-Augustin, QC G3A 1X3.

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

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

1999

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

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

JULY 2 - 11: PHILEXFRANCE 99, World Exhibition with FIP patronage, to be held in Paris, France. Commissioner: Dr. J.J. Danielski, 71 Gennela Sq., Scarborough, ON M1B 5M7; (416) 283-2047.

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

2000

MAY 22 - 28: THE STAMP SHOW 2000, a celebration of philately for the millennium, with FIP patronage, to be held at Earls Court in London. Commissioner: Mr. Clifford R. Guile, 342 St. Clair Ave. E., Toronto, ON M4T 1P4; (416) 487-8035.

Chapter Meetings/Réunions des clubs membres

AJAX PHILATELIC SOCIETY

RPSC Chapter 163 meets 2nd and 4th Wednesday of each month, September to June at Ajax Public Library, 65 Harwood Ave. S., from 6pm to 9pm. All new members and visitors are welcome. Address: PO Box 107, Ajax, ON L1S 3C3.

AMICALE des PHILATÉLISTES de l'OUTAOUAIS

L'APO, chapitre 190 de la SRPC, se réunit tous les jeudi de début septembre à fin avril, de 18h30 à 21h00. Les réunions ont lieu au Centre Communautaire Tétreau Parc Moussette, Boul. Brunet, Hull. Les visiteurs et les nouvraux membres seront toujours les bienvenus. Visitors and new members are welcome. Information: P. Sarault, 82 rue Kent, Hull QC J8X 3K4.

CLUB PHILATÉLIQUE ARGENTEUIL STAMP CLUB

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

BARRIE DISTRICT STAMP CLUB

RPSC Chapter 73 meets second Wednesday of each month except July and August at 7:30 pm. at Parkview Centre, 189 Blake St., Barrie. Table Auction at every meeting. Visitors welcome. Contact: Sec.-Treas. Lew Metzger, Box 1113, Barrie ON L4M 5E2.

BRAMALEA STAMP CLUB

RPSC Chapter 144 meets 1st Sunday October to June inclusive (1:30-4:00 pm) and 3rd Tuesday year round (7:30-9:30 pm) at Terry Miller Recreation Complex, Meeting Room 2, Williams Parkway (between Dixie Rd. and Bramalea Rd.) Bramalea, Ont. Visitors welcome. Correspondence: Bramalea Stamp Club, Box 92531, Bramalea ON L6W 4R1.

BRANTFORD STAMP CLUB

RPSC Chapter 1 meets on the 1st and 3rd Tuesdays of the month, September to May, and the first Tuesday in June, at the Woodman Community Centre, 491 Grey St., Brantford, Ont. Doors open at 7 pm, short business meeting at 8 pm, followed by a program. Circuit books, 5 dealers. Visitors welcome. Information: Secretary, Box 25003, 119 Colborne St. W., Brantford ON N3T 6K5; (519) 753-9425

BRITISH COLUMBIA PHILATELIC SOCIETY

The British Columbia Philatelic Society meets every Wednesday, September to June at 7:30 pm in the Amenity Room, Grosvenor Building, 1040 W. Georgia St. Information: B.C.P.S., 2955 West 38th Avenue, Vancouver BC V6N 2X2.

CALGARY PHILATELIC SOCIETY

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

CANADIAN AEROPHILATELIC SOCIETY

RPSC Chapter 187, The Canadian Aerophilatelic Society (CAS) welcomes anyone interested in aerophilately or astrophilately, worldwide. Yearly membership $15. No formal meetings; several members meet at the RA Stamp Club meetings at the RA Centre, 2451 Riverside Dr., Ottawa, Ont. 7:30 pm every Monday except June, July and August. Information: Ron Miyanishi, 124 Gamble Ave., Toronto ON M4J 2P3.

CANADIAN ASSOCIATION FOR ISRAEL PHILATELY (CAFIP)

Chapter 76, Jan Bart Judaica Study Group, meets 2nd Wednesday of each month (except July and August), 7:30 pm, at Shaare Shomayim Synagogue, 470 Glencairn Ave., Toronto. Contact: Joseph Berkovits, York Toronto P.O. Box 33, 260 Adelaide St. E., Toronto ON ; (416) 635-1749.

COLBORNE STAMP CLUB

Chapter 205 meets on the second and fourth Tuesday September to May inclusive at 7 pm, in the Drop-in Centre, Victoria Square, Colborne, Ont. All stamp collectors welcome. Information: Mary Jackson, Box 33, Castleton, Ont. K0K 1M0, phone (905) 344-7882.

CREDIT VALLEY PHILATELIC SOCIETY - MISSISSAUGA -

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

DELTA STAMP CLUB

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

EAST TORONTO STAMP CLUB

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

EDMONTON STAMP CLUB

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

ESSEX COUNTY STAMP CLUB (WINDSOR)

R.P.S.C. Chapter 154 meets on the 2nd and 4th Wednesday of the month (4th Wednesday in July and August) at the Teutonia Club, 55 Edinborough, Windsor, Ont. Meetings start at 7 pm, program at 8 pm. Lots of parking; all visitors are welcome. Information: Essex Count Stamp Club, 2975 Clemenceau Blvd., Windsor ON N8T 2R2; (519) 974-2390.

ETOBICOKE PHILATELIC SOCIETY

R.P.S.C. Chapter 78 meets at Fairfield Centre, 80 Lothian Way, Etobicoke at 7:30 pm, 1st Wednesday of every month except July and August. Visitors always welcome. Information: C.E. Allen, 5 Aintree Court, Etobicoke ON M8W 2E1. Phone 251-3425.

FENELON STAMP CLUB

R.P.S.C. Chapter 176 meets 2nd Monday of each month in the Fenelon Falls Community Hall behind the Village Office on Market Street at 7:30 pm. Visitors always welcome. Information from the President: Margaret Allen, R R 1, Fenelon Falls, ON K0M 1N0.

GREATER VICTORIA PHILATELIC SOCIETY

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

HAMILTON PHILATELIC SOCIETY

R.P.S.C. Chapter 51 meets at 6 pm on 2nd, 4th and 5th Mondays, Sept. to June except holidays, and 2nd Mondays July and August, at Bishop Ryan Secondary School, Quigley Road and Albert Street, in east-end Hamilton. 10 dealers, extensive sales circuit, youth booth, library. Auctions at each meeting, slide shows and speakers periodically. Nominal door fee. Free coffee. Visitors and juniors welcome. Information: H.P.S., Box 60510, 673 Upper James St., Hamilton ON L9C 7N7.

KAWARTHA PHILATELIC SOCIETY

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

KELOWNA & DISTRICT STAMP CLUB

Chapter 90 meets monthly, 2nd Wednesday, September to June from 7 to 10 pm at Dr. Knox Middle School Cafeteria, 1555 Burtch Ave. Business meeting at 8 pm followed by an auction. Visitors welcome. Information: Box 1185, Kelowna, BC V1Y 7P8; (604) 765-6174.

KENT COUNTY STAMP CLUB (CHATHAM, ON)

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

KINGSTON STAMP CLUB

Chapter 49 meets 2nd Monday, Sept.-May and 4th Monday, Sept.-Nov. and Jan.-Apr., at 8 pm, St. Thomas Anglican Church Hall, 130 Lakeview Ave. at Cranbrook (one block west of Days Rd. and one block north of Front Rd. in Kingston Township. Free parking, visitors are always welcome. Information: President, Kingston Stamp Club, 1960 Hwy. 2 East, Kingston ON K7L 4V1; (613) 546-3332.

KITCHENER-WATERLOO PHILATELIC SOCIETY

Chapter 13 meets 2nd Thursday every month (except July and August) at Rink in the Park, Seagram Drive, Waterloo. Visitors welcome. Information: Betty J. Martin, P.O. Box 43007, Eastwood Square Post Office, Kitchener ON N2H 6S9; 578-7782.

LAKEHEAD STAMP CLUB

Chapter 33 meets 2nd Wednesday and last Friday each

month, September to June at the Herb Carroll Centre, 1100 Lincoln St., Thunder Bay ON. Meetings start at 8:00; visitors welcome. Sec.: D. Lein, 232 Dease St., Thunder Bay ON P7C 2H8.

LAKESHORE STAMP CLUB

Chapter 84 meets at Karnak Hall, 3350 Boulevard des Sources, Dollard des Ormeaux, QC on the 2nd and 4th Mondays, September to June at 7:30 pm. Information: David Nickson, President, P.O. Box 1, Pointe Claire, PQ H9R 4N5.

MILTON STAMP CLUB

Chapter 180 meets last Monday of each month (except December), from 7:00 pm at Hugh Foster Hall (next to Town Hall) in Milton, Ont. Silent auction every meeting. For information: Milton Stamp Club, 425 Valleyview Cres., Milton ON L9T 3K9; Phone (905) 878-1533 or (905) 878-9076.

MUSKOKA STAMP CLUB

For information, please contact the president: Tom Anderson, 7 Sadler Drive, Bracebridge, ON P1L 1K4.

NORTH BAY & DISTRICT STAMP CLUB

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

NORTH SHORE STAMP CLUB

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

NORTH YORK PHILATELIC SOCIETY

Chapter 21 meets 1st and 3rd Wednesdays of each month (except July and August) at 7 pm in the lounge of Centennial Arena, north side of Finch Ave. W., west of Bathurst. Sales circuit, auctions, speakers, lectures. Visitors welcome. Information: John DeGroot, Box 62, Willowdale ON M2N 5S7; (416) 493-1008.

NOVA SCOTIA STAMP CLUB

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

OAKVILLE STAMP CLUB

Chapter 135 meets 2nd and 4th Tuesdays of each month at 7pm in the Cafeteria, St. Thomas Aquinas Secondary School (formerly Perdue High School), 124 Margaret Drive (Lakeshore West/Dorval Drive), Oakville. Visitors welcome. Information: Oakville Stamp Club, Box 69643, Oakville ON L6J 7R4.

OTTAWA PHILATELIC SOCIETY

Chapter 16 meets every Thursday at 7:30 pm, September through May, at the Hintonburg Community Centre, 1064 Wellington St., Ottawa ON. Visitors are always welcome. Information: Pres. Mitch Gosselin, (819) 682-6277; P.O. Box 65085, Merivale Postal Outlet, Nepean, ON K2G 5Y3.

OXFORD PHILATELIC SOCIETY

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

PENTICTON AND DISTRICT STAMP CLUB

Chapter 127 meets the first Sunday of each month at 2 pm at the United Church Hall, 696 Main St., Penticton, B.C. A short business meeting is followed by circuit books every month and four slide shows in the year. Visitors always welcome. Information: K. Giessen, 217 Redwing Pl., Penticton BC V2A 8K6; phone (250) 493-0188.

R.A. STAMP CLUB - OTTAWA

Chapter 41 meets every Monday (except June, July and August) at 7:30 pm at the R.A. Centre, 2451 Riverside Dr., Ottawa ON. K1H 7X7. Visitors welcome. Information: (613) 733-5100.

REGINA PHILATELIC CLUB

Chapter 10 meets 1st and 3rd Wednesdays of each month, September through May, from 7 -10 pm at Sheldon-Williams Collegiate Library, 2601 Coronation St., Regina. Visitors are always welcome. Information: Box 1891, Regina SK S4P 3E1.

ROYAL CITY STAMP CLUB

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

SAINT JOHN STAMP CLUB

Meets 2nd and 4th Wednesdays (Except July and August), 7 pm at the Saint John High School, Canterbury St., Saint John, NB. Visitors and new members welcome. Information: Saint John Stamp Club, 185 Princess Street, Saint John NB E2L 1K8.

ST. JOHN'S PHILATELIC SOCIETY

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

SASKATOON STAMP CLUB

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

SOUTH CARIBOO COIN AND STAMP CLUB B 100 MILE HOUSE, B.C. B

The club meets 3rd Mondays of each month at the 100 Mile House Elementary School Library. For information, contact Horst Stock, 395-4497.

SUDBURY STAMP CLUB

Meets 2nd Tuesday of each month, September to June, in Room 126, LaSalle Secondary School at 7:30 pm. Meetings include slide shows, presentations, and an auction. New members are welcome. Information: David Squarzolo, Box 2063, Stn. A, Sudbury ON P3A 1L8; (705) 566-0378.

TORONTO HARMONIE STAMP CLUB

Chapter 94 meets third Thursdays each month, 7:30 pm, Victoria Park Secondary School, Library Seminar Room, 15 Wallingford Road, Don Mills ON. Information: J. Doehler (416) 438-4862, or P. Mustard (416) 690-9711.

UNION PHILATÉLIQUE de MONTREAL

Chapter 3 meets 2nd and 4th Tuesdays, September to June at 7 pm, 7110 8th Ave., Montreal (St-Michel) PQ. Visitors always welcome. Information: 9170 Millen St., Montreal PQ H2M 1W7.

WEST TORONTO STAMP CLUB

Chapter 14 meets second and fourth Tuesdays (except July and August), 7:30 pm at Fairfield Seniors' Centre, 80 Lothian Ave., Etobicoke. Visitors always welcome. Information: 331 Rathburn Rd., Islington ON M9B 2L9.

WINNIPEG PHILATELIC SOCIETY

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

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EXCHANGES

HIGH VALUE EXCHANGE CLUB has openings for new members. Large S.A.S.E. for details. Jean-Guy Breault, 69 Forest, C.P. 68, St-Jacques, Quebec J0K 2R0.

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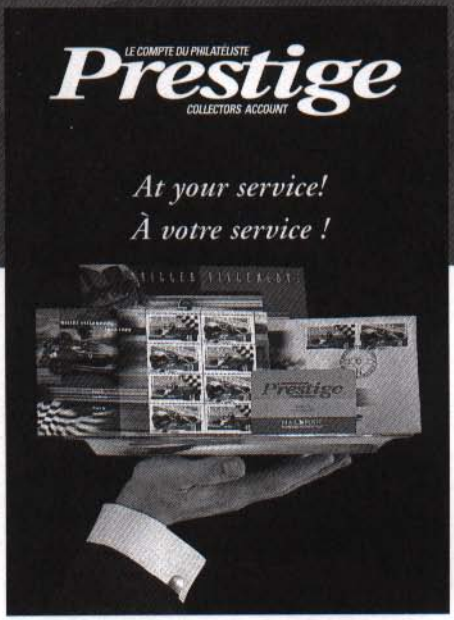

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OUR VENDORS SPEAK

19 March 1997

Mr. W. H. P. Maresch
R. Maresch & Son
330 Bay Street, Suite 703
Toronto, Ontario
M5H 2S8

Dear Bill,

The results are now in on your sale of my collection of used Canadian stamps and covers, and I must take the opportunity to share my reaction with you and your colleagues at R. Maresch & Son.

When I approached you last fall to discuss the possible disposition of my collection, I did so with some trepidation. Guided by your advice over many years, and with key acquisitions from your sales, I knew I had formed a collection of quality and some philatelic value. I was none the less concerned about the timing, how the material would be catalogued, and whether I would have any input. I need not have worried.

From the time of my initial consultation with you and Rick Sheryer, my concerns received your fullest attention. As your work progressed, you kept me fully informed and gave me several opportunities to be involved. The collection could have been spread among several auctions, but instead you recommended a single sale that would highlight my approach, in a catalogue that departed from your normal format. In terms of lotting, layout, and colour illustration, it set new standards, in my opinion. By sale time I was completely satisfied that everything had been done to present the best possible sale, from my perspective and that of the bidders you hoped to attract.

The results, which far exceeded my expectation, confirmed that my selection of R. Maresch & Son had been the right choice. I would not hesitate to direct prospective clients to your firm.

Thank you.

Yours sincerely.

David Roberts

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