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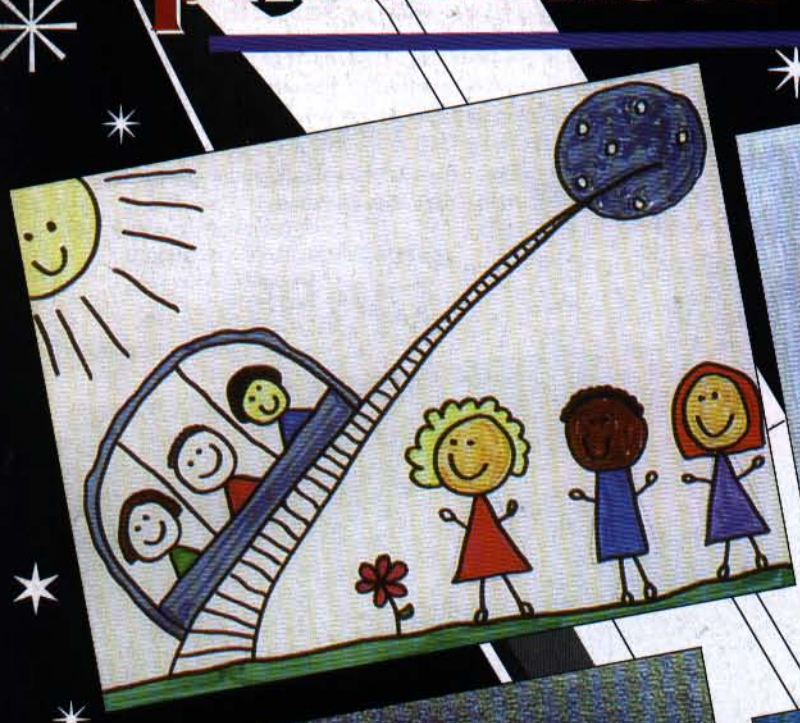

Stampin' the Future!

Journal of The ROYAL PHILATELIC SOCIETY OF CANADA
Revue de La SOCIÉTÉ ROYALE DE PHILATÉLIE DU CANADA
VOL. 50 • NO. 5
SEPTEMBER/OCTOBER 1999 SEPTEMBRE-OCTOBRE

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Le philatéliste canadien

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COVER:

In honour of Stamp Collecting Month, the winning designs of the "Stampin' the Future" contest are shown. See page 215 for details. The entries from all 30 finalists are shown together. This collage illustrates how the future is viewed by the young.

Congratulations to all finalists. Remember that your reward is in participating and enjoying the challenge more so than in winning.

The "win" is just a bonus!

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President's Page / La page du président

by/par Keith Spencer

I write these notes from the shores of Jasper's beautiful Lake Edith. Sir Arthur Conan Doyle wrote a 1923 story about Jasper. It told of a New York man who reached heaven and as he passed the gate, Peter said, "I'm sure you will like it." A Pittsburgh man followed and Peter said, "It will be a very great change for you." Finally, there came a man from Jasper Park. "I'm afraid," said Peter, "that you will be disappointed." It's that sort of a day here. Glorious.

The fall season is just around the corner. The Jasper bears contemplate hibernation while stamp collectors seem quite the opposite, finding new energies to pursue their colourful paper bits, musty envelopes and postcards with ancient "wish you were here" messages.

Canada Post has managed to jump-start the season by producing a millennium package, which includes 64 stamps found only in a souvenir book. Philatelic mathematicians have been quick to calculate that the total cost of the book and stamps is about double face and a hue and cry has gone up from a number of quarters.

The Scott catalogue people, following the protestations of the American Philatelic Society suggest that they may not list these stamps. This I find a bit humorous; "black blots" have yet to impact the purchase by collectors of the range of stamps singled out for discriminatory attention by those who would feel that it is their position to tell the rest of us not only what to collect, but how to collect it. Truly, there is not much difference between Tanna Tuva of the 1920s Ajaman & Manama of the 60s and Canada and the United States of the 90s. Postal administrators seem less often than ever to issue stamps for postal purposes. They are all in the souvenir business. But until our government decrees that we all must purchase each new emission, I'll not worry too much. I'll just simply carry on buying those items I like and ignoring the balance. To do otherwise would be foolish, I believe.

I am not a regular reader of stamp publication editorial and letters-to-the-editor columns, but lately I have become aware of how negative and complaining much of this writing is. Too many, too few, too expensive, too cheap. Bad designs, poor subject matter. Glue that doesn't stick and then won't unstick. Too many commemoratives, too few definitives – or was it the reverse?

Can stamp collectors really be such an unhappy lot? I think that if I was searching for a hobby and read a stamp paper letters-to-the-editor column, I'd be turned right off and seek out some alternative. Something pleasant like used yo-yo strings – or maybe cigarette package silver paper – huge round balls of it.

Je vous écris depuis les rives du magnifique lac edith de Jasper. Voici ce que Sir Arthur Conan Doyle a écrit en 1923 au sujet de Jasper. Un New Yorkais arrive aux portes du paradis et Saint Pierre lui dit: "Je suis sûr que ça vous plaira." Arrive ensuite un habitant de Pittsburgh, et Saint Pierre de lui dire: "Ce sera pour vous un changement merveilleux." Arrive finalement un habitant du parc de Jasper. "J'ai bien peur, dit Saint Pierre, que vous serez déçu." Ceci donne tout à fait le ton. Le temps y est superbe.

Et voici l'automne qui arrive à petits pas. Les ours de Jasper rêvent de leur hibernation alors que les philatélistes se découvrent une nouvelle énergie en rassemblant leurs morceaux de papier colorés, leurs enveloppes à odeur de moisi et leurs cartes postales où de chanceux vacanciers leur exprimaient leur regret de ne pas les voir avec eux.

Postes Canada devance les événements en ouvrant la saison avec une série de 64 timbres du millénaire, présentés dans un album souvenir. Les philatélistes matheux ont eu tôt fait de calculer que le coût total de l'album et des timbres était d'environ le double de la valeur faciale et la clameur publique s'est élevée un peu partout.

Suite aux protestations de l'American Philatelic Society, les éditeurs des catalogues Scott laissent entendre qu'ils ne répertorieront peut-être pas ces timbres. Je trouve un peu bizarre que quiconque puisse nous dire quoi collectionner, mais aussi comment. En fait, il n'y a pas grande différence entre les émissions de Tannou Touva des années 20, de l'Ajman et Manama des années 60 et du Canada et des Etats Unis des années 90. Les administrateurs postaux semblent moins que jamais émettre des timbres pour des raisons postales. Ils font tous du commerce "souvenir". Mais je refuse de m'en inquiéter tant que le gouvernement ne nous obligera pas à acheter chaque nouvelle émission. Je continuerai à acheter ce que j'aime et à laisser de côté le reste. Il serait insensé de faire autrement.

Je ne lis pas régulièrement les éditoriaux ni les lettres à la rédaction des revues philatéliques, mais je me rends compte à quel point ces articles sont négatifs. Trop, pas assez, trop cher, pas assez cher. Mauvais dessins, thèmes dépourvus d'intérêt. Gommage qui ne colle pas ou qui ne se décolle plus. Trop de timbres commémoratifs, trop peu de définitifs – ou était-ce le contraire?

Les collectionneurs sont ils si tristes? Si je me cherchais un passe temps et lisais la rubrique des lettres à la rédaction d'un magazine philatélique, je me sentirais rebuté et chercherais autre chose. Quelque chose d'amusant comme les ficelles de yoyo usées ou encore les papiers métallisés des paquets de cigarettes.

Les collectionneurs de timbres sont ils vraiment d'éternels insatisfaits grincheux? Allons bon, la philatélie est censée être

Are stamp collectors really such a whiney and cranky lot? Come on – this is supposed to be a pleasant pastime, not some sort of painful pursuit! It's a HOBBY! FUN!

Collect what you want and stick 'em in your book however you want. Don't let Canada Post tell you what to buy – or the judges of The Royal what to do with them. Leave that for the two per cent of philatelic 'phanatics' who are chasing after some blue ribbon at a country fair somewhere.

Do your own thing. Don't sweat the small stuff. Don't worry, be happy. Or, if you're into the metaphysical, how 'bout this line from Uncle Walt's Lion King "Hakuna Matata!"

From heaven,
Keith Spencer

un passe temps agréable, pas une activité douloureuse! C'est un HOBBY! C'est DIVERTISSANT!

Collectionnez les timbres que vous aimez et placez les dans vos albums de la façon qui vous plaît. Ne laissez pas Postes Canada vous dicter ce qu'il faut acheter, et ne laissez pas les juges de la Société royale vous dire qu'en faire. Laissez cela aux deux pourcent de fanatiques qui courent après les rubans bleus à la foire du village.

Faites ce qui vous plaît, ne vous encombrez pas de ce qui n'en vaut pas la peine. Ne vous inquiétez pas et soyez heureux, ou, comme dirait Oncle Walt dans le Roi Lion, "Hakuna Matata!"

Depuis le paradis,
Keith Spencer

Letters

Dear Editor,

With respect to Mr. C.W Turner's letter, published in the May/June issue of our journal; if said gentleman would refer to the introduction of either Scott or Gibbons catalogues he would find the answers to the several questions he raises. This basic stamp information is invaluable to learning about papers, watermarks, printing processes, separation, etc.

My Club (Lakeshore Stamp Club Inc., Pointe-Claire, Québec) puts on an annual Seminar – EXPEX (Experience in Philatelic Exhibiting) for the benefit of those members who are interested in learning the ins and outs of putting together a stamp exhibit, and the one-day lecture always opens with reference to the Scott catalogue introduction. It is always a wonder how many attendees had never known of this opening section of the catalogue, even though they had possessed one for years. It is a "must" reading for any budding philatelist.

Yours sincerely,
Raymond W. Ireson

Dear Editor,
Re: Canada's Millennium Issue

Since this issue was first announced, there have been many comments and doubtless there will be many more regarding this controversial issue. I modestly send you mine, which will not, however, comment on the issue itself but on a proposal that follow its implications.

Some years ago Canada Post located its Philatelic Sales branch in Antigonish, NS, and I have no quarrel with this. It is a good example of federalism at work; an example of decentralization, and a fine idea in this age of electronic communication. But, with all respect to the people of Nova Scotia, I submit that the branch needs to be moved. It is the turn of another of Canada's less-wealthy provinces to have its economy aided by relocation. I submit that the branch should now be located in Manitoba.

Alf Brooks,
Winnipeg, MB

SNOWBIRD COVERS AVAILABLE

Editor's note: *The following information may be of interest to many collectors with a passion for airplanes or to those who enjoy visiting air shows. It is also timely, conisdering the Septermber 3 issue showing the RCAF planes.*

The Canadian Aerophilatelic Society (CAS) has for sale sets of 10 envelopes, autographed and flown, by the Snowbirds at the Ottawa International Air Show on May 30, 1999.

There are nine covers individually autographed and flown at $45 per set, and one envelope autographed by all of the pilots at $15. Also as part of the complete set is one 1999 Snowbird brochure, a statement from the Squadron Logistics officer, and a few Ottawa newspaper clippings concerning the Snowbirds. The total cost is $60 Canadian. There were 25 sets of 10 covers prepared and flown for this flight.

Please note that the Snowbirds are to receive a new aircraft, the British Hawk 100 series, in 2000. Payment for items retained should be made payable to the Canadian Aerophilatelic Society and sent to: Major R.K. Malott, President, Canadian Aerophilatelic Society, 16 Harwick Crescent, Nepean, ON, K2H 6R1. There are hopes to have a few sets flown at the Toronto International Air Show with the new stamps which were released on September 4, 1999.

Editorial

by Bill Pekonen

October is Stamp Collecting Month.

Several interesting articles appear in this issue. The most important illustrations, from the future stamp collecting viewpoint, are the submissions by youngsters to the stamp design contest. Congratulations to the 30 finalists... and also to all participants. Perhaps these budding artists will discover the many joys attached to this particular hobby, with the result that stamp collecting interests will continue to grow far beyond the boundaries of today.

The stamp collecting cycle is the subject of another article which summarizes some of the plights being felt by the stamp collectors in general.

Some pundits believe stamp collecting will diminish because of the computer and e-mail. The same predictions were made when the telegraph network was expanded in the late 19th century. (One reference can be found about an eight mile electrical telegraph line constructed in Hammersmith, England in 1834 and how telegraph poles were erected in France about 1794.) You rarely see telegrams today. As the telephone network expanded and long distance calls became cheaper through competition, more people resorted to verbal messages instead of written letters. Teletype machines were in popular use amongst businesses 50-60 years ago. They were making inroads into commercial applications during the 1960s. Then came the fax machine in the 1980s – practically eliminating the teletype industry. The fax machine is now found in many homes as a means of quick efficient and more private means of communications. Many post offices even offer a fax machine service. The fax machine is even incorporated into computers to transmit documents. During all these innovations, the post office mail volume continued to grow by leaps and bounds.

Then came e-mail. It provides an almost instantaneous means of communications, but there are some severe privacy problems. Encryption is one solution, but that, too, has its problems. Most encryption programs have been broken because the same computer that made such message transmissions possible, can also be used by others to find out what you have to say. One commentator related how 14,000 computers were privately linked together by a band of hackers. They used their combined efforts to break a code which the U.S. military was incapable of solving.

Yes, it is true that some post offices have suffered revenue losses because of e-mail. Some estimate that about 15 per cent of the messages that were previously sent by mail are now sent by e-mail.

One hundred and fifty years ago, the Pony Express and other similar companies operated in the wild, wild west because the post office was not set up to meet the demands of the public. Today, the fax machines, private courier systems and e-mail are meeting demands which most post offices simply cannot supply in the way the public wants it done. If all those messages were letters, the post office would simply collapse with an overload of volume. Have you ever seen how a post office handles mail? What happens when the automatic machines break down? Think about it.

This is the message for Stamp Collecting Month. Stamp collecting is not dying, nor will it die. Only the ways in which mail delivery services are paid and receipts are issued have changed... and those methods will continue to change as post offices seek different methods to improve efficiencies while processing the mail. Stamp collecting has also changed to reflect changes in the other postal systems around the world. The postal service is still the only worldwide service which can deliver messages to almost every nook and cranny around the globe.

As we approach the end of the 20th century, we need some thoughtful articles about the progress of philately since the end of the 19th century. We need to explore what happened and try to foresee where the world is heading in the 21st century. From a collecting standpoint, here is a thought starter. One hundred years ago, the goal was to collect used stamps from every country in the world. Over the years, people started collecting mint stamps. Many began buying full sheets, expecting to cash in after years went by – only to find out that there was no market for them. The proliferation of issued stamps escalated far beyond comprehension. If you wanted to own only one mint copy of every stamp issued around the world today, by one estimate you would need to invest more than $7,500 every year – if you can find all of the stamps.

How could you find a used copy of about 14,000 stamps issued every year around the world? It is difficult enough to find a used copy of every stamp issued by Canada over the last 10 years. Today, it is economically difficult to collect all the possible varieties from even one country And even if you could, how would you store them?

The challenge is "what should one collect?" What every stamp collector needs is the knowledge to know what to look for or how to build a personal collection which will be rewarding in different ways. That is the purpose of publications such as this.

We are seeking articles about collecting different kinds of stamps and about mail processing stories from around the world. Share your pleasures with other readers and let us all enjoy them with you.

Finally, in the last issue, we issued a challenge for collectors to submit a list of all the post offices in the new Nunavut Territory. We neglected to also recognize that the North West Territories had also changed. Remember your history? Except for Upper and Lower Canada (which were much smaller than the provinces of Ontario and Quebec as we know them today) and the Maritimes, most of the rest of the country was known by different names at different times. In 1869, it was all Northwest Territory except for British Columbia. Other changes took place over the years. The rest of the challenge is who will be the first to send in a list of all the post offices now included in the Northwest Territories?

P.S. The writer's guidelines are not yet ready. Next time!

ONE THAT GOT AWAY...

By Raymond Ireson

In the Queen's version of the stamp, her effigy was on the right-hand side and she was depicted facing to the left.

Fishermen's tales are legendary. Everyone knows that. The size of the fish that got away is not even limited to the reach of the angler's arm-span reach... it was the grandaddy of them all! Yeh!

Well, I'm no fisherman – just a philatelist. But I would like to tell you about how a stamp "got away" from me once. And I still cry about it, now and then (like now; as I'm writing this account of the incident).

During my 42 year career path with the Royal Bank of Canada I saw service in various countries. In 1952 I was stationed in their Kingston, Jamaica branch. In those days we used a postage metre to frank our outgoing mail, but the collection department used adhesive postage/revenue stamps to affix to the bills of exchange that they handled. We used to purchase our supplies of those stamps from a little old lady who got them from the post office at a small discount (a charitable arrangement for her).

The 1938 George VI definitive set of Jamaican stamps stopped at the 10 shillings value, but in 1949 a £1 stamp was added to it. Its usage was mainly for revenue purposes, as the airmail rate to the UK at that time was a mere 6d., so for a postal package to attract a £1 rate had to weigh a ton! But for revenue purposes a £1 stamp was no great deal. The bank mopped them up. But then George VI died and the sparse supply of his £1 stamps dried up. The Jamaican post office ordered a fresh supply from the printers, but, seeing that Elizabeth II was now on the throne, they supplied them with her portrait on them in lieu of that of her father, George VI.

At the time, the Jamaican postal authorities were in the process of selecting new designs for a completely new set of stamps bearing Elizabeth II's effigy, and it was decided not to issue this £1 stamp. It was debated to surcharge the printing to a 6d value to honour the impending visit of Princess Margaret Rose, the Queen's younger sister, but in the end it was felt that such would be improper and the entire printing was ordered to be incinerated. And so it was done.

Except, that one day the little old lady came into the bank with her supply of stamps and the Foreign Exchange teller, who handled the collection items requiring revenue stamps, happened to notice that she had a sheet of 60 £1 stamps with the Queen's head on them. He commented on this, and the old lady said that she wasn't sure that they were supposed to be used. She extracted a promise from the teller to return them to her if such happened to be the case. With that she hied off back to the post office, a scant two streets away.

Meanwhile, the teller, knowing of my addiction to philately, showed the sheet to me. My legs trembled and I just about soiled my knickers! My salary in those days was £75 a month, so a £60 purchase was a huge outlay. But I telephoned my father and got his permission to charge his account with £60 to acquire this priceless sheet of stamps. It was then that the teller told me of his promise to the old lady. In those bygone days the banks still had tellers' "cages" (like animals in a zoo), and that is what saved that teller's life; for I was set to kill him if I could have laid hands on him!

Sure enough, a few minutes later the old lady was back in the branch, accompanied by none other a personage than the Postmaster General! They headed straight to the Manager's office and then his secretary was bidden to call the teller to the Sanctum Sanctorum. He emerged moments later and headed back to his cage to retrieve the sheet of stamps and return to the Manager's office.

Shortly afterwards the Postmaster General and the old lady departed, but I accosted him before he left the premises and asked if I couldn't have a corner block of four of the stamps. He looked at me and asked if I was a stamp collector, to which I replied in the affirmative. "In that case," he said, "you should know better than to ask that question," whereupon he swept out of the office.

On my lunch break that day I visited my old pal, Everard Aguilar (Kingston's only stamp dealer at the time), and told him of the morning's events. He didn't believe me, but at my urging he telephoned the Postmaster General who confirmed that one sheet of the QE £1 stamp had somehow escaped the flames and nearly got into circulation. Everard berated me for having let that sheet slip through my fingers. "I'd have paid you £5 for each of those stamps", he told me. That would have been a nice profit for me, but it was a deal that I wouldn't have entertained. A price tag of £25 each would have been more like it (don't forget that my monthly salary was only £75 at the time... but to have held the only sheet of that stamp I could easily have commanded that price!). How that one sheet had escaped the destruction of the issue was never divulged.

But, like the unlucky fisherman who didn't manage to hang onto his monumental catch, I, too, lost it.

The Royal Collection does have a corner block of four of this "non-stamp"; but I console myself with the thought that I was privileged to hold in my hands, for a fleeting second, that "renegade" sheet of stamps which eventually went to join its mates in the flames of the incinerator.

THE RESUMPTION OF BERLIN'S POSTAL SERVICE (1945)

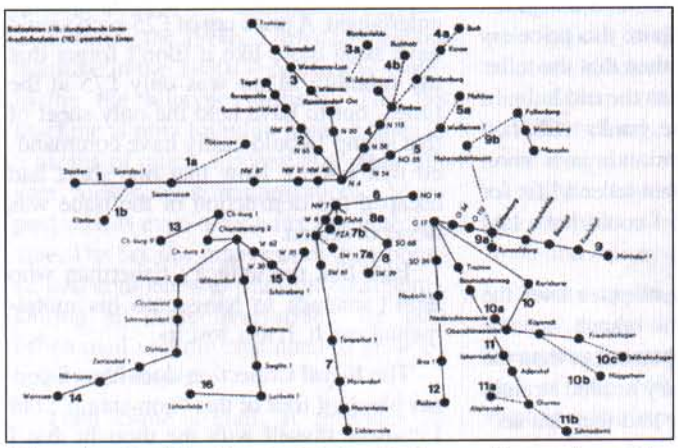
By Wolf J. Pelikan

(There was a Courier postal service in Berlin as of May 18 1945. This was followed by a short episode of a general postal service from May 21 to 23, 1945.)

On April 20, 1945, when Hitler shot himself in the bunker of the State Chancellery in Berlin, the post office staff was still working in the Berlin SW 11 post office nearby. The last Commander of "The Battle of Berlin," General Helmut Weidling capitulated on May 2, 1945. About 300,000 Soviet soldiers fell in the battle for Berlin. The German dead were so numerous they could hardly be counted.

After almost six years of war, of the 188 post offices in Berlin, 18 per cent were totally destroyed, 45 per cent were half destroyed and 37 per cent partially destroyed or damaged. The letter boxes were full of field-post letters, postcards and letters from people endeavouring to get in touch with relatives and friends. Tens of thousands of pieces of mail were lying unsorted in the post offices which were no longer functioning.

On April 30, 1945, the Ulbricht Group was set up in Calau, about 80 km, (50 miles) southeast of Berlin. The former postal inspector for the Berlin W15 post office, Ernst Kehler belonged to this group. He was of the 1913 age group and was a lieutenant in the Intelligence Corps. Kehler, who had been in Soviet captivity, had included himself in the "National Committee of Free Germany" which was run by German communists.



The network of the Courier Post, with the courier services and their auxiliary services, was set up on May 18, 1945. Reproduced with the friendly permission of Transpress VEB Verlag für Verkehrswesen Berlin, from the book, *Berliner Post*, by Fritz Steinwasser (Berlin), 1988.

Official mail of the city of Berlin with a recognizable official cachet. Postal operations began on May 16, 1945, and was exclusively for the official agencies of the Municipal Council before the inauguration of the Courier Post.

On May 16, 1945, Kehler visited the former State Director of Posts in Berlin-Charlottenburg, Dernburgstrasse 50, and presented himself to H. Dox, the Director-General of Posts. Dox had received his appointment on May 10, 1945 from General Berzarin, the Soviet Commandant of Berlin. Kehler informed Dox that he (i.e. Kehler) had been entrusted with the supervision of the postal service by Marshall Georgii Zhukov of the Soviet Union. Kehler had an order with him from the Soviets. Dox immediately vacated his position.

As a first step Kehler set up on May 18, 1945 the so-called, "Stafettenpost", (Courier Post), which originally consisted of messengers on foot or on bicycles. Its essential task during the first few days was to carry out the distribution of the Municipal Council's mail with the various offices still functioning. At that time there were 66 post offices and agencies, among them the General Letter Post Office of Berlin N4 on Invalidenstrasse (later in the Soviet Sector), Berlin NW7 on Dorotheenstrasse

(again later in the Soviet Sector), Berlin O17 on Fruchtstrasse which was later renamed the Street of the Paris Commune (Soviet Sector) and Berlin-Charlottenburg 2 on Goethestrasse, (later in the English Sector of West Berlin).

The first working day of the newly created Municipal Council for the City of Berlin was on May 17, 1945. The Berlin Postal Service was organized out of the State Postal Service, as a communal institution for postal and communication matters. It was designated and known after May 21, 1945 as the "Section of the Municipal Council for Postal and Communication Matters." (Magistratsabteillung für Post-und Fernmeldewesen.)

In the first session of the Municipal Council of, the city of Berlin, in accordance with the official designation at that time we note in the, "Concluding Protocal" of May 20, 1945 under Point 5 that:

"The letter and postcard service for the city (Berlin) will be opened on 22 May, 1945. New postage stamps will be ordered from the State Printing Works specifically in the values RM 0.05 and RM 0.08 in green and orange respectively, overprinted, "Stadt Berlin", and with the city's coat of arms. The working hours of the post offices have been fixed as from 8:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m. Disbursements and deposits will not be accepted for the time being. The postage stamps are only valid for Berlin and not for countrywide usage."

This then was the start of a private postal service within Berlin. We can only speculate 50 years later as to why only sporadic sendings of mail are found from May 21 to 23, 1945. As stated in the book, "Die Post in Berlin 1237-1987", by the (Bezirksgruppe Berlin der Deutschen Gesellschaft für Postgeschichte e.V.), Berlin Area Study Group of the German Postal History Society.

"The resumption of local letter service, (ordinary letters and postcards), as stipulated for May 22, 1945 was forbidden by the military authorities on the afternoon of May 21. It is not known how the post offices were notified."

Helmut O. Kruge, vice president of the local postal service for Berlin and an observer of that time who has subsequently passed away, remembered the events of the time as follows, "Lower echelons of the Soviet military authority had agreed with the postal authorities concerning the resumption of limited postal service in Berlin for letters and postcards up to 20 grammes. A higher Soviet authority quashed everything two days later."

This statement would carry a lot of credibility if it were considered in conjunction with a protocol of the Mayoral Sessions of May 18, 1945 for the administrative district of Wilmersdorf, (later in the English sector), the Study Group for the Post-war Postal History of Berlin found a statement that says the Soviet Military Authorities basically felt that one, "Does not commit anything to writing." Its orders were to be passed on by word of mouth, so that they could be, if needed, denied in correspondence. It was also resolved at the same session that Deputy Mayor Wallmer should resign his post since he had made public in writing three Russian orders for the expulsion of foreigners.

The Courier Service was modeled on the old Berlin City Post of the 19th century. Convenient routes from the four functioning Main Letter Offices led to the post offices in Berlin's outer suburbs. The messengers on foot or on bicycle proceeded at stipulated times in the outgoing and incoming directions to all the post offices along their route, handing over their sendings and accepting those for other recipients.

Altogether there were 16 courier services with a further 16 auxiliary courier services subordinate to them. Mails which could not be delivered within the area served by a Main Letter Office were exchanged with the other Main Letter Offices. The courier routes were specifically classified as follows:

FROM MAIN LETTER OFFICE – BERLIN N4

Courier Service No. 1: Via the post offices of Berlin NW40, NW21, NW87, Berlin-Siemensstadt, Berlin-Spandau 1 to Berlin-Staaken.

Auxiliary Courier Service 1a: From Berlin-Siemensstadt to Berlin-Plötzensee.

Auxiliary Courier Service 1b: From Berlin-Spandau 1 to Berlin-Kladow.

Courier Service No. 2: Via the post offices of Berlin N65, Berlin-Reinickendorf West 3, Berlin-Borsigwalde to Berlin-Tegel 1.

Courier Service No. 3: Via the post offices of Berlin N20, Berlin-Reinickendorf Ost, Berlin-Wittenau, Berlin-Hermsdorf to Berlin-Frohnau 1.

Auxiliary Courier Service 3a: From Berlin-Reinickendorf Ost via Berlin-Wilhelmsruh to Berlin-Blankenfelde.

Courier Service No. 4: Via the post offices of Berlin N5B, Berlin-Pankow 1 to Berlin-Niederschönhausen.

Auxiliary Courier Service 4a: From Berlin-Pankow 1 via Berlin-Blankenburg, Berlin-Karow to Berlin-Buch.

Auxiliary Courier Service 4b: From Berlin-Pankow 1 to Berlin-Buchholz.

Courier Service No. 5: Via the post offices of Berlin N54 and NO55 to Berlin-Weissensee 1.

Auxiliary Courier Service 5a: From Berlin-Weissensee 1 to Berlin-Machow.

FROM MAIN LETTER OFFICE – BERLIN NW7

Courier Service No. 6: Via the Berlin C25 post office to Berlin No. 18.

Courier Service No. 7: Via the post offices of Berlin W8, W9, SW61, Berlin-Tempelhof 1, Berlin-Mariendorf 1, to Berlin-Lichtenrade.

Auxiliary Courier Service 7a: From Berlin W9 to Berlin SW11.

Auxiliary Courier Service 7b: From Berlin W9 to the newspaper's post office.

Courier Service No. 8: Via Berlin SW68 post office to Berlin SW29.

Auxiliary Courier Service 8a: To the post office for cheques.

FROM MAIN LETTER OFFICE – BERLIN 017

Courier Service No. 9: Via the post offices of Berlin O34, O112, Berlin-Lichtenberg 1, Berlin-Friedrichsfelde, Berlin-Biesdorf, Berlin-Kaulsdorf 1, to Berlin-Mahlsdorf.

Auxiliary Courier Service 9a: From Berlin-Lichtenberg 1, to Berlin-Rummelsburg.

Auxiliary Courier Service 9b: From Berlin-Lichtenberg 1, to Berlin-Hohenschönhausen 1, Berlin-Falkenberg, Berlin-Wartenberg to Berlin-Marzahn.

Courier Service No. 10: Via the post

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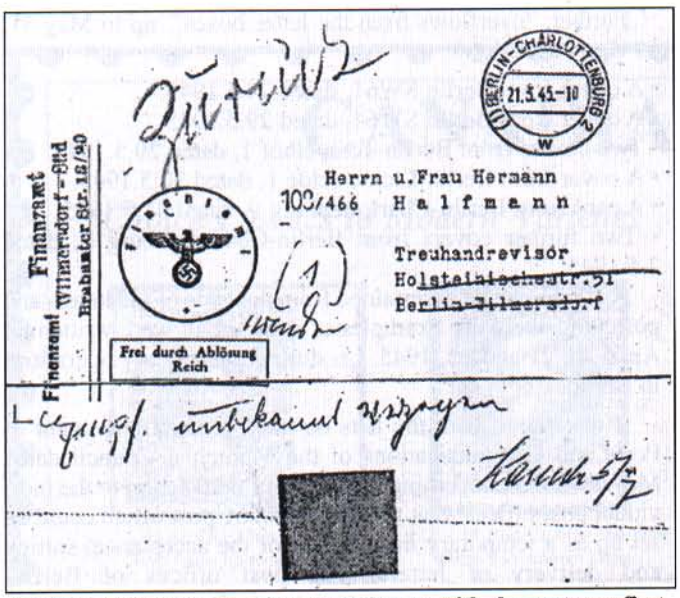


An "overflow" item from the letter boxes, with the post-war first day marking of Berlin-Charlottenburg 2, which was evidently sorted during the short-lived resumption of postcard and letter services, but could not be delivered until July 5, 1945 (addressee unknown) since he had moved.

offices of Berlin-Karlshorst, Berlin-Oberschöneweide, Berlin-Kopenick 1 to Berlin-Friedrichshagen.

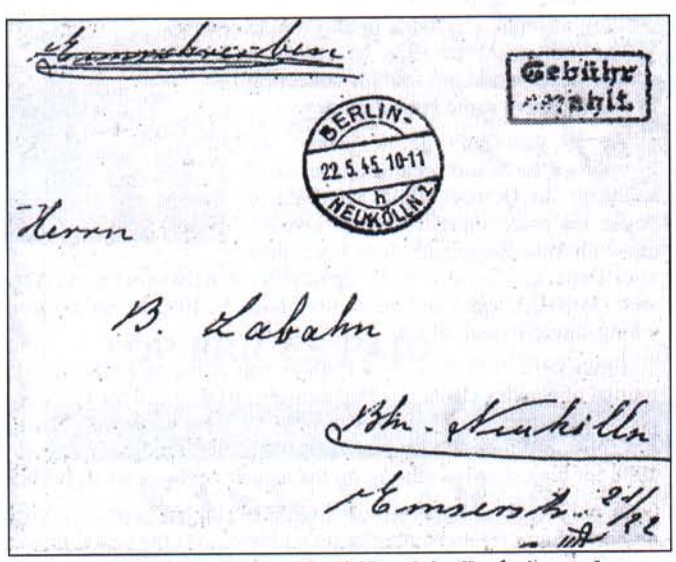
Auxiliary Courier Service 10a: From Berlin-Oberschöneweide to Berlin-Niederschöneweide.

Auxiliary Courier Service 10b: From Berlin-Köpenick 1, to Berlin-Müggelheim.

Auxiliary Courier Service 10c: From Berlin-Friedrichshagen to Berlin-Wilhelmshagen.

Courier Service No. 11: Via the post offices of Berlin-Treptow, Berlin-Baumschulenweg, Berlin-Johannistal, Berlin-Adlershof to Berlin-Grunau 1.

Auxiliary Courier Service 11a: From Berlin-Adlershof to Berlin-Altglienicke.



A commercial letter of May 22, 1945, originally designated as registered, but with that notation crossed out by the sender, since ordinary cards and letters up to 20 grammes were permitted for a few hours.

Auxiliary Courier Service 11b: From Berlin-Grünau 1 to Berlin-Schmöckwitz.

Courier Service No. 12: Via the post offices of Berlin SO36, Berlin-Neukölln 1, Berlin-Britz 1 to Berlin-Rudow.

FROM MAIN LETTER OFFICE – BERLIN – CHARLOTTENBURG 2

Courier Service No. 13: Via the post offices of Berlin-Charlottenburg 1, Berlin-Charlottenburg 5, to Berlin-Charlottenburg 9.

Courier Service No. 14: Via the post offices of Berlin-Halensee 2, Berlin-Grunewald 1, Berlin-Schmargendorf, Berlin-Dahlem, Berlin-Zehlendorf 1, Berlin-Nikolasee to Berlin-Wannsee 1.

Courier Service No. 15: Via the post offices of Berlin W62, W30, Berlin-Schoneberg 1, to Berlin W35.

Courier Service No. 16: Via the post offices of Berlin-Wilmersdorf 1, Berlin-Friedenau 1, Berlin-Steglitz 1, (Berlin-Südende), Berlin-Lankwitz 1, to Berlin-Lichterfelde 1.

A postal service for the official mail only, of the self-governing organizations went into operation on May 16, 1945. This type of official mail was marked with an official cachet inscribed, "Magistrat der Stadt Berlin" (Municipal Council of the City of Berlin).

Much of this mail also received a marking or manuscript notation reading, "Dienstsache des Magistrats – Sofort durch besonderen Boten abzutragen", (Official Mail of the Municipal Council – to be conveyed immediately by special messengers). This messenger post had its own, "Official Bureau of Posts and Communications", in the building on Parochialstrasse 1/3.

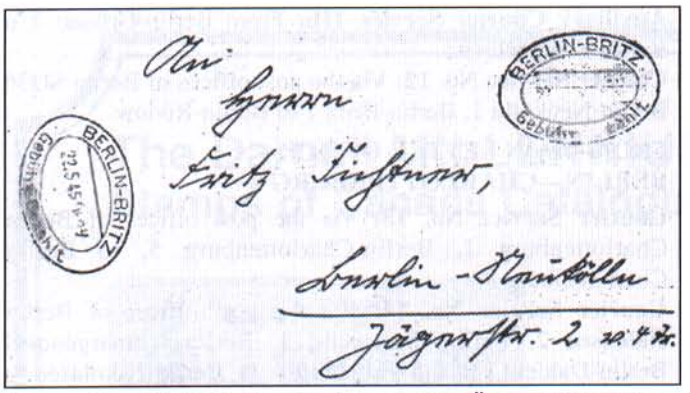
It is stated in a surviving directive of the Department for Personal Affairs and Administration of the Municipal Council, dated May 29, 1945 that:

"The Official Bureau will accept firstly, only the collective official mail of the Municipal Council of the city of Berlin from the Town Hall to the offices of the suburban mayors in the relevant administrative area and vice-versa. Delivery will take place at present within 48 hours and this period of time will be shortened as soon as possible. The acceptance of the relevant mail for delivery must be carried out daily up to 5:00 p.m."

It cannot be specified at this point in time just how long this Official Mail Service of the Municipal Council as set up on May 18, 1945, functioned under the Courier Post formed by the Department of the Municipal Council for Posts and Communications. It is not known when it gradually passed to the control of the Courier Post. Documents about this matter have still to be found.

It can be asserted, however, that mail items of the Messenger Post of the Municipal Council have surfaced dating from as early as May 16, 1945, but these are just as difficult to find as examples of the Courier Post of the Department of the Municipal Council for Posts and Communications.

It is more difficult to identify either the handwritten or hand-struck markings, such as the cachet of the Municipal Council or of one of its departments on examples of the Courier Post during the period of the Messenger Post of the Municipal Council. There exists a very impressive piece of 7. 7. 45, handed in at the Berlin C2 post office with the handwritten notation, 0 17 EILT SEHR: MIT STAFETTE NACH 0 17, (East 17 -



A cover from Berlin-Britz with the oval, GEBÜHR BEZAHLT marking, dated 22.5.1945 8-9V (8 a.m. - 9 a.m.).

Very urgent: By Courier Post to Berlin East 17), as well as the notation, also handwritten, reading, DIENSTSACHE, (Official Mail). The recipient was the Main Construction office of the Berlin-Friedrichshain Administrative District. This permits us to assume that, on the basis of the address, it is a Courier Post letter from a department of the Municipal Council.

It also demonstrates that the Messenger Post of the Municipal Council, at that point in time, had already passed to the control of the Courier Post of the Department of Posts and Communications of the Municipal Council.

Apart from the two types of items, i.e. "Messenger Post of the Municipal Council", and the "Courier Post", there exists two other possibilities: (a) a private postal service on May 22-23, 1945 and (b) "overflows" from the letter boxes between May 25 and 31, 1945.

Covers and cards of the first private postal service available at the present time can be classified according to the following dates and post offices:

22.5.1945: Four items from Berlin-Neükolln 1, with a cachet reading: GEBÜHR BEZAHLT (Rate paid).
22.5.1945: Four items from Berlin-Neükolln 1, with markings, (GEBÜHR BEZAHLT).
All of the above covers were for delivery in Berlin-Neükolln.
22.5.1945: Three items for Berlin C25 without rate markings.

Two of these examples are postcards addressed to Berlin-Charlottenburg 9 and the third is a letter to Berlin NW7.

22.5.1945: Two covers from Berlin-Britz with an oval, GEBÜHR BEZAHLT, marking applied at the same time. One of these covers is addressed to Berlin-Weissensee.
22.5.1945: A cover from Berlin SW61, with a handwritten, GEBÜHR BEZAHLT, notation and addressed to Berlin SW61.

The earliest, "overflow from the letter boxes", so far, are postmarked on 21.5.1945 in Berlin-Charlottenburg 2, in one case being a field post letter and in the other a cover from the Financial Office of Wilmersdorf-Süd, with the Nazi imperial eagle and an imprint of the pre-war term, FREI DURCH ABLÖSUNG REICH, (Free on account of Empire redemption). There is a note by the deliverer on the back, reading "House destroyed, unknown where moved to", together with his abbreviated signature, showing that an attempt was made on 5.7.1945 to deliver this "overflow" item.

Further, "overflows from the letter boxes", up to May 31, 1945 are as follows:

- A cover from Berlin SW61, dated 24.5.1945.
- A cover from Berlin SW61, dated 29.5.1945.
- Two covers from Berlin-Tempelhof 1, dated 29.5.1945.
- A cover from Berlin-Lichterfelde 1, dated 30.5.1945.
- A card from Berlin-Charlottenburg 9, dated 31.5.1945.
- Two further covers from Berlin-Charlottenburg 2, dated 2.5.1945.

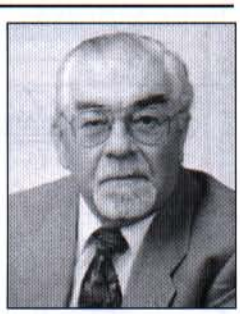
As far as can be ascertained from the texts of the letters and postcards, these are examples of mail which were written on April 20, 21 and 22, 1945, i.e. during the military operations in Berlin.

It is evident from the lists on hand at the Department of Posts and Communications of the Municipal Council dated May 19, 1945 concerning the extent of destruction to the individual post offices, that the Berlin SW61 post office could be set up as a temporary installation for the acceptance, sorting and delivery of letters. The post offices of Berlin-Charlottenburg 2 and Berlin-Charlottenburg 9 were both operational and in working order. The Berlin-Lichterfelde 1 post office was operational despite severe damage and in spite of extensive destruction. An emergency installation was also immediately available at the Berlin-Tempelhof 1 post office.

Closely related to all this was the fact that these, "overflows", came from the uncleared letter boxes of the relevant post offices and that, with the resumption of operations and emergency measures, the mail from the letter boxes was the first to be attended to and received the sorting datestamps. Some of the 11 "overflow" items listed above bear a marking that reads, ZURÜCK (Send back), and were often returned to the senders, if they had addresses in Berlin. In other cases, so far as can be determined, they were delivered providing they did not bear field-post addresses.

(Translated from the original German to English by Andrew Cronin, FRRSC, FRPSL, of Toronto).

Wolf J. Pelikan
Immerstaad/Bodensee, Germany



Wolf Pelikan was born in Bavaria in 1920. From 1933 to 1938 he collected stamps of the world but sold his collection in order to have some pocket money.

At 19 years of age he joined the German air force and became a war correspondent. In October 1945 Mr. Pelikan began his professional career in journalism with *Neue Zeitung* in Munich and then with Dena, the German news agency. Soon he was with the *Neue Welt* (Munich), and *Keystone Deutschland*. In 1983 he retired from a long career in journalism.

From 1979 until the end of 1988 he was editor of *Philatelie*, the journal of Bundes Deutscher Philatelisten (BDPh) and for *Philatelie and Postgeschichte*. Over the years Mr. Pelikan has received many journalist awards, the most prestigious being the Kalckhoff medal in 1988 for his extensive writing on the history of the posts in Berlin.

A philatelist and an eminent journalist, he has written a great number of articles and authored several books on the postal history of Berlin. The latest book by Wolf Pelikan (1993) is *Die Post in der Post – Eine Studie Über den Zentralin Kurierdienst in der fruheren D.D.R. erscheinen*. (The Post within the Post – the courier services in the D.D.R.).

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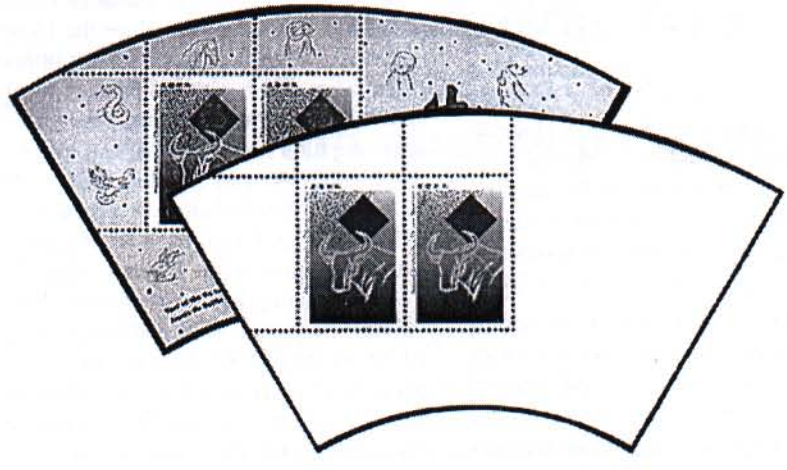

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Under the Hammer

by Dean Mario

This year marks R. Maresch & Sons' 75th anniversary in the stamp business. The firm's March 9-10 public sale certainly helped to successfully celebrate this remarkable achievement by once again offering collectors an impressive array of rare and choice material.

Lot 936 had to be the sale's pièce de résistance! It contained a remarkably-centred Mint original copy of Canada's 1851 12d Black Queen Victoria. The stamp (ex. Lichtenstein, Jarrett et al. collections) was estimated at $75,000+ and sold for an amazing $98,900 (prices in Canadian funds and include the 15 per cent buyer's fee). Even a crude and faulty fake of the stamp (lot 937) was sold for an incredible $603.75 against an estimate of $100-plus!

Other rare Canadian items included a selection of seldom-seen large die proofs on thin wove paper of the 1868 Large Queen issue. Lots 1090-1096 were estimated at $3,500+ each and sold from $2,990 (lot 1092) for the 3-cent Bright Orange value to $9,487.50 (lot 1096) for the 15-cents Dark Grey Violet watermarked value. The seven lots totalled $37,490. Lot 1298 featured a heavy-hinged, but wonderfully centred, Mint copy of the 1897 $5 Olive Green Jubilee which sold for $1,552.50 (1999 Unitrade value of $1,700). A perfectly-centred Mint NH copy of the 1929 50-cent Bluenose (lot 1463) sold for $299 with a Unitrade value of $600 quoted. A horizontal Mint LH pair of the stamp vertically imperforate (lot 1464) with a Unitrade value of $1,000, went to a new home for a very reasonable $373.75.

The firm is well-known for providing excellent Commonwealth and worldwide material and the sale contained a superb 300+ lot collection of Seychelles formed by Mr. Earl Palmer. Highlights included lot 363, a Mint LH pair of the 1893 3-cent on 4-cent Provisional Surcharge with the right surcharge missing, which sold for $8,050 against a 1999 Scott value of U.S. $4,750. A Mint-hinged block of nine of the same over-printed stamp (lot 364) but with the surcharge inverted sold for $6,325 (Scott U.S. $2,700).

Worldwide material in the sale included lot 625, a classic Used 1850-72 Austrian collection with an estimated value of $5,000+. It sold for $4,887.50. A specialized collection of over 200 1849-76 proofs and essays from France (lot 668) reached $1,035 against an estimate of $500+. A German lot of 16 Mint NH values of the 1951-52 Posthorn issue (lot 705) sold for $1,207.50 (Scott U.S. $2,400). A Very Fine NH/LH set of the 1901 Pan-American Exposition from the USA realized $632.50 against a Scott value of U.S. $786 (lot 801).

The firm's June sale is equally impressive and work is already progressing on its fall sale. Contact R. Maresch & Son at 330 Bay St., Suite 703, Toronto, ON M5H 2S8; telephone (416) 363-7777; fax (416) 363-6511; or see their website at: www.maresch.com for more information.

GIBBONS' SALE

Stanley Gibbons' March 24-26 sale provided collectors with a fine selection of Commonwealth and worldwide material. Let's examine a few of them from the sale.

Canada and BNA material proved popular. Lot 92 contained a nice looking Used copy of the 1851 3d Orange-Vermilion Beaver. Estimated at £260-280, it sold for £368 (Cdn. $927.36; the exchange rate at $2.52 and prices quoted include the 15 per cent buyer's fee). A lot of partially-imperforate Mint NH horizontal pairs of the 1-cent-12-cent values from the 1927 Confederation issue (lot 124) was estimated at £400-440 and realized £920 (Cdn. $2,318.40). Newfoundland's scarce 1857 6-1/2d Scarlet-Vermilion was offered in Mint condition with original gum (lot 537). The stamp had large margins but a "trivial" horizontal bend and was estimated at £1,000-1,200. It sold for £1,092 (Cdn. $2,751.84). An imperforate between Mint vertical pair of the 1933 5-cent Air Mail issue (lot 553) was estimated at £550-650 and went to a new owner for £690 (Cdn. $1,738.80).

Great Britain's 1840 1d Black Queen Victoria, printed from various plates, was obviously well represented in the sale. A used example from Plate 2 (lot 1595) reached £69 (Cdn. $173.88) with an estimate of £50-60. Lot 1603 featured a Used PJ-PK (Plate 11) Grey-Black rare horizontal pair with close to wide margins. Estimated at £3,000-3,400, the pair reached £3,450 (Cdn. $8,694). A stunning Used block of four (KK-LL) from Plate 6 (lot 1600), however, failed to find a new home.

The sale's worldwide offerings included a Mint (part OG) copy of the Luxembourg 1852 10-cent Grey-Black issue (lot 1177) which sold for £1,035 (Cdn. 2,608.20) against an estimate of £900-1,000. Belgium's 1849 20-cent Blue in Mint OG condition with four good margins (lot 844) had a similar estimate and realized the same price. The People's Republic of China 1962 Mei Lan-fang miniature sheet was offered in Mint NH condition (with a small wrinkle; lot 928) at an estimate of £1,300-1,500, and Used with a special cancel (wrinkles; lot 929) estimated at £600-700. They sold for £1,322 (Cdn. 3,331.44) and £632 (Cdn. $1,592.64) respectively.

Stanley Gibbons Auctions will be having several more sales this year including its "Rarities of the World" sale in September, and "All World" sales in October and December. Contact the firm at 399 Strand, London, WC2R 0LX, England; e-mail: auctions@stangiblondon.demon.co.uk; telephone 0171 836 8444; or fax 0171 836 7342.

RARE CANADIAN

Ottawa's Ian Kimmerly Stamp Auctions' May 25-26 sale featured several interesting and rare Canadian items including lot 1317, a single Mint NH 1994 $2 Normal School with inscriptions inverted. Estimated at $8,000, it sold for $6,820 (prices include the 10 per cent buyer's fee). A Mint NH 1990 39-cent Queen Elizabeth horizontal pair imperforate between (lot 1302) reached $522.50 with an estimate of $750. A completely imperf horizontal pair of the same stamp in the following lot (1303) sold for $550 with a similar estimate. A Mint NH copy of the 1978 50-cent Prairie Street "ghost town" image with the printing missing in lot 1294 realized $1,980 against a $2,000 estimate. The famous 1935 1-cent Princess Elizabeth "Weeping Princess" variety in a Mint NH UL corner block of six (lot 1265) had an estimate of $150 and went to a new owner for $126.50.

Lot 1111 contained a complete set of

plate Proof singles on card in colours of issue of the 1897 Queen Victoria Jubilee issue. Estimated at $3,500, the set sold for $2,530. Several Mint and Used copies of the 1929 50-cent Bluenose were offered in the sale. Canada's "most beautiful" stamp in Mint condition sold between $49.50 (lot 1240; F-VF Unused NG) and $264 (lot 1238; VF NH). In VF Used condition from $49.50 (lot 1242) to $121 (lot 1241). The 1929 $1 Parliament in Mint F-VF condition (with small hinge remnant) in lot 1243 reached $82.50 despite its $150 estimate.

Commonwealth material always attracts interesting results in these sales. Lot 108, a nice Mint OG pair of the Barbados 1855 4d Brown Red Britannia on unwatermarked blue paper was estimated at $150 and sold for $176. A VF Mint NH 1923 £1 Violet and Red issue from Dominica (lot 276) sold for $220 and was estimated at $250. A VF Mint NH 1948 £1 Silver Wedding value from the Falkland Islands (lot 280) went to a new home for $71.50 (estimated at $90). Used singles of Britain's 1840 1d Black Victoria sold between $35.20 (lot 365; minor corner crease) to $176 (lot 363; margins all around).

In the worldwide section, lot 1641 attracted a great deal of attention. It contained a Mint OG block of 15 of France's 1862 25-cent Blue Louis Napoleon re-issue. This incredible large-margined block had a diagonal crease on the LR stamp and was estimated at $4,000. The showpiece sold for $1,760. A complete Mint NH collection of all United Nations issues from 1951-1997 (including souvenir sheets) in a Lighthouse hingeless album was offered in lot 1771 at a $350 estimate. It sold for $308. The firm is already lotting for its August sale. They can be reached at 112 Sparks St., Ottawa, ON, K1P 5B6; e-mail: kimmerly@compuserve.com; telephone (613) 235-9119; fax (613) 235-9504. The company also puts its sales on its website and posts opening bids: http://www.cyberus.ca/~kimmerly/index.html.

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CENTURY-OLD CANADIAN CHRISTMAS STAMP FEATURED ON FAVOURITE CANADIANA STAMP OF 1998

A souvenir sheet from Grenada, featuring a reproduction of a century-old Canadian stamp, is the favourite Canadiana issue of 1998 according to voting members of the Canadiana Study Unit.

The winning souvenir sheet was one of two souvenir sheets and a set of six stamps issued for Christmas 1998 by the Caribbean island. The set features the beauty of birds as drawn by British artist Jennifer Toombs who was commissioned by Grenada's philatelic representative, the Inter-Governmental Philatelic Corporation (IGPC) of New York. Designer Toombs added decorative holiday borders to the stamps in keeping with the Christmas theme.

Unbeknown to the designer, the winning $6 Grenada souvenir sheet turned out to be different from the rest of the set in that it is of a stamp-on-stamp format. The original Toombs design did not include a reproduced Canadian stamp. Somewhere in the production process, the Grenada stamp was altered to faithfully reproduce Canada Scott #85, the Canadian "map stamp" of 1898.

The Canadian stamp was chosen for use as a stamp-on-stamp since it is generally regarded as the world's first Christmas stamp. An inscription on the Canadian stamp reads "XMAS 1898." This tied in nicely with the Grenada set as 1998 also marks the centenary of the world's first Christmas stamp.

The stamp portion of the Grenada souvenir sheet is quite large measuring 38 by 61 millimetres. It shows the colourful hummingbird known as the Purple-throated Carib (Eulampis jugularis) feeding at a yellow Allamanda flower, below which is the Canadian map stamp. The wording above the Canadian stamp reads 100TH ANNIVERSARY / FIRST CHRISTMAS STAMP 1898.

The Grenada stamp was officially issued on December 1, 1998. Printing by multicolour offset lithography was done in Dublin, Ireland by BDT International Security Printers Limited using unwatermarked PVA gummed security-coated paper.

The Grenada item was a popular choice as of all votes cast, the winning stamp was the first choice of 45 per cent. Further, a total of 75 per cent of voters picked the Grenada stamp as one of their top three.

Finishing in second spot in the annual poll was a stamp from Australia depicting the clipper ship *Marco Polo*. Although not chosen as the winner, the Australian stamp was a popular choice as more than half of those voting (55 per cent) picked it as one of top three stamps of 1998.

The 85 Australian stamp was issued on January 15, 1998, part of a four stamp set on the theme "Maritime Heritage."

The *Marco Polo* was a three-masted wooden clipper ship built by James Smith at Saint John, New Brunswick in 1851. On her maiden voyage she sailed from Canada to Liverpool, England with a cargo of timber.

In 1852 she was sold to James Baines of Liverpool for the Black Ball Line of Australian Packets and she was reworked for use in the passenger trade. That year, under the command of Captain James Nicol Forbes, she made the first recorded round trip from England to Australia in under six months, actually in five

months, 21 days. *Marco Polo* was fast becoming something of a legend in her own time. The great ship had just circumnavigated the world in an amazing time of less than six months. As such, she was deemed the fastest ship in the world, the "Queen of the Seas."

In subsequent years, the ship transported thousands of emigrants to new lives in Australia. It is said that today one in every 20 Australians can trace his or her roots to the *Marco Polo*!

The great vessel remained in the Australian trade for 15 years. Some time later she was used in the Quebec timber trade.

The ship's career ended tragically in 1883. On July 22 of that year she sprang a leak in the St. Lawrence and was run aground near Cavendish, Prince Edward Island. A gale subsequently broke up the famous ship.

The Australian stamp was designed by Brian Sadgrove. McPhersons did the printing using offset lithography on Harrison paper. The stamps were printed in panes of 50 without gutters.

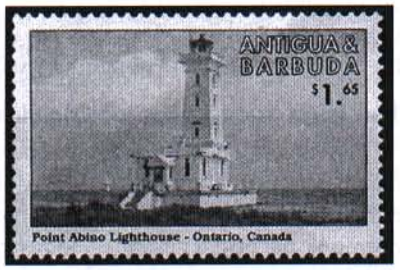
Third place in the 1998 Canadiana popularity poll went to another stamp depicting a legendary Canadian ship, this time the *Bluenose*.

On March 16, 1998, the Caribbean island of Dominica issued a set of four stamps, a block of six 55-cent stamps and two souvenir sheets on the theme "History of Sail." One of the stamps in the block of six pictured the *Bluenose*.

The original *Bluenose* was launched at Lunenburg, Nova Scotia in March 1921. She was designed as a fishing schooner but intended for racing. In 1921 she won the International Fisherman's Race for Canada, redeeming a loss to the U.S. in the 1920 race. The famous *Bluenose* raced many times after and over the next 20 years won more competitions than any other schooner.

Tragically, the vessel was wrecked on a reef off the coast of Haiti on January 29, 1946.

The *Bluenose* stamp from Dominica was designed by Kim Gromoll. The House of Questa printed the stamps on unwatermarked PVA gummed security-coated paper in London, England using multicolour offset lithography.



The fourth favourite stamp of last year was issued by the United States. That stamp, Scott #3235, commemorates the Klondike Gold Rush of 1898.

Although the first major gold discovery was made in the Klondike region of the Canadian Yukon in 1896, the gold rush actually peaked in 1898. It is this that is commemorated on the U.S. stamp.

In 1898 some 60,000 Americans sought their fortune in Canada. It is their arduous journey through treacherous mountain passes in pursuit of Klondike gold that is portrayed on the U.S. stamp by designer Howard Paine.

The 32-cent Klondike stamps were printed offset by Ashton-Potter (USA) Limited in panes of 20. First day of issue was August 21, 1998 at both Nome and Skagway, Alaska.

Registering in fifth place in the 1998 poll was a stamp from Antigua, yet another stamp with a maritime theme. This time the stamp depicts a lighthouse. To be exact, the $1.65 stamp shows the Point Abino Lighthouse located near Crystal Beach, Ontario.

The Antiguan stamp is part of a set consisting of eight stamps and one souvenir sheet on the theme "Lighthouses of the World." The stamp, Scott #2146, was designed by Mordechai Friedman. Printing was done in England by The House of Questa using multicolour offset lithography. First day of issue was April 20, 1998.

The only other stamp to have received more than a couple of votes in the poll was a stamp from Ireland. The 32p stamp depicts Col. James Fitzmaurice and the aircraft *Bremen*. Fitzmaurice was the navigator on the first east-west transatlantic airplane flight, flying a Junkers W33, D1167 *Bremen* from Baldonnel, Co. Dublin to Canada, landing on Greenly Island in the Gulf of St. Lawrence on April 13, 1928.

The Irish stamp, Scott #1102, is part of a four stamp series dubbed "Irish Aviation Pioneers." Issued on February 24, 1998, the *Bremen* stamp was printed using lithography by Irish Security Stamp Printing. The designer was Vincent Killowry. A total of one million copies of the 32p stamp were printed.

Several other stamps received one or two votes with no other stamp receiving significant point totals.

For further information contact: Canadiana Study Unit, c/o John G. Peebles, President, Box 3262, Station A, London, ON, N6A 4K3.

What Can Be Done?

There have been numerous letters and articles complaining about the current problems with philately. Among the causes mentioned are: The high face value of new stamps; large number of different stamps issued; smaller number of stamps being used on mail; discouragement of new collectors; difficulty of obtaining good used stamps; types of cancellations. All these items have been identified as causing the decline in our hobby. If we want to restore philately to its former glory, many things have to be done.

This article will list many things that if changed would help to correct the problems. Many of the changes mentioned are obviously impractical. However, it must be kept in mind that many different things combined together to cause the present situation. It is not expected that any one person, or even any group or club can make all the changes listed. It may not even be desirable to change all the things mentioned back to the way they were. Some of the possible changes may even make the situation worse than it is now. Where the changes are not practical, it is obvious that we must work around the problems. Changes must be made, either inside of the hobby to the method stamp collecting, or outside the hobby to remove the problems. These are things to start people thinking.

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At first glance the falling number of active collectors, and the decline in new collectors, are seen as the causes of the decline in interest in philately. These are not causes but an effect caused by the things listed and possibly by other things not listed.

The high face value of the new stamps

The face value of the stamps is set by Canada Post to offset their cost in providing postal service. This value is controlled, or rather forced upon the postal authorities by the requirements of operating the postal system. Another reason for the higher cost is the change of policy from the government providing a postal service to the public to a policy of user pay. The solution of course is to lower the cost of mailing a letter. It is doubtful that Canada Post will accept this solution. It is also doubtful that the government will revert to its former policy. Another solution, one which can be controlled by collectors is to collect postally used stamps rather than to collect mint stamps exclusively.

The large number of different stamps issued

This again is an option of the postal authorities who decide how many stamps to issue. There are several reasons for changing to a new issue of stamps. The postal rate may have to be change to cover rising costs. There may be an important event that the government may wish to commemorate. There may be a new monarch to be shown on the stamps. All these are valid reasons but they are not the only reasons.

A driving factor in the number of stamps issued is the greed of the postal authorities who, following the lead of some small third or fourth world administrations have discovered a good thing. The more stamps they can coax collectors to put into their collections in Mint condition the more money they will make. The high number of commemorative stamps being issued is where this problem shows itself. The greed becomes very apparent when the subjects of the commemorative stamps do not bear any relation to our country. One correction for this is for collectors to stop collecting these issues.

At present there is a feeling that collections must be complete. This should not be the standard for a good collection. A good collection should be based on good taste. The standards for

taste will depend on the standards for exhibiting and judging stamp collections.

The high number of commemorative stamps being issued is being fostered on collectors specializing in collecting commemoratives. They cannot be faulted for their choice of specialization. Yet their choice is a factor which influences the number of different stamps produced. Fewer issues of better quality would probably be favoured by these collectors. This again is a question of the standards of the collectors.

A possible correction for this problem could be to put pressure on the government to make a statuary requirement that the issue of commemoratives be related to regular definitive issues by a fixed ratio based on the number of stamps required for postal use. It is possible that MP's would be favourable to this suggestion if it were pointed out that this would show Canada as a more mature nation, not a money-grubbing nation. It would probably take government action to limit the number of commemoratives as Canada Post would not likely give up this easy source of revenue.

One way that Canada Post could get some of the collectors to purchase and collect some mint stamps would be to make very slight colour differences in definitive stamps which are issued in different formats. At present dealers catalogue stamps issued in booklets with a stamp identification number for the booklet. This in spite of the fact that some of the stamps are imperforated on one or more sides, which by definition makes them a different stamp. By also having a slight colour shade difference collectors of used stamps could identify which books the stamps came from. This would make the collection of common definitives more interesting to new collectors and would thus increase their interest in collecting. In all probability they would continue to collect and move on to collecting mint stamps.

This would be in the interest of both the collecting fraternity and to the financial interest of Canada Post. The idea of a shade difference could be carried to stamps which are issued in mini-sheets. At present once the stamps are collected, the source cannot be detected. This is the type of thing that Canada Post can do which would be an aid to promoting stamp collecting. It is likely that some advance collectors would want to have complete mini-sheets in their collections to show why they collected the shade difference. At the same time collectors would not feel it absolutely necessary to purchase whole sheets. The result would be to lower the financial pressure on collectors and at little cost have some benefit to Canada Post.

At the same time a government policy for the issuing of commemoratives should limit the subject being commemorated to subjects which are typical of Canada and which show Canada in a good light. We are in danger of having to copy stamps which have been issued by other countries for no reason other than to make money. This type of action does not put our country in a good light.

The smaller number of stamps being used

This problem concerns mainly the collector of postally used stamps. There are several reasons for this. One of the reasons is the general reduction in use of mail because of use of other means of communication such as telephone and e-mail on the Internet. Increasing use of metered mail results in fewer stamps being used. This problem is aggravated by the Canada Post action in having their clerks discouraging the use of stamps and encouraging the use of a metered sticker when a letter is taken to the post office for weighing. It seems strange that Canada Post claims to encourage stamp collecting yet discourage the use of stamps. I have even seen a suggestion that reduced postage should be charged for mail with metered stickers. That is, there would be a premium charged for the use of postage stamps! This is a major cause for reduction in the number of stamp collectors. Of course they wish us to collect only mint stamps so they can sell the stamp yet not give the service of handling mail!

Discouragement of new collectors

New collectors are generally children. There are of course some new adult collectors, but most are children. For children cost is a big item The shear number and high face value of mint stamps is daunting to anyone who is trying to collect mint stamps. To this is added the cost of other materials required in collecting. The cost of a package of stamp hinges has risen from a few cents to several dollars (faster than the rate of inflation). Stamp album costs have increased greatly over the years. The answer to this problem is to collect used stamps on plain paper in loose leaf binders on plain paper. Better quality and fancier albums and collecting mint stamps can come later when interest in collecting has become established. Dealers would be better advised to encourage collecting rather than encourage the sale of albums. The desire for good albums will come with experience in collecting.

Another thing that discourages new collectors is that collecting mint stamps appears to the new collector very similar to collecting sports cards, and not as interesting. Mint collecting becomes very interesting when it becomes an adjunct to collecting postally used stamps. In this case it provides a good clear copy of a stamp that may be badly cancelled and the collection of both show the postal connection, which then becomes the focus of the interest. A new collector may not see this focus and thus not become interested.

The solution to this problem is to point out to all concerned that most collectors start as collectors of used stamps. If they cannot get used stamps, they will not start to collect. If they do not collect, they will not graduate to collecting mint stamps. Discouraging the collection of used stamps will in the long run discourage the collecting of mint stamps. This will be harmful to Canada Post, dealers and collectors alike. The focus must be kept on postage stamps or the hobby will deteriorate to the level of collecting items which were made only to be collected.

Difficulty in obtaining good used stamps

This problem occurs partly due to the general reduction of letters using stamps as discussed above. Another cause of this problem for collectors of used stamps is the change in method of distributing stamps. At one time all post offices carried all stamps. Now due to the large number of stamps in print at any one time this is no longer practical as the number of stamps of common denominations which each office would have to carry would exceed the number of stamps they could sell. The post office quickly recognized that if all offices carried all stamps many would have to be recalled as new stamps were issued.

This would not be cost efficient so they opened a special philatelic office ostensibly to provide a service to the collector. This served to reduce the necessity of sending all stamps to all offices which in turn resulted in only those who used the philatelic office (collectors) would purchase these stamps. The general public, many of who are not aware of the philatelic office, would never see or hear of these stamps. The effect of this on collectors is that most of the stamps sold through the special office are being used for mint collections. A secondary effect is that less of these stamps get postally used and thus do not become available for collectors of used stamps. This is another example of Canada Post encouraging the collection of mint stamps and discouraging the collection of used stamps.

This problem is aggravated by stamp dealers who find it much more convenient to obtain a sheet of mint stamps and tear off one as required than it is to obtain used stamps, soak off the stamps and sort the stamps for sale. Dealers will have to balance their convenience with the effects of reducing the number of collectors. This could become a matter of continued existence for both the dealer and the collector.

The solution for this problem is to evoke the law of supply and demand. Demand that the dealer obtain a good used copy of a stamp that you desire. If enough demands are made for good copies of used stamps they will see that such stamps are available. There may be an increase in the cost but this will level out at a proper level (which may be higher than mint, as they may have to use mint to obtain used stamps) as more collectors make their desires known.

Another situation caused by this difficulty in obtaining good used stamps is that collectors are unable to amass sufficient copies to provide a good basis for trading stamps with other collectors. This trading of stamps was a feature of collecting that promoted enthusiasm in collecting. It encouraged new collectors as they could improve their collections and see how others collected. Stamp clubs are losing members who no longer find club activities interesting. Trading stamps was an activity that only stamp clubs carried out, without trading there was very little difference between stamp clubs and any other club.

Types of Cancellations

There has been much discussion on the changes Canada Post has made in cancellations. At one time the most desired cancellation was a nice clear, clean, round cancellation made with a cancelling hammer. This is now seldom used and cancellations are made with rubber stamps resulting in heavy lines and smears which obscure the face of the stamp. Stamps are also cancelled by spray jet printing in a form which is considered undesirable.

The type of cancellation, is of course, the perogative of the post office as the purpose of the cancellation is to show that the stamp has been postally used. The method used is, of course, a matter of economics. However, there is no reason why Canada Post cannot come up with a cancellation which is appealing to collectors as well as efficient in cancelling the stamp. Even rubber stamps can be made with thin lines that would give a nice cancellation. This is something that could be requested of Canada Post. If they are really interested in encouraging collectors, they will be able to come up with a method that is satisfactory to collectors as well as efficient. It can always be pointed out that if the interest in collecting stamps drops much more due to their actions/inactions they will have killed the golden goose. If they don't want to be cooperative, well we don't have to collect Canadian stamps.

Another problem which occurs has a similar cause. Canada Post is very careless with cancellations, not only by making a mess of the stamp, but by missing the cancellation entirely. This results in the collector of used stamps obtaining what amounts to a mint stamp with no glue on the back. The post office claim that using any stamp which has been through the mail is illegal. A claim could be made that the stamp has not been used until it has been cancelled. This point should be clarified by some authorities (other than the post office, who claim it is illegal in an attempt to cover their mistake). If it was recognized that uncancelled stamps were legal to use maybe Canada Post would be more careful in doing their job.

GST

The imposition of GST on the purchase of stamps has a bad effect on the collection of either new or used stamps. This is purely a matter of the way it was done and the stubborn way that the method is continued. Originally stamps were designed to pay for postage fees and taxes, i.e. war taxes. When the stamp was placed on a letter, the postage was paid. When the stamp was cancelled, it became a receipt. If GST has to be collected on mail it should be included in the postage charge so that the receipt shows that both the postage charge and the GST have been paid. It is legal to include GST in the price of an item and there is a precedent in the inclusion of war tax in the value of postage stamps. Changing to this method would make no change to the amount collected on mint stamps but it would require a bureaucrat to change his mind. It would have removed the tax on used stamps, but if this encouraged collecting the government would eventually make this loss up on the tax on mint stamps.

The method of collecting GST on the value of stamps sent to collectors on approval has all but stopped the use of approvals from dealers outside of Canada. Canada customs puts a value on the entire approval submitted to the collector. Thus the collector is required to pay GST on both the stamps he purchases and the stamps he returns to the dealer. There is probably a method of getting reimbursed but it is so cumbersome that fewer and fewer collectors are using this system. This reduces the fostering of international friendships which were one of the mainstays of philately. GST is applied not only to stamps sent by dealers but stamps sent by swapping with pen friends.

Summation

These problems, like others which have occurred in the past, can be overcome. The best way to overcome them is to change our collecting habits. We must take care that changes we make will improve the hobby not destroy it. We will have a greater effect by changing the standards for exhibiting than by writing letters or articles of complaint. The hobby became great by being very interesting to collectors. This interest showed in our enthusiasm and enthusiasm is catching and thus others took up the hobby. Newcomers to a hobby are not encouraged by attending a meeting where the main subject of conversation are the difficulties of collectors in collecting. This will only encourage them to find another hobby which does not have so many problems!

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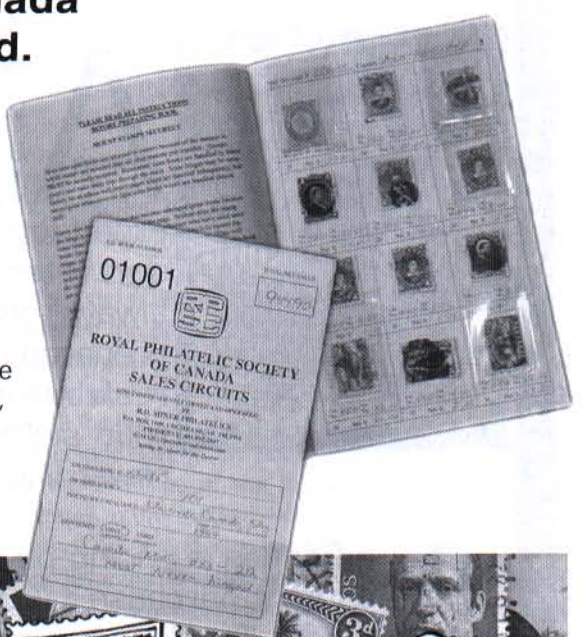

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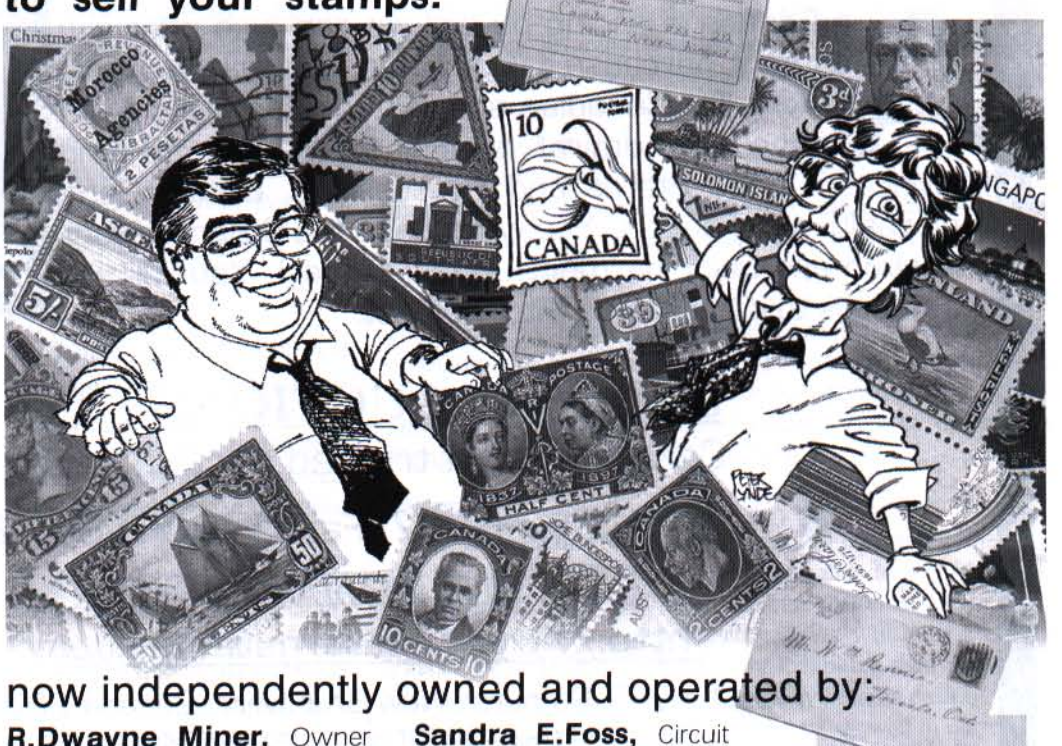

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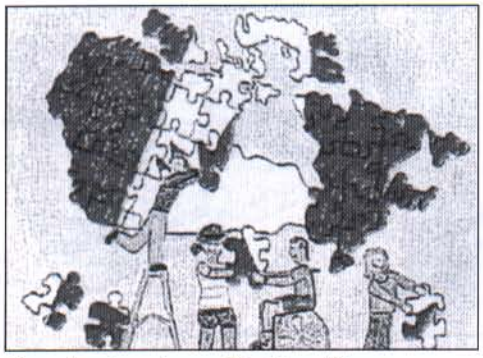
Stampin' the Future



Grand prize winner Christine Weera Edmonton, AB

Grand prize winner Andrew Wright Collingwood, ON

Canada Post has announced that Rosalie Anne Nardelli of Montreal, QC, Sarah Lutgen of Vernon, BC, Andrew Wright of Collingwood, ON, and Christine Weera of Edmonton, AB, are the four grand prize winners of the Stampin' the Future contest. The contest asked children from across Canada to draw their vision of our country for the next millennium. The artwork from the four winning entries will be immortalized on special stamps to be issued July 1, 2000 in Ottawa, ON.

Thirty finalists, whose designs are shown here, were chosen from among the more than 56,000 entries received. All 30 designs will be on display in the Pitney Bowes Art Gallery of the Canadian Postal Museum at the Canadian Museum of Civilization. The artworks will be presented from July 2000 to January 2001.

Stampin' the Future, a national stamp design contest to celebrate the new millennium, is part of a larger contest initiated by the United States Postal Service. More than 29 countries are participating in this international event. The winners from each country will gather in Anaheim, California in July 2000 for a special global celebration. The four winning Canadian drawings will become postage stamps to be issued on Canada Day 2000.

Along with this once in a lifetime opportunity, the Grand Prize winners have won a trip for four to Anaheim, California, an IBM personal computer and a CD-ROM encyclopedia from McGraw-Hill. The participating sponsors included: Via Rail Canada, IBM Canada, Bouledogue Bazar (Radio-Canada Télévision), YTV, McGraw-Hill, Québecor Printing Canada and the Government of Canada.

Grand prize winner Sarah Lutgen Vernon, BC

Grand prize winner Rosalie Anne Nardelli, Montreal, QC

Jolene Morris, Fort St-John, BC

Lucie Major, Green Valley, ON

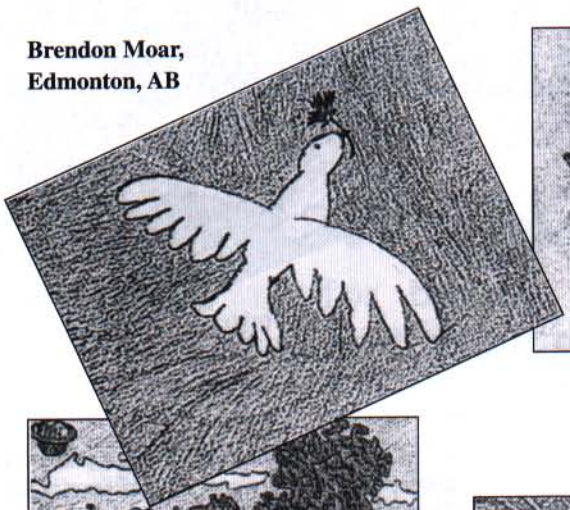
Postes Canada annoncé noms des quatre grands gagnants du concours Timbrons l'avenir. Il s'agit de Rosalie Anne Nargdelli (Montréal QC), de Sarah Lutgen (vernon BC), d'Andrew Wright (Collingwood ON), et de Christine Weera (Edmonton AB). Dans le cadre du concours, les jeunes Canadiens et Canadiennes étaient invités à dessiner leur vision du prochain millénaire. Les dessins des quatre gagnants seront immortalisés sur quatre timbres commémoratifs spéciaux qui seront présentés le 1er juillet 2000 à Ottawa, en Ontario.

Les dessins des finalistes ont été choisis parmi les 56,000 reçus dans le cadre du concours. Les 30 dessins seront présentés dans la Galerie d'art de Pitney Bowes du Musée canadien de la poste, situé au Musée canadien des civilisations, de juillet 2000 à janvier 2001.

Le concours Timbrons l'avenir fait partie d'une initiative lancée par le United States Postal Service. En tout, plus de 29 pays participent à cet événement international. Les lauréats de chaque pays seront rassemblés à Anaheim, en Californie, en juillet de l'an 2000 pour une célébration spéciale d'envergure mondiale. Les dessins des gagnants canadiens formeront les motifs de quatre timbres-poste qui seront émis à l'occasion de la Fête du Canada de l'an 2000.

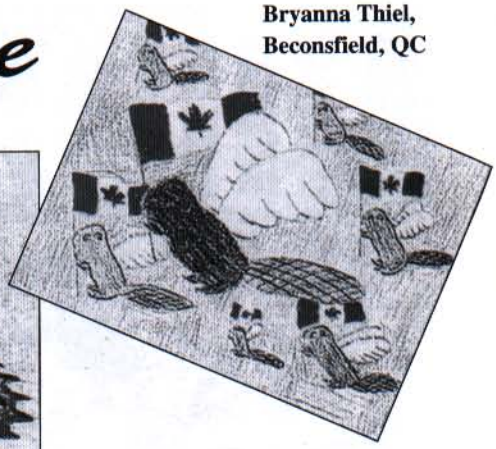
Les quatre lauréats gagnent également un voyage pour quatre personnes à Anaheim, en Californie, un CD-ROM, de McGraw-Hill. Parmi les commanditaires participants figurent: Via Rail Canada, IBM Canada, Bouledogue Bazar (télévision de Radio-Canada), YTV, McGraw-Hill, les Imprimeries Québécor et le gouvernement du Canada.

Stampin' the Future



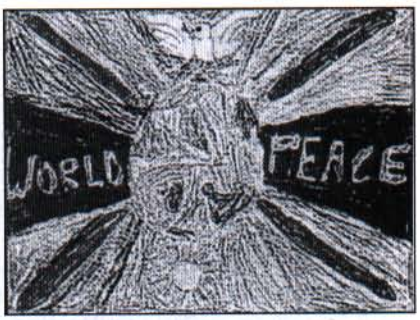
Brendon Moar,
Edmonton, AB

Nicole Gyori, Rimbey, AB

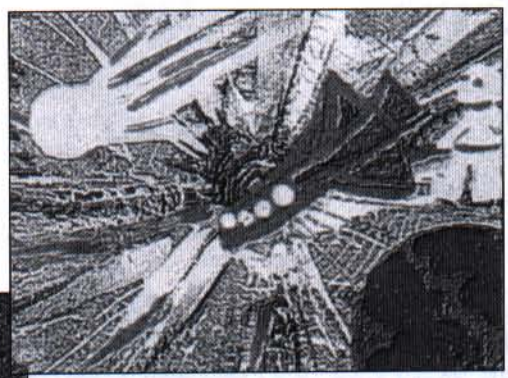


Bryanna Thiel,
Beconsfield, QC

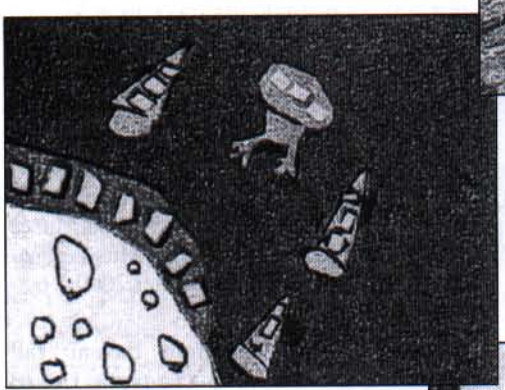
Rebecca Kutcher, Dauphin, MB



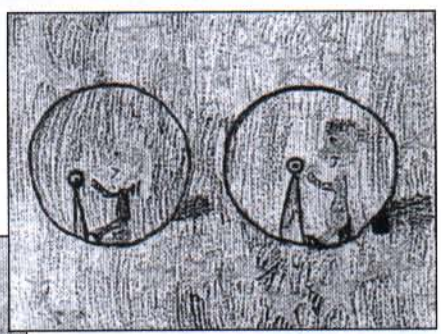
Susan Jarvis, Paradise, NF



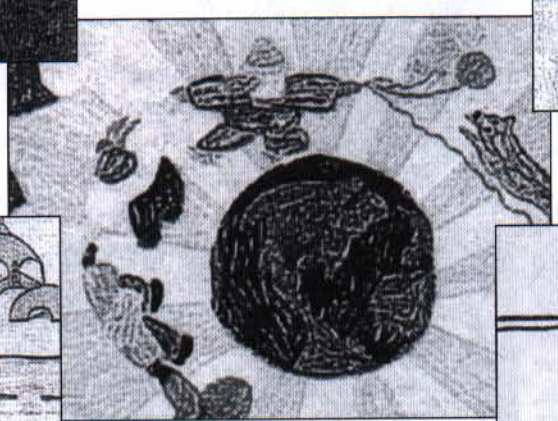
Geneviève Plourde, Victoriaville, QC



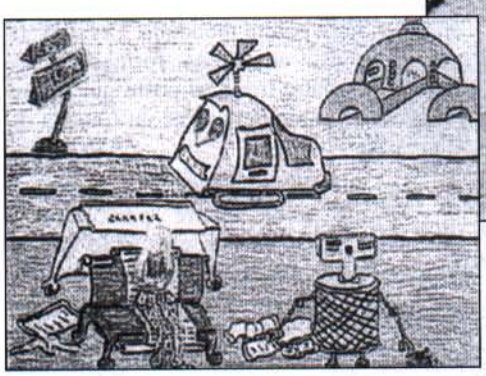
Ely Golvin, North York, ON



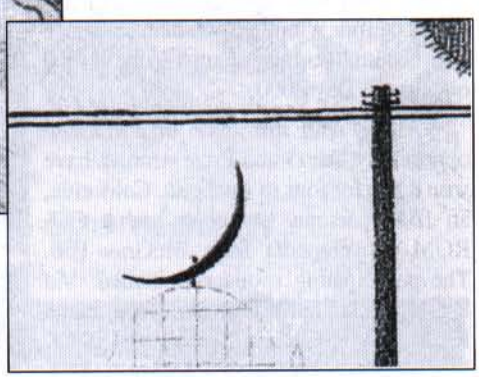
Marie-Pier Trottier,
Cap Madeleine, QC



Annie Drapeau, Shediac, NB

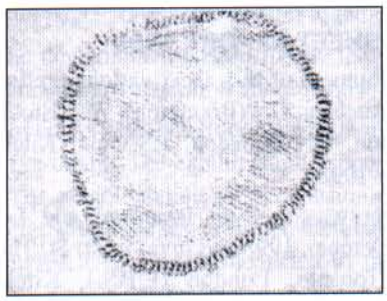


Paulette Lévesque, St. Quentin, NB

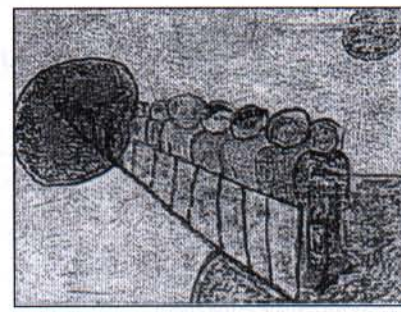


Tarik Eldjama, Gatineau, QC

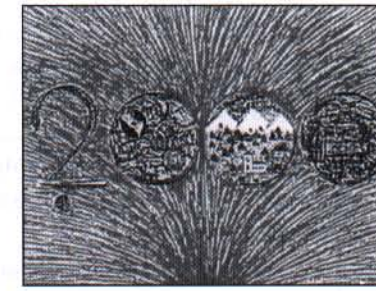
Stampin' the Future



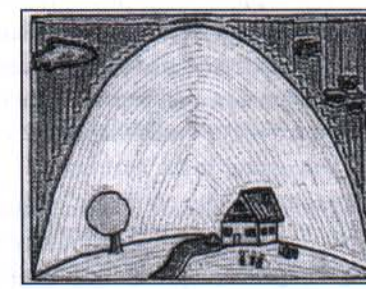
Chelsey Lake, Crapaud PE



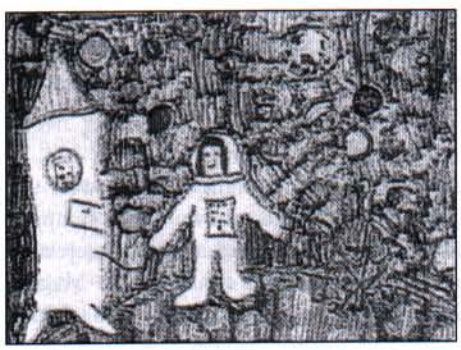
Marie-Eve Caron, Saint Romuald, QC



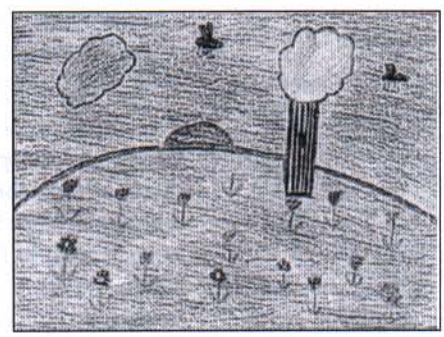
Sarah Messerli, Warwick, QC



Erin Joanna Love, Invermere, BC



Sofie Quinn, Grand Tracadie, PE



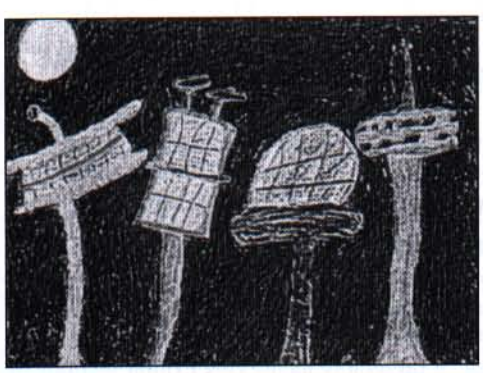
Jessica Morin, Kapuskasing ON

Tyler Derkatch, Saskatoon, SK

Nancy Shangguan, New Westminster, BC

Dane Matthew Langevin, Whitehorse, YT

Marney Ritchot, Grunthal, MB



Rebecca Ryall, Toronto, ON

Madeline Hall, Ottawa, ON

Michael Werchola, Kitchener, ON

Editor's note: The following is an article on standardized judging criteria. It is meant as a conversation piece and to encourage response.

Judging is a contentious subject and needs to be discussed if we are to progress beyond an unsatisfactory system which is based on old concepts. The reasons for and the methods used to judge exhibits needs some fresh air. But the process is not clearly understood. Judges in the past were reluctant to discuss matters which are based on personal opinions and, perhaps, difficult to put down on paper. The new proposal promises some good answers. A French language version has been promised and will appear in the next issue.

Some exhibits are obviously outstanding. You do not need to be any kind of an expert to realize that a burning passion created something special and interesting to look at. Other exhibits are so boring and uninteresting by comparison that it is easy to give them a "thumbs down". The real problem is the "in-between" exhibits. These evoke such comments as, "the judges sure knew what they were doing", or comments which are the exact opposite. Or worse yet, suspicions about an "old boy's network" come to the surface.

A group of collectors have experimented with a proposed judging method which could be adapted to fit local, regional and international shows. As the exhibit level increases, the greater emphasis is placed on a narrowing scale of differences. Since very few collections are exactly the same, a fair process has to be used to decide which exhibit can garner the highest average points when viewed by a number of judges on the panel.

Some experienced philatelists may not like this system because it is foreign to their previous experiences. They resist change because they feel change is not required. Perhaps they are correct Maybe changes are not required at the FIP exhibit level. But that is a different playground with different rules. Many collectors do not aspire to reach this higher level.

They may not have the deep pockets to pay for expensive items and if they did, they may not know where to get the items they need to win a Gold medal at an FIP world exhibition.

But, as stamp collecting practices change over time, so is it necessary to change the way they can be compared with each other. The old rules simply do not fit any longer. The standard modus operandi was to ignore new developments until at least 50 years went by. It took that long for facts to shake out in the old, slower moving world. That practice greatly simplified the judging process. But are the old rules still relevant at every level in the world today when news can spread all over the world within seconds using fax machines, the Internet or cheap long distance phone costs?

LOCAL JUDGING SHEET REPORT 1999

During the development of this sheet various preliminary forms were used in Bramalea, ON (Brampton), Woodstock, ON (Oxford, P.S.), London, ON (London, P.S.) and Kitchener-Waterloo, ON in early 1998.

The current sheet was used in Brantford and London (Middlesex, S.C.) in October, 1998 and in (at least) St. Thomas, Woodstock, North Toronto, London (L.P.S.), Kitchener-Waterloo and Hanover, in Ontario and Buffalo, NY, so far this year. The exhibits included in these shows ranged from six, 12 and 16 page exhibits to multi-frame six and 16 page exhibits, including; novice, youth, traditional, thematic, postal history, postal stationery, revenue, display and special studies classes.

For the future, the developers feel that the sheet needs wider distribution and publicity to expand its area of use. If more clubs and potential exhibitors become familiar with the sheet perhaps more clubs will try judged shows. Clubs in upper and central New York state have expressed a strong interest in using this sheet. For more information contact: Ken Magee, R.R.5, G.M.B. 903, Clinton, ON, (519) 482-7754, kmagee@tcc.on.ca.

Note: The development of and the reasons for this sheet are described in the article *Standardized Point Sheet for Judging Local Shows* in the most recent issue (Vol. 13, No. 2, dated April, 1999, pages 13-16), of *The Philatelic Exhibitor*.

Extended Criteria List

TITLE PAGE (10 per cent):

The title page is a guide which should educate the viewers, including the judges, giving them a very clear idea of what they will see in the exhibit, especially those who may not be familiar with the material. The title page should focus on the exhibit and the material it contains, not on the subject's historical background. However, in a Postal History exhibit, some historical information is usually needed on the title page.

Title: The title should be brief, yet clear and inclusive. It should appear only on this page. The title should be sufficiently larger than the text as to be obvious, but not so large or bold as to be overpowering. Also included here could be a second-plan-page for thematics. The use of a separate plan page is encouraged for a highly developed thematic exhibit.

Introduction: This should expand on the title and define the scope, or limits, of the exhibits. A one or two sentence summary should suffice, here.

Plan/Outline/Statement of Organization: One of these is needed to give the sequence and arrangement of the exhibit. It should indicate how the exhibitor will accomplish the stated purpose. This part should briefly list and/or explain the contents of the exhibit like a table of contents does in a book. It should tell "where to find what" – preferably identifying exhibit sections by frames, or by page numbers in a short exhibit.

DEVELOPMENT (15 per cent):

The exhibit should have a clear beginning (the title page), a central theme (the bulk of the material) and a logical ending – without saying "The End". The conclusion should refer back to your title page, "tying" the exhibit together.

The development should follow the plan/outline/statement of organization. The exhibit should show continuity.

Coverage: The material selected should illustrate the chosen subject or theme. The exhibit should show balance between sections. The exhibit should show cohesion-coverage should seem complete, within the stated limits. Unrelated material should not be included. (All aspects identified in the introduction and/or plan, etc., should be present and shown in proportion to their significance.)

KNOWLEDGE & RESEARCH (25 per cent):

The degree of knowledge is expressed by the choice of a wide range of philatelic and/or thematic material. The write-up should be clear and concise, and correctly describe the material being shown.

Personal Study (Research): The write-up should go beyond information which is available in standard catalogues (or reference works for thematics). Key/special items should be appropriately discussed. In a Postal History exhibit identification of markings by discreet reference to a standard text can be helpful.

PHILATELIC MATERIAL (30 per cent):

Selection: Material in the exhibit should be identified correctly and be appropriate to the topic. The presence of unusual or interesting items should be given consideration.) Thematic exhibits will be improved by a variety of philatelic items (spread across the exhibits) besides regular stamps, souvenir sheets and uses on commercial covers. These might include such items as coils, booklets, different types of stamps, varieties, meters, special cancellations, postal stationery, (A) maximum card, etc., if they relate to the chosen theme.

(Judges dislike mixed Mint and Used items together in the same series – show them separately.)

Collecting Challenge: Consideration is given to the degree of difficulty normally expected in assembling the material shown.

Condition: This is based on an assessment of the quality of the material shown relative to the condition in which such material is readily available.

PRESENTATIONS (20 per cent):

In local level shows Presentation is a major factor in determining awards. As the exhibit moves up in levels, through Regional and National, then to International, Presentation becomes of decreasing importance (from 20 per cent down to five per cent); while Rarity, Scarcity and the overall Philatelic Importance of the exhibit become increasingly important. At the local level, Rarity, Scarcity and Philatelic Importance are not parts of the judging criteria.

Visual Appeal: The exhibit should be easy to understand and be attractive to viewers. Philatelic material should dominate the pages throughout. There should be some variety in page arrangements, especially between consecutive pages. Page stock should be uniform, preferably of a white or light colour.

Write-up: The text should be easy to read and follow. It should be consistent in size and style. The text should not overwhelm the philatelic material.

Mounting: Mounts and framing of material should be neat and inconspicuous. If a colour photocopy or computer scan of one complete side of a cover is used it should not be life size – 70 per cent is suggested. Any highlighting of "key" items should be done subtly.

Layout: Pages should be neat, with tasteful balance of material. Pages should neither be too empty nor too crowded.

Judges will be made aware of exhibits by novice and/or youth exhibitors. ❐

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EVALUATION SHEET FOR REGIONAL LEVEL EXHIBITIONS

(FOR ALL CLASSES EXCEPT THEMATIC)

(SHOW TITLE + DATE)

1) EXHIBIT TITLE _____ FRAME # _____

2) EXHIBIT TITLE _____ FRAME # _____

3) EXHIBIT TITLE _____ FRAME # _____

CRITERIA	EXHIBIT 1	EXHIBIT 2	EXHIBIT 3
Presentation	15	15	15
Development	10	10	10
Research	10	10	10
Condition	10	10	10
Rarity	10	10	10
Importance	10	10	10
Treatment	15	15	15
Knowledge	20	20	20
TOTAL	100	100	100

AWARD LEVELS: Gold 85-100 Vermeil 75-84 Silver 65-74
Silver-Bronze 60-64 Bronze 50-59 Certificate 0-49

COMMENTS – EXHIBIT 1:

COMMENTS – EXHIBIT 2:

COMMENTS – EXHIBIT 3:

DRAFT COPY
INPUT REQUESTED

Exhibit Title_____
Frame Nos._____ Category _____

CRITERIA	Max. Points	Points Awarded	Comments
Presentation Visual Appeal Write-up Mounting Layout	15	_____	
Treatment Title page, Plan, Follows the plan, Coverage	15	_____	
Importance Significance of topic	10	_____	
Condition Relative quality	10	_____	
Rarity/Scarcity incl. significant items	10	_____	
Knowledge Information Own studies, accuracy	20	_____	
Research Comprehensiveness, Beyond regular sources	10	_____	
Development Start – middle – end continuity	10	_____	
TOTAL	100	_____	Award Level_____

AWARD LEVELS: GOLD 85-100; VERMEIL 75-84; SILVER 65-74; SILVER BRONZE 60-64; BRONZE 50-59; CERTIFICATE 0-49.

General Remarks: _____

_____

For the judging panel:_____

DRAFT COPY
INPUT REQUESTED

Exhibit Title _____

Frame Nos. _____ Category_____

Factor and remarks	Max. Points	Score
TITLE PAGE (Title, Scope, and Plan/Outline/Organization)	10	
DEVELOPMENT (and Coverage)	15	
KNOWLEDGE & RESEARCH (Personal Study)	25	
PHILATELIC MATERIAL (Selection, Challenge, and Condition)	30	
PRESENTATION (Visual Appeal, Write-up, Mounting and Layout)	20	
Total Points	100	

AWARD_____;

SPECIAL AWARD(S)_____

Award Levels: Certificate 0-49; Bronze 50-59; Silver-Bronze 60-64; Silver 65-74; Vermeil 75-84; Gold 85-100

General Remarks: _____

_____

_____

For the judging panel:_____

A Snowy Day in Space

by Kenneth R. Coe

In 1962 I acquired a small number of Cape Canaveral, First Day of Issue covers of the Project Mercury, Friendship 7 flight. Lt. Col. John H. Glenn Jr., aged 41, became the first U.S. Astronaut to orbit the Earth solo on February 20th, 1962. His first historic flight took about five hours to make a triple spin around the earth.

A number of Mint copies of U.S. #1193 were tucked away.

Senator John Glenn, now 77, roared back into space at 2:19 p.m. on Thursday, October 29th, 1998 to begin a nine day space flight on the Shuttle Discovery. On this flight he had six crew mates on the team and returned to space as the first orbiting geriatric test subject.

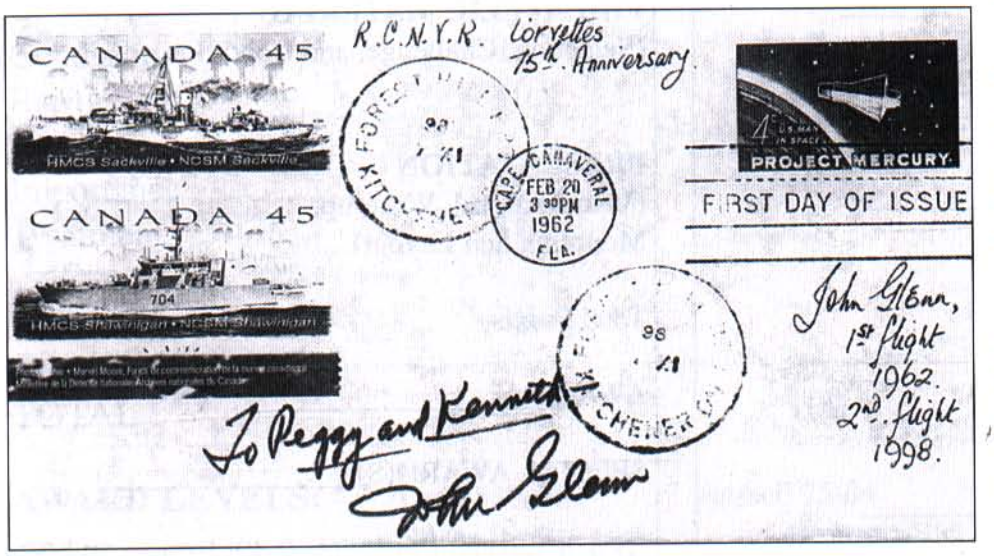
"What would have been a routine science flight, (America's 123rd human space flight), attracting little notice outside space circles was transformed into a media spectacle by Glenn's participation. Discovery's thunderous liftoff and nerve-wracking 8-1/2 minute climb to orbit capped a long campaign by John Glenn to snag a space-shuttle seat," quoted one daily newspaper.

The four-term Senator began pestering NASA for a ride more than two years ago. He was struck by the similarities between aging and the effects of weightlessness – flimsy bones, flabby muscles, fitful sleep – and offered himself as a test subject.

On Discovery's return, John Glenn was scheduled to remain in Houston for three weeks to undergo medical tests.

I sent a covering letter, with our congratulations, to John Glenn, asking if he would kindly autograph three covers for my wife and I. We also included a return envelope, dressed up with more than sufficient mint U.S. space stamps attached so not to incur postage due!

Thursday, January 7th, 1999 was a cold, snowy day. Our door-bell rang and the mail-lady handed me a nine by 12 inch manila envelope with a prominent United States Senate logo on the upper left corner. On opening it, I found four covers; one was my return envelope, still unused, as well as the three 1962 Mercury FDCs to which I had added another Mercury stamp and a pair of Canadian RCNVR Corvette stamps, issued in early November.



We were delighted to see that each of the Mercury Covers bore John Glenn's signature but the bonus was the one he personalized with the additional salutation "To Peggy and Kenneth" above his name. A nice personal touch by a 'Classy' gentleman.

Incidentally, the manila outer cover from the Senate cost $1.14 from Washington, DC, but under the U.S. Postal Service label was a facsimile of John Glenn – providing a nice tie-in to the autographed covers we received.

SECOND EDITION OF MARKINGS

Second Edition of OAT and AV2 Markings

The first edition of the above book has been sold out and a second edition is now being prepared.

Since publication of the first edition it has become obvious that a high percentage of covers with the above markings are held by specific country collectors – not necessarily aerophilatelists. Many collectors from all over the world have been most cooperative and, unsolicited, have sent me lists of their holdings as well as photocopies of individual covers.

In order to have as large and accurate a data base as possible, I would ask that collectors who have these covers, and with whom I have not yet been in contact, please send me photocopies (please have them full size and note the colour of the strike as well as the date of posting) or a letter detailing what they have. The results of this research will be of help to philatelists everywhere.

Please send to Murray Heifetz, 49 Ternhill Cres., Don Mills, ON, Canada M3C 2E4.

In addition to OAT and AV2 Markings, if you have the circular "Air Transit" marking applied in Hong Kong, this is also requested.

List of Fellows of the Royal Philatelic Society of Canada

The position of a Fellow of The Royal Philatelic Society of Canada was created in 1960 and the first Fellow elected was Fred Jarrett.

A complete list of Fellows follows together with the date of their election. Deceased members are indicated by an asterisk (*).

Name	Year Elected
Fred Jarrett *	1960
Allen H. Christensen *	1962
Dr. G.M. Geldert	1962
Vincent G. Greene *	1962
Louis M. Lamouroux *	1963
Russell T. Waines *	1963
J. Watson Yuile *	1963
Herbert Buckland *	1964
Dr. C.M. Jephcott *	1964
Stuart Johnstone *	1964
Dr. Norman O. Boyd *	1965
Alan G. McKanna	1965
James Law *	1966
E.A. Richardson *	1966
Colin H. Bailey *	1968
Mrs. Phyllis Geldert	1968
Harry Sutherland	1968
G.E. Wellburn *	1968
Leslie A. Davenport *	1969
A. Graham Fairbanks *	1969
Cart R. Mangold *	1969
Frank W. Campbell *	1970
Dr. Henry D. Hicks *	1971
Kenneth Rowe	1971
George C. Marler *	1972
Douglas Patrick *	1973
James N. Sissons *	1973
Guy des Rivieres	1975
Charles P. de Volpi *	1976
James E. Kraemer	1976
James A. Pike *	1976
Andrew H. Hinriehs *	1977
Dr. Robert A. Chaplin	1978
Col. James T. DeVoss	1978
Dr. Charles W. Hollingsworth	1978
Col. Robert H. Pratt *	1978
John F. Ayre *	1979
Michael Madesker	1979
Michael Millar	1981
Harold G. Gosney	1981
Sam C. Nickle *	1982
Hans Reiche	1982
Dr. J.C. Arnell	1984
Gustave F. Snels	1984
Arthur W. Leggett	1984
Beverlie Clark	1985
C. Ronald McGuire	1985
Harry W. Lussey	1985
R.K. Malott	1986
W.G. Robinson	1986
G. Collins Baugild	1987
Bernard A. Hennig	1987
Dr. John J. Macdonald	1987
W.H.P. Maresch	1987
Susan M. McDonald *	1987
George B. Robertson *	1987
Henri Gauthier *	1988
Peter M. Mann	1988
E.R. Toop *	1988
Allan L. Steinhart *	1988
David Dixon	1989
Ralph Mitchener *	1989
Keith R.S. Spencer	1990
Andrew Cronin	1990
Lorne W. Bentham	1990
Bernard Lavallee	1991
George S. Wegg *	1991
Eric Rushton	1991
Lt. Col. C. Fred Black	1992
Lola Caron	1992
Lt. Col. William J. Bailey	1994
Father J.C. Lafleur	1995
Dr. Gray Scrimgeour	1996
E. Burton Sellers	1996
Joseph M. Shelton	1996
E.A. Harris	1997
Charles J.G. Verge	1997
H.G. Walburn	1997
Richard Gratton	1998
Murray Heifetz	1998
Cimon Morin	1998
J. Donald Wilson	1998
John J. Jamieson	1999
William E. Topping	1999
Dennis Masse	1999

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Postmarked Ottawa

by Hans Reiche

The number of new stamps that are being issued by Canada Post are mind boggling. One special collecting field is the many different coil stamps with most of them issued in very large quantities and for a long period of time.

A few specialists who collect coils have been wondering if anyone has classified these different coils, similar to the Centennial stamps. For example a yellow gum type of coil has been reported recently and a number of paper varieties for the 45-cent coils. Certainly an interesting study field. There is also the tendency to collect them in strips of four rather than in pairs only. (**editor's note:** *the yellow gum may be a fake.*)

A special envelope and cancel was prepared by the Siemens stamp club to celebrate the existence of 75 years of the Siemensstadt, that was founded in 1899. Siemens company employed more than 60,000 and was located in three areas around Berlin and the cover shows the part of the company that was built around 1926. Transportation between the various places was done at that time by Postrider and for this special occasion these few, limited covers were also carried by a postal-rider from Spandau to Siemensstadt. The stamp used shows the first radio produced that had the nickname of D-Train. Werner Siemens transformed communication in Berlin. He built the first dynamo in 1867, the first electric run elevator, the streetcar and street lamps to electrify all of Berlin.

Many stamps can be found on various types of paper. Catalogues list the major paper varieties. It is important to identify papers. Thick or thin paper can make a major difference in a stamp. Take for example a 12-1/2 cents, Canada (no. 18). The thick paper variety rates about twice that of the regular paper.

The thin paper of the seven cent brown Admiral (no. 114) rates about double that of the regular paper. Or the first issue of Baden on thin paper, the first printings, rate about three times that of the second issue. To measure paper thickness one must take care not to be confused by the gum for mint stamps or by the printing dye that can be fairly thick.

A Micrometer is needed as well as to compare one stamp with another. By bending the stamp slightly when holding it may determine if the paper is thin or thick without an actual measurement. Thick papers are often similar to thin pieces of cardboard.

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Clark Named to Writers Hall of Fame

Douglas N. Clark of Georgia was elected to the Writers Hall of Fame. The announcement was made by Writers Unit president Alan Warren at the Writers Breakfast held on Sunday, February 28 at the Orange County Convention Center during the Americas 99 show in Orlando.

CIark's writing and editing skills have been most evident in the areas of regional postal history and transit post offices. For 10 years he has edited the *Transit Postmark Collector* for the Mobile Post Office Society. He has authored several monographs on street car mail services and edited *Stars in Those Cars* – reminiscences of RPO clerks.

Clark has served organized philately in a number of areas and has exhibited postal history and literature both nationally and internationally. He is an accredited APS judge.

by Mike Painter

How to Identify Wet and Dry Printing

The Editor asked me to respond to this question asked by C.W. Turner in the May/June issue. Prior to December 26, 1922, it was the practice to dampen paper when printing by the engraved (intaglio) process. On that date a new practice was introduced in which printing was done on dry, pre-gummed paper. By January 1926, all printing was done by the dry method. The only Canadian issues spanning the changeover were the Admirals and the 1922 special delivery.

Paper has a grain and, after dampening, it shrinks more across the grain than with the grain. The above stamps were usually printed with the design running vertically with the grain so wet printed stamps became narrower than dry printed stamps, which do not shrink. Their heights remained nearly the same. An exception was the "squat" printing on some booklets which resulted from the paper being fed with the grain horizontal, so wet printed stamps shrank in height, not width.

The difference in the special delivery stamps is easily measured, with the dry being 42-1/2 mm wide and the wet 41 mm. The difference in the Admirals is less obvious. Dry printed Admirals are about 18 mm wide and wet printed are about 1/2 mm narrower – roughly the width of the frame line. Some can be identified without measuring because Scott #104, 106, 111, 113 and 116 are all wet printing, and #109, 115 and 118 are all dry. Of the others, a check of the catalogue will show a few that can be identified by the die or by retouches (also by shades, but they're hard to pin down).

The rest are best identified by comparison to a known stamp. If you use a #109, 115 or 118, mint with original gum this is a reliable standard for a dry print. Used are less reliable since both printings may have shrunk a bit. Lay the stamp you want to identify on the bottom half of this known dry print. Use a magnifying glass to line up the vertical frames on one side, then check the other side with the glass. If the other frames line up, it's a dry print. If the top stamp is narrower, it's a wet print. You could use a known wet print as the standard, but wet prints vary a little and make identification less certain.

There are secondary characteristics of wet and dry printing, but none that are as dependable by themselves. Dry printed stamps sometimes appear embossed on the gum side, especially at the back of CANADA POSTAGE. Marler says the gum is slightly mottled and lighter on dry printings. If you have a sheet edge, the gum stops just short of the edge on wet printings. Boggs says wet printings are sharper and have more intense colours.

However, the main identifier is width, and once you have a number of Mint and Used, wet and dry, identified you have a good basis for checking others.

References

Unitrade Specialized Catalogue of Canada Stamps. (Introduction: see "Printing Processes and Terms Used").
Marler "The Admiral Issue of Canada" page 35.
Boggs "The Postage Stamps and Postal History of Canada" Quarterman reprint page 375.
Lowe "The Encyclopedia of British Empire Postage Stamps – North America" 1973, page 234.

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by Raconteur

How would you like it if every day a band of monkeys raided your garden and stole your vegetables? Well, such occurrences used to be common in Gibraltar.

Gibraltar is a promontory at the southern tip of the Spanish province of Andalusia, terminating in a great rock formation with limestone cliffs that rise more than 430 metres above sea level. The straits separating the Spanish peninsula from Africa are only 23 kilometres wide at Gibraltar, and control of Gibraltar has meant control of the gateway between the Mediterranean Sea and the Atlantic Ocean. Gibraltar is a British Crown Colony and has long been an important naval base.

In classical antiquity, Gibraltar was known as one of the Pillars of Hercules, the other pillar rising across the straits in Africa. The name Gibraltar is a corruption of Djeb el Tariq, "the hill of Tariq," after the Muslim leader who crossed from North Africa in A.D. 711 and began the conquest of Spain. Gibraltar remained in Muslim hands until its conquest by Spain in the 15th century. In 1704 the British captured the Rock during the war of the Spanish Succession, and British possession was confirmed in 1713 by the Treaty of Utrecht.

Its value as a naval base was unquestioned during the 19th century, and early in this century a great enclosed harbour was built. It was later enlarged and dockyards and machine shops were added.

During WWII the Rock was also used as an air base and because of that it was heavily bombed, thus causing the evacuation of most of the civilian population who are chiefly of Spanish and Italian origin.

In 1964 the colony achieved a large measure of internal self-government under an administration headed by a governor appointed by the British crown.

For some years now Spain has been reclaiming "the Rock," without success. But there is a legend that says the British will never lose control of Gibraltar as long as the Barbary apes live there.

So the British keep and protect the apes. While they are called apes, they are actually tailless monkeys... the only wild monkeys in Europe.

And seeing that they are now fed twice a day, they don't have to go raiding vegetable gardens anymore! They're so friendly today that they might even sit on your shoulder; but watch out... given half a chance they'll pick your pocket!

by Jim Measures

THE ROYAL PHILATELIC COLLECTION

In 1996 I took a school stamp club to Toronto to visit CAPEX, the International stamp show that was being held in Canada for only the third time. At CAPEX there was an exhibit sent by the Queen from the Royal Collection. Several of the children were fascinated to see the exhibit was written up by hand in pencil and asked me if it was the Queen's handwriting.

I, of course, didn't know; so I told them that I thought that it was more likely King George V's work as he was the person who built up this remarkable collection, although it has been maintained since by professional philatelists employed for the purpose.

Due to the children's interest I decided to write to the Queen to ask about the collection. I was pleased to recevie back a lovely hand written letter from Charles Goodwyn, keeper of the Royal Philatelic Collection. He enclosed a typed history of the Collection.

I had always believed that King George V had started this "Royal Collection", since he was the most prominent philatelist in British history and served as Vice President and later Patron of the Royal Philatelic Society – London, from 1893 until his death in 1936.

Mr. Goodwyn's history reveals that the Royal Collection began on April 8, 1856 when the Prince of Wales, later King Edward VII and his brother Prince Alfred visited the printing works of Messrs DeLa Rue & Co. The first items placed in the collection are two sheets endorsed, "*this small sheet of 6d postage labels is a sixth part of the sheet which was printed in the presence of His Royal Highness The Prince of Wales and His Royal Highness Prince Alfred, 8th April 1856 – Joseph Coggins, Officer of Inland Revenue*".

Apparently, Prince Alfred was the serious collector and shortly before he died he sold his collection to his older brother who subsequently gave it to his son, who would later become King George V.

King George was an enthusiastic and astute collector. He recognized rarity and made every effort to obtain the rarest stamps at the earliest possible opportunity. For example, by 1904 he had acquired both the 1d and the 2d Mauritius "POST OFFICE" stamps of 1847 – the first stamps issued by a colonial post office and probably the most prized stamps that any collector of British colonies stamps could wish to acquire. The 1d was purchased from the Earl of Kintore's collection and the matchless example of the 2d blue was acquired at auction in 1904 for a recorded price of £1,450. His intructions to his agent were "if the stamp is mine you may telegraph Sandringham to say so, but on no account mention the price."

To this purchase relates the story that a courtier asked the Prince of Wales if he had heard that some fool had paid £1,450 for a psotage stamp. "Yes", was the reply "I was that fool."

I don't think that he was such a fool when I look in my Scott catalogue and see that stamp valued at $1,100,000 US. Every stamp in the Royal Collection is not of such high value, but many of the rarities of the philatelic world have been preserved; thanks to the foresight of "that fool."

One of the more recent acquisitions of the Royal Collection, during the reign of Queen Elizabeth II, has been a collection of the pioneer Air Mail flights of Canada. I feel that we are fortunate that the Queen chooses to continue the traditions of her grandfather and is preserving some of the greatest treasures of philately for us and future generations of stamp collectors to see, as my school stamp club did at CAPEX.

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 nombreses demandes de philatélistes désireux de trouver des correspondants pour échanger des timbres. Ainsi a t elle décidé, pour rendre service à ses membres, de publier les noms intéressés d'outremer, afin que ceux qui désirent établir des rapports avec eux puissent la faire. Je vous signale toutefois que nous ne savons rien des personnes qui nous demandent de publier leur nom, c'est pourquoi je vous conseille d'être prudent en répondant à ces demandes d'échange.

ESPERANZA BLANCO
P.O. BOX 2222
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I'm a Cuban philatelist very interested in contact with people of your country for stamps exchanges.

LUCIO GALLINA
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To the stamp collectors of Canada. I'm collecting documents concerning "The Great International Organizations." I would like to have a cover stamped with Canadian stamps showing the logo or the emblem of the "International Civil Aviation Organization (ICAO) whose siefe is in Montreal, Canada. If you are interested, let me know what is the field of your collecting.

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Canadian 'Manuscript' Town Postmarks

by David Handelman and Jacques Poitras, Postal History Society of Canada, Ottawa, 1999.

This neat, small (24 pages and covers) booklet confirms that good things come in small packages. It is long overdue in the field of hand-written postal markings of Canada. As most of all of us who have written previously on postmarks of this country have not had nor had ever seen enough examples of definite hand-written postmarks to consider them as a legitimate field of postal history. All that is now at an end. This little booklet contains an enormous amount of information. Most importantly, it describes what a manuscript postmark is not and shows a number of examples on covers of what they are. It lists the known dates for these markings by jurisdiction – all 500 of them.

The listings are by province or earlier areas, starting with 1) Quebec, Lower Canada or Canada East, 2) Ontario, Upper Canada or Canada West, 3) New Brunswick, 4) Nova Scotia, 5) Manitoba, 6) Prince Edward Island, 7) British Columbia and 8) Other, including Red River Settlement, Northwest Territory, Yukon Territory, Assiniboia, Saskatchewan and Alberta.

Of the two authors, I suspect it was Handelman who analyzed the frequency of use of each areas postmarks and their bimodal distribution. No one who collects Canadian postal history, or even has one or two covers with manuscript postmarks can do without this booklet. It is a wonderfully useful and informative document.

This may be very well and good, you say, but I don't lay out good money for esoteric publications that I might not use regularly, because I can't afford it! But consider this one costs the mailing fee plus the enormous sum of $4 if you belong to the Postal History Society of Canada and a dollar more if you don't.

Handelman is a member of the Royal Society of Canada hence his academic credentials (he is a mathematician) are impeccable but he apparently has been bitten by and succumbed to the virulent "bugs" of this era. He has become fascinated by the wonderful things computers can do for us – thank heavens. He explains how the book was produced – not really printed – and this detail is very interesting, so read it as a bonus when you get this little gem. Act quickly, though, only 100 were printed in the first instance. *(J.J. Macdonald)*

Philatelic Fantasies of British North America (1869-1910)

by David F. Sessions, Waterford, Michigan: Charles G.Firby Publications, 1999. Soft cover, 125 pages with illustrations, Price guide, Bibliography and Index. Retail $19.95 US.

The author, David Sessions is no stranger to philatelic scholarship having written many articles and monographs on a variety of subjects. In between his writings David is the current editor of *Maple Leaves*, the house journal of the Canadian Philatelic Society of Great Britain. David has always been interested in the more esoteric side of BNA philately, being a collector and writer on BNA forgeries.

In his new publicaiton David has taken us on a trip into fantasy land where he introduces us to a number of snake oil salesmen, con-artists and silver tongued rogues who, to feed the demand of a growing and unsophisticated philatelic community starved of new issues, decided to produce their own stamps. These gentlemen operated in the later part of the 19th century, mostly out of the Montreal, Albany and Boston area. The chief and leading perpetrator of the many creations that were produced and passed off as genuine was a gentleman by the name of Samuel Alan Taylor of Montreal and Boston.

This publication draws together the meagre information found in a variety of philatelic journals and expands data into one easily accessible book.

The book is divided into four sections: Bogus Locals of the 1880s.; College Stamps; The Perpetrators; and Miscellaneous.

The first section introduces us to those loveable con-artists Taylor, Graig, McLaclan, and Nutter, who in the 1880s launched such fantasies as Baldwin's Railroad Postage, Bancroft's City Express, Le Beau City Post, Bell's Dispatch, GrandTrunck Railway, Kerr's City Post, McLachlan's Label, Whitteley's Express and Winslow & Co.

Section Two deals with the bogus College stamps where David discusses four different lables of Canadian interest– the British American College, the BS & Co. College, Montreal and Musgrove's National Business College.

The third section is a biographical sketch of some of the major players Messrs. Graig, Melvin, McLachlan, Nutter and Taylor,. The Miscellaneous section takes us on a cross country tour from Labrador to Alaska where such items as Corbeil's Private Post of Montreal who offered to deliver letters within the City for one cent. He was quickly shut down by the post office. Then there is the Labrador Labels circa 1900. From Labrador we are quickly transported to the west coast where the mystery and usage of McCreely's Express Stamp is brought under the spotlight. Then it is back to Prince Edward Island to examine another of Taylor's productions who in collaboration with Charley Lyford produced (illegally) P.E.I.'s first decimal stamp (1866), where it was publicized as in the European press. Finally it is off to the Prairies for a discussion on that Canadian enigma the Reil Essay of

which very little is known and much ink has been spent on speculation.

The format of the book illustrates all the various issues and varieties and catalogues them with an approximate valuation. The book is well set out and is easy to read. Most readers once they start will not want to put it down. One has only to look at the bibliography to appreciate the amount of research and scholarship that has gone into the writing of this monograph. This is a book that all serious collectors of BNA philately should have on their bookshelves. Sooner or later you are going to be offered or see one of these labels. *(David H. Whiteley)*

Editor's note: A companion book "Phantom Philately" written by Frederick John Melville and published by Janet Vanden Berg in 1950, discusses similar stamps from around the world. This paperback book is hard to find, but may be available from philatelic research libraries.

The foreward, by Lowell Ragatz, states "(Melville's) collections were seldom of much cash value for he was not a rich man, but they afforded him with infinite pleasure and gave him that wide knowledge of the subject which constantly amazed even his closest associates."

The subtitle of the book is "A Descriptive List of Stamps that are not what they seem." It is sometimes important to know the difference between a real stamp, a fake and a "fantasy".

PHSC

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

Each year the Society holds meetings at shows across Canada. The Annual Meeting is held in the early summer, and is supplemented by Regional Meetings, usually featuring postal history seminars given by Society members. Eight different Study Groups are devoted to the detailed examination of various specialized aspects of postal history.

Membership dues are $15.00 per year, with a one-time admission fee of $1.00. For a membership application form please contact the Secretary, R. F. Narbonne, 216 Mailey Drive, Carleton Place, Ontario, K7C 3X9.

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Coming Events / Calendrier

To have your event listed in this section of *The Canadian Philatelist*, please send all details to The RPSC National Office, P.O. Box 929, Station Q, Toronto, ON, M4T 2P1. Details may be faxed to (416) 979-1144 or e-mail to rpsc@interlog.com. Information will not be accepted by telephone. **THIS IS A FREE SERVICE OF THE RPSC.**

Pour que votre événement soit listé dans cette section du *Philatéliste canadien* veuillez envoyer tous les détails au Bureau national de la SRPC, C.P. 929, Succ. 'Q', Toronto, ON, M4T 2P1. Les détails peuvent être faxés au (416) 979-1144 ou par poste-électronique à rpsc@interlog.com. Aucune information ne sera acceptée par téléphone. **CECI EST UN SERVICE GRATUIT DE LA SRPC.**

REGIONAL EVENTS / ÉVÉNEMENTS RÉGIONAUX

OCTOBER 2-3, 1999: The Sudbury Stamp Club will be holding its Annual Stamp Show in the main foyer at Tom Davies Square, from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. There is free admission and parking, free stamps for children, exhibits, and stamp dealers from around the province. For more information contact David Squarsolo (705) 566-0378 or e-mail: nyree.squarzolo@sympatico.ca.

OCTOBER 23, 1999: MIDDPEX '99 annual stamp exhibition of the Middlesex Stamp Club of London, ON at White Oaks Mall, 1105 Wellington Rd. from 9:30 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. Free admission and parking, a 25 dealer bourse, silent auction, prizes, etc. Pat Delmore, #1104-450 Highland Ave. London, ON. N6C 5E1, call (519) 675-0779.

OCTOBER 23, 1999: Brantford Stamp Club annual exhibition and bourse at the Woodman Community Centre, 491 Grey St., Brantford, 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Free admission and parking, 13 dealers, sales circuit, beginners' booth, exhibits, lunch counter, draws and prizes. For more information contact Show Convenor, Brantford Stamp Club, P.O. Box 25003, West Brant Postal Outlet, 119 Colborne Street West, Brantford, ON, N3T 6K5.

OCTOBER 23-24, 1999: VANPEX '99 at the Empire Landmark Hotel, 1400 Robson St., Vancouver, BC. Exhibition and Bourse sponsored by the British Columbia Philatelic Society. For more information contact: Show Chairman, Maurice Guibord, 101-1537 Charles St., Vancouver, BC, V5L 2T2. Call (604) 253-9311, e-mail: mguibord@direct.ca

OCTOBER 30, 1999: Barrie District Stamp Club's 38th Annual Exhibition and Dealers' Bourse at the Sunnidale Community Centre, Sunnidale Road, Barrie, ON, from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.; 12 dealers, free admission, lunch counter. For more information: Lew Metzger, P.O. Box 1113, Stn. Main, Barrie, ON, L4M 5E2; or call (705) 721-8354.

NOVEMBER 6, 1999: Kent County Stamp Club will hold its 69th Annual Stamp Exhibition and Bourse from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.; at the Wheels Motor Inn at the corner of Richmond Avenue and Keil Drive in Chatham, ON. Fee admission and parking. Stamps, postal history, philatelic supplies and many dealers. For more information contact Paul V. McDonell at (519) 354-1845.

FEBURARY 19-20, 2000: NIPEX '2000 Exhibition and Bourse sponsored by the Niagara Philatelic Society will be held at the Stampford Lions Club Hall, 3846 Portage Rd., Niagara Falls, ON, from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Closed exhibition. Ed Yonelinas, R.R. 1, Niagara-on-the-Lake, ON L0S 1J0, e-mail: mastamps@computan.on.ca.

FEBURARY 26-27, 2000: VICTOPICAL 2000

MARCH 18, 2000: the Oxford Philatelic Society is sponsoring their 51st Annual OXPEX '2000 on Saturday March 18, 2000 at John Knox Christian School, 800 Juliana Drive in Woodstock, ON (Hwy 401 & Hwy 59 North). Also the All Ontario Topical Exhibition OTEX '2000 is being held at same location. Hours are 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Admission and parking is free. Come and see competitive stamp exhibits, Judge's critique, 16 stamp dealers, prize draws, displays, Canada Post counter, youth area for junior collectors & refreshments. Contact Gib Stephens, P.O. Box 20113, Woodstock, ON N4S 8X8.

APRIL 15, 2000: Kitchener-Waterloo celebrates 65 years of local collecting at STAMPFESS 2000 from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. at Community Reform Church, 1275 Bleams Rd., Kitchener, ON.

JUNE 2-4, 2000: PIPEX 2000

NATIONAL EXHIBITIONS / EXPOSITIONS NATIONALES

October 15-17, 1999: Toronto National Postage Stamp Show, at the Queen Elizabeth Building, Exhibition Place, Toronto, ON. Hours are: Friday, 11 a.m.-6 p.m., Saturday, 10 a.m. - 6 p.m., Sunday, 10 a.m.-4p.m. Stamp marketplace - featuring dealers from Canada and the United States. Stamps, postcards, postal history and supplies. Canada Post Corp., stamp displays, youth activities and door prizes.
For information call (416) 979-3335. Dealers registrations now being accepted. New dealers welcome.

INTERNATIONAL EXHIBITIONS / EXPOSITIONS INTERNATIONALES

NOVEMBER 5-7, 1999: Florex '99 at the Orlando Expo Centre and Orlando Marriott Downtown in Orlando, Florida. The 50th and final FLOREX – a salute to philately in Florida sponsored by the Florida Federation of Stamp Clubs. Annual meeting and conventions of: America Helvetia Philatelic Society, Cuban Philatelic Society, Prexie Study Group of BIA and many regional and local philatelic meetings. Over 40 stamp dealers from across the USA. For more information contact: Phil Stager, 4184 51st. Ave., S. St. Petersburg, FL, 33711 or philstag@juno.com

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, P.O. Box 180, Port Hope, ON, L1A 3W3.

MAY 28-JUNE 4: WIPA2000 in Vienna, Austria. Canadian Commissioner: Otto F. Zeman, 702-150 Queen Street South, Kitchener, ON, N2G 4T7.

OCTOBER 6-14, 2000: ESPANA 2000, Madrid, Spain. Canadian Commissioner Major RK "Dick" Malott, Ret'd, CD, FRPSC, AHF, 16 Harwick Crescent, Nepean, ON, K2H 6R1. Tel: (613) 829-0280; fax (613) 829-7673; e-mail: rmalott@magma.ca, Bulletin No. 1 and application forms available now.

2001

JUNE 9-15, 2001: BELGICA 01, an international exhibition with FIP partonage to be held in Brussels, Belgium. Canadian Commissioner is: Mr. J.J. (Jan) Danielski, 71 Gennela Square, Scarborough, ON, M1B 5M7; call (416) 283-2047; fax: (416) 291-3779, e-mail: jj.danielski@sympatico.ca.

JULY 30-AUGUST 5, 2001: PHILANIPPON '01 an FIP World Stamp Exhibition to be held in Tokyo, Japan covering all classes. Canadian Commissioner is Mr. William G. Robinson, 5830 Cartier St., Vancouver, BC V6M 3A7; tel: (604) 261-1953; fax: (604) 261-3459.

OCTOBER 16-21, 2001: HAFNIA '01, Charles Verge is the Canadian Commissioner for this exhibtion in Copenhagen.

Report from China '99

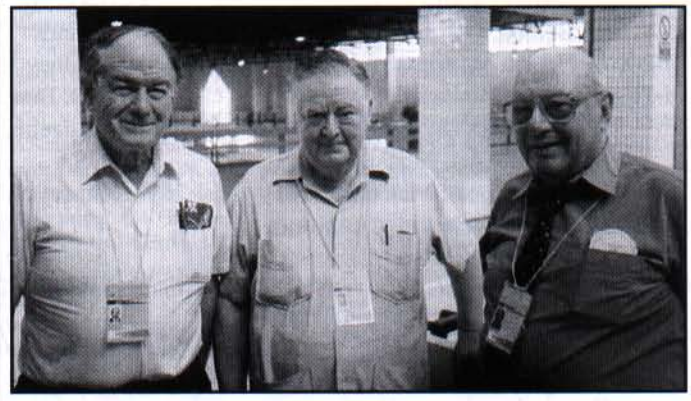
CHINA 1999 – BEIJING, 21-30 AUGUST 1999

It was long, but the journey was worth it. Canada entered seven philatelic exhibits – receiving two Gold medals, two large Vermeil,, and three Vermeil. There were three literature exhibits which received a large Vermeil medal, a large Silver, and a Silver Bronze.

Fred Fawn of Toronto was the big winner in the philatelic section with a Gold for his excellent Large Queens exhibit and a large Vermeil with Felicitations of the Jury for his 1898 Map stamps. Ken Magee of Clinton, ON also received a Gold medal for his exhibit of Ireland, 1840 to 1922, while Dick Malott of Nepean, ON received a large Vermeil for his Canadian crash covers. Sam Chiu, Joey Yuan and Owen White all of Toronto, achieved Vermeil level for – The Postal History of Chefoo, China, the 1936 Berlin Olympic Games, and German Field Post in China, respectively. Cimon Miron received a large Vermeil for the third volume of his Canadian Philatelic Bibliography, the Darnell Catalogue received a large Silver, while Gray Scrimgeour's History of the Toronto Stamp Collectors' Club achieved a Silver Bronze.

The show opened with ceremonies hosted by the Minister of Posts, and an opening banquet in the Great Hall of the People for all show staff and visiting dignitaries. About 1,800 people were served. Receptions were hosted by organizers of INDONESIA 2000, OLYMPHILEX 2000, the USPO Bourse at Anaheim, California in 2000, PHILANIPPON 2001, and HONG KONG 2001. The special prizes and Gold medals were awarded at a theater ceremony with many different excellent cultural activites of China displayed.

Hotel accomodations and meals for the 71 National Commissioners and 54 Jurors in the Great Wall Sheraton Hotel were excellent and bus transportation was available from there to the Convention Centre about two miles away.



From left, Bill Robinson, Harry Sutherland and Michael Madesker at CHINA '99.

Canada had two jurors – Harry Sutherland in the Traditional and Postal History fields, and Michael Madesker in the Youth section, while Bill Robinson was an apprentice juror in Postal History, and served as Canadian Commissioner.

Twenty-eight per cent of the exhibits were being shown internationally for the first time. Twenty-three large Gold medals, 69 Gold medals and 55 large Vermeil medals were awarded. There were 3,200 frames of philatelic entries and 300 literature entries.

Changes to the city of Beijing have been phenomemal over the past 10 to 15 years. Many more private cars are evident, and high rise buildings are being constructed by the dozen. An expressway has been completed to the airport, and another to the Great Wall at Badaling, and there are problems with smog from all the cars.

CHINA '99 was a fine way for the first world philatelic exhibition held in China to enter the ranks of host countries. (*Bill Robinson*)

NEW MEMBERS / NOUVEAUX MEMBRES

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

Les demandes d'adhésion ci-dessous ont été reçues et sont publiées en conformité avec la constitution. Si aucun commentaire n'est communiqué au Bureau national, (C.P. 929, Succursale Q, Toronto, ON, M4T 2P1) d'ici 30 jours, les adhérants seront acceptés comme membres.

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

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

Individual/Individuel

I-26970 Paul McGrath
24 Fairford Ave.
Toronto, ON M4L2J7
e-mail: pmcgrath@sympatico.ca
NTERESTS: Canada, BNA, Canada Revenue

I-26971 Michael White
e-mail: mwhite@vinson.navy.mil
INTERESTS: Mint Canada and plate singles

I-26972 Claude Melancon
240 rue Rodin
Beloeil, QC J3G3K7

I-26973 Henrik Mouritsen

I-26974 Walter Breiteneder
INTERESTS: Canada, Austria, Art, Music, Mushrooms, Minerals

I-26975 Andre Racicot

I-26976 Martin Loree

I-26977 Yuon Arsenault
160 Ste. Therese
Dieppe, NB E1A1T1

I-26978 Margaret Parker
Box 308
Bracebridge, ON P1L1T7
INTERESTS: Canada, USA, UN, Israel, Canada Covers, Mint

I-26979 Royce Hetherington
10 - 1101 Cameron Ave.
Kelowna, BC V1Y8V6
INTERESTS: Canada, Pacific Islands

I-26980 Rodney Hartwell
P.O. Box 75
Daggette, CA 92327-0075
USA

I-26981 Stacey Sylvester
1771 Avenue Road, P.O. Box 54604 Toronto, ON M5M 4N5
e-mail: pssylves@interlog.com
INTERESTS: special and topical covers and stamps.

I-26982 Barry Pitt-Hart

I-26983 Norberto Spagnuolo
Moreno 957 - 8eP Ofic.2,
Capital Federal - CP 1091,
C.P. 1091 Buenos Aires, 4334-1882 ARGENTINA

I-26984 Randy Krohn
2058 Connaoght St.
Calgary, AB S4T 4T7
INTERESTS: Canada, provinces, Australia, New Zealand

I-26986 Normand Durand
4105 St. Dominique, Apt. 6
Montreal, PQ H2W 2A6
e-mail: durosa@aei.ca
INTERESTS: World wide, USA, Canada

Deceased / Nécrologie

Black, Douglas (I-22865) Brantford, ON
Collison, Malcolm N. (I-9914) Westbank, BC
Robinson, William J. (I-26845) Uxbridge, ON
Rockett, Wilmer C. (I-6712) Sinking Spring, USA
Waldie, Gordon (L-11209) Toronto, ON

Change of Address / Changement d'adresse

Amicale des Philatelistes de l'Outaouais (C-190) 5-1160 Shillington Ave., Ottawa, ON K1Z 7Z4.

Bewley, David (I-25854) 201 - 3105 Carling Ave. Nepean, ON, K2H 5A6

Breatross, Asher (I-26625) 77 Roxborough Lane, Thornhill, ON L4J 4T5

Dawson, Gerald P. (I-21541) 203 - 2019 Carling Ave., Ottawa, ON K2A 4A2

Erdahl, Gary L. (I-9559) The Waterford, #102 - 2422 Erlton St. S.W. Calgary, AB T2S 3B6

Griffith, Alistair (I-25892) 557 Ninth Street, Nanaimo, BC V9R 1A8

Hnatiuk, John (L-12436) P.O. Box 39511, Broadmoor P.O., Richmond, BC V7A 5G9

Jordan, John E. (I-24652) 102 - 34 Walmer Road, Toronto, ON M5R 2W6

Kobelt, James L. (I-23858) 9347 S. Avers, Evergreen Park, IL 60805, USA

Krepp, Juho (L-15308) Regional Health & Surgery Center, 1720 Highway 59 SE, Thief River Falls, MN 56701, USA

Lachance, Leon J. (I-13584) 41 Rivers End, Seaford, DE 19973, USA

Luker, David (L-11612) 48 Archibald, North Sydney, NS B2A 2W8

Martinac, Blaine William (I-12176) RR 3 aite 41 Comp 78, Summerland, BC V0H 1Z0

Moyle, Ernest Henry (L-13660) 2914 Windjammer Road, Mississauga, ON L5L 1S7

Park, D.G. (L-12228) 226 Hawkland Place NW, Calgary, AB T3G 3R4

Woolsey, William J. (I-26297) 201 - 2350 Stillingfleet Road, Kelowna, BC V1W 3X9

AJAX PHILATELIC SOCIETY

RPSC Chapter 163 meets 2nd and 4th Thursday of each month, September to June at Ajax Public Library, 65 Harwood Ave. S., from 6 to 9 p.m. All new members and visitors are welcome. Address: P.O. Box 107, Ajax, ON, L1S 3C3. For information, contact Sam Calnek, (905) 831-9886.

AMICALE DES PHILATÉLISTES DE L'OUTAOUAIS (APO)

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

Members of the APO (Chapter #190) meet every Thursday from the beginning of September to the end of April, from 6:30 p.m. to 9 p.m. Meetings take place in the Châlet Fontaine, 120 Charlevoix, Hull, Québec. Membership $20 ($10 under 16). Dealers, aucrtions, show and bourse. Visitors and new members are always welcome. More for more information: A. Bossard, 5-1160 Shillington, Ottawa, ON K1Z 7Z4; Tel. (613) 722-7279; courriel (e-mail): isabelle.alain@sympatico.ca

CLUB PHILATÉLIQUE ARGENTEUIL STAMP CLUB

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

CLUB PHILATÉLIQUE "LES TIMBRES" DE BOISBRIAND

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

BARRIE DISTRICT STAMP CLUB

RPSC Chapter 73 meets 2nd 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 (2-4 p.m.) and 3rd Tuesday year round (7:30-9:30 p.m.) at Terry Miller Recreation Complex, Williams Parkway (between Dixie Rd. and Bramalea Rd.) Brampton, ON. 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, ON. Doors open at 7 p.m., short business meeting at 8 p.m., 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 p.m. in the Amenity Room, Grosvenor Building, 1040 W. Georgia St. Information: B.C.P.S., 2955 West 38th Avenue, Vancouver, BC, V6N 2X2.

BROCK / PRESCOTT STAMP CLUB

Meets third Wednesday, Sept. to May at 7 p.m. at Wall Street United Church, 5 Wall St., Brockville, ON. Roy Brooks, tel./fax: (613) 342-7569.

CALGARY PHILATELIC SOCIETY

(Chapter 66) Regular meeting: First Wednesday of month, 7 p.m. Auctions on third Wednesday of month, 7:30 p.m. 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.

CAMBRIDGE STAMP CLUB

Meets third Monday of the month, Sept. to June at 7 p.m. Short meetings at 8 p.m. at Allen Bradley Cafeteria, Dundas Street, Cambridge, ON. Two dealers, club circuit, visitors welcome. Charlie Hollett (519) 740-6657, 3-10 Isherwood Ave., Cambridge ON, N1R 8L5.

CANADIAN AEROPHILATELIC SOCIETY

RPSC Chapter 187, The Canadian Aerophilatelic Society (CAS) welcomes anyone interested in aerophilately or astrophilately, worldwide. Yearly membership for Canadian and USA members is $15 and for all other countries $20. No formal meetings but members meet at the RA Stamp Club meetings at the RA Centre, 2451 Riverside Dr., Ottawa, ON, at 7:30 p.m. every Monday except June, July and August. Information: Ron Miyanishi, 124 Gamble Ave., Toronto, ON, M4J 2P3. Tel: (416) 421-5846

CANADIAN ASSOCIATION FOR ISRAEL PHILATELY (CAFIP)

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

CANADIAN FORCES PHILATELIC SOCIETY

Meets first and third Wednesday Sept. to May 8 p.m. to 9:30 p.m. Dempsey Community Centre, Ottawa, ON. Hendrick Burgers 737-2993.

COLBORNE STAMP CLUB

Chapter 205 meets on the 2nd and 4th Tuesdays of the month, September to May inclusive at 7 p.m. in the Drop-in Centre, Victoria Square, Colborne, ON. All stamp collectors welcome, including Juniors age 10-16 years. Information: Mary Jackson, Box 33, Castleton, ON, K0K 1M0, phone (905) 344-7882.

CREDIT VALLEY PHILATELIC SOCIETY - MISSISSAUGA

Chapter 67 meets 2nd and 4th Mondays of every month (except on holidays and in July and August) at 7:30 p.m. 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 p.m. 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 June, 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. Tel.: (416) 425-1545.

EDMONTON STAMP CLUB

Touring stampers, new members and guests are welcome to visit Edmonton's Chapter 6. Meetings every other Monday, September through June, 6:30 p.m., at Archbishop MacDonald High School, south entrance cafeteria, 142 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)

Chapter 154 meets on the 2nd and 4th Wednesdays of the month (4th Wednesday in July and August) at the Teutonia Club, 55 Edinborough, Windsor, ON. Meetings start at 7 p.m., program at 8 p.m. Lots of parking; all visitors are welcome. Information: Essex County Stamp Club, c/o David L. Newman, 1165 Wigle Ave., Windsor, ON, N9C 3M9, (519) 977-5967.

FENELON STAMP CLUB

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

FREDERICTON DISTRICT STAMP CLUB

Chapter 148 of The RPSC meets on the 1st and 3rd Tuesdays of the month from September to May. Meetings begin at 7:30 p.m.and are held at the Hugh John Fleming Forestry Centre, 1350 Regent St. For further information, please contact Ron Smith, 12 Chateau Dr., McLeod Hill, NB, E3A 5X2 or call (506) 453-1792, or e-mail: rugbyron@nb.sympatico.ca

FUNDY STAMP COLLECTOR'S CLUB

Chapter 26892 meets 1st Thursday of every month (except July and August) at 7 p.m. at Atlantic Baptist University, 333 Gorge Rd., Moncton, NB.

GREATER VICTORIA PHILATELIC SOCIETY

Chapter 32 meets on the 3rd Friday of each month at 7:30 p.m at the Windsor Park Pavilion in Oak Bay. Circuit books, auction and special programs prevail. Membership $8 per year. Visitors welcome. Information: Don Dundee, 928 Claremont Ave., Victoria, BC, V8Y 1K3, (604) 658-8458.

HAMILTON STAMP CLUB

Chapter 51 meets at 6 p.m. on 2nd, 4th and 5th Mondays, September to June except holidays, and 2nd Monday of July, at Bishop Ryan Secondary School, Quigley Road and Albright Street, in east-end Hamilton, ON. Visitors and juniors welcome. Information: Clare Maitland (Secretary), Box 60510, 673 Upper James St., Hamilton, ON, L9C 7N7; e-mail: stamps@hwcn.org or visit their website at: www.hwcn.org/-ip029

INSURANCE & BANKING PHILATELIC SOCIETY

Meets third Thursday of each month Sept. to June at 6:30 p.m. on 23rd Floor 390 Bay Street, Toronto, ON. M5H 2Y2. John Titterton, Secretary, (519) 927-3548.

KAWARTHA PHILATELIC SOCIETY

Chapter 58, meetings 2nd and 4th Tuesdays September through June (excluding 4th Tuesday in December and June). Meetings 7 p.m. 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 at 7 p.m., Dr. Knox Middle School Cafeteria, 1555 Burtch Ave. Visitors welcome. Information: Box 1185, Kelowna, BC, V1Y 7P8.

KENT COUNTY STAMP CLUB (CHATHAM, ON)

Chapter 7 meets 4th Wednesday of each month (except July, August and December) in the library of John McGregor Secondary School, 300 Cecile, at 7:30 p.m. Visitors are always welcome. Information from Secretary: Mr. Allan Burk, 43 Sudbury Dr., Chatham, ON N7L 2K1.

KINGSTON STAMP CLUB

Chapter 49 meets 2nd Monday, September-May and 4th Monday, September-November and January-April, at 7 p.m., Regional Correctional Staff College, 443 Union St. W,. Kingston, (NE of intersection with Sir John A. Macdonald Blvd.). Free parking, wheelchair accessible, visitors always welcome. Information: Past 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 Albert McCormick Arena, Parkside Dr., Waterloo. Visitors welcome. Information: Betty J. Martin, P.O. Box 43007, Eastwood Square Post Office, Kitchener, ON, N2H 6S9, (519) 578-7782.

LAKEHEAD STAMP CLUB

Chapter 33 meets the 2nd Wednesday and last Friday of each month, September to June at the Herb Carroll Centre, 1100 Lincoln St., Thunder Bay, ON. Meetings start at 8 p.m., visitors welcome. Sec.: D. Lein, 232 Dease St., Thunder Bay, ON, P7C 2H8.

LAKESHORE STAMP CLUB - CLUB PHILATÉLIQUE DE LAKESHORE

Chapter 84 meets at Dorval Strathmore United Church, 310 Brookhaven Avenue, Dorval, QC, on the 2nd and 4th Thursdays, September to June at 7 p.m. Visitors and new members are welcome. Information: John Cooper, President, P.O. Box 1, Pointe Claire/Dorval, QC, H9R 4N5.

Le chapitre 84 de la SRPC, se réunit tous les jeudi de début septembre à fin juin, à 19h00. Les réunions ont lieu au Dorval Strathmore United Church, 310 avenue Brookhaven, Dorval, QC. Les visiteurs et les nouveaux membres sont toujours les bienvenus. Information: John Cooper, Président, P.O. Box 1, Pointe Claire/Dorval, QC H9R 4N5.

LETHBRIDGE PHILATELIC SOCIETY

Chapter 57 meets on the 2nd Thursday of the month at 7 p.m. except June, July and August when there are no meetings. Meetings are at the Canadian Western Natural Gas Co. building at 410 Stafford Dr. N., Lethbridge, AB, T1H 2A9.

MEDICINE HAT COIN AND STAMP CLUB

Chapter 146 meets 2nd and 4th Tuesdays of each month at 7:30 p.m. in the Dot Wilkinson Room (SW door) of Westminster United Church - 101 6th Street SE. Correspondence: P.O. Box 1163 Medicine Hat, AB, T1A 7H3.

MIDDLESEX STAMP CLUB

Chapter 204 meets every other Friday at 7 p.m. from September to May (except December) in St. Martin's Church basement, 46 Cathcart St., London. Visitors welcome. For more information call Doug Creighton, (519) 471-2978.

MILTON STAMP CLUB

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

MUSKOKA STAMP CLUB

Meets the 1st and 3rd Wednesdays of each month (except July, August and December, first Wednesday only), 7:30 p.m. at Bracebridge United Church, 46 Dominion Street N., Bracebridge, ON. Varied programs, presentations, sales, circuit books, etc. For information, please contact the president: Tom Anderson, 7 Sadler Drive, Bracebridge, ON, P1L 1K4. Tel.: (705) 645-3330.

NELSON STAMP CLUB

Meets third Thursday of each month except December at 7 p.m. at #105-402 W. Beasley, Nelson, BC V1L 5Y4.

NORTH BAY & DISTRICT STAMP CLUB

Chapter 44 meets on the 2nd and 4th Tuesdays of the month, September to May, at the Casselholme Home for the Aged, 400 Olive Street, North Bay, ON at 7 p.m. (Basement meeting room.) Table auction and sales circuit. Visitors are always welcome. Information: John Fretwell, R.R. 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 TORONTO STAMP CLUB

Meetings 1st and 3rd Thursdays of each month (except July and August), 7:30 p.m. in the Edwards Garden, Civic Garden Centre, 777 Lawrence Ave. E. (at Leslie Street), Don Mills, ON. Sales circuit, auctions, speakers. Visitors always welcome. Information: Ben Marier, (416) 492-9311.

NORTH YORK PHILATELIC SOCIETY

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

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 7 p.m. 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 p.m., September through May, at the Hintonburg Community Centre, 1064 Wellington St., Ottawa, ON. Visitors are always welcome. Information: Pres. Alf Dyer, (613) 731-6155; P.O. Box 65085, Merivale Postal Outlet, Nepean, ON, K2G 5Y3.

OWEN SOUND STAMP CLUB

Chapter 191 meets the 3rd Wednesday of every month, 7 p.m. at St. George's Anglican Church, 149 4th Avenue East, Owen Sound, ON. Activities include trading, auctions, circuit books. Visitors always welcome. For information contact Robert J. Ford, 721 8th Ave. East, Owen Sound, ON, N4K 3A4.

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, ON. Trading and junior program at 7 p.m., regular meeting at 7:30 p.m. Speakers, 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 2 to 4 p.m. at the United (Blue) Church Hall, 696 Main St., Penticton, BC. Visitors and prospective members and juniors are always welcome. Information: K. Giesen, 217 Redwing Pl., Penticton, BC, V2A 8K6. Tel.: (250) 493-0188.

PERTH STAMP CLUB

Meets 2nd and 4th Wednesdays of each month from September to June, 7:30 p.m. in McMartin House, Gore Street. Visitors welcome. For information, contact Gus Quattrocchi (A.J.), 69 Harvey Street, Perth, ON, K7H 1X1.

R.A. STAMP CLUB - OTTAWA

Chapter 41 meets every Monday (except June, July and August) at 7:30 p.m. 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 p.m. 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 p.m. 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 the 4th Wednesday of each month (except July and August), 7 p.m. at the Saint John High School, Canterbury Street, Saint John, NB. Visitors and new members welcome. Information: Saint John Stamp Club, c/o James Young, 16 Mountain Rd., Saint John, NB, E2J 2W8.

ST. CATHARINES STAMP CLUB

Meetings are 1st and 3rd Tuesdays of each month (except for July and August) at the Holy Cross

Secondary, St. Catharines, ON. Information: Mrs. Sinclair, 25 Permilla St., St. Catharines, ON, L2S 2E9.

ST. JOHN'S PHILATELIC SOCIETY

Meets 2nd and 4th Wednesdays (except July and August), 8 p.m. 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 2nd and 4th Mondays, September through May, 7 to 9 p.m. at the Saskatoon Field House, 2020 College Drive, Saskatoon, SK. Visitors always welcome. Information from the secretary: Doug Smith, (306) 249-3092; e-mail: ae245@sfn.saskatoon.sk.ca

SIDNEY STAMP CLUB (SIDNEY, BC)

The Sidney Stamp Club meets the 2nd Saturday of each month, except July and August, at the Sidney Regional Library, in the Nell Horth Room, at 2 p.m. Sales circuit, presentations, and auctions every meeting. Visitors welcome. Information: (250) 479-6513.

LA SOCIÉTÉ PHILATÉLIQUE DE QUÉBEC

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

LA SOCIÉTÉ PHILATÉLIQUE DE LA RIVE SUD

2 ième et 4 ième lunke de chgue mois débutant en septembre pour termine le 2 ième lundi de juin, de 19:30 à 21:00 hr. Centre Culturel Jacques Ferron, 100 Ouest, rue St. Laurent Longuevilo, QC. Bernard Dansereau, secrétaire (450) 646-9040.

SAUGEEN STAMP CLUB

Meets first Tuesday every month, year round, at 7:30 p.m. at Hanover Public Library, Hanover, ON. Jim Measures, P.O. Box 11, Clifford, ON, N0G 1M0, tel: (519) 327-8265.

STRATFORD STAMP CLUB

Chapter 92 meets on the 4th Thursday from September to June (except December when it meets on the 3rd Thursday), 7 p.m. at the Kiwanis Community Centre, Lakeside Drive, Stratford. Juniors meet at 7 p.m., with regular meetings at 8 p.m. Visitors are always welcome. Information from P.O. Box 21031, Stratford, ON, N5A 7V4.

SUDBURY STAMP CLUB

Chapter 85 meets 2nd Tuesday of each month, September to June, in Library at St. Raphael School, 109 Dublin Street, Sudbury, at 7:30 p.m. Meetings include slide shows, presentations, and an auction. New members are welcome. Information: David Squarzolo, Box 2211, Stn. A, Sudbury, ON, P3A 4S1; (705) 566-0378.

THE PHILATELIC CLUB OF MONTREAL

Chapter 122 meets 3rd Thursday of each month (starting September), at 7:30 p.m. at Le Manoir, 5319 Notre Dame de Grace (corner Decarie Blvd.), Montreal. Contact: Lloyd Slaven, 1079 Emerson Cres., Chomedy, QC, H7W 1H6; e-mail: lslaven@macten.net .

TORONTO HARMONIE STAMP CLUB

Chapter 94 meets the 1st Monday of the month January-May and September–November at 1460 Bayview Ave., Toronto in the meeting room of the apartment building at 7:30 pm. New members always welcome. For further information call J.G. Doehler at (416) 438-4862.

TRURO PHILATELIC SOCIETY

The Truro, Nova Scotia Philatelic Society meets the 2nd Monday of each month (except July and August) at Success Business College, 100 Victoria St. at 7:30 p.m. All are welcome to attend.

UNION PHILATÉLIQUE DE MONTREAL

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

VANCOUVER ISLAND PHILATELIC SOCIETY

Chapter 52, meets monthly at 7:30 p.m., the 4th Thursday at St. Aidan's Church Hall, 3707 St. Aidan's St., Victoria, BC. Contact R. Clarke, Secretary, Vancouver Island Philatelic Society, P.O. Box 6537, Postal Station 'C', Victoria, BC V8P 5M4. Visitors always welcome.

WEST TORONTO STAMP CLUB

Chapter 14 meets 2nd, 3rd and 4th Tuesdays (except July and August), 7:30 p.m. at Fairfield Seniors' Centre, 80 Lothian Ave., Etobicoke, (Bloor/Islington area). Auctions, dealers, speakers, study group, annual exhibition. Visitors always welcome. Correspondence: 331 Rathburn Rd., Etobicoke, ON, M9B 2L9. Tel.: Contact Frank Alusio, (416) 621-8232.

WINNIPEG PHILATELIC SOCIETY

Meetings 1st and 3rd Thursdays (except July and August), 7 p.m. 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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