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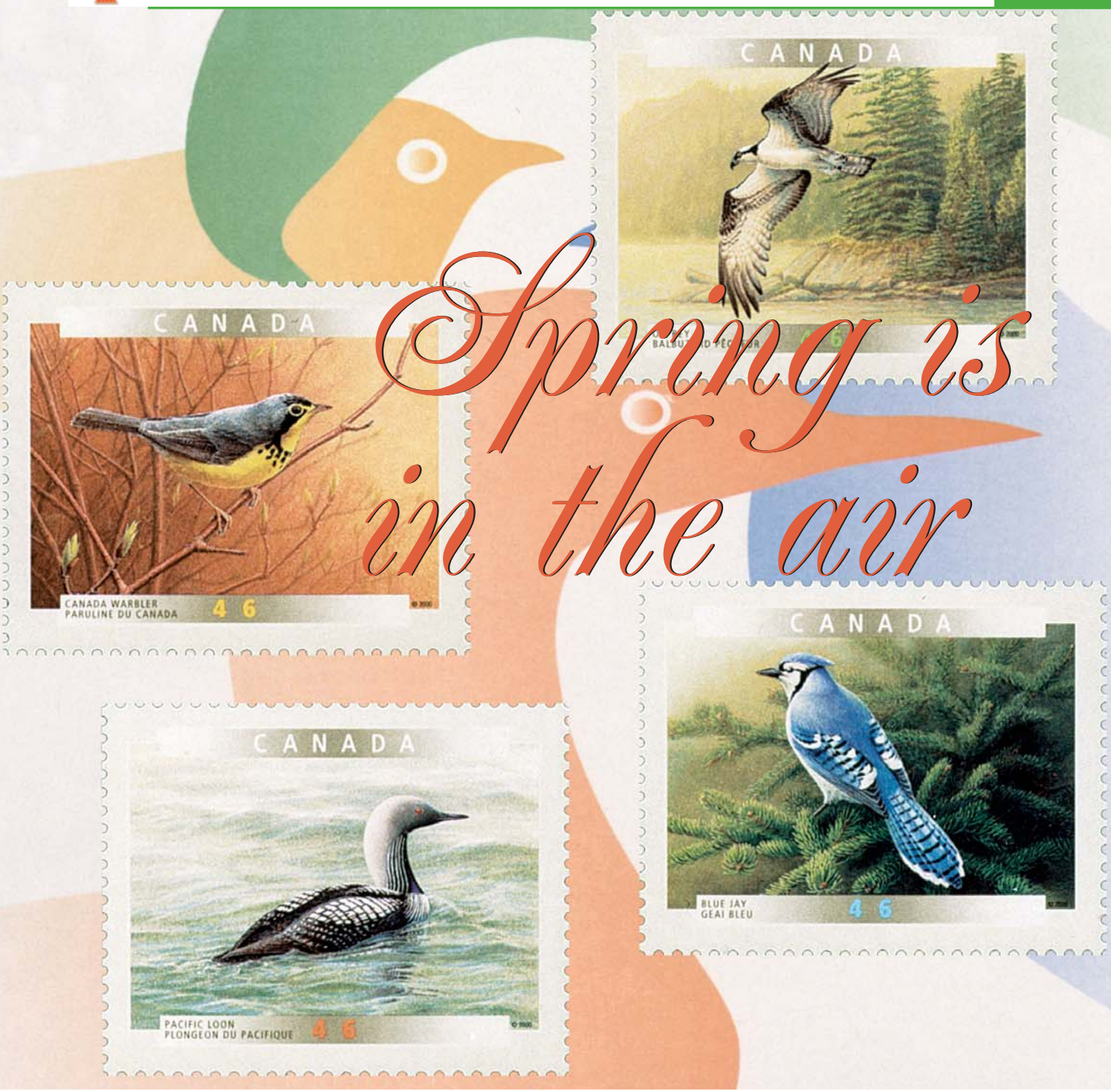

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Journal of The ROYAL PHILATELIC SOCIETY OF CANADA Revue de La SOCIÉTÉ ROYALE DE PHILATÉLIE DU CANADA

VOL. 51 • NO. 2 MARCH-APRIL 2000 MARS-AVRIL

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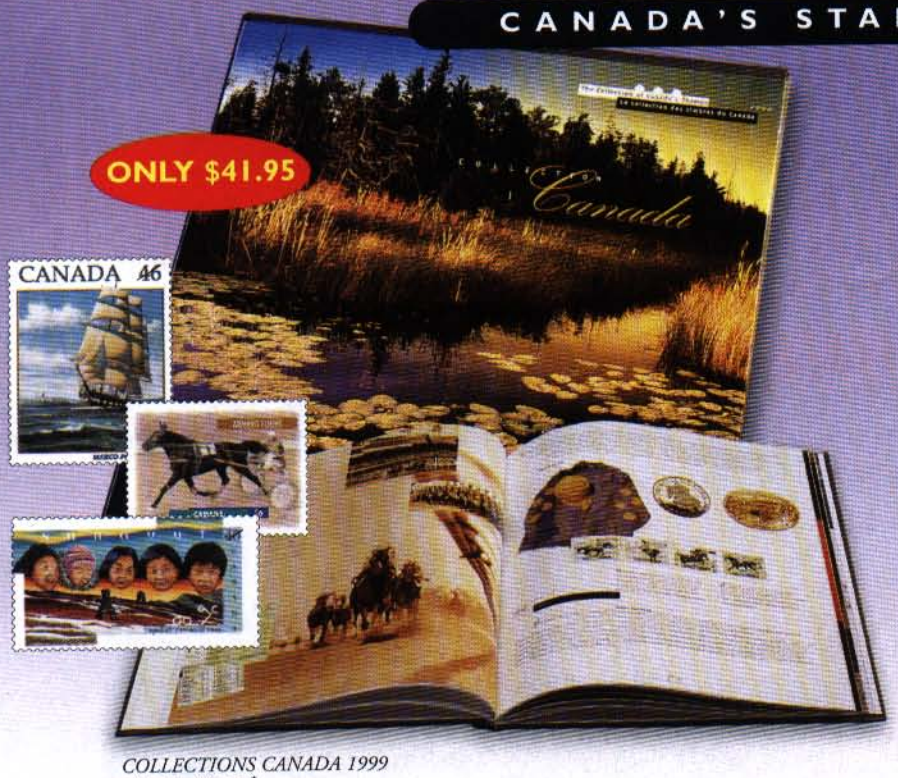

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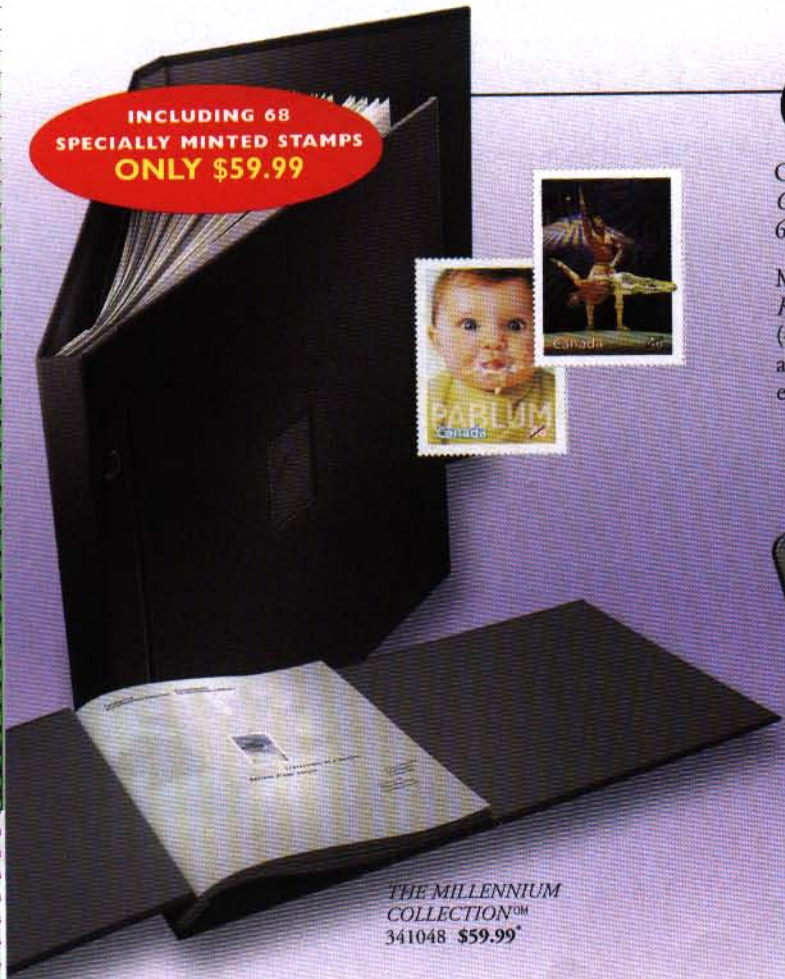

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The Canadian Philatelist
Le philatéliste canadien

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The Cover:

When the birds show up in March, sping cannot be too far behind.

Canada Post issued the latest in its annual Birds of Canada Series on March 1. The four 46-cent stamps feature the Canada Warbler, Osprey, Pacific Loon and Blue Jay.

Included in the release are Official First Day Cover and booklet of 12 self-adhesive stamps.

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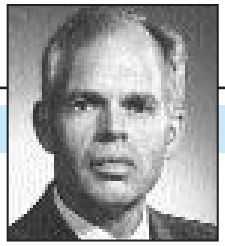


President's Page / La page du président

by/par Keith Spencer

I write these notes toothbrush in hand. How's that for Convention enthusiasm! Yes, we're packed and ready to head to Winnipeg for our April 28-30 annual meeting. The dealers and exhibits are always a draw at major shows but for many collectors, it's the "people" part that counts a great deal.

I'm one of those collectors whose hobby has been enriched greatly by friendship built around stamp collecting. Our tiny paper bits move the mails – and people too. I'm looking forward to visiting with a couple of our retiring Royal Directors. I called former President Michael Madesker the other day to ask when he had first become a Royal director. He couldn't remember back quite that far but thought that 1969 was a possibility. I can't recall a Society moment when Michael hasn't been present, I think he meant "1869." Is Michael really leaving? Not at all – he will continue to pursue his interest in international youth philately, very much to the benefit of collectors everywhere in this country.

Our Deuxiéme Vice-Président, Grégoire Teyssier is standing down after several years on the Board. Grégoire has been invaluable in advancing the perspective of that province which is home to so many of our members. Just like Michael, Grégoire is hanging around and is going to be kept busy doing Royal work. For a number of years, we have recognized the need to have a Quebec influence in our journal, *The Canadian Philatelist*. Grégoire changes one Royal hat for another – he becomes Associate Philatelist Editor, working with Richmond's Bill Pekonen to make our publication an even better one.

A substantial number of Royal friends live south of the border. Similarly, many Royal members are also members of the American Philatelic Society. APS President, Peter McCann, will be a special Winnipeg guest and when he's not busy judging exhibits and attending meetings, he will be keen to discuss things with as many collector friends as possible.

Royal changes are taking place other than the Director level. For a great many years now, Kimmo Salonen has served the Society as "Slide Program Manager." Kimmo is increasingly busy in his work and personal life and has passed the slide torch to our Halifax director, Elizabeth Sodero. If you need a little entertainment for an upcoming Chapter meeting, call Elizabeth!

The Winnipeg Philatelic Society has been around for a long time: in fact, at this Convention, it celebrates its 100th birthday. Winnipeg has a stellar record in supporting stamp collecting in Canada and this is the second Royal and third national show which has visited Portage and Main. Past President and Director, Beverlie Clark, was instrumental in getting this year's Royal back to Winnipeg and we know that we are in for a top notch weekend.

Je vous écris ces quelques lignes la brosse à dents à la main. Il y a du congrès dans l'air! Oui, nos valises sont faites et nous sommes prêts à partir pour Winnipeg pour notre assemblée annuelle du 28 au 30 avril. Les expositions et les négociants constituent toujours une grande attraction lors des grands salons mais pour de nombreux collectionneurs, c'est l'aspect humain de l'événement qui est le plus important.

Je suis l'un de ces collectionneurs qui a vu de belles amitiés se forger tout autour de ce passetemps. Nos petits morceaux de papier dentelés touchent non seulement le courrier, mais aussi les gens. Je suis heureux à l'idée de rendre visite à quelquesuns de nos membres du conseil d'administration qui seront bientôt à la retraite. L'autre jour, j'ai appelé l'un de nos anciens présidents, Michael Madesker, et lui ai demandé quand il était devenu membre du conseil d'administration. Il ne se souvenait plus à quand cela remontait, peutêtre à 1969 pensaitil. Personnellement, je ne me souviens pas d'un seul moment important pour la Société où Michael n'était pas présent. Je pense qu'il voulait plutôt dire 1869. Michael se retiretil vraiment? Assurément pas. l va poursuivre ses activités dans le cadre de la philatélie internationale de la jeunesse, dans le grand intérêt de tous les collectionneurs du pays.

Notre deuxième vicepréside nt Grégoire Teyssier cède sa place après plusieurs années de participation au conseil. Il a contribué d'une façon inestimable à l'avancement de l'optique de cette province dont sont originaires nombre de nos membres. Tout comme Michael, Grégoire demeure dans le cercle et continue à œuvrer pour la Société. Depuis de nombreuses années, nous jugeons nécessaire que notre journal *Le philatéliste canadien* bénéficie d'une influence du Québec. Grégoire laisse une tâche pour en reprendre une autre. Il devient en effet rédacteur en chef adjoint et travaillera avec Bill Pekonen de Richmond pour améliorer sans cesse la qualité de notre publication.

Un bon nombre de nos amis de la Société royale vivent au sud de la frontière. De nombreux membres de la Société royale adhèrent pareillement à l'American Philatelic Society. Son président, Peter McCann, sera un invité spécial à Winnipeg et sera heureux de faire connaissance avec nos amis collectionneurs, entre deux réunions ou entre deux délibérations de jury.

La Société voit d'autres changements audelà de son conseil d'administration. Depuis de nombreuses années, Kimmo Salonen a œuvré en tant que directeur des programmes de diapositives. Étant de plus en plus sollicité par son travail et sa vie de famille, Kimmo a passé la relève à notre membre du conseil d'Halifax, Elizabeth Sodero. Si vous désirez un peu d'animation lors d'une prochaine réunion, appelez Elizabeth!

La Société philatélique de Winnipeg existe depuis longtemps. Elle célébrera en effet son centennaire lors du congrès. Winnipeg est très réputée pour son soutien envers la philatélie au Canada, et c'est le deuxième salon de la Société royale et le troisième salon national qu'elle reçoit. L'ancien président et membre du conseil Beverlie Clark a joué un grand rôle dans ce retour de la Société à Winnipeg, et nous savons déjà tous que l'événement sera de taille.

Les collectionneurs de tous les pays se plaignent périodiquement de leurs administrations postales, et ce pour toujours les mêmes raisons : trop ou pas assez de thèmes, des choix qui

Periodically, collectors in every country complain about their postal administrations. It's always the same – too many, too few, poor subject choice and denominations that are too high. The reality in Canada is that Canada Post has been a great supporter of stamp collecting in this country – and a Royal booster, too. Canada Post will be a big player at Royal * 2000 * Royale. On Friday, April 28, a set of four stamps featuring rural mailboxes will be issued in support of our 72nd annual meeting. I plan to buy my mailbox new issues in Winnipeg and hope you do too!

See you at the Marlborough Hotel Canada Post counter!

KRS

laissent à désirer et des catégories de timbres trop élevées. Au Canada, il est un fait que Postes Canada a toujours été en faveur des collectionneurs et également de la Société royale. Postes Canada tiendra une grande place lors du salon Royal *2000* Royale. Le vendredi 28 avril, une série de quatre timbres sur le thème des boîtes aux lettres rurales sera émise à l'occasion de notre soixantedouxième assemblée annuelle. Je compte acheter ma nouvelle série de boîtes aux lettres rurales à Winnipeg et espère que vous en ferez tout autant!

À bientôt donc, au comptoir Postes Canada de l'hôtel Marlborough!

KRS

Exchanges Wanted / Demandes d'échange

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

La Société royale de philatélie du Canada ne s'occupe pas normalement des échanges entre philatélistes, mais comme elle est la société philatélique nationale du Canada, on lui transmet de nombreuses demandes de 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'outrement, afin que ceux qui désirent établir des rapports avec eux puissent la fair. 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.

Kwesi Barnes
Ghana, West Africa
E-mail: kbarnes@gppo.africaonline.com.gh

I am a stamp collector and I enjoy reading books and magazines about collecting stamps. Over here in Ghana, we do not have stamp collecting clubs, so it makes the hobby a little boring for me. However, I do meet occasionally with other stamp collectors at the Philatelic section of the General Post Office here in Accra capital of Ghana.

I am 22 years old and would like pen pals from Canada.

Sergio Suárez Quinones
Cuba

I've read the address of your philatelic federation in an Fédèration Internationale de Philatélic publication. I'm a Cuban philatelist very interested in contact with philatelists of your country with the purpose of the exchange of Mint stamps. I am a member of the Cuban Philatelic Federation.

Jan Filip
O.Jeremiase 1933
708 00 Ostrava – Poruba
Czech Republic

I collect mint stamps only of fauna and flora from around the world including Canada. I do not collect First Day Covers, but collect souvenir sheets and stamps of all sorts. I can offer stamps from the former Czechoslovakia (1918-1992), the Czech Republic (after 1992) and many ex-socialist countries.

Yuriy Kaminskiy
Box 1172 Khabarovsk – 38
680038 Russia

I would like to exchange stamps. I collect all mint stamps of Canada and worldwide flora and fauna. I offer mint stamps of the USSR/Russia as well as First Day Covers and postal stationeries.

Hermes Paredes Prieto
Avenida del Este e/ 5ta y 7ma
Edificio 10246. Apto B-7
Reparto Santa Catalina, Cerro
C. de la Habana
Cuba

I am very interested interchanging stamps. I am a member of the Filatelic Circle of the Cerro Municipality of Havana City. My interests are Cuba and birds. I have all stamps of Cuba and the base for interchange is YVERT.

Ilya Trendafilov
Ana Maimunkova str.2-A3
Dimitrovgrad, 6400
Bulgaria
E-mail: ilinikol@dg.orbitel.bg

I am a Bulgarian stamp collector who would like to exchange postal stamps with any interested individuals.

Editorial

by Bill Pekonen

Are you confused when philatelic has the opposite meaning when someone wants to put down an item by calling it a philatelic cover? So am I. What must some people be thinking? How can something philatelic at one time describe a desirable and valuable collector's item and, at another time, a worthless item that should be shunned?

It is unfortunate that philatelic is sometimes used by people as a synonym for uncollectible or of too low a value in their opinion for them to bother with.

We need open discussion on how to redefine philately. We need to attract more stamp collectors – not drive them away by using confusing mumbo-jumbo.

The traditional definition of philatelic is related to the collection and study of postage stamps. The extended meaning is the collection and study of the handling, processing and delivery of mail – and the numerous ways the delivery service is accounted for. Philately also includes the study of delivery routes and rates of postage.

Some fakes, forgeries and so-called phantoms exist in our hobby. But, these are not philatelic in the usual sense of the word. E.A. Smythies defines a fake as a genuine stamp that has been altered to make it look different and a forgery as something entirely new, pretending to be real. Generally, a forgery copies the design of an existing stamp but has minor flaws or differences which may be difficult to detect. Some forgers classify these as facsimiles to escape criminal prosecution. Fred Melville has a completely different category that most philatelists avoid and rarely discuss – phantoms. Phantoms are labels which appear to be stamps, but are entirely fictitious. Melville does not include exhibition, charity and advertising labels in the phantom category, because "they mostly disclose their true character and are seldom a source of difficulty for the philatelist." The latter are sometimes called Cinderella items.

How can a genuine philatelic item be described? Here is one simple definition: it describes a method by which payment for postal services has been completed. For example, the 1968 Canadian Postal Guide listed nine approved methods of paying postage of which only one category includes postage stamps. Most of the other eight methods did not exist in 1840. Some philatelic items become a fad for a short time and then fall into disfavour as collectors lose interest. Some become highly desirable years later. First flight covers are a good example. Many covers were specially prepared and had the appropriate sending and receiving cancels. These covers provided solid evidence of authentic postal use. And yet, these have been (mistakenly?) labeled as philatelic because the supply exceeds the present demand.

Favour items include products which are produced by post offices to be given to VIPs or to commemorate special events.

CTO stamps are often issued by post offices to illustrate stamps in publications as promotions. Sometimes, post offices have made a CTO impression on surplus mint stocks and sold them to recover the printing cost. The value of CTOs is less than a properly used, cancelled stamp. Even fake CTOs are known to exist. Some collectors get CTO cancels on covers.

FDCs fall into two separate groups – those which are actually processed through the mail and those which have no address. Addressed covers are proof of actual use of the stamp. Are unaddressed FDCs collectible as an example of mint condition in the same way as mint stamps?

About 100 years ago, most stamps were engraved – some with production and design errors which are still sought after. Full mint sheets helped to identify each stamp position and are difficult to find. The demand exceeds the supply, hence an increase in value.

Today, different high-speed printing methods are used, eliminating the engraving errors of the past. You can now buy full mint sheets of modern stamps at 70 per cent of face value and supply exceeds demand. On the other hand, new printing errors are surfacing with some escaping detection and being sold in post offices.

Today, stamp collectors complain about post offices producing too many different stamps. How much is too many?

Post offices around the world are faced with rising mail delivery costs at the same time more efficient means exist to deliver written and spoken messages – methods not available to the general public about 20 years ago or so – namely fax, e-mail and Internet. Not only that, but governments everywhere are facing tax revolts. Post offices are trying to earn a profit to avoid financial problems. Denmark is trying to sell its mail handling business to either private interests or some other postal administration. South Africa has contracted its operations to New Zealand.

Coupled with that situation is the fact that the post office does not exist to satisfy the pleasures of philately, as some stamp collectors want to believe. Philately exists because of the post offices.

Most of the special stamps produced today are not aimed at philatelists. Many are aimed toward the souvenir or memorabilia collector. The Diana and Elvis stamps come to mind. These have been purchased mainly by people who have no interest in stamp collecting. To them, the stamp is one of many different collateral items associated with their hero (heroine) or special interest. Those market segments out-number philatelic collectors. Add the specialized topical philatelic collector to the mix. T-shirts, mugs and other trinkets sold by the post office fit neatly into a novelty category. What about the telephone cards being produced by different post and telegraph offices around the world?

The plus side of this marketing strategy by post offices is that the revenue from the sale of souvenir or memorabilia products is helping to reduce the costs of operating the mail service. The extra revenue is helping Canada Post to keep its postal rates among the lowest in the world. What is wrong with that? The simple fact is that your letter can be safely and securely delivered anywhere in the world at an affordable cost. You do not need a fax machine, computer or even electricity or phone connection for your message to be sent – nor does the receiver.

When all is said and done, you do not need much money to enjoy philately. You can pick up used stamps for pennies, if not entirely free. You may not become rich when you sell your collection, but you can get lasting enjoyment. On the other hand, some collectors spend millions of dollars and enjoy some of the rarest collectible items in the world. If that makes you happy and you have the spare cash, then go for it!

So, let's call a spade a spade. If an item is related to philately, let's call it philatelic. If the product is just a favour, souvenir, memorabilia, collateral, novelty, fake, forgery or phantom, let's give it the proper label instead of using confusing language. The next time you hear the word philatelic, ask the speaker what they mean. And if you are fed up collecting mint stamps, there are other worthwhile options.

Judaica Canadiana:
An Ambassador of Canadian Photography

By John Peebles

He is a master Canadian photographer. In fact, he has been called the Ambassador of Canadian Photography.

He is a Fellow of the Professional Photographers of Canada, a Fellow of the Royal Photographic Society of Great Britain and a Fellow of the American Society of Photographers.

In 1990, he was awarded membership to the Order of Canada, the centrepiece of the Canadian system of honours. At the time, the Governor General, in making the presentation, noted that the honour "is a gracious and lasting way for a country to pay tribute to those who exemplify the highest qualities of citizenship and whose contributions enrich the lives of their contemporaries."

Prince Charles, Frank Sinatra, Oscar Peterson, Pope John Paul – these represent but a sampling of the personalities whom he has added to his portfolio over the years.

Of whom do we speak? Yousuf Karsh? No, Albert Gilbert.

Understandingly, the listed honours are those which one might associate with the legendary Ottawa photographer, Karsh. And, indeed, Toronto master portrait photographer Gilbert is often compared with Karsh. However, Gilbert, born on Nov. 18, 1922 in Toronto, has his own unique style of portrait art.

As one critic has noted of Gilbert's portraits, "These are more than mere head-and-shoulders shots. The personalities… jump off the photo paper." Gilbert himself has been quoted as saying the "portraiture is a lost art. To be able to give a subject warmth and try to pick up the personalities, to be able to observe and feel a situation, that's portraiture."

(Scott No. 408)
This 15a Israeli stamp of Israeli Prime Minister Levi Eshkol was issued on March 11, 1970.
The tab is inscribed "PRIME MINISTER OF ISRAEL 1963-1969" and bears the emblem of the state.

Gilbert's distinctive portrait style, which he calls journalistic portraiture, has earned him a bounty of national and international awards.

Among his noteworthy commissions is a project from the National Archives of Canada to photograph 25 leading Canadian personalities.

Another of his myriad of accomplishments in photography is that, since 1950, Gilbert has photographed all of the Prime Ministers of Israel. In 1998, officials from Brandeis University, located in the United States just outside of Boston, Massachusetts, ordered a supply of portraits of all the prime ministers of Israel to mark both the institution's and Israel's 50th anniversary.

Leah Rabin, widow of the late Yitzhak Rabin, asked Gilbert for a supply of 3,500 full colour 16 by 20 inch portraits of her slain husband in his memory and for display in every classroom in Israel. It was back on November 5, 1995, that the 73-year-old Israeli Prime Minister Rabin was assassinated shortly after addressing a peace rally in Tel Aviv. Unfortunately, the request from Leah Rabin was never completed. According to Gilbert, "extensive inquiries were made to have the portraits donated, but the plan was never successful because of complications of a tax exemption for overseas contributions."

Levi Eshkol (1895-1969)

Among Gilbert's collection is a portrait of Levi Eshkol (1895-1969), Israeli Prime Minister from 1963 to 1969, taken in 1968 during Eshkol's visit to Toronto. This portrait was chosen by Israeli postal authorities in 1970 to honour Eshkol on a stamp.

The 15a Israeli stamp (Scott No. 408) was issued on March 11, 1970. The Eshkol stamps were printed photolithography in panes of 15 stamps with five bottom tabs. The tab is inscribed "PRIME MINISTER OF ISRAEL 1963-1969" and bears the emblem of the state.

Levi Shkolnik was born in Ortove, Kiev Province, Ukraine on October 25, 1895. He later changed his name to Levi Eshkol. In 1914, at the age of 19, Eshkol immigrated to Israel where he began work as an agricultural labourer and political activist.

In 1951 Eshkol was appointed Minister of Agriculture and Development and from 1952 to 1963 he served as Minister of Finance. After the retirement of Ben-Gurion in 1963, Levi Eshkol assumed the post of Prime Minister and Minister of Defense. It was during his premiership that the Six Day War of June 1967 occurred. Eshkol died while in office on February 26, 1969, of a sudden heart attack suffered at his home in Jerusalem.

When asked about his memories of the Eshkol portrait, Gilbert noted that,

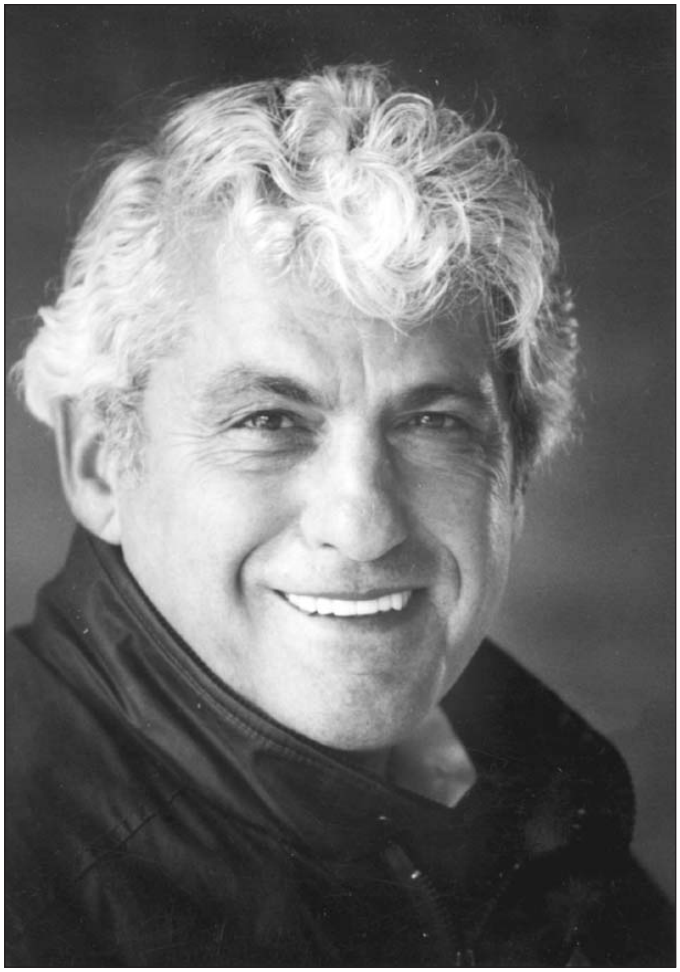
(Sc. 1329)
This 5.35 shekel stamp was released on Feb. 17, 1998.
Stamp designer R. Beckman very effectively utilized the Gilbert portrait of Herzog.
The tab reads "PRESIDENT 1983-1993" and bears the state emblem.

"The portrait session took place at the Four Seasons Hotel in Toronto." Gilbert further recalled the circumstances around the photography session with Eshkol thus:

"The day began with a press conference at the airport hotel. I was there to take some candid photographs. I was surprised by his appearance. I had never met him prior and any of the photographs taken certainly didn't capture his true appearance. Immediately, I noticed his thick prescription glasses and realized they completely obstructed his eyes when any flash unit was directed at him. I quickly captured the images that I needed on film and rushed off to the lab for quick processing. I then took the finished proofs from the conference to a nearby optical centre to find a matching pair of eyeglass frames and purchased them without any glass.

"In the afternoon, there was a room set aside for the official portrait session. I used a blue cloth as a backdrop as representation of Israel. When Levi Eshkol entered the room I greeted him and we shared a few moments of conversation. Then I presented him with the new eyeglass frames. He questioned the need. I then showed him a few photographs taken earlier that day at the press conference. I explained that his prescription glasses obstructed his eyes from view. He simply smiled and obliged me.

"The session was brief, but memorable. I had the film rushed at the lab and a completed portrait was in my hands the next day. I was able to visit with Eshkol a second time to have the finished portrait signed by him. He was thrilled with the dynamic image I had created and appreciated having a copy to take back to Israel."



Among Albert Gilbert's photographic achievements are portaits of Israeli Prime Minister Levi Eshkol and President Chaim Herzog.

Chaim Herzog (1918-1997)

Shortly after the death of Chaim Herzog in 1997, Gilbert sent a letter of sympathy to the Herzog family along with a gift of copies of a previously commissioned portrait of Herzog that had been completed in 1989 when Herzog visited Canada. The Herzogs were extremely pleased with the gesture and replied by requesting permission to use the portrait for various publishings. In addition, permission was asked to use the portrait for a commemorative stamp to be issued by Israel in 1998. Hence, for the second time in his career, Gilbert would see Israel issue a stamp bearing one of his portraits.

The 5.35 shekel stamp (Sc. 1329) was released on February 17, 1998. Stamp designer R. Beckman very effectively utilized the Gilbert portrait of Herzog. The stamps were printed offset by the Israeli Government Printers in panes of 15 stamps, the bottom five of which have tabs. The tab reads "PRESIDENT 1983-1993" and bears the state emblem.

Herzog emigrated to Palestine in 1935. In 1975 Herzog was appointed Israel's Ambassador to the United Nations. He was elected to Israel's Knesset as a Labour Party member in 1981 and was elected the Sixth President of the State in May 1983. In 1988 he was reelected for a second five-year term. He died in April 1997.

Again, Gilbert was asked to recall the time of the Herzog photograph. He remembered:

"The portrait of Chaim Herzog was also taken at the Four Seasons Hotel in Toronto. It was during his visit in 1989. Arrangements were made through the Council General's office. I brought and assembled all my portraits of the previous Prime Ministers of Israel in the official portrait session room. Mr. Herzog was impressed with the collection. Showing him my style and quality of work quickly put him at ease and the session proved to be a success."

A History of Excellence in Photography

The Gilbert Studio was established in Toronto in 1922 by Al's father Nathan Gilbert. The younger Gilbert took over the photography studio in 1945. In 1997, the City of Toronto honoured him on the 75th anniversary of Gilbert Studio with a gala reception and exhibition held at Metro Hall.

Throughout the world, from Australia to Iceland, from China to Russia and many points in between, Gilbert has lectured extensively on the style and techniques of photography.

Yes, master Canadian photographer Gilbert is held in high esteem around the globe for his work. And, his art form has been given lasting fame, for stamp collectors and the stamp-buying public in general, on the stamps of Israel.

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Early French Cancels – Losange

by Napoleon

Figure 1. Arrangement of dots: PC.

Part Two

In France, from the time of the imperforate Emperor Louis Napoleon stamps (1853) through the perforated Head of Ceres issue (ending in 1875), the most common cancellation was an eight by eight diamond-of-dots. In French, this is called a losange. It has short numerals or letters, petits chiffres (PC), or tall numerals, gros chiffres (GC), in the centre. PC numerals are about three mm high and GC numerals are some six mm high. Figure 1 shows the arrangement of dots for the PC cancellation for Alexandria, Egypt. Figure 2 is the GC cancel for the same city.

PC cancels were used from 1852 until 1863. Thus they are common on the imperforate and perforated emperor stamps. The PC cancels were assigned to individual French cities and towns in alphabetical order; PC 1 for Abbeville, and PC 3703 for Yvré-l'Evéque. PC 3704 started a new alphabetical sequence for cities outside France, thus 3704's use for Alexandria.

Figure 2. Arrangement of dots: GC.

GC cancels came into use at the time of the emperor-with-laurel-wreath issue of 1863. GC cancels too were assigned alphabetically. GC 1-4361 were original assignments. GC 4362-4999 were later metropolitan post offices, and 6000-6449 even later post offices. GC cancels 5000-5172 were used in foreign cities and towns. The obsolete PC cancels were sent to the city now using the number. Thus PC 1002 for Courtenay was sent to Cherbourg, GC 1002. Occasionally the PC cancel was used again, creating the PC of GC usage. Figure 3 shows a PC of GC cancel.

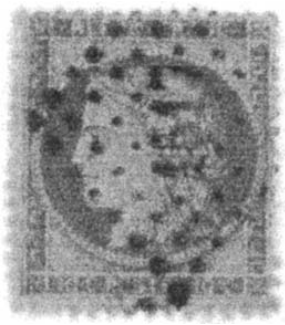

Figure 3. PC of GC cancel.

How does one recognize PC of GC usage? If a PC cancel is on any stamp from the emperor-with-laurel-wreath or a later issue, it is PC of GC usage. There are some situations when the PC cancel is more valuable in its original location and others when its value increases in PC of GC usage.

Figure 4. Stylistic variation: GC-40.

With some of the smaller numbers in GC cancellations, the space at the ends is filled with a horizontal line, a stylistic variation. Figure 4 shows GC-40, from Aix-en-Othe. When the losange first went into use, Paris post offices used letters and numerals with serifs (Figure 5). Later, branch post offices in Paris used letters and numerals without serifs, as seen in Figure 6.

Figure 5. D with serifs, Paris PO.

Figure 6. J sans serifs, Paris PO.

Near the end of the losange period, the star-and-number cancel (Figure 7) came into use at Paris branch post offices. Usually, what appears to be a GC cancel with a one or two digit number is really a Paris six-sided star cancel.

Here is the answer to an eventual question. No, one cannot determine whether a number with only 6s and 9s is 6s and 9s or 9s and 6s, unless it has an associated date stamp to determine the city. Thus 66 could be 99, for example.

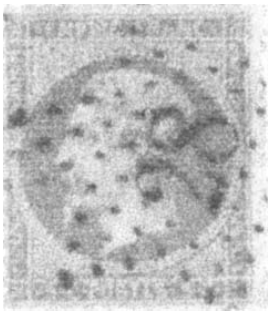

Figure 7. 28-in-six-pointed-star, Paris PO.

France used sans serifs letters in the losange for rail route cancels. Figure 8 is from the Toulouse station for the Toulouse-to-Bordeaux train. Figure 9 shows the "(P) GSO" cancel from a Paris train station, the Gare du Sud-Ouest.

How does one know the letters in Figure 9 are PGSO? In a losange, the characters are centred. Looking at Figure 9, "SO" is right of the centreline (from top centre dot down), so there also must be two characters to the left of the centreline. The only four-

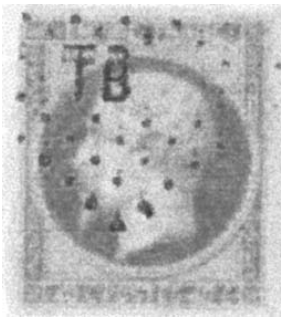

Figure 8. TB in losange, early rail route cancel.

Figure 9. Paris train station cancel.

Figure 10. Losange in red.

Figure 11. Losange in blue.

character combination ending in "GSO" is "PGSO" for Paris Gare du Sud-Ouest. Look at Figure 9 again; there does seem to be the right tip of the loop of the "P" just where it should be.

The losange came in red (Figure 10) and blue (Figure 11), with an anchor in the centre (Figure 12) for maritime mail, or with characters in the centre honouring special events (Figure 13 with EU for the 1867 Exposition Universelle). The losange came with nothing in the centre (Figure 14 losange evidé), and with dots filling the centre (Figure 15 losange plein). A losange plein cancel on an imperforate copy of the emperor-with-laurel-wreath or perforated Head of Ceres issue strongly suggests that the stamp is really a French Colonies general issue imperforate. Many colonial cancels had dots filling the losange. It is more likely that a losange plein cancel is from a colony if the cancel is in colour. Colour is much more common on a colonial cancel that as a metropolitan one.

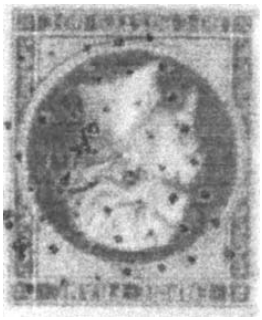

Figure 12. Losange and anchor: maritime use.

Figure 13. Exposition Universelle cancel.

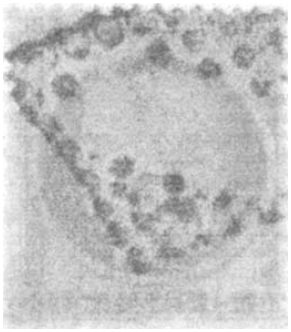

Figure 14. Losange evidé (empty centre).

What a strange looking PC cancellation is in Figure 16! The number is not centered in the losange. The circular date stamp is for Cherbourg, but the PC cancel looks like 1202, and Cherbourg is PC 842. The date is 1874, but PC use essentially ended in 1862. The diamond-of-dots cancel is eight dots wide and 10 dots high but should be eight by eight.

Figure 15. Losange plein (centre full of dots).

Analysis: the clerk canceling the stamp seems to have used the cancel once, but not been satisfied with the resulting partial strike. The clerk canceled the stamp again, a little lower and to the right, producing a higher-than-normal diamond and off-centre number.

This explains the difficulty in reading the second numeral, which could be a 2, 1, or 0. The appearance of a "1" is caused by the 1 from the first strike. The appearance of a "2" is from the top of the first 0 from the second strike and the 1 from the first strike. Thus it is a 0.

What leads to belief that the cancellation is 1002? Being thrifty, the French postal service moved the PC cancels from their original offices to wherever the same number was to be used for GC cancellations. If the GC cancel were unavailable, the PC cancel would be used. In this case, Courtenay's PC 1002 was moved to Cherbourg, GC 1002 for use as needed. Thus 1002 is indeed a losange cancel for Cherbourg.

Figure 16. PC on 15c Ceres of 1873.

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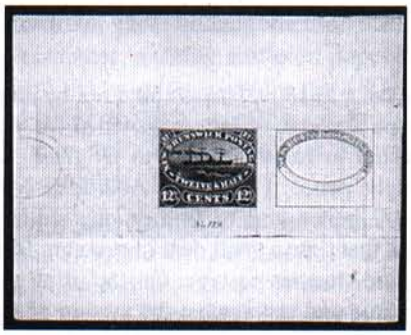

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Prepaid Postage, Why?

By Hugh Delaney

In his masterpiece, *Sixty Years a Queen*, published for the Diamond Jubilee of Queen Victoria, Sir Herbert Maxwell, Bart, M.P. in Great Britain, told the fascinating side bar story of how the Post Office changed from charging recipients, to charging the sender of mail. It should be repeated, and so this article will quote from that historical record and go further to tell the story of postage in Canada with reference to the work of John S. Ewart in his book, *The Kingdom of Canada Imperial Federation, the Colonial Conferences, the Alaska Boundary and Other Essays*. Now there's a mouthful title to remember!

According to Sir Herbert, with probable political tongue in cheek, the crowning achievement of Lord Melbourne's administration, originated not with a minister or one of the bureaucracy, but with a humble school teacher. The inventor as everyone who collects stamps knows, was Sir Rowland Hill, the son of a schoolmaster. He loved arithmetic and became a mathematical master in his father's school.

Hill with his bent for figures, studied post office statistics after he heard an anecdote of the writer Coleridge. According to the story he related, Coleridge was in the Lake District of England when he happened to see a poor woman refuse to accept delivery of a letter from a postman because she could not afford to pay the postage – one shilling. This took place around the year 1836. He learned that the letter was from the lady's brother and so he offered to pay the fee, even though the lady demurred. When the postman turned away, the woman showed Coleridge the letter which consisted of a blank sheet. She explained that her brother agreed to send her a blank sheet once a quarter as long as everything was going well with him, marking the cover so that she would not have to accept delivery and therefore wouldn't have to pay postage. Hill ascertained from this that the system held to an economic fallacy and became determined to devise a means to remedy it.

In 1837, he published his design in pamphlet form, proposing that a smaller fee charged for carrying letters would bring about a greater use and therefore a larger profit to the Post Office Department. His recommendation called for a uniform rate of one penny per half ounce, regardless of how far the letter would have to travel in England. This proposal to the public service of a commercial principle by which fortunes had been repeatedly achieved by private business was condemned out of hand by the post office authorities. Indeed, Lord Lichfield, the Postmaster General, declared in the House of Lords that the idea was "the wildest and most extravagant scheme he had ever listened to." The Secretary to the Post Office, Colonel Maberly predicted the concept was doomed to fail, although it was his opinion that it should not be impeded, because to do so, the government would be blamed for not giving it a trial. All around, it seems that any praise was faint indeed. Sydney Smith who was quoted a representing public opinion, opined thus: "a million of revenue is given up to the nonsensical Penny Post Scheme, to please my old, excellent and universally dissentient friend, Noah Warburton. I admire the Whig Ministry and think they have done more good things than all the ministries since the Revolution; but these concessions are sad and unworthy marks of weakness and fill reasonable men with alarm." The Noah Warburton referred to was, along with Wallace, two members of Parliament who supported Hill's ideal.

Ultimately, it fell to Spring Rice, Chancellor of the Exchequer to have the courage to get the Bill through, even though he faced the prospect of a 750,000-pound deficit. The motion however, passed with a majority of 102. As Sir Herbert chronicled nearly 60 years later, this "offspring of genius of an obscure mathematical teacher and so modestly brought to light, has since been adopted by every civilized community in the world."

Looking back to 1839, letters could not be prepaid; distance, weight, shape and size of letters provided for various charges. A letter posted in London to go to Brighton would cost the recipient eight pence; London to Aberdeen cost one shilling three and 1/2 pence and to Belfast one shilling four pence. There was at that time a great deal of pressure from commercial centres to find cheaper postage. On top of all these pressures, there was a hue and cry against the system of Official Franks. A privilege of free postage for members of the government and Parliament was well abused and was passed on to their friends and relatives by the various members who wrote their names on covers and handed them out. Revenue was thus defrauded and those least able to bear the cost paid higher fees in order that the Post Office Department could make up the losses generated by the free service. Because of the high rates by the post office, people had been driven to various means of infringing the monopoly. All kinds of illegal and clandestine enterprises abounded to carry letters at cheaper rates.

When Hill brought forward his plan, it was proven that five-sixths of correspondence had been smuggled for many years. In the years between 1815 and 1835 the population had grown by 30 per cent and the stagecoach duty by 128 per cent, yet the post office revenue had remained stationary.

Needless to say, reducing the rate from six-pence farthing to one penny, was startling. Originally the Commons Committee had proposed a uniform two penny rate, but the Chancellor of the Exchequer, Rice was convinced that the loss (as most were sure there must be a loss for the Department) would be less from a penny rate and estimated the loss at about £700,000.

No one could have foreseen the actual results. In 1837, there were 80,000 letters and 44,000 newspapers delivered by the post office in the British Isles. In the fiscal 1895-96 year; exclusive of telegrams which now came under the post office, the figure was 2,248 times the volume of 1837 or a figure of 3,031,553,196 with a net profit of £3,632,122.

As an aside, the value of property found in letters opened in the Returned Letter Offices in 1896 amounted to £580,000.

So the Penny Postage became a fact early in the reign of Queen Victoria in the year 1840.

On August 1, 1883, Parcel Postage was introduced in Great Britain and 25 million parcels were delivered the first year. In 1895-96, the number of inland parcels delivered was 60.5 million.

Meanwhile in Canada in 1908, John S. Ewart discussed Imperial Postage as one of the methods of Consolidating the Empire as a Canadian success story. He said: "Even the originators of the postal system must have had some conception of its tremendous educational as well as commercial advantages and no one doubts that cheap postage is a powerful aid in the dissemination of culture as well as in the advancement of the world's welfare." This quotation is over 90 years old. Referring to the United Kingdom with short distances, a dense population and good transportation, letters are charged a minimum rate of one penny and in 1905 the surplus revenue was $18 million. However, Canada's approach had to be different with immense distances, a thinly scattered population and, in many cases, primitive transportation in the 1800s, the minimum letter rate used in 1908 was the same as in the UK, which meant that the Canadian postal system was not designed to be profitable.

When Britain managed affairs in the Canadian Colonies between 1763 and 1851, the British idea was the postal system should make money and thousands of dollars were sent to London as profits on the Canadian operations. When Canada took over management of the Colonial System in 1851, the average rate for a letter dropped from 18 cents per half ounce to six cents. During the next four years, the revenue climbed from $230,629 in 1852 to $368,166 in 1855.

In 1868, a year after Confederation, the letter rate was fixed at three cents per ounce and in 1899 it dropped to two cents per ounce. Canada's mail system delivered letters from Sydney, Nova Scotia to Dawson, Yukon – 5,495 miles for the two cents rate, while Britain's Penny Postage had to travel a maximum of 900 miles. Also in 1868, the rate from Canada to Britain was 12-1/2 cents per ounce. Two years later, it dropped to six cents and to five cents in 1875. In 1897 the Canadian Postmaster General took unilateral action over the objections of Britain and issued a notice that after January 1, 1898, letters to the U.K would be three cents per ounce. Britain declared it would not accept letters with that charge.

The ramifications of postage rates on newspapers, magazines and periodicals between the UK and Canada and between Canada and the U.S. is another study entirely. It is a further portent of the ongoing battle between the Canadian and U.S. publishers and the Canadian and American government.

Meanwhile the penny postage rate went the route of the dodo bird. Nearly every year sees postal rate increases and the structure of the postal system continuing to evolve, with the Canadian system trying to become a profitable Crown Corporation. However, the idea of the first quotation I registered in this essay, regarding Canada's postal system is now very evident in the number of commemorative stamps issued each year and the variety of definitive stamps being issued every few years. I suppose the next question is: Where to now? ✱

Editor's Note

The history of the introduction of the Imperial Penny Post is much lengthier than above. The Imperial rate for letters within the British Empire was initiated by the British Post Office on Sept. 23, 1897. At that time, the proposed rate was 2d (four cents). Mulock suggested 1.5d (three cents). A conference of Colonial Postmasters was called for in July 1898. When Mulock arrived in London to attend the conference, he was informed that the British Post Master favoured a 1d rate (two cents) due to political pressures within England and intervention by the American post office. (Source – National Archives RG3.)

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Holograms on Stamps

by Joseph Monteiro

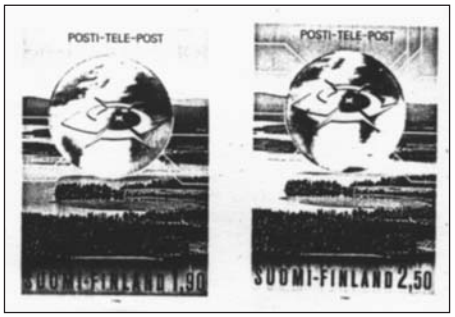
Introduction

Holograms have a tantalizing effect on most collectors who attempt to examine them in great detail. This is hardly surprising as the three dimensional image creates different colours when viewed from different angles in the light. As a result of its captivating effect, the use of holography is quite common in paintings and works of art. It provides art with the additional depth and meaning that a painter cannot readily capture merely with the use of ordinary colour while its use is fairly recent, its discovery dates back to nearly half a century ago. In 1947, Dennis Gabor in Great Britain discovered holography when he attempted to correct distortions in images produced by electron microscopes.

The Use of Hologram on Stamps

The first country to have used a hologram on stamp was Austria on October 18, 1988. A hologram was used on an 8-schilling stamp to publicize the Federal Economic Chamber Export Congress. While Austria is to be credited with the honour of being the first country for its use on stamps, Australia is the first country to have used a hologram on an envelope to celebrate a philatelic event. A hologram was used on an envelope to inaugurate Expo 1988 at Brisbane on April 29, 1998, however its hologram was not part of the postal rate. This innovative approach to producing stamps has since been imitated by several other countries throughout the world.

Several other innovative uses of holograms in connection with philately have also been employed. The first country to use a hologram on a postal envelope as part of the postal rate was United States of America on December 13, 1989. Other countries that used holograms in innovative fashions for the first time were: Brazil (used on a souvenir sheet); Finland (use of a hologram cut as a circle); Finland (use of holograms on a postcard); Tonga (use of hologram in a booklet); St. Vincent & Grenadines (use of a self-adhesive hologram); Canada (uncut sheet). The possibility of falling into its distinctive group have not yet been fully exhausted. Holograms have not been used on: aerogrammes, or cut in forms or shapes e.g. triangles, etc. or multiple holograms on a single stamp, etc.



I believe that the use of holograms on stamps were not used for security purposes to discourage counterfeits as in the case of bank notes (e.g. Australia used a hologram on a $10 bank note depicting Captain James Cook in February 1988) and credit cards but more as a novelty. Their use for these other purposes can be traced to periods predating April 1988. It is also worthwhile noting that the idea of attempting to form a three-dimensional image (i.e., 3-D) a picture is not new. Bhutan produced 3-D postage stamps as early as 1967, however, here no hologram was used but a millimetre or less of transparent plastic coating was used on top of the image which produced the 3-D effect.

The list of stamps or postal stationery that have used holograms are shown in the table on the next page.

A Brief Discription on the History of Holography and How a Hologram is Made

The description that follows (other than where indicated) has largely been adapted from an article in the *Globe and Mail* (Olmstead, Amy, "Charge of the light brigade,") for a more thorough and in depth description refer to the book (*Holographic Night Sky*) on which the above article is based. We shall first review the history.

• In 1947, holography was invented by Denis Gabor in Britain when he corrected distortions, in images produced by electron microscopes. He made rudimentary holograms with a mercury lamp and coined the term 'hologram' meaning completely written or complete information, to describe the new way of recording images.

• In 1962, a couple of years after the laser was invented, the possibility of creating quality holograms became feasible. This sparked interest in the study of holographic production.

• After 1967, it was possible to view holograms in white light and not just under lasers. As a result new surfaces for recording holograms were developed. Thereafter colour holography was developed which used three different coloured lasers. Further developments involved making holograms more realistic, large and colourful.

• In 1971, Mr. Gabor won the Nobel Prize in physics for his work in the development of holography.

• In 1977, the use of holography was promoted by its use in the movies. A 3-D moving, talking image of Princess Leia was projected by droid R2-D2 in *Star Wars*.

• In 1984, the use of holography was further promoted by the appearance of an eagle on the cover of *National Geographic* and later in December 1988 by the appearance of the globe.

• ln 1988, holograms were used for the first time on bank notes and on postage stamps.

• In the 1990s, holograms began to be widely used in the creation of paintings and art work.

Holograms Used On Stamps and Postal Stationery by Various Countries

COUNTRY	ISSUE DATE	SCOTT NO.	DESCRIPTION OF HOLOGRAM
Austria	Oct. 18, 1988	1411	First country to issue hologram (rectangular) on stamp
Brazil	Oct. 14, 1989	2210	First use of hologram on souvenir sheet
United States	Dec. 13, 1989	U617	First country to issue hologram on postal stationery
Finland	Jan. 19, 1990	810-811	First use of round hologram on stamp
United States	Sept. 19, 1990	U618	Hologram on postal stationery
Hungary	Nov. 15, 1991		SS showing coat of arms
Poland	Nov. 16, 1991	3056	Butterfly hologram on stamps
United States	Jan. 21, 1992	U625	25c, 29c, 32c Hologram on postal stationery
Finland	May 8, 1992	886-888	Hologram on stamps - sheetlet
Canada	Oct. 1, 1992	1442	Stamp on sheetlet
San Marino	March 26, 1993	1280	Hologram on one sheet of SS
Finland	May 6, 1993		First use of holograms on postcards
Mongolia	Aug. 27, 1993	2139	SS of four
Hong Kong	Feb. 15, 1994	23	Holograms on two postcards
Isle of Man	July 5, 1994	553C	Hologram stamps of Queen Elizabeth in sheetlet
New Zealand	July 20, 1994	1225	Hologram stamps on sheetlet. Man Landing on Moon
P.R. China	Oct. 9, 1994	2530	SS - UPU 120th Anniversary
Bhutan	Nov. 11, 1994	1101	First SS with two different holograms. Also imp. hologram
Hungary	1994		SS - Issued to commemorate Philakorea 1994
Tonga	Dec. 14, 1994	870	First use of hologram on a booklet
Finland	Jan. 30, 1995	949-956	Holograms on eight stamps of the booklet
Hungary	1995		Three postcards - Bridge, Parliament and Palace
Australia	April 5, 1995	1429-1430	Hologram on opals
Hong Kong	1996		Holograms on postcards
Thailand	June 9, 1996	1641	Stamp, SS and postcard
Malaysia	Jan. 13, 1996	557	SS - Mesat
Australia	Sept. 5, 1996	1554-1555	Hologram or foil on diamond and pearl
Aland	June 9, 1996	137	SS - Hologram depicts ship
China	May 10, 1996		SS - Panda hologram (stamps depict bamboo shoots) HK ’96
China	1996		SS- Panda hologram (stamps depict pandas)
China	1996		Numbered SS - Panda hologram (stamps depict pandas)
Hungary	1996		SS - Taipei ’96 hologram of rats on adjacent stamp
Hungary	1996		SS - China ’96 hologram of a rat on adjacent stamp
St. Vincent Ger	1998		First self-adhesive hologram – tiger stamp and SS
Estonia	1998		SS
Grenada	1999		Princess Diana self-adhesive hologram
St. Vincent Ger	1999	2055A	Princess Diana self-adhesive hologram
Indonesia	1999		Stamps and SS (hologram showing ducks)
France	July 2, 1999		Stamp - Ceres head
Netherlands	July 2, 1999		Booklet - I love stamps
New Caledonia	July 2, 1999		SS - sheet depicts stamps printed by five processes
Switzerland	Aug. 21, 1999		SS - China World Philatelic World Exhibition (Beijing)
Malaysia	Aug. 30, 1999		SS and imperforate SS - Petronas Twin Towers
Canada	Oct. 12, 1999		First uncut imperforate large sheet, SS (1 stamp) and SS (4 stamps)

J. Monteiro

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A description of how the Canadian hologram stamp (Scott No. 1442) was made was published in *The Secrets of a Hologram* (Canada Post Corporation).

• The space shuttle in the Canadian hologram is actually reproduced from a tiny model, hand carved and cast, with all the details painted on by hand.

• The second step is making the master hologram. The model to be photographed is mounted on a special table containing both the laser and the photographic film. The table must not vibrate more than six millionths of a millimetre. The laser beam glances of the model thereby recording the information of its shape, and continues on to expose the film. In ordinary light, the film appears to contain nothing but faint scattered dots. If a laser were focussed back through the film you would see a three dimensional object resting out in space.

• The final step is creating the holograms to be affixed to the stamp. These holograms are created by embossing. The master hologram is turned into microscopic pits in a fine layer of nickel. A special plate is then created to emboss the microscopic pits into a clear plastic film. Finally, one side of its clear film is coated with a thin layer of aluminum that acts as a mirror, bouncing light back through the embossed hologram. The result is a three-dimensional image. As the hologram is viewed at an angle with respect to the light, the globe, Canada and the shuttle appear with a different light.

It appears that the above method may be replaced by a more sophisticated modern method using computer technology to create the hologram. The following is a brief description of how a hologram is made using this technology. It is a casual description rather than a technical description (see *Globe and Mail* for the following extracts).

• First, a 3-D representation of the character is constructed in a computer, using 3-D animation software. Within computer software, a virtual camera is then moved around the character to create a series of 2-D images showing it from different angles. A separate computer feeds these images to a holographic printer, a computer-controlled robotic device.

• Second, a holographic printer uses the light from a laser beam to record images onto holographic film. The laser beam is split in two by a beam splitter. The two beams are then spread by lenses called beam expanders. The beam reflected off of the object illuminates a liquid crystal display (i.e., LCD) that is backed by a diffusion panel. The LCD presents the 2-D images to be recorded on the holographic film. The other beam – called the reference beam – illuminates the film from a 45° angle. (Nothing can move more than a few billionths of an inch, or the image will be ruined; therefore, a vibration isolation system is used to keep everthing still).

• Finally, the two laser beams interact to form a thin vertical strip on the film. Using a 'translating slit', the printer creates a series of strips, one for each of the 2-D images recorded by the virtual camera. When you look at a hologram, each eye sees the image from a slightly different viewpoint. The brain interprets this as a 3-D image.

Due to the different material used in producing holograms, their quality is not constant, some are shiny while others are not. As a result, doubts may arise in the minds of some collectors whether some of the stamps listed in the preceeding table are true holograms. Some suggest that the holograms of Australia are not real.

What Are the Most Common Types of Errors on Stamps that Arise When Holograms are Used?

1. The cut of the holograms.

a) Holograms are not always cut identically. As a result, the design on the hologram is not always identical.

2. The adhesion of the hologram on the stamp.

a) Holograms are not always glued on the exact position of the stamp.

b) Holograms are sometimes not glued or may fall off.

c) Multiple holograms may be glued.

d) Holograms that are glued upside down or inverted.

e) Holograms that are not glued (sometimes described as imperforate).

3. Errors resulting from technical production or manufacture of the hologram.

a) Design on the hologram may be missing.

b) The hologram may contain impressions that were not supposed to be on the hologram.

4. Others.

a) Holograms on imperforate or partial imperforate stamps.

b) Holograms on stamps with different perforations or on different paper.

c) Holograms on stamps with some design (not part of the hologram) on the stamp missing.

d) Other types of major errors known to exist (missing colour, missing, inscription, inverts) other than on the hologram.

Conclusion

The use of holograms on stamps is one of the novel developments in the production of stamps. It heralds the growth of a new and distinct thematic field in philately. This is witnessed not only in the advertisements of a number of stamps agencies but also in the increase in the number of new countries that have produced holographic stamps for the first time.

One of the reasons why not very many countries have used this technology is the cost involved in the production of holograms. Another and perhaps more important reason is the complex technology involved in its production. This however may all be changing, as computer technology and sophisticated software is being designed for the production of holograms making its use more commercially viable than in the past.

As we enter the new millennium we can expect to see an ever increasing use of this new technology in the production of stamps by various countries, especially as post offices gear up for marketing their new products in the new millennium. Recently, I was informed and shown a stamp that Canada had printed with a hologram (the second one), it is one of the most beautiful holograms that I have seen on a stamp so far with a universal message of PEACE PAIX LOVE AMOUR in the holographic text surrounding the stamp. Perhaps, if all countries adhere to the message that Canada wishes to convey, we can build and create a better world that can grow and live in peace and harmony which ultimately will lead to a better distribution of wealth both within a nation and between nations.

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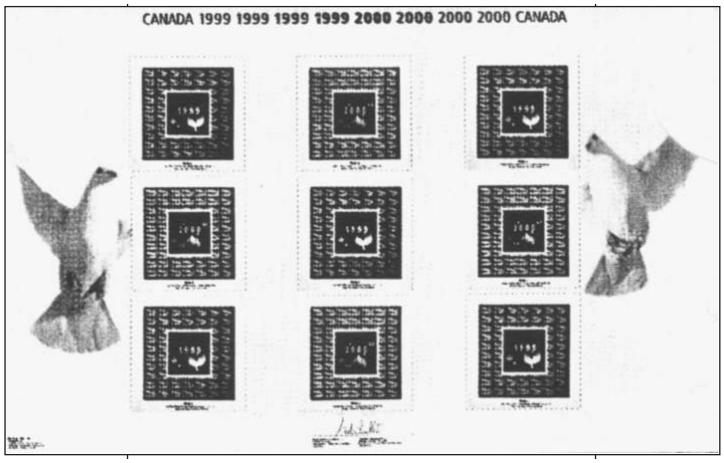

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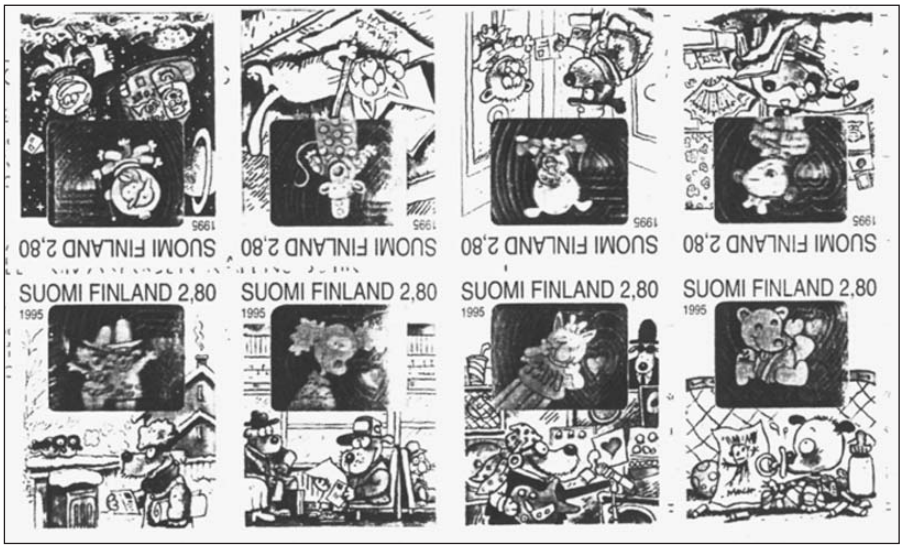
15. *Secrets of the Hologram*, Steps 1-3, Canada Post Corporation.

16. *The Holographic Night Sky,* Somerville House Books Ltd.

17. "The making of Canada's space age postage stamp," *Equinox*, No. 65, September/October 1992.



Results of the 1999 FIP Philatelic Website Evaluation

There were 66 people who completed the entry process for evaluation of their websites. The evaluation was completed by a team of eight accredited literature jurors from six countries in Europe and North America under the leadership of Charles J. Peterson, Chairman of the FIP Literature Commission.

The sites are listed alphabetically within each award section. Their home country is given along with the URL. Written critiques will be sent to each entrant.

FIP Best Philatelic Website:

Joseph Luft's Philatelic Resources (USA)
http://www.execpc.com/~joeluft/resource.html

These four sites are authorized to display this logo:

Scouts on Stamps Society (USA)
http://www.sossi.org With Special Prize

Toke Norby's Home Page (Denmark)
http://www.norbyhus.dk With Spcial Prize

Eric Jackson Revenue Stamps (USA)
http://www.ericjackson.com

Museum of U.S. Essays and Proofs (USA)
http://www.essayproof.net

These 16 sites are authorized to display this logo:

Ask Phil (USA)
http://www.askphil.org

Chinese Philatelic Information Network (China)
http://www.cpi.com.cn

Chinese Philately On-Line (China)
http://www.philatelist.net

Hallvard Slettebo's Scouts on Stamps (Norway)
http://home.sol.no/~hallvard/hs

Le 2.20F Liberte de Gandon (France)
http://perso.wanadoo.fr/chbarret

Nederlandse Bond (Netherlands)
http://www.nbfv.nl

Norsk Filatelistforbund (Norway)
http://home.sol.no/~hallvard/nf/

pb books (USA)
http://www.pbbooks.com

Peter Schwartz Collection (USA)
http://www.essayproof.net/epco/wings/pschwartz/psindex.html

Phil-Ouest (France)
http://perso.wanadoo.fr/bernard.lelann Po&Po (Netherlands)
http://www.faba.demon.nl

Romania Postal History (Romania)
http://www.multimania.com/dgrecu/

Russian Postal History On-Line (Belarus)
http://home.nestor.minsk.by/ph/

Sci-Philately (USA)
http://ublib.buffalo.edu/libraries/units/sel/exhibits/stamps

Stamp Auction Central (USA)
http://www.stampauctioncentral.com

Teaching With Stamps (USA)
http://www.richmond.edu/~educate/stohr/stamps/stamps.html

These 36 sites are authorized to display this logo:

Afinsa (Spain)
http://www.afinsa.com

American Air Mail Society (USA)
http://ourworld.compuserve.com/homepages/aams/

Canberra Philatelic etc. (Australia)
http://www.canberra.starway.net.au/~philatelic/welcome.html

Catapult Mail (Denmark)
http://www.katapultpost.dk

China Stamp Society Website (USA)
http://www.chinastampsociety.org

Clube Nacional de Filatelia (Portugal)
http://www.caleida.pt/cnf/

The Collectors Page - Philately (Brazil)
http://www.colecionismo.com.br/filatelia

Cronaca Filatelica (Italy)
http://www.crofil.com

Danmarks Filatelist Forbund (Denmark)
http://sunsite.auc.dk/dff

Deutsche Briefmarken-Revue (Germany)
http://www.Deutsche-Briefmarken-Revue.de

El Correo en la Provencia de Tierra del Fuego (Argentina)
http://www.cpel.uba.ar/filargenta/correo/homepage.html

Essay-Proof Net Site (USA)
http://www.philateliclibrary.com

Filatelia em Portugal (Portugal)
http://www.caleida.pt/filatelia

Frimerkehuset AS (Norway)
http://www.frimerkehuset.no

Gallery of Czech/Slovak Art (Germany)
http://home.t-online.de/home/batz.hausen

Hong Kong Post Stamps (Hong Kong)
http://www.hongkongpoststamps.com

Iran Philatelic Study Circle (USA)
http://www.iranphilatelic.org

Ireland - Philately and More (Germany)
http://members.aol.com/irlandphil/fail.htm

Italian Center Resistance Philately (Italy)
http://space.tin.it/associazioni/jakkp

Junge Briefmarkensammler (Switzerland)
http://www2.active.ch/~alber/fw.htm

KPK Online (Denmark)
http://www.kpk.dk

Kurland (Germany)
http://bpp.de/wvanloo

Lee's Illustrated Stamp Listopedia (USA)
http://www.filbert.com/stamplistopedia

Luxembourg Philately (USA)
http://www.luxcentral.com/stamps

NAPEX (USA)
http://www.wdn.com/napex

Paintings and Art on Stamps (Switzerland)
http://www.values.ch

Posthistorie (Norway)
http://www.posthistorie.com

Rene Hillesum Filatelie (Netherlands)
http://www.filatelist.com

Skanfil A/S (Norway)
http://www.skanfil.no

Society of Space Philatelists (Switzerland)
http://www.samaplast.ch/gwp

Society for Czechoslovak Philately (USA)
http://www.erols.com/sibpost

Swedish Postal History Society (Sweden)
http://sspd.webjump.com

St. Helena; Ascension and Tristan da Cuhna Philatelic Society (USA)
http://ourworld.compuserve.com/homepages/ST-_HELENA_ASCEN_TD

Subway Stamp Shop (USA)
http://www.philatelicsupplies.com/subway/swssmain.ihtml

WIPA 2000 Internet-Contest (Austria)
http://www.wipa.at/Spiele/english

Xtreme Philately (USA)
http://www.pipeline.com/~ciociola/baryla

These six sites fell below the criteria for a two-star site:

Bund Philatelistischer Pruefer (Germany)
http://www.bpp.de

Centro Filatelico y Numismatico Ituzaingo (Argentina)
http://fly.to/cefini

Junior Philatelists of America (USA)
http://www.jpastamps.org

Love Indonesia Philately (Indonesia)
http://www.filateli.net

Servicio Postal de las Colonias Judias en Eretz Israel (Argentina)
http://www.counsnet.com/cefai

Study of U.S. 3¢ Postage Stamp (USA)
http://www.geocities.com/Athens/Acropolis/8349

Plans are being made to continue this program in 2000. Details will be announced at a later date. Contact Charles J. Peterson if interested.

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The Royal Philatelic Society of Canada / La Société Royale de Philatélie du Canada

PROXY / PROCURATION

The undersigned member of The Royal Philatelic Society of Canada hereby appoints Keith R. Spencer of Edmonton, Alberta, or him failing, Harry Sutherland of Toronto, Ontario, as the Proxy of the undersigned to attend and act for and on behalf and in the name of the undersigned at the annual general meeting of the Society to be held in Winnipeg, Manitoba, at the hour of 10:00 a.m. on Saturday, April 29, 2000, upon any and all matters that may properly come before said meeting, or any adjournments thereof, the undersigned hereby ratifying and confirming all that the said Proxy may do by virtue thereof. The Proxy will vote:

1. To approve the election of the following eight (8) Directors, each of whom has been properly nominated according to the Society's by-laws, and as selected by the Nominating Committee, to serve a two-year term of office ending at the annual meeting in 2002:

BALIAN, Leon	Pierrefonds, QC
DIXON, F. Warren	Toronto, ON
MAGEE, Kenneth	Clinton, ON
McCLEAVE, J. Graham	Fredericton, NB
PENKO, Rick	Winnipeg, MB
POWELL, John M.	Edmonton, AB
ROBINSON, William G.	Vancouver, BC
VERGE, Charles J.G.	Ottawa, ON

2. To re-appoint auditors of the Society, namely Messrs Robinson, Lott & Brohman.

3. To approve such increase in the annual dues as the Directors may suggest.

4. To approve the actions of the officers and Directors since the last annual meeting of members.

Dated this _____ day of _____, 2000.

RPSC Member Number _____

Signature of Member _____

Mail or fax, no later than 5:00 p.m. EST on April 27, 2000, to:

The RPSC National Office

P.O. Box 929, Station Q, Toronto, ON M4T 2P1

Fax: (416) 979-1144.

Le membre sous-signé de La Société royale de philatélie du Canada désigne Keith R. Spencer d'Edmonton, Alberta, ou au défaut, Harry Sutherland de Toronto, Ontario, pour agir par procuration pour le (la) sous-signé(e) en assistant et en agissant pour le (la) sous-signé(e) à l'assemblée générale annuelle de la Société qui se tiendra à Winnipeg, Manitoba, à 10 heures, Samedi le 29 avril, 2000 sur tous les items qui seront légalement présentés à la dite assemblée, ou à tout ajournement de celle-ci, le (la) sous-signé(e) ratifiant et confirmant tout ce que la procuration à la droit de faire en vertu de celle-ci. La personne agissant par procuration votera:

1. Pour approuver l'élection des huit (8) directeurs suivants, la candidature de chacun d'entre eux ayant été légalement faite selon les règlements de la Société, et ayant été approuvé par le Comité de nominations, pour un terme de deux (2) ans se terminant à l'assemblée générale de 2002:

BALIAN, Leon	Pierrefonds, QC
DIXON, F. Warren	Toronto, ON
MAGEE, Kenneth	Clinton, ON
McCLEAVE, J. Graham	Fredericton, NB
PENKO, Rick	Winnipeg, MB
POWELL, John M.	Edmonton, AB
ROBINSON, William G.	Vancouver, BC
VERGE, Charles J.G.	Ottawa, ON

2. Pour designer de nouveau la firme de Messrs. Robinson, Lott & Brohman comme vérificateurs de La Société.

3. Pour approuver toute augmentation des frais d'adhésion proposé par les directeurs.

4. Pour approuver les actions des officiers et directeurs depuis la dernière assemblée générale annuelle des membres.

Datée le _____ jour de _____, 2000.

Numéro de membre de La SRPC _____

Signature du membre_____

Postez ou envoyez par fax, au plus tard le 27 avril, 2000 (17 heures HSE), à:

La SRPC Bureau national

CP 929, Succ. 'Q', Toronto, ON M4T 2P1

Télécopieur : (416) 979-1144.

RPSC Annual Meeting / SRPC le congrès annuel

PLEASE TAKE NOTICE that the Annual Meeting of the Members of THE ROYAL PHILATELIC SOCIETY OF CANADA (hereinafter called the 'Society') will be held at the Marlborough Hotel, Winnipeg, Manitoba on Saturday, the 29th day of April 2000, at the hour of 10:00 o'clock in the forenoon (local time) for the purpose of:

1. Receiving and considering the financial statements of the Society as at December 31, 1999 and the reports of the Directors and auditors thereon;

2. The Election of Directors and the appointment of auditors;

3. Considering, and if approved, ratifying, sanctioning and confirming all bylaws, contracts, acts and proceedings of the Board of Directors of the Society enacted, made, done or taken since the last annual meeting of Members of the Society;

4. To approve such increase in the annual dues as the Directors may suggest*; and

5. The transaction of such further and other business as may properly come before the meeting or any adjournment thereof.

DATED this 9th day of February, 2000.
By Order,
H. Sutherland
Secretary

* The Board of Directors is recommending that the annual membership renewal dues be increased to $30.00 from the $25.00 level that has existed for many years. Increasing production and distribution expenses associated with *The Canadian Philatelist* as well as the costs of maintaining an effective National Office presence for members must be addressed realistically to ensure a financially strong Society.

VEUILLEZ NOTER que le congrès annuel des membres de LA SOCIÉTÉ ROYALE DE PHILATÉLIE DU CANADA (ci-après, la Société) se déroulera au Marlborough Hotel, Winnipeg, Manitoba, le samedi 29 avril 2000 à 10 heures (heure locale) avec à l'ordre du jour :

1. Réception et examen des relevés financiers de la Société en date du 31 décembre 1999 et des rapports des directeurs et vérificateurs sur le sujet;

2. Élection des directeurs et nomination des administrateurs;

3. Étude et, en cas d'approbation, ratification, autorisation et confirmation de tous statuts, contrats, actes et délibérations du Conseil d'administration de la Société qui auront été décrétés, passés, effectués ou arrêtés depuis le dernier congrès annuel des membres de la Société;

4. Approbation d'augmentation des frais d'adhésion tel que proposé par les directeurs; * et,

5. Transaction de décisions comparables et d'autres questions devant être traitées avant la réunion ou son ajournement.

FAIT le 9 février 2000.
Par ordre du Conseil,
H. Sutherland
Secrétaire

* Le Conseil d'administration suggère que la cotisation annuelle d'adhésion passe des 25$ demandés depuis de nombreuses années à 30$. La hausse des dépenses de production et de distribution du *Philatéliste canadien*, ainsi que les frais liés au fonctionnement efficace du Bureau national pour le servive des membres doivent être considérés de façon réaliste afin de garantir l'équilibre financier de la Société.

Nomination of Directors / La nomination des directeurs

The following members of The Royal Philatelic Society of Canada have been nominated to serve as Directors for a two year period, from 2000 to 2002. Nominees are listed in alphabetical order. In compliance with the bylaws of the Society, short biographies of the nominees are included. A proxy form is included in this issue for the use of those unable to attend the Annual General Meeting.

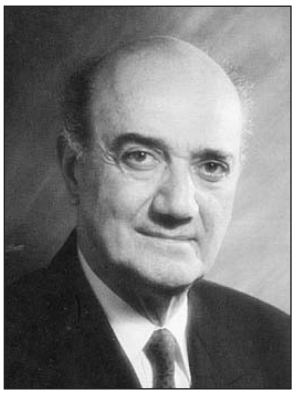
Les membres suivants de La Société royale de philatélie du Canada sont présentés pour élection comme directeurs, pour un terme de deux ans, de 2000 à 2002. Les candidats sont présentés par ordre alphabétique. Selon les règlements de la Société, une biographie carte des candidats est inclus. Une procuration est inclus pour tous ceux qui ne pourront pas assister à l'assemblée générale annuelle de la Société.

Leon Balian

Pierrefonds, QC

M. L. Y. Balian, mieux connu de ses amis comme Leon, est né au Caire en Égypte. II a commencé a collectionner les timbres à l'âge de 13 ans quand un vieil ami de la famille lui donna une centaine de timbres avec un ancien catalogue lui promettant de doubler cette quantité s'il pouvait identifier au moins 75 d'entre eux. Cela le motiva à apprendre comment lire un catalogue, certainement une base solide pour une carrière philatélique.

En 1964, il joignit la Société Philatélique d'Égypte. Il assista à sa première exposition philatélique, "London 1970" où il rencontra plusieurs de ses collègues actuels de l' «Égypt Study Circle». Des lors il devient un 'mordu' de tout ce qui a rapport de loin ou de près à la philatélie et depuis a rarement manqué d'assister à une expo de timbres. Résidant au Canada depuis 1988, il est un membre actif du Club philatélique du Lakeshore.



Leon Balian

Ayant une vaste variété d'intérêts dans les émissions classiques, spécialement celles de la Grande Bretagne, de la France et de la Grèce, il est particulièrement spécialisé dans la période classique d'Égypte. Ses collections ont été exposes avec succès dans plusieurs expositions internationaux comme CAPEX, et ont été gagné des prix. II est aussi l'auteur du catalogue hautement

spécialisé «Stamps of Egypt» qui lui a valu de gagner une médaille d'or à l'APS STAMPSHOW (Cleveland, 1999).

M.L.Y. Balian, better known to his friends as Leon was born in Cairo, Egypt. He began collecting stamps at the age of 13, when an old friend of the family gave him 100 stamps and an old catalogue and promised to double the amount if he would identify at least 75 of them. This made him learn how to read a catalogue, certainly the right foundation for a philatelic career.

In 1964 he joined the Philatelic Society of Egypt. He attended his first philatelic exhibition the London 1970 where he met many of his present colleagues of the Egypt Study Circle. From then on he was hooked to anything philatelic and has rarely, ever since, missed attending any stamp show. Residing in Canada since 1988, he is an active member of the Lakeshore Stamp Club.

With a wide variety of interests particularly in the classic issues of Great Britain, France and Greece, he is currently specializing in the classical period of Egypt. His collections have been exhibited with much success in several International Exhibitions, including CAPEX. He is also the author of the highly specialized *Stamps of Egypt* coloured catalogue, which recently earned him a Gold medal at the APS STAMPSHOW in Cleveland in 1999.

F. Warren Dickson

Toronto, ON

F. Warren Dickson

Born in Toronto, ex police officer, Owner/President of Warren Protective Services Ltd. Security & Investigation.

Past President of the Philatelic Specialist Society of Canada.

National level judge.

Chairman of the Anti-Theft Committee for The Royal Philatelic Society of Canada.

Multiple international awards for his Estonian Collection. Specialty: Estonia, Latvia, Lithuania, Scandinavia and Germany.

Kenneth H. Magee

Clinton, ON

Ken Magee is standing for re-election to a second term as a Director.

He became more active in stamp activities when he retired in 1996 after more than 31 years as an elementary school teacher. His father introduced him to collecting when Ken was six. Ken later specialized in Ireland, Aden, the Faroes and Greenland, besides continuing his late father's collections of

Kenneth H. Magee

Canada and Scouts on Stamps. He has lately developed exhibits of Mesopotamia and the Palestine Mandate. He continues to show several different exhibits locally and nationally. His traditional exhibit, IRELAND, 1840-1901, has received international golds the last three years.

Ken is a member of many local, national and international stamp clubs. He is currently a director of the Stratford Stamp Club and a representative to the Grand River Valley Philatelic Association executive meetings. He was the unofficial co-ordinator of the GRVPA-backed project to develop a standardized local-level judging sheet (recently featured in the January-February 2000 issue of *The Canadian Philatelist*.)

He has been a local/regional philatelic judge in south-western Ontario since 1985, gaining his national level certification in 1999. He believes there has to be more aid and encouragement for exhibitors at the local level, especially for novices, as well as more publicity for the Royal, to encourage new members.

His non-philatelic interests include reading, computer, walking, nature, music and cross-country skiing.

J. Graham McCleave, M.D.

Fredericton, New Brunswick

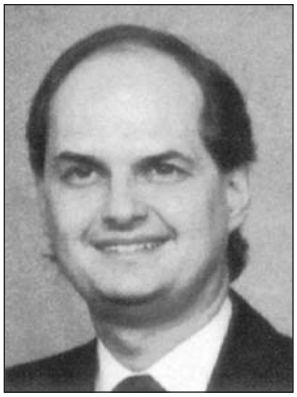
J. Graham McCleave, M.D.

Born in Digby, NS, Graham began collecting stamps as a member of the school stamp club. He attended Dalhousie University, receiving his M.D. in 1963.

Following six years in general practice in Nova Scotia and New Brunswick, he returned to Dalhousie University for post-graduate training. In 1973 he received his fellowship in Diagnostic Radiology. Since 1973 he has been a radiologist in Fredericton, NB, where he and his wife Louise live.

Graham has continued to have a general interest in stamps while limiting his collection to BNA, especially early Canada and the Cents Issues of New Brunswick and Nova Scotia. Recently, he has added stampless covers of New Brunswick and Nova Scotia to his list.

While attending university, he joined the Nova Scotia Stamp Club and is still a member today. He has exhibited at their annual show regularly. He has also been The RPSC liaison member for the Fredericton Stamp Club.



Rick Penko

Rick Penko

Winnipeg, Manitoba

Rick Penko is presently Chairman of the committee, which is preparing the RPSC Show in Winnipeg this year. He joined WPS as a junior in 1966 and, after the usual break as a youth and the initial period of marriage and beginning a family, rejoined in 1991 as a life member.

Rick is also a life member of The RPSC and a member of BNAPS and is active in the regional study group. He is involved in the Elizabeth II and Centennial study groups being undertaken by that body. He has been Chairman of the local and national WPS annual shows for the past seven years.

Rick has been a leader in revitalizing the stamp collecting community in Winnipeg. As president of WPS, he has encouraged cooperation between WPS and the Seniors' Stamp Club, the Scandinavian Collectors Club of Manitoba, and the Junior Stamp Club of Winnipeg.

He publishes *The Buffalo*, the journal of the Winnipeg Philatelic Society where he has added his graphic skills to the publication for the past several years.

He is a member of the Stamp Advisory Committee of Canada Post and brings to that body his graphic skills knowledge gained from his own business, Compass Communications and has 25 years experience in the Graphic Arts field. He is married and the father of two children.

Rick is an accredited RPSC judge and has exhibited locally. He has several years of judging experience and was an apprentice member of the judges at the Compex Exhibition held in Chicago in 1994.

Rick's collecting interests are extensive. Besides Canada, Rick specializes in the stamps of the United States and Great Britain, Germany and Bangladesh. He has joined APS and has built up an extensive library of material related to his collecting interests.

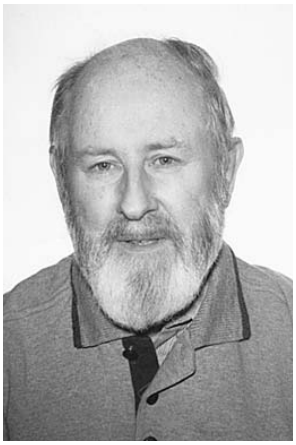
John M. Powell, Ph.D.

Edmonton, Alberta

John was born and raised in the London, England area, and emigrated to Canada in 1956 to do graduate work at McGill University, and later at University of British Columbia. Married in 1962 in Calgary to Margaret and has three daughters, all who exhibited before he did!

John is a retired (1991) federal forestry research scientist/manager who lived in Calgary from 1959 to 1970 when his forestry laboratory moved to Edmonton. John began collecting stamps as a five-year-old under the tutoring of his father, a GB King Edward VII specialist.

John has been active with the Edmonton Stamp Club for 20 years, recently completing five years as President. Has been Exhibits Chairman of the Edmonton Spring National show for 14 years and has also hosted ROYAL, PIPEX and BNAPS conventions during this period. Is a strong advocate of youth philately, was Youth Coordinator for the RPSC (1992-4), still serves as their Western Youth Officer. Was Western Canadian Commissioner for the Youth International in Montreal (1992), and for many years has helped run junior clubs in Edmonton. A National accredited judge who has judged in three countries, and has six exhibits in the areas of traditional, postal history and revenues, qualified for international exhibitions. Currently he is Chairperson of the RPSC Judging Program, and ex-officio member of American Philatelic Society's Committee on Accreditation of National Exhibitions and Judges. John is a member of over 20 philatelic societies or study groups, including in North America the American Philatelic Society, British North America Philatelic Society, Postal History Society of Canada, American Revenue Association, American Topical Association, American Association of Philatelic Exhibitors, Turkish Ottoman Philatelic Society, Great Britain Collectors Club, The Perfin Club, and American Society of Polar Philatelists.



John M. Powell, Ph.D.

His collecting interests are diverse as can be judged by his membership in various groups. John has specialized in Aden and Iraq since high school days. Has a general interest in Canada and Great Britain. Collects Canadian 'Arctic' 1950-1980's postal history; GB numeral and squared circle postmarks, 'railway' missorts (1903-1915), 1937 Coronation stamp; Greenland postmarks; India Sea post offices, and India used abroad in Aden and Iraq; all aspects of Aden and Iraq issues and postal history including revenues; a few topical interests – International Geophysical Year, Belgium World Fair 1958, polar bears, and those collected by his daughters; and continues his father's interest in worldwide perfins. He is co-author of a recent book on *The Revenue Stamps of Iraq*.

Col. William G. Robinson, CD, BASc, FRPSC

Vancouver, BC

Bill was born in Winnipeg, Manitoba and is an honours graduate in civil engineering from the University of British Columbia. He worked for 34 years with the National Parks Branch and Indian Affairs Branch, retiring as Director of Engineering and Architecture for BC and Yukon.

He has researched many areas of Canadian Postal History, and is a former President of the Postal History Society of

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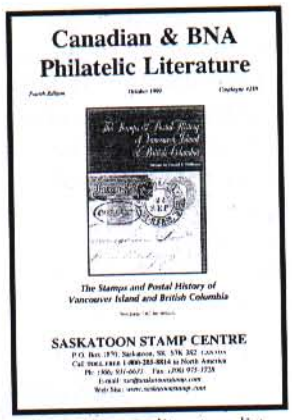

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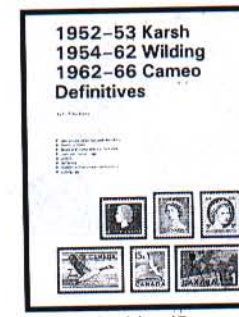

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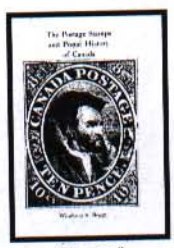

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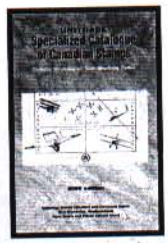

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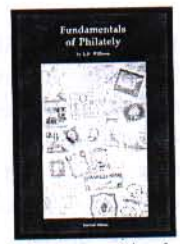

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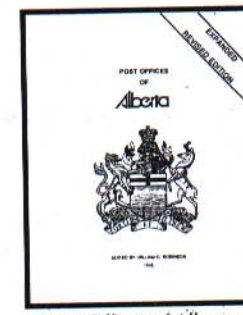

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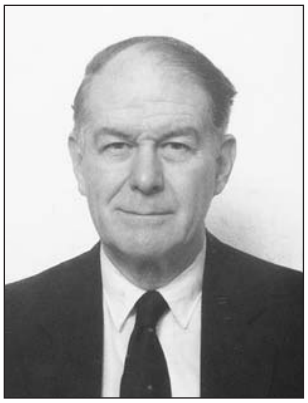

Col. William G. Robinson, CD, BASc, FRPSC

Canada. He has written many articles, and is the co-editor of several books on western postal history.

As well as being a Past-President of the British North American Philatelic Society and the Northwest Federation of Stamp Clubs, he has held various offices in many philatelic organizations. He is a member of the Order of the Beaver of BNAPS.

He has served as a Director of The Royal since 1984 and served as President between 1993 and 1997. Bill is dedicated to improving the status of The Royal, increasing its services and membership, and increasing cooperation between local chapters.

Charles J.G. Verge, FRPSC

Ottawa, Ontario

Né à Montreal, Charles Verge a pris sa retraite de la fonction publique du Canada en 1997 après 27 ans de service. Un historien par formation, il a rempli plusieurs postes de gestion supérieure pour le gouvernement, terminant avec le poste de Directeur de la gestion immobilière pour Transports Canada. II réside à Ottawa avec son épouse, Alana Forrester et á trois filles. Ses intérêts philatéliques inclus l'lrlande, la littérature philatélique et l'histoire de la philatélie au Canada.

Charles is currently the RPSC's First Vice-President, Historian and Canada Post Liaison. He is the founder and co-chairman of Canada's biannual National Philatelic Literature Exhibition, which he started in 1991, and which is the Continent's largest philatelic literature show. He has also been involved for many years with Ottawa's National Stamp Exhibition (ORAPEX). He was a member of the Executive and Organizing Committees of CANADA 92 and CAPEX '96. He was President of the Eire Philatelic Association (1993-1997), currently serves as President of the American Association of Philatelic Exhibitors and is a member of the Council of the Writers Unit 30.

Charles J.G. Verge, FRPSC

Charles is a columnist for *The Ottawa Citizen* and *Scott Stamp Monthly*, has written two books and many articles for various philatelic publications. He is an international exhibitor and judges regularly at the local, national and international levels.

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How Do I Know What I Want to Collect?

A Free-Form Plan for Beginning Collecting All Things Philatelic

by Arlene Sullivan

One piece of advice that I often see given to novice collectors is collect what you enjoy. While the sentiment may seem sensible, I wonder just how much a beginning collector can miss if they take this advice too literally. There are several consequences that can arise from limiting your collecting too early on.

Narrowing your collecting focus can preclude many opportunities for learning aspects of philately that are important no matter what topic you finally settle on.

Frustration can result from unknowingly limiting your collecting to an area that will sooner or later require more expertise and spare cash than you have.

(I'd love to have an exhibit grade collection of the beautiful Canadian Bluenose stamp, for instance, but that goal would leave me with only blank album pages at this stage in my life – not very satisfying!)

Too rigid collecting boundaries can also limit serendipity, that wonderful conjunction of preparedness and luck that can open some very interesting collecting areas that may not be immediately apparent to a beginner.

Collecting what you enjoy is important, of course, but I think that finding out what you enjoy and can afford collecting is a process that takes considerably more time and study than this piece of advice would indicate.

So how should a beginner go about discovering what they want to collect?

Here's a few points that I think are worth considering.

Don't worry about the investment potential. If your first concern collecting stamps is monetary return, consider a different hobby. Yes, there are finds out there and it is possible to make a living in the philatelic field – but you will never have the knowledge to do either successfully if you don't concern yourself first with enjoying what you collect and learning all you can about it. That, to me, means concentrating on the 99 per cent of philatelic materials that will never be investment grade! This is a hobby, after all. Get away from the late 20th century tendency to monetize every aspect of life and relax a little!

Look for collectible material in even unlikely places. Let people know you are interested in anything philatelic they might come across – you'll be surprised what you will find! Boxes of old letters forgotten in a shed or attic may be of no importance to a homeowner who wants to tidy up, but if she knows you are interested in any old stamps or covers, they may not end up in the burning barrel after all.

Businesses can generate hundreds of meter cancelled envelopes a day – garbage to them but a bonanza to a modern cancel collector.

I've even got my well-travelled relatives searching out stamp shops in the cities they visit to pick up small bags of kiloware for me – the perfect souvenir. Study what you find, even if on the surface it seems boring.

Don't feel you have to run out and buy an esoteric reference book for all the bits of stuff you find, but do take a good look at everything that passes through your hands. Those machine cancelled window envelopes look pretty dull on the surface – but do they have slogan cancels that reflect a topic you are interested in?

Those definitives in the kiloware that you just soaked – did the circular date cancels appeal to you or did you notice colour variations and overprints that caught your eye?

That old dusty stockbook that came out of grandma's attic – does it contain stamps from countries that don't exist anymore or reflect some period of history that you've always found fascinating?

Start a reference library. This is probably one of the most important things a beginner can do when they start collecting. If some aspect of your material interests you, try and find out more about it.

Start with your public library and see what books or periodicals they have on the subject.

Read as many philatelic journals as you can. This will often lead you to societies and study groups of fellow collectors who are valuable resources for information.

Use the Internet to search out Websites and news groups – I've found these very helpful in gleaning information I couldn't find easily any other way.

And don't forget to set aside a few dollars every year to buy reference books and join a few philatelic societies that interest you. Literature of all kinds is a very good investment.

Start concentrating on a few topics of interest and develop an interest list. After researching and reading, you will probably come up with half a dozen topics or areas you find pique your interest.

Start writing down things you would like to find to begin your collection.

For example, I was given a flat of covers that contained a bundle of Canadian cards and envelopes with different directional marking on them. I

find this aspect of the mail system intriguing, so onto my list went Canadian covers with unusual postal markings. A list like this is most handy for the next step: Trading.

OK, so you have all these bags and boxes of stuff, most of which you have discovered you have no interest in. You've done some research and identified the material in a preliminary fashion. Time to develop a skill basic to the frugal collector – trading.

Search out collectors who may be interested in your stuff. Join a good exchange club.

That kiloware I mentioned may not turn into a collecting interest for you, but it will be useful to someone. Mount it and send it out to find a new home.

Find a local stamp club – most have regular trading sessions for members.

Use the Internet to find collectors further from home. I've found some wonderful trading partners this way.

Talk to other collectors at stamp shows and bourses. You never know who might desire that garbage bag full of spray on cancelled window envelopes!

Don't sweat the details. Don't get too bogged down in accounting when you trade.

In fact, if you don't need that box of postcards and it's just taking up space on your desk, why not give it away? After all, if you got it for free, you aren't out anything.

I'm a firm believer that generosity is always rewarded, if only in the good feelings you get from giving someone something, not to mention a clean desk.

If the person who would like the material has no immediate trade, I often give them a list of topics and things I'm looking for and ask them to keep an eye out for these items. They may never find anything, but who knows?

Another thing to consider is donating material you can't trade to children's stamp clubs or any of the charities which use philatelic material to fund their activities. After all, it doesn't do much good sitting in a box in a closet, does it?

Don't be afraid to change horses. As you widen your knowledge of philately, you may find that your collecting interests change.

Don't worry. Here's where collecting what you like comes in.

Don't feel locked in to a topic just because you've worked on it for a while. Put that collection away for a bit and if it never really has that zing again, trade it away. You don't have to be an expert on everything you start or follow through with every interest. Even the wealthiest collectors start all over again every once in a while.

I suppose, then, that my advice to a beginning collector might be collect what you have, learn everything you can about it and trade it away if you don't want it.

Collect what you like, of course, but first spend some time finding out what that might be. Search out sources of cheap or free material. Get involved with some of the many philatelic societies and clubs out there. Talk to and trade with other collectors. With some imagination and digging, you'll eventually find a satisfying philatelic specialty whatever your budget. A winding road to a philatelic education, perhaps, but one that will bring satisfaction to even the most frugal of collectors.

WIPA 2000

From May 30 to June 4, 2000 the fifth Vienna International Post Stamp Exhibition under the auspices of the F.I.P. will take place – this time at the new Austria Centre located near the United Nations Building near the banks of the Danube River.

The whole world will celebrate the 150th anniversary of the Austrian stamp. In previous years (1881, 1933, 1965 and 1981) the exhibition was held in the emperor's winter palace in downtown Vienna. The new Austria Centre is conveniently connected with the subway system and is a matter of only a few minutes to the centre of town: The Vienna State Opera, St. Stephens Cathedral, concert halls and theatres.

The WIPA committee has organized many events, such as the welcome by the president of Austria, a concert with the famous Vienna Choir Boys in the chapel of the Hofburg and an evening visit of a typical Viennese restaurant with dinner. During the exhibit there will be two performances of Mozart's Magic Flute at the State Opera House.

The following collections have been accepted from Canada: Ron R. Brigham's – The large queens (1868-1897); Mike Madesker's – Venice (1397-1797 to, through and from); Istvan Kescedy's – Hungarian collection (1871, '74, '81, '88, '98, '99); Richard Malott's – Canadian interrupted (crash) covers within, to and from Canada including a special souvenir cover concerning the Swissair tragedy near Peggy's Cove, N.S.

There will be many other events taking place for your enjoyment.

Harry Sutherland, director of International Affairs and the WIPA organization have appointed Otto Zeman as commissioner for Canada. Otto was born in Vienna and can be reached at 702-150 Queen St. S., Kitchener, ON N2G 4T7; telephone (519) 576-6886; fax (519) 744-8550.

My Canadian Stamp Collection

by Norman Gulko

My interest in stamps began in 1933, when I was about 10 years old. The bright colours and wide variety of pictures on stamps fascinated me and captured my imagination.

Initially, I saved adhesives from countries all over the world. I had a "grab bag" approach to collecting and avidly accumulated every stamp that I came across. I had no sense of purpose or selectivity as I eagerly went about acquiring my hoard of "pretty pictures" from family, stamp collecting friends, and neighbourhood stamp dealers. These were numerous, because my interest in stamp collecting began during the Depression when, on almost every corner, there were stores that sold stamps and used books.

But my collecting interests had to be placed "on hold" during the war when I joined the Canadian Army in 1942.

They remained "on hold" for some years after the war when all of my energies were directed toward obtaining an education, earning a living, getting married and raising a family. Collecting stamps was certainly not my top priority during that time.

By about 1970, I was able to return to my love of stamp collecting. But I soon discovered that the restraining limitations of time, knowledge and money made it necessary for me to narrow my focus in what to collect.

It was easy to choose Canada as my special collecting interest.

First, I went about "collecting my thoughts" before "collecting my stamps" because I realized that I needed to know where I wanted to go in the pursuit of acquiring the stamps of Canada.

Accordingly, I set goals for my collection. Once I had thought this through, and to keep me focused on what I intended to achieve, I recorded my "GOALS" and placed this as the first entry in the first album of my Canadian collection.

That was in 1970, and to this day, remains as my guide as I go about acquiring my Canadian stamps.

Here is a copy of that entry:

GOALS

The goals for my Canadian Stamp Collection are:

1 – To obtain one single used specimen of every stamp issued by the Province of Canada between 1851 and 1867.

2 – To obtain one single used specimen of every stamp issued by the Dominion of Canada between 1868 and 1897, and as well, to try to obtain some single mint specimens.

3 – To obtain one single used and one single mint specimen of every stamp issued by Canada between 1898 and the present time.

4 – To obtain a set of mint matched imprint Corner Blocks issued by Canada since 1968.

5 – To obtain every Canada Post Official First Day Cover since it began issuing these in 1971.

6 – To obtain stamps from other countries where there is a Canadian theme or connection.

7 – To obtain as many Canadian stamp varieties, freaks and errors as possible.

8 – To a limited degree, obtain some stamps as a form of investment.

GUIDELINES

My financial position imposes restrictions upon the full realization of my stated goals. However, despite that limitation, I develop my collection whithin the following guidelines:

1 – Each stamp must be in Fine or better condition, except for the classics (1851-1897), where a Good or Very Good condition is acceptable.

2 – Mint stamps from 1947 to the present must be Never Hinged. Earlier than that date, I will accept hinged mint stamps when I cannot acquire them otherwise.

3 – I prefer used stamps to be lightly cancelled, preferably with a Circular Date Stamp cancellation. These are not always easily obtainable, so I'll accept less attractive specimens until these can be replaced with my preferences. (But in recent years the CDS has been replaced by some very ugly cancellation devises, so it's not likely that modern used issues will ever meet my standards).

4 – Coil stamps are collected in pairs or, with certain issues, in strips of four.

5 – I mount my stamps in chronological order of date of issue.

The Scott Catalogue numbering system is used to identify my stamps.

Having identified the Goals for my stamp collection and prepared them in a written statement, I am always in the position of being able to review my Goals from time to time and make any changes if I so desire.

To date, I have seen no reason to alter any of them. But most important, for me, is that I can always review my collection to see if I am going in the direction I laid out for myself.

REVIEW

In December 1997, I made a review of my collection within the framework of my stated goals, and here are my findings:

Goal 1 – 1851 to 1867 issues – single used stamps.

This is the most difficult goal and will probably never be fully achieved because of the scarcity and expense of many of these stamps.

Goal 2 – 1868 to 1947 issues – single used and some mint.

Another difficult goal that may never be achieved for the same reasons as (1) above.

Goal 3 – 1947 to Date issues – mint and used singles.

Achieved and ongoing.

Goal 4 – 1968 to Date – Mint matched imprint Corner Blocks.

Achieved and ongoing.

Goal 5 – 1971 to Date – Canada Post Official FDCs.

Achieved and ongoing.

Goal 6 – Foreign stamps with Canadian themes.

This goal has not been vigorously pursued, although I did join the Canadiana Study Unit in 1997 and am in the initial phase of putting together a Canadian collection.

Through this Study Unit, I have learned that a great number of countries have issued stamps with Canadian con-

nections. These are many and varied, e.g. the stamp's subject matter is Canadian, (Bugaria, Scott No. 3973, Alexander Graham Bell) or the stamps were printed in Canada, (Faroe Islands, #289); or the stamps' artists' are Canadian, (Marshall Islands, #608, Elvis Presley and #610, James Dean). Already, my Canadiana collection includes some 70 stamps from 25 countries, ranging from Albania to Vatican City. This may later pose a problem for me as to my goals. i.e. How shall I spend my money; on Canadian or Canadiana stamps?

Goal 7 – Vatieties, Freaks, Errors.

These have always fascinated me and I have accumulated quite a few. But the cost of many of these is quite prohibitive. Nevertheless, I will continue buying such of these as catch my fancy and which I can afford.

Goal 8 – Stamps as an investment.

Should I ever get around to selling my collection, I am realistic enough to know that no dealer can pay me what I spent for them. However, I do have some nice specimens that should realize a modest return. However, the greatest investment for me is the great pleasure I have always experienced in my acquisition of Canadian stamps.

SUMMARY

I think it is very important for stamp collectors to set goals for themselves. Otherwise they can be pulled in any direction.

As it is said, "If you don't know where you're going, any road will get you there!"

Report on:

Exhibiting Your Stamp Collection

by the Nova Scotia Stamp Club

by Bruce Holmes
Program Coordinator

The Nova Scotia Stamp Club held a seminar on "Exhibiting your stamp collection," Saturday, Nov. 27, 1999, at Dalhousie University Engineering School in the lush and prestigious Board Room.

The seminar was developed for The Royal Philatelic Society of Canada by the Lakeshore Stamp Club of Dorval, PQ.

Bruce Holmes, the Program Coordinator, welcomed the 16 attendees and six presenters, on behalf of the club President, Heather MacKenzie, who could not attend the opening, due to work commitments.

Dave Harvey, a gold medal exhibitor, presented a talk on Single Country Collecting and presented examples from his exhibits. His talk was very informative and well received. Dave's dry wit surfaced occasionally to everyone's enjoyment.

The next speaker was Dr. J.J. MacDonald, a noted Nova Scotia Postal Historian and author of *The Nova Scotia Post-Its Offices, Master and Marks 1700-1867*. His presentation was on postal history and he too, circulated examples of his rare holdings. He also distributed an article on postal history exhibiting. Dr. MacDonald is always an interesting lecturer.

Marty Zelenietz, another gold medal exhibitor, held the room in awe as he presented Topical/Thematic Collecting. Marty's style and method of presentation moved at a pace that held most of the room spellbound. Samples of his exhibits and works in progress were displayed.

The seminar's section on Presentation and Layout was given by Bruce Holmes. This section covered: page size, number of pages per frame and variety of styles for page layout. A sample of a 16 page exhibit, with title page, contents page, exhibit and bibliography was given to each participant. The Title/Introduction page and the plan page from Mr. Raymond Ireson's "The Panama Canal Story," which has won a Grand Award in a Canadian National Exhibition and with the American Topical Association Show in Milwaukee, was circulated as an excellent example of how to prepare these pages.

Dave Cooper, a newly appointed Regional Judge, gave a talk on the Importance of Material and Condition of Stamps. He also distributed a photocopy, from the seminar material, on the seven condition definitions of stamps to be used by collectors and exhibitors. Dave also brought along a sample exhibit of Mexico which he used to define some of the various conditions.

Jerry Tucker, owner of Seaside Book and Stamp, gave an excellent, informative and very interesting talk on Accessories, which he circulated. He also talked on the importance of knowing how to use stamp catalogues. He distributed sample pages from various catalogues to show price variations for an identical stamp.

Levels of exhibiting and judging were discussed throughout the day, touching on all aspects of judging and the criteria used. We were fortunate in having Dr. J.J. MacDonald and Dave Cooper on hand, as well as Gold Medal exhibitors to help answer questions.

The final portion of the seminar was a hands-on project. The participants, including some of the presenters, were teamed up, given paper, hinges and an envelope of assorted Canadian and United States stamps and asked to prepare an exhibit. There was a time limit of approximately 30 minutes. The finished exhibits were then displayed, judged and voted upon by the exhibitors. Everyone enjoyed this portion and agreed the exhibits were very good considering the time restraint and availability of material.

All attendees and presenters were given a certificate of participation, prepared by Dave Harvey, marking the Nova Scotia Stamp Club's first exhibition seminar. Everyone was also given a questionnaire with four questions regarding the seminar. The response to all four questions was positive.

It is hoped that this seminar will become an annual event on the Nova Scotia Stamp Club's calendar.

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A Myanmar Adventure

by Alan Meech

No, it's not exactly self-evident what a Canadian stamp collector is doing standing in the floating post office at Ywama, on Inle Lake high on the Shan States plateau of Myanmar, holding his tea-soaked trousers carefully away from his legs to reduce the pain of the scald. Explanation is simple enough in a mechanical sense.

If you intend to go to Myanmar (as Burma has officially been called since 1989), buy some guidebooks, do careful homework, get the requisite inoculations, obtain a visa from the Myanmar embassy in Ottawa, buy an air ticket to Yangon (formerly Rangoon) via Bangkok, and off you go. Refrain from political comments because of the reputation of the military regime that has ruled the country since 1962. It's all a lot easier now than it was in the 1970s and '80s when visas were valid for only seven days. Now they're valid for 28 days, which allows much more leisurely exploration and appreciation of the country.

Explaining this Canadian collector in this post office and this cup of tea is another matter. Ywama is a Class six post office in the Myanmar categorization, which receives and distributes letters and parcels, and provides registration service. The postmaster and sole employee hadn't ever had a foreign tourist in his post office before, nor was he often in the presence of the director of posts and telegraphs for Shan State (population about five million, area about four times that of Switzerland), who was generously playing host to me.

We had climbed out of the motorboat, mounted the wooden steps, ducked the laundry hanging on poles out front, and "toured" the facility. The post office consisted of one man, one desk, one chair, a very modest range of hand stamps, some strips of cloth impregnated with ink that were laid in an old tobacco tin that functioned as an ink pad, some hand-written forms for logging registered mail, several canvas mail bags, and a gas ring and tea kettle. The hospitable motivation was most honourable, but the execution was fumbled out of nervousness. While the tea dried up and the burn was very superficial, the incident did make the visit memorable.

My story as a collector is pretty ordinary up until the time I crossed philatelic paths with Burma/Myanmar. When I was a kid, I was partially disabled by an injury, during which time a favourite uncle sent me stamps and an album to help pass the hours. Those Spanish commemoratives with the Santa Maria in full sail are in my memory yet. I recovered from the injury but not from the stamps.

I put stamps away after the onset of hormones, then later found myself succumbing to the collecting bug once more at about the same time as I began work as a graduate teaching assistant to a Burmese gentleman who was a faculty member at the University of Alberta.

His stories and experiences piqued my interest in the country as a collecting entity. Scott then listed about 250 stamps which were distinctly of the country and seemed low cost if the catalogue valuations were anything to go by admirable statistics for a sideline collection. Even now there are only about 360 basic stamps listed, excluding "Service" and Japanese occupation issues.

The stamps have a low catalogue value and low cost when you can find them! There's no philatelic bureau of any permanence. There are no real private sector dealers in the country. There are no sources of Burmese stamps outside the country to which you can send a want list, either. If you're diligent and adventurous and patient, though, you can build a collection.

Figure 1. This 1996 commemorative stamp for Visit Myanmar Year shows leg rower unique to Inle Lake, with houses on stilts in the background.

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Figure 2. Up the steps and behind the laundry, the post office at Ywama, on Inle Lake.

After pursuing Burmese stamps for four or five years, I began to feel that I needed information to provide some explanatory context. I discovered there was one book, *Burma Postal History* by Gerald Davis and Denys Martin, but as its coverage ends in 1937 (when Burma became an independent postal entity), I wasn't much further ahead in my special interest area.

In a fit of optimistic naivete, I decided to write to various philatelic publications to see if there might be other collectors interested in this postal entity who also felt isolated and curious to know more. A few people replied encouragingly. My next step was to invent a quarterly publication for Burma collectors. In the fall of 1979 I wrote, typed, pasted up, had printed, and then distributed the first number of *The Burma Peacock*, which I gave away for two years in order to attract a subscription base. Some of those first correspondents have faithfully subscribed and contributed and corresponded with me ever since. What was begun so blithely remains a project that recurs four times a year. Over the years a significant amount of information has been compiled and published so that anyone wishing to collect Burma/Myanmar (of any period from the first Anglo-Burmese war of 1825 onwards) can have assistance through the unknown.

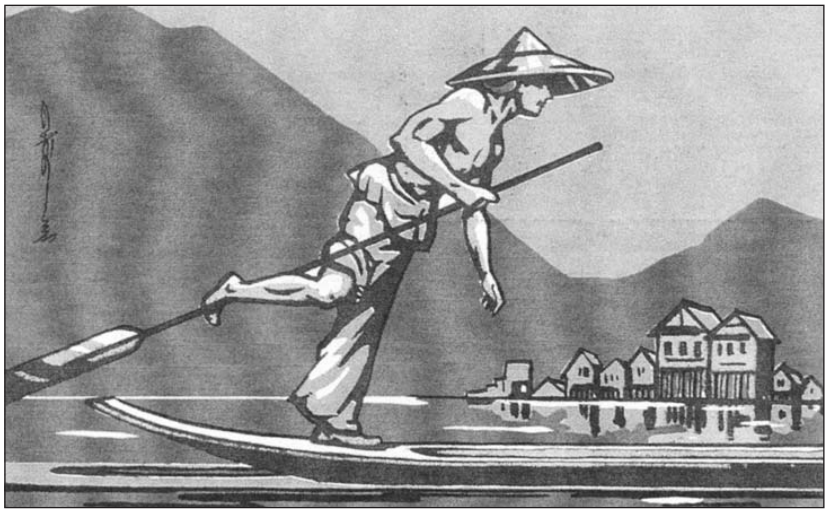


Figure 3. Postal card issued to mark Union Day (Feb. 12) 1966, showing leg rower unique to Inle Lake.

A stalwart handful of collectors in Myanmar have attached themselves to the group, supplying information about new issues, postal rate changes, new types of postal services and undertaking larger-scale research projects as well. Without their efforts, there would be none of the information that collectors expect about the countries they collect. There may be a postal archive, but all external evidence is that it doesn't even hold a complete run of stamps since independence in 1948. There are no stamp clubs in the country, for the government forbids the existence of all organizations that it does not control directly. Burmese citizens are supposed to obtain official approval from the state censors for anything they write – even about stamps.

All of which makes philatelic touring a somewhat clandestine adventure. Go to the G.P.O. and ask for 150 copies of the then current aerogramme, as I did, and you get a decidedly chilly look. You are then invited to go upstairs and into the back of the building, behind the chain link fence that marks off the "Treasury" from the rest of the workings of the establishment. Two gentlemen will then suspiciously, carefully and with wet thumbs count them out sheet by sheet.

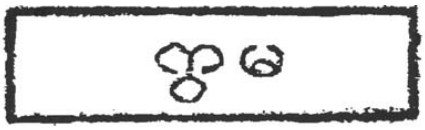
Go to the main market and look at the stamps put out among the lacquer ware and mother of pearl mementoes to catch the tourists' eye. Avoid the Japanese occupation stamps as they are crudely forged. Don't buy anything, but let the stallholder know, en passant, where you're staying and that you're interested in better material. Several evenings later, your room telephone will ring unexpectedly and the front desk will announce somebody you've never heard of before, or a relative of someone you perhaps have heard of. In all likelihood you'll be presented with some interesting varieties to haggle over. And shown some more of those Japanese occupation forgeries.

As to how you make payment in a country where the official exchange rate is U.S. $1 to 6.5 kyat and the black market rate is U.S. $1 to 335 kyat, well, that's another story.

Alan Meech is editor/secretary of The Burma Philatelic Study Circle, which publishes the quarterly journal *The Burma Peacock*. For further information write to him at 7208 - 91 Avenue NW, Edmonton, AB T6B 0R8 or e-mail ameech@telusplanet.net. He has also compiled *An Annotated Bibliography of Burma Philately* (London: British Philatelic Trust, 1993) and co-authored, with Gerald Davis, *A Catalogue of Telegraph and Revenue Stamps for Burma and Myanmar* (Edmonton, 1998).

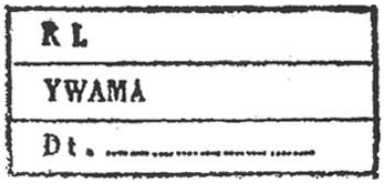
Figure 4. All the hand stamps usesd at the Ywamah post office.

Seal for use on mail bags, etc.



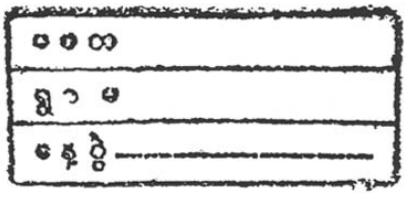
Ywamah boxed hand stamp for internal post office use.

Postage due mark.



English-language registration mark, note "Ywamana" without an "h."

Ywamah canceller.



Myanmar language registration hand stamps.

Sheets and Panes

by Mike Painter

L.R. Larsen wrote an article in the November 1-14, 1994 issue of Canadian Stamp News to dispel the confusion in terminology, particularly for less experienced philatelists, between sheets and panes. However, the confusion will probably continue because when we misuse these two terms, as I suspect many of us do on occasion, we are in some good company.

First, let's note the correct usage.

A sheet is the image the printing plate imparts with each strike to the paper fed into the printing press. Today a sheet usually comes off the press as some multiple of 50 or 100 individual stamps. A sheet of 600 stamps is common for the smaller stamps.

A pane is what the sheet is divided into before it goes on sale at the post office. A pane of 100 stamps is a common size.

Some confusion stems from the fact that, in the past, some smaller sheets were not divided and thus what the post office sold was actually a sheet.

More confusion arises because the general public and postal clerks usually refer to a pane as a sheet ("Give me a sheet of one-cent stamps." "OK, that's a sheet of 100, so one dollar plus tax…").

But I mentioned good company.

Although prominent authors use "sheet" and "pane" correctly for the most part, there are occasional lapses.

Boggs, in his classic on Canadian stamps says in one place "The regular …sheets were divided into post office sheets of 100…"

Marler, in his definitive work on the admirals, also refers at least twice to the division of sheets into post office sheets. Holmes catalogue mentions sheets being cut into sheets.

Hansen's Guidebook describes panes as being sheets of 100. Robson Lowe's Encyclopedia says in a couple of places that sheets were divided into sheets of 100.

On the other hand, Darnell tends to use panes to describe both sheets and panes. The Charlton Catalogue also says "…printed in master panes of 200 or 400." I haven't given page references for these examples since the matter is hardly weighty enough to treat as research. They just show that the terms do get used interchangeably.

But since misuse can cause confusion, we should try to remember that what the post office sells are panes (usually) and that they are subdivisions of the larger sheets that come off the printing press.

RPSC Slide Programme Library

• The Royal Philatelic Society of Canada provides a 35 mm Slide Programme Library service to its member clubs. There are currently over 100 programmes available. All come with script, many in both French and English, some audio cassette commentaries.

• The rental fee is $10 per programme and the requesting club pays return postage and $100 insurance fee. For short notice requests the requesting club pays all postage charges.

• The slide librarian will mail out programmes approximately two weeks prior to the requesting club's meeting to give the presenter time to review the programme.

• Non-RPSC clubs may use this service if referred by an RPSC member.

• There are programmes suitable for junior clubs.

Programme rental requests can be sent to the new Slide Librarian at:

Elizabeth Sodero
831 Tower Road
Halifax, NS B3H 2Y1,
902) 422-7589.

A note from the Slide Librarian:

Having had a quick look through the available programmes, it has become evident that much of the available material is older rather than newer. However, there are some fascinating slide shows on hand prepared by expert collectors.

I just glanced through Slide Programme #39, Canadian Air Mail Stamps – Regular and Varieties by Major R.K. Malott before sending it out to a requesting club. The 83 colour slides take the viewer from the first Canadian airmail issue, by means of stamps and covers, to the end of the airmail and special delivery eras.

The detailed accompanying script gives an in-depth study of the subject with an emphasis on varieties. The history of the period is well documented – a programme that would appeal to the specialist collector, the thematic collector and the general collector. The accompanying cassette failed to play.

A plea from the Slide Librarian:

If you are interested in making up a slide programme or a video, we would like to hear from you.

A current list of programmes is available from the Slide Librarian. Programme committees – please take note of this service.

Under the Hammer

by Dean Mario

Stanley Gibbons' Oct. 13-14, 1999 sale offered collectors of Commonwealth and worldwide material a tremendous selection for their albums. Canadian material included several nicer items but many didn't sell. One that did was lot 1451, a Mint block of six of the 1876 eight-cent Bright Blue Registered Letter stamp estimated at £600-700 (ex. "Dallas"). Although the block had slight faults, it found a new home for £748 ($1,852.42; prices include the 15 per cent buyer's fee).

Spectacular modern errors from Great Britain were offered too. Lot 1104 contained a Mint OG 1963 1sh6d Commonwealth Pacific Cable single with black printing omitted. Estimated at £500-600, it reached £1,265 ($3,132.77). Lot 1115 featured several Mint NH varieties of the 1969 5d Q.E. II Ship with varying degrees of black, grey, and red omitted. Estimated at £300-340, the lot sold for £437 ($1,082.23). A Mint NH 1983 15-1/2p Salmon imperf single showing part of several adjoining stamps (lot 1121) sold for £184 ($455.68) against an estimate of £150-170. A Mint NH imperf pair of the 1991 22p King Charles Spaniel issue (lot 1124) "fetched" a similar price but had a lower estimate of £140-160.

U.S. offerings were impressive and included an attractive 1860 cover from Virginia via New York to Paris. The cover had a pair of 1857-61 1-cent Blue Franklins and a strip of four of the 10-cent Green Washington issue (lot 832) with an estimate of £320-360. It sold for £690 ($1,708.79). Lot 833 offered a rare small colour die proof set from the 1861 1-cent to 90-cent issue. Estimated at £550-650, the lot sold for £1,150 ($2,847.98).

The firm's "Rare Stamps and Postal History of the World" sale followed on Oct. 15, 1999. Canadian items included lot 19, Mint 1-cent, two-cent and five-cent imperf tête-bêche blocks (six by two) from the 1928 Scroll issue booklet sheets. Estimated at £1,000-£1,200, the lot sold for £1,725 ($4,271.96). Lot 20 contained Mint vertical imperf plate proof pairs of the 1930 20-cent Wheat, 50-cent Grand Pre, and $1 Mt. Cavell estimated at £1,100-£1,300. It reached a price of £1,150 ($2,846.25). A Newfoundland 1930 50-cent on 36-cent Caribou Columbia Air Mail Mint LH single (centred left) was offered in lot 170. This example "Dallas" copy sold for £1,840 ($4,556.76) against an estimate of £1,400-£1,600. Lot 12 held a rare hinged-Mint copy of Vancouver Island's imperf 1865 five-cent Rose Victoria with clear to good margins (ex. "Melat" / "Dallas"). It went to a new home for £4,370 ($10,822.31) with an estimate of £5,000-£6000.

Rare Commonwealth material was also popular. Lot 55 contained a spectacular LH Mint set of bottom marginal imprint blocks of four of the 1933 1/2d-£1 Centenary issue from the Falkland Islands. Estimated at £9,000-£11,000, it realized £10,350 ($25,631.78). An amazing Mint block of four error of Hong Kong's 1938 50-cent Deep Magenta King George VI definitive value was found in lot 129. The block had been printed on both sides with the reverse printing being inverted. Stated to be the "first recorded example" of this error by the auctioneers, it had an estimate of £15,000-£20,000 and sold for £19,550 ($48,415.58). This item is bound to have an exciting future!

Stanley Gibbons Auctions plan several sales for 2000. Contact the firm at 399 Strand, London WC2R OLX, England or telephone 0171 836 8444 / fax 0171 836 7342. You can e-mail at: auctions@stangiblondon.demon.co.uk. The firm's postal auctions are also quite popular and can be reached at the same address or e-mailed at: stamps@stangiblondon.demon.co.uk.

Brigham Auctions Ltd. is a relatively new Canadian public auction house and its four sales in 1999 have been impressive. The firm's fourth sale on Dec. 3 featured many Canadian and BNA stamps and covers. Items from the W.H. Pope Collection were also included.

Lot 439 contained an attractive 1851 12d Black Victoria plate proof on india paper with a carmine specimen overprint. Most collectors cannot hope to obtain an original copy of this stamp but a plate proof is the next best alternative! The 1999 Unitrade value was quoted at $1,750 and the proof sold for $1,006.25 (prices include the 15 per cent buyer's fee). A classic Fine Used 10-cent Black Brown Albert single from the 1859-64 First Cents Issue (lot 542) sold for $1,035 (Unitrade $3,000). Lot 637 featured a Fine Mint NH 1872 3-cent Dull Red Small Queen right margin block of eight with an inscription. It sold for $1,380 (Unitrade $840+).

Several Mint blocks from Victoria's 1897 Jubilee were on hand. Lot 717 contained a F-VF LH-HR 1/2-cent Black block which sold for $74.75 (Unitrade $400) and a F-VF NH top imprint block from plate nine (with small age perf stains) in lot 718 reached $241.50 (Unitrade $600+). A scarce VF centred NH block of the 15-cent Slate Blue value in lot 738 (but with some gum bends) found a home for $1,437.50 (Unitrade $3,600).

Classic illustrated covers were a main feature of this sale. Lot 777 held a stunning 1901 multi-coloured patriotic cover from the Alpha-Chemical Co. of Berlin, Ontario advertising boot and shoe polish. Despite a few faults, the cover sold for $833.75 ($500+ estimate). Another attractive 1903 multi-coloured cover from the Hamilton Spectator (lot 792) featured a herald on horseback announcing Hamilton's Summer Carnival. With an estimate of $300+, this purple, yellow, and green cover was purchased for $776.25. Another attractive orange, black, and brown 1909 illustrated cover advertising the Saskatoon Fair in lot 846 sold for $517.50 ($250+ estimate). These classic multi-coloured advertising and illustrated covers are obviously becoming highly-sought after!

Newfoundland material was well-represented in the sale with several rare and unusual items attracting a great deal of attention. Used Pence issues included an 1857 6d Scarlet Vermilion with full to just-touching margins in lot 59. It sold for $920 (Unitrade $3,500). A wide-margined 1860 4d Orange with partial "W" and "IS" of the Stacey Wise/1858 watermark (lot 73) had a quoted Unitrade value of $1,800 and reached $632.50. A nice-looking 1sh value from the same issue in lot 80 realized $1,322.50 (Unitrade $5,000). It unfortunately had a partially-filled in thin but was still an attractive stamp.

A Mint LH 1929 three-cent on six-cent Humber River single with the surcharge inverted was offered in lot 186. Despite a pulled corner perf which detracted from its appearance, it still was sought-after and went to a new home for $402.50 against a Unitrade value of $750. Lot 246 also featured an interesting rarity. It contained a 1930 50-cent on 36-cent Caribou Columbia Air Mail flight cover to London, England. Although the cover had a vertical fold, staple holes and light stains, it still reached a respectable $7,762.50 (Unitrade $15,000).

Brigham Auctions Ltd. will continue to offer many choice philatelic items during 2000. The firm has also been chosen to conduct a special auction at Hamilton's 2000 Millennium Exhibition. Contact the firm at 1120 Brevik Place, Mississauga, ON L4W 3Y5, phone: (905) 238-1634, fax: (905) 238-8399, or email: brigham@interlog.com. Happy bidding in 2000 and good luck on finding that elusive item for you collection!

by Hans Reiche

Dealers and collectors have reported a fairly large number of stamps that can not be found in the regular *Scott Catalogues*. These stamps have been noted on covers, namely properly used, or is some of the UPU issued souvenir books that have been given out to delegates of the UPU meetings. Sometimes just a few of a set are listed by Scott but not the total set. Or some are not listed at all. These come not just from one country alone but from different places. If these stamps would not be a legitimate issue, this would be understandable why they are not listed. But when the post office releases these in the UPU books, these must be issued by them. It may be advisable to make copies of these stamps and submit them to Scott for listing.

*****

There are certain countries that did issue stamps in two different printing processes. Identification of these processes is important because prices in the catalogues vary considerably from one to the other printing method. The two printing processes that are used most often are the engraved or line engraved process, sometimes called the recess printing. The other one is the lithographed or sometimes called the planograph process. For example Greece and other stamps were printed by both methods for the same set of issue. For Greece the set issued in 1911 showing various historic pictures, is just one of these stamps.

With a good magnifying glass, seven to 10 times, one can identify these printings. The engraved printings are sharp, lines are not fuzzy and all lines are continuous. The lithographed stamps will show tiny coloured dots and the lines are slightly fuzzy at the edges giving the impression of blurred printing. Although today such printings have considerably advanced in printing techniques, the coloured dots remain even though the dot size is much smaller than it was around the beginning resulting in sharper pictures. The book by Williams on *Fundamentals of Philately* gives some detailed description of these two printing process.

*****

eBay.

What do you think of this?

There are many pros and cons, but it is here to stay for a while. Completely uniformed collectors are being led by the nose when others appear to have hit the jackpot. When some bid on certain lots about a thousand times the actual value, one must ask why. But sooner or later these so called collectors have been trying to sell some of their highly overpriced lots and have found out the truth. Of course they were very disappointed and stopped using this electronic method to bid. A lot of about a few hundred Wurtemberg, catalogue value around $50 was bid on for $350 U.S., no relation to the actual value for stamps with five to 10 cents value. Sellers, such as dealers, are of course delighted.

Where could one sell a bunch of Canadian First Day Covers that could hardly be given away and still make a huge profit?

But there are others that are very lucky. A nice margin copy of Canada used #2 listed at $1,000 for fine, sold for $150. A five-cent Jubilee, well centered and nicely cancelled, lists at $40 and sold for $5.

It is obvious all this is not normal and leads some to believe that prices indicated in catalogues and asked for by regular dealers are completely wrong. This is of course nonsense. Many more people will get burned and others will cash in. The advise is: anyone using this system should be very careful to avoid disappointment. But maybe if you have a junk lot for sale, it will do much better than otherwise.

Nouvelle Politique Éditoriale

Grégoire Teyssier a accepté d'agir comme éditeur associé. Il revisera tous les articles rédigés en français avant publication.

Notre société n'a pas les ressources suffisantes qui lui permettent de traduire systématiquement les articles de l'anglais vers le français ou vice-versa. En conséquence, les membres qui ne peuvent lire que les textes français ou qui lisent l'anglais avec difficulté sont lésés de certains bénéfices que leur procurent leur adhésion. Nous devons donc trouver un compromis acceptable.

La solution à ce compromis consiste à éditer les articles dans la langue dans laquelle ils sont soumis, avec quelques exceptions.

Les articles écrits en langue française devront être soumis à Grégoire Teyssier par la poste au 4081, rue des Cascades, Charny (Québec) G6X 1G8; par télécopieur au (418) 832-6648 ou par courriel (teyssierg@netscape.net). Après vérifications et corrections, ces articles seront soumis pour publication et envoyés à l'éditeur, Bill Pekonen.

Nous avons bon espoir que cette publication atteindra alors de nouveaux marchés, comme l'ensemble des pays de la francophonie. La Polynésie Française est un exemple qui me vient à l'esprit. De cette façon, Le Philatéliste canadien répondra parfaitement aux intérêts des membres et deviendra une publication unique en son genre dans le monde philatélique.

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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

MARCH 18: the Oxford Philatelic Society is sponsoring their 51st Annual OXPEX 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 are free. Come and see competitive stamp exhibits, Judge's critique, 16 stamp dealers, prize draws, displays, Canada Post counter, youth area for junior collectors and refreshments. Contact Gib Stephens, P.O. Box 20113, Woodstock, ON N4S 8X8

MARCH 25-26: The North Toronto Stamp Club's 57th Annual Exhibition and Bourse will be held at the Civic Garden Centre, Edwards Gardens, 777 Lawrence Ave. East at Leslie Street, North York. Hours: Saturday 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. and Sunday 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Competitive exhibits, 22 dealer bourse, refershments. For more information, call Ben Marier at (416) 492-9311.

APRIL 14-16: Club philatélique du Lakeshore Inc. Lakeshore Stamp Club will hold its 37th annual exhibition at the Sarto Desnoyers Community Centre, 1335 Lakeshore Dr., Dorval, QC. The exhibition is closed. There will be club bourse and 20 commercial dealers. Hours: 10 a.m. to 7 p.m. Friday, 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. Saturday and 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Sunday. Admission and parking are free. For more information, call David Nickson at (514) 1407.

APRIL 29: The Seventh Annual Apple Country Stamp Show will be held by the Colborne Stamp Club from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. The show will be at the Royal Canadian Legion, King Street East (Country Road 2 East) in Colborne, ON. Admission is free. Parking at the rear of the building, entrance to show at front. For more information, call (905) 355-3771.

MAY 13: The Essex County Stamp Club, (RPSC Chapter 154) presents its annual WINPEX 2000 Exhibition and Sale at Teutonia Club, 55 Edinborough St., Windsor, ON (easy access from the international tunnel or bridge) from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Twenty-five dealers, door prizes, Canada Post booth, Junior club booth, souvenir cover, 80 frame exhibition, lots of free parking, no charge. Contact David Newman (519) 977 5967, lacumo@netcom.ca or Gordon Haggert (519) 253 4055 or e-mail ghaggert@mnsi.net

MAY 13: KINGPEX 2000, sponsored by the Kingston Stamp Club, will be held at the Edith Rankin Memorial United Church, 4080 Bath Road (Hwy. 33), one block west of Collin's Bay Road. Hours 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Admission and parking are free.

MAY 14: Owen Sound Stamp Show and Bourse at the Harry Lumbley Bayshore Community Centre from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. Free admission and parking. For more information, contact Bob Watson at (519) 376-1270 or Bob Pike at (519) 371-8821

JUNE 10: NYPEX 2000 will be held on Saturday, 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. at the Goulding Community Centre. The Centre is located at Larivière Road and Goulding Avenue, three blocks south of Steeles Avenue and west of Yonge Street. Amission is free. For more information, please call (416) 325-8039 days or (416) 665-7266 evenings and weekends.

NATIONAL EXHIBITIONS / EXPOSITIONS NATIONALES

MARCH 24-26: The Annual Edmonton Spring National and Regional Stamp Show will be held at the Conference Centre, West Edmonton Mall, Edmonton, AB, sponsored by the Edmonton Stamp Club. Friday 1-8 p.m.; Saturday 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.; and Sunday 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. More than 25 dealer bourse, 200 frames of exhibits, seminars, youth room, banquet. Information: Edmonton Stamp Club, Box 399, Edmonton, AB T5J 2J6 – Bourse, etc. Keith Spencer, (780) 437-1787. Exhibits and Prospectus, etc. John Powell (780) 435-7006, mpowel3@ibm.net.

APRIL 7-9: The Toronto National Postage Stamp Show, sponsored by the Canadian Stamp Dealers' Association, will be held at the Queen Elizabeth Building, Canadian National Exhibition Grounds, Toronto, ON. Hours: Friday 11 a.m. to 6 p.m.; Saturday 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. and Sunday 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. For more information, contact Rick Day, CSDA, PO Box 1123, Adelaide Street Post Office, Toronto, ON M5C 2K5, or phone (905) 319-2920 or e-mail secretary@csdaonline.com.

APRIL 28-30 Royal *2000* Royale in Winnipeg, MB.

MAY 6-7: ORAPEX 2000, Ottawa's 39th Annual RA Stamp Club Exhibition and Bourse and Canada's Fifth National Philatelic Literature Exhbition will be held at the RA Centre, 2451 Riverside Dr., Ottawa, ON, Curling Rink. Hours: Saturday 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. and Sunday 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Parking and admission are free. Come and enjoy philatelic and literature exhibitions, a large bourse, junior stamp table, lectures, society meetings and philatelic friends. For further details, contact Major R.K. "Dick" Malott, CD, Retd, FRPSC, AHF, Publicity Officer, 16 Harwick Crs., Nepean, ON K2H 6R1, phone (613) 829-0280, fax (613) 829-7673, or e-mail rmalott@magma.ca.

JUNE 2-4: PIPEX 2000 in Victoria BC.

INTERNATIONAL EXHIBITIONS / EXPOSITIONS INTERNATIONALES

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: WIPA 2000 in Vienna, Austria. Canadian Commissioner: Otto F. Zeman, 702-150 Queen Street South, Kitchener, ON N2G 4T7.

OCTOBER 6-14: ESPANA 2000, Madrid, Spain. Canadian Commissioner Major R.K. "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.

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.

PHSC

APS Affiliate 67;
PHS Inc. Affiliate 5A;
RPSC Chapter 134

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.

Society Reports
Rapports de la société

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Ray W. Ireson, 86 Cartier Street, Roxboro, QC H8Y 1G8; (514) 683-9687

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Slide Program / Programme de diapositives
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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.
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INTERESTS: Worldwide Commonwealth and Russia

I-27047 John Mitchell
P.O. Box 189
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I-27049 Thelma Michaud
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I-27050 Mark A. Dyck
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INTERESTS: Sweden, Scandinavia, King George VI Commonwealth, Canada

I-27051 Wilfred J. Wallace
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NTERESTS: British Commonwealth, Germany, Russia

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INTERESTS: Canada, Great Britain

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INTERESTS: Canada, World

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I-27056 Robert Macaroné

I-27057 Marilyn Christopherson
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INTERESTS: Canada, Israel, Vatican

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INTERESTS: Canada, USA

I-27061 John Norris
INTERESTS: British Empire, Canada, Australia

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INTERESTS: Canada Avant 1950

I-27063 Kenneth Martin
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INTERESTS: Canadian Mint issues, USA used issues 1940-65

I-27066 Pierre Cadieux
INTERESTS: Canada

I-27067 Georges Andre Jeannotte
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Beloeil, PQ J3G 3A9
INTERESTS: Religion, auto avion, train, timbres avec belle obliteration

I-27068 Martin Ouellet
INTERESTS: collection les timbres nouveau et ancien

I-27069 Allan Turner
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Milton, NS B0T 1P0
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AJAX PHILATELIC SOCIETY

RPSC Chapter 163 meets the second and fourth Thursday, September to June at the Ajax Public Library, 65 Harwood Ave. S., 6-9 p.m. New members and visitors are welcome. Contact Richard Weigand at (905) 430-2637 or richard.weigand@sympatico.ca.

AMICALE DES PHILATÉLISTES DE L'OUTAOUAIS (APO)

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

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

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 the second Wednesday of the 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 the first Sunday of the month from October to June 2-4 p.m. and the third 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. Contact: Bramalea Stamp Club, Box 92531, Bramalea, ON L6W 4R1.

BRANTFORD STAMP CLUB

RPSC Chapter 1 meets on the first and third Tuesdays September to May, and the first Tuesday in June, at the Woodman Community Centre, 491 Grey St., Brantford, ON at 7 p.m., short business meeting at 8 p.m., followed by a program. Circuit books, five dealers. Visitors welcome. Contact: Secretary, Box 25003, 119 Colborne St. W., Brantford, ON N3T 6K5; (519) 753-9425

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. Contact: B.C.P.S., 2955 West 38th Ave., Vancouver, BC V6N 2X2.

BROCK / PRESCOTT STAMP CLUB

Meets the third Wednesday on the month, September to May at 7 p.m. at Wall Street United Church, 5 Wall St., Brockville, ON. Contact Roy Brooks at (613) 342-7569.

CALGARY PHILATELIC SOCIETY

(Chapter 66) Regular meeting: 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 in July and August; no auction in December. Contact: Calgary Philatelic Society, PO Box 1478, Station M, Calgary, AB T2P 2L6.

CAMBRIDGE STAMP CLUB

Meets the third Monday of the month, September 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. Contact: 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 American 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 in June, July and August. Contact: 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 on the second 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 the first and third Wednesday of the month September to May 8-9:30 p.m. Dempsey Community Centre, Ottawa, ON. Hendrick Burgers, (613) 737-2993.

CANADIAN FORCES BASE TRENTON STAMP CLUB

Chapter 89 meeting on the first and third Wednesdays of the month from September to June at the Trenton Seniors' Club (Club 105) at the corner of Bay and Campbell Streets starting at 6:45 p.m. All stamp collectors and visitors are welcome. Contact: G.A. Barsi at (613) 394-2024, M. Leedham at (613) 392-7462 or S. Taylor at (613) 393-4316.

COLBORNE STAMP CLUB

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

CREDIT VALLEY PHILATELIC SOCIETY - MISSISSAUGA

Chapter 67 meets the second and fourth Mondays, except holidays and in July and August, at 7:30 p.m. at Forest Avenue Public School, 20 Forest Ave., Port Credit. Visitors welcome. Contact Bob Laker at (905) 279-8807.

EAST TORONTO STAMP CLUB

Chapter 12 meets the first and third Wednesdays, except June to August, at Stan Wadlow Clubhouse, Cedarvale Ave. (first east of Woodbine, at Cosburn), north of arena. Visitors welcome. Contact: 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 held every other Monday, September to June at 6:30 p.m., at Archbishop MacDonald High School, south entrance cafeteria, 142 St. and 108 Ave. Contact: Box 399, Edmonton, AB, T5J 2J6. Keith Spencer at (403) 437-1787.

ESSEX COUNTY STAMP CLUB (WINDSOR)

Chapter 154 meets on the second and fourth Wednesdays of the month (fourth Wednesday in July and August) at the Teutonia Club, 55

Edinborough, Windsor, ON. Meetings start at 7 p.m., program at 8 p.m. All visitors are welcome. Contact: 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 the second Monday of each month in the Fenelon Falls Community Hall behind the Village Office on Market Street at 7:30 p.m. Visitors welcome. Contact: President: Margaret Allen, R.R. 1, Fenelon Falls, ON K0M 1N0.

FREDERICTON DISTRICT STAMP CLUB

Chapter 148 meets on the first and third Tuesdays of the month from September to May begin at 7:30 p.m.and held at the Hugh John Fleming Forestry Centre, 1350 Regent St. Contact Ron Smith, 12 Chateau Dr., McLeod Hill, NB, E3A 5X2, (506) 453-1792, or e-mail: rugbyron@nb.sympatico.ca

FUNDY STAMP COLLECTOR'S CLUB

Chapter 26892 meets the first Thursday, 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 third 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. Contact Don Dundee, 928 Claremont Ave., Victoria, BC V8Y 1K3, (604) 658-8458.

HAMILTON STAMP CLUB

Chapter 51 meets at 6 p.m. on the second, fourth and fifth Mondays, September to June except holidays, and second Monday of July, at Bishop Ryan Secondary School, Quigley Road and Albright Street, in east-end Hamilton, ON. Visitors and juniors welcome. Contact: 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 AND BANKING PHILATELIC SOCIETY

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

KELOWNA & DISTRICT STAMP CLUB

Chapter 90 meets on the second Wednesday, September to June at 7 p.m., Dr. Knox Middle School Cafeteria, 1555 Burtch Ave. Visitors welcome. Contact: Box 1185, Kelowna, BC V1Y 7P8.

KENT COUNTY STAMP CLUB (CHATHAM, ON)

Chapter 7 meets fourth Wednesday, except July, August and December in the library of John McGregor Secondary School, 300 Cecile, at 7:30 p.m. Visitors welcome. Contact: Secretary, Allan Burk, 43 Sudbury Dr., Chatham, ON N7L 2K1.

KINGSTON STAMP CLUB

Chapter 49 meets on the second Monday, September-May and fourth 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 welcome. Contact: Past President, Kingston Stamp Club, 1960 Hwy. 2 East, Kingston, ON K7L 4V1, (613) 546-3332.

KITCHENER-WATERLOO PHILATELIC SOCIETY

Chapter 13 meets the seconnd Thursday except July and August at Albert McCormick Arena, Parkside Dr., Waterloo. Visitors welcome. Contact: 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 second Wednesday and last Friday of each month, September to June at the Herb Carroll Centre, 1100 Lincoln St., Thunder Bay, ON. at 8 p.m. Visitors welcome. Contact: 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 Ave., Dorval, QC, on the second and fourth Thursdays, September to June at 7 p.m. Visitors and new members welcome. Contact: 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 ave. Brookhaven, Dorval, QC. Les visiteurs et les nouveaux membres sont les bienvenus. Information: John Cooper, Président, P.O. Box 1, Pointe Claire/Dorval, QC H9R 4N5.

LETHBRIDGE PHILATELIC SOCIETY

Chapter 57 meets on the second Thursday of the month at 7 p.m. except June, July and August at the Canadian Western Natural Gas Co. building at 410 Stafford Dr. N., Lethbridge, AB T1H 2A9.

MEDICINE HAT COIN &STAMP CLUB

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

MIDDLESEX STAMP CLUB

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

MILTON STAMP CLUB

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

NELSON STAMP CLUB

Meets on the 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 second and fourth Tuesdays, September to May, at the Casselholme Home for the Aged, 400 Olive St., North Bay, ON at 7 p.m. (Basement meeting room.) Table auction and sales circuit. Visitors welcome. Contact: John Fretwell, R.R. 1, Callandar, ON P0H 1H0, (705) 752-1364.

NORTH TORONTO STAMP CLUB

Meets the first and third Thursdays, 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 welcome. Contact: Ben Marier, (416) 492-9311.

NORTH YORK PHILATELIC SOCIETY

Chapter 21 meets the first and third Wednesdays, except July and August when meetings are held on only the third Wednesday, at 6:30 p.m. in the lounge of the Centennial Arena, north side of Finch Ave. W., west of Bathurst. Sales circuit, auctions, speakers, lectures. Visitors welcome. Contact: 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 the second Tuesday, September to Jun,e at the Nova Scotia Museum. Visitors welcome. Contact: E. Sodero, 831 Tower Rd., Halifax, NS B3H 2Y1.

OAKVILLE STAMP CLUB

Chapter 135 meets the second and fourth Tuesdays at 7 p.m. in the cafeteria, St. Thomas Aquinas Secondary School (formerly Perdue High School), 124 Margaret Dr. (Lakeshore West/Dorval Drive). Visitors welcome. Contact: Oakville Stamp Club, Box 69643, Oakville, ON L6J 7R4.

OWEN SOUND STAMP CLUB

Chapter 191 meets the third Wednesday of every month, 7 p.m. at St. George's Anglican

Church, 149 4th Ave. E., Owen Sound, ON. Trading, auctions, circuit books. Visitors welcome. Contact Robert J. Ford, 721 8th Ave. E., Owen Sound, ON N4K 3A4.

OXFORD PHILATELIC SOCIETY

Chapter 65 meets first and third 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. Contact: Gib Stephens, P.O. Box 20113, Woodstock, ON N4S 8X8.

PENTICTON AND DISTRICT STAMP CLUB

Chapter 127 meets the first Sunday of each month 2-4 p.m. at the Okanagan University College Training Centre, 106 Warren Av. E., Penticton, BC. Visitors, prospective members and juniors welcome. Contact: E.M. Proctor (Secretary), RR#4 S87 C9, Summerland, BC V0H 1Z0. Phone: (250) 494-4055.

PERTH STAMP CLUB

Meets the second and fourth Wednesdays September to June, 7:30 p.m. in McMartin House, Gore Street. Visitors welcome. Contact Gus Quattrocchi (A.J.), 69 Harvey St., Perth, ON K7H 1X1.

R.A. STAMP CLUB - OTTAWA

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

REGINA PHILATELIC CLUB

Chapter 10 meets the first and third Wednesdays, September to May, 7-10 p.m. at Sheldon-Williams Collegiate Library, 2601 Coronation St., Regina. Visitors welcome. Contact: Box 1891, Regina, SK S4P 3E1.

ROYAL CITY STAMP CLUB

Chapter 104 meets on the third Thursday, 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. Contact: Box 145, Milner, BC V0X 1T0. Phone (604) 534-1884.

SAINT JOHN STAMP CLUB

Meets the fourth 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. Contact: Saint John Stamp Club, c/o James Young, 16 Mountain Rd., Saint John, NB, E2J 2W8.

ST. CATHARINES STAMP CLUB

Meetings are held on the first and third Tuesdays of each month except for July and August at Holy Cross Secondary, St. Catharines, ON. Contact: Mrs. Sinclair, 25 Permilla St., St. Catharines, ON L2S 2E9.

ST. JOHN'S PHILATELIC SOCIETY

Meets second and fourth Wednesdays, except July and August, 8 p.m. at Cabot Institute. Visitors welcome. Contact: J. Don Wilson, 11 Elm Place, St. John's, NF A1B 2S4, (709) 726-2741.

SASKATOON STAMP CLUB

Chapter 80 meets the second and fourth Mondays, September to May, 7-9 p.m. at the Saskatoon Field House, 2020 College Dr., Saskatoon, SK. Visitors welcome. Contact: 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 second 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. Visitors welcome. Contact: (250) 479-6513.

LA SOCIÉTÉ PHILATÉLIQUE DE QUÉBEC

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

LA SOCIÉTÉ PHILATÉLIQUE DE LA RIVE SUD

Club membre No. 19 Réunions régulieres tenuis les 2 ième et 4 ième lundi du mois débutant en septembre pour terminer le 2ieme lundi de juine, de 19:30 à 21:00 hr. Centre Culturel Jacques Ferron, 100 Ouest rue, St. Laurent, Longueiul, QC Bernard Dansereau, secrétaire, (450) 646-9040.

SAUGEEN STAMP CLUB

Meets on the first Tuesday of each month at the Hanover Library Complex, 451 10th Ave., Hanover, ON. Contact: PO Box 11, Clifford ON, N0G 1M0. E-mail pkritz@greynet.net, Club President Peter Kritz, RR3, Hanover, ON N4N 3B9, Club Secretary Jim Measures, PO Box 11, Clifford, ON N0G 1M0. Annual Exhibition and show May 6, 2000. Telephone (519) 327-8265 or (519) 364-4752.

STRATFORD STAMP CLUB

Chapter 92 meets on the fourth 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., regular meetings at 8 p.m. Visitors welcome. Contact: PO Box 21031, Stratford, ON N5A 7V4.

SUDBURY STAMP CLUB

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

THE PHILATELIC CLUB OF MONTRAL

Chapter 122 meets on the third Thursday of each month 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 first 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 welcome. Contact J.G. Doehler at (416) 438-4862.

TRURO PHILATELIC SOCIETY

Meets the second Monday of each month except July and August at Success Business College, 100 Victoria St. at 7:30 p.m. All are welcome.

UNION PHILATÉLIQUE DE MONTRAL

Chapter 3 meets on the second and fourth Tuesdays, September to June at 7 p.m., 7110 8th Ave., Montreal (St-Michel), QC. Visitors welcome. Contact: 9170 Millen St., Montreal, QC H2M 1W7.

VANCOUVER ISLAND PHILATELIC SOCIETY

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

WEST TORONTO STAMP CLUB

Chapter 14 meets second, third and fourth 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 welcome. Contact: 331 Rathburn Rd., Etobicoke, ON M9B 2L9. Tel.: Frank Alusio, (416) 621-8232.

WINNIPEG PHILATELIC SOCIETY

Meets at 7 p.m. on the first and third Thursdays except July and August. Deaf Centre of Manitoba, Meeting Room, 285 Pembina Hwy. Visitors welcome. Contact: Rick Penko, 3793 Vialoux Dr., Winnipeg, MB R3R 0A5, e-mail rpenko@escape.ca.

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