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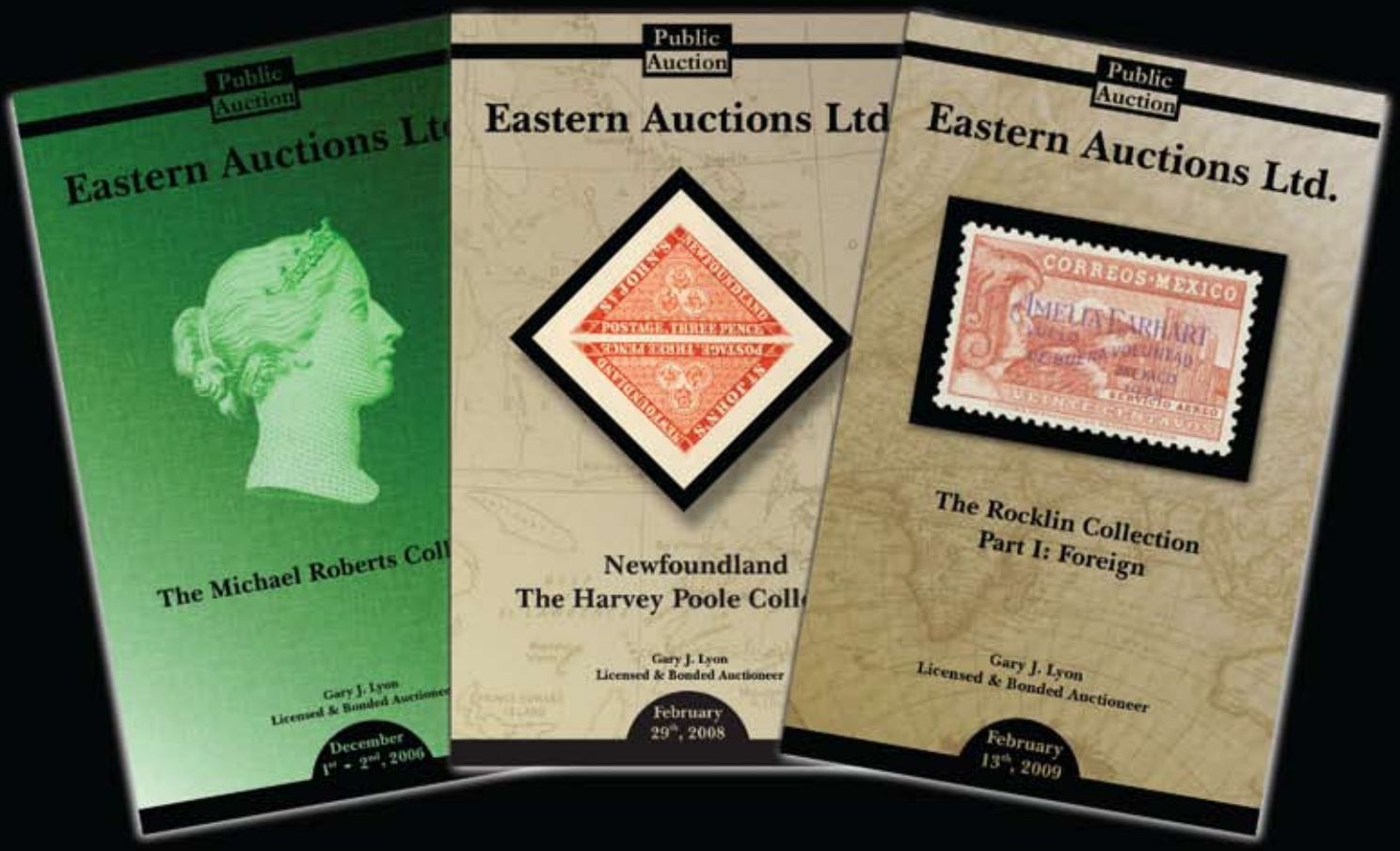

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david.piercey@epsb.ca

Editor – Rédacteur
Tony Shaman, FRPSC
P.O. Box 46024 RPO Laurentian
Kitchener, ON N2E 4J3
tshaman@rogers.com

Associate Editor – Rédacteur Associé
Charles J. G. Verge, FRPSC, Toronto, ON
cjgverge@rogers.com

National Office – Bureau National
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Margaret Schulzke, FRPSC,
Executive Assistant / Adjointe Exécutive
info@rpsc.org
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LA SOCIÉTÉ ROYALE DE PHILATÉLIE DU CANADA

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November/December 2009 novembre/decembre - VOL. 60 • NO. 6 (Number/Numéro 354)

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the cover / page couverture:

Canada Post is justly proud of its hugely successful Santa Letter-writing Program. Since its Canada-wide launch in 1982, Santa's North Pole Office has answered more than 17.4 million letters and 63,000 emails from children around the world. Foreign language letters are answered in the language in which they are received.

To ensure that Santa's mail remains secure, all reply envelopes are numbered sequentially and Canada Post employees and retirees answering these letters are required to log in for Santa stationery as a means of keeping track of each letter that they send to children.

Postes Canada a raison d'être fière de l'énorme succès de son Programme de lettres au père Noël. Depuis le lancement de ce programme dans tout le Canada en 1982, le bureau de poste du père Noël, au pôle Nord, a répondu à plus de 17.4 millions de lettres d'enfants ainsi que 63,000 courriels de partout dans le monde. Les lettres écrites dans une langue étrangère reçoivent une réponse dans cette même langue.

Afin d'assurer la sécurité du courrier du père Noël, chaque enveloppe-réponse est numérotée en séquence et les employés et retraités de Postes Canada qui répondent aux lettres doivent enregistrer chaque paquet de lettres afin qu'il soit possible de suivre la trace de chacune des lettres envoyées aux enfants.

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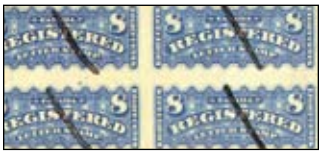

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EDITOR'S notes
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by / par Tony Shaman, FRPSC

With the gradual rise of Christianity, Islam and Judaism, Paganism underwent a corresponding decline. However, the same cannot be said of its ancient customs and traditions, many of which have found their way into how we celebrate Christmas. We need look only at the extensive array of Christmas-themed postage stamps to see the many Pagan religious customs that have become an integral part of how people are currently celebrating Christmas.

Pagans (the term comes from the Latin word *paganus,* meaning rural or country dweller) made their living off the land and so were intimately in tune with nature and the seasons. The sun waning with the approach of winter would obviously have been of great concern. Because December in the northern hemisphere has the shortest days, and longest nights, it is not surprising that these people living at a time long before the magic of electric lights should select the winter solstice to celebrate the return of the sun. These festivals were celebrated on the first detectable lengthening of daylight hours, around December 25.

Christians adopted the traditional gift exchange associated with the Roman winter festivals of Sol Invictus (unconquered sun) and Saturnalia. The Christian gift-giving practice, beginning with the biblical three Wise Men bearing gifts, further evolved with the subsequent gift-giving traditions associated with Santa Claus. There are probably more postage stamp images featuring a variety of Santa Clauses than any other single Yule-themed topic.

However, that is not to say that there is a dearth of non-Santa Yule-themed stamp images that we have adopted from our Pagan ancestors.

The use of candles, a one-time mainstay of Christmas tree decorations, now largely replaced by strings of electric lights, is a direct adoption of the Pagan practice of placing 12 candles on their evergreen trees to honour their sun god.

Evergreen boughs, defying the freezing cold of winter, were brought into Pagan homes and decorated with shiny bits of metal, perhaps forerunners of the shiny baubles and assorted ornaments that adorn today's Christmas trees. With mistletoe, holly and ivy used by Pagans to cheer up their homes it was inevitable that red and green should become our principal Christmas colours. These colourful sprigs are all

En raison de la montée graduelle du christianisme, de l'islam et du judaïsme, le paganisme a décliné à proportion. On ne peut cependant pas en dire autant de ses anciennes coutumes et traditions dont plusieurs se sont taillé une place dans les célébrations de Noël. Il suffit de jeter un coup d'œil aux nombreux thèmes de Noël sur les timbres-poste pour voir que bien des coutumes païennes sont devenues partie intégrante de notre façon de célébrer Noël.

Les païens, le terme vient du latin *paganus*, qui signifie paysan ou habitant de la campagne, vivaient de la terre et par conséquent étaient intimement liés à la nature et aux saisons. La décroissance du soleil, à l'approche de l'hiver, était, il va sans dire, une source d'inquiétude. Parce que dans l'hémisphère nord, c'est en décembre que les jours sont les plus courts et les nuits les plus longues, il n'est pas étonnant que ces gens, qui ont vécu longtemps avant la magie de l'ampoule électrique, aient choisi le solstice d'hiver pour fêter le retour du soleil. Les fêtes étaient célébrées au moment où il était évident que la clarté du jour se prolongeait, autour du 25 décembre.

Les chrétiens ont adopté le traditionnel échange de cadeaux associé aux festivals romains *Sol Invictus* (soleil invaincu) et *Saturnalia*. Chez les chrétiens, l'habitude de donner des cadeaux s'est inspirée des trois mages de la Bible et de leurs présents pour finalement devenir une tradition associée au père Noël. Il existe sans doute plus de timbres-poste représentant des pères Noël qu'il n'en existe sur tout autre sujet du temps des fêtes.

Cela ne signifie pas pour autant qu'il y a pénurie d'images portant sur d'autres thèmes empruntés à nos ancêtres païens.

Les chandelles, qui autrefois étaient l'élément principal de décoration des arbres de Noël et ont maintenant été largement remplacées par des guirlandes de lumières électriques, viennent tout droit d'une coutume païenne qui consistait à placer 12 chandelles sur un arbre à feuillage persistant afin d'honorer le dieu soleil.

Les païens apportaient dans leurs demeures les rameaux de ces arbres résistants au gel hivernal et les décoraient de petits morceaux de métal brillant, peut-être précurseurs des babioles scintillantes et autres ornements qui embellissent nos arbres de Noël. Comme les païens utilisaient le gui, les baies d'aubépine et le lierre pour égayer leurs foyers, il était inévitable que le rouge et le vert deviennent les couleurs dominantes de la Noël. Ces variétés de branches colorées sont toutes représentées sur des timbres, ainsi que les couronnes de laurier et les guirlandes semblables à celles qui ornaient les résidences païennes.

depicted on stamps, as are laurel wreaths and garlands such as those that festooned Pagan homes.

Of course, we must not forget the Yule log. Wood fires burning in the hearths of our forebears kept them from freezing to death during the long, cold winters that must have seemed near endless in the far Northern regions. Little wonder that burning the Yule log became a Pagan rite and an occasion for festivities. The simple Yule log from Pagan times has today become a veritable seasonal industry for many businesses.

Our Yule-theme postage stamps transcend religion and add another layer to our hobby. They enhance our collecting experience to help hold us together as a community of collectors, philatelic exhibitors and hobbyists. Some of us still believe in Santa Claus.

In this issue, we are pleased to continue publishing articles by individuals who have recently joined the ranks of *The Canadian Philatelist* contributors. Richard Weigand, who lives in the Kingston area, writes about Sir Oliver Mowat, a one-time Kingstonite, who was premier of Ontario from 1872 to '96.

Bisected stamps always have an interesting story behind them, usually dealing with a shortage of stamps at some post office. In his article dealing with the CAPEX bisects, Michael Peach looks at a somewhat different aspect of this collecting area. We are sure that you will find it enjoyable and educational.

George Arfken writes about one of his favourite philatelic specialties: registered mail. More specifically, he investigates the use of the 8-cent registered letter stamp.

With this issue, our Christmas edition, we would be remiss if we did not include a piece dealing with a seasonal theme. Nick R. Bocker looks at some of the gremlins that managed to bypass the quality control measures put in place by Canada Post for its Santa Letter-Writing stationery.

Season's Greetings to one and all! ✉

Bien sûr, il ne faut pas oublier la bûche de Noël. Les feux de bois dans les âtres de nos aïeux les empêchaient de mourir gelés durant les longs et froids hivers qui devaient sembler presque interminables dans les régions nordiques. Il n'est pas étonnant que la combustion de la bûche de Noël soit devenue un rite païen et une occasion de festivités. La simple bûche de l'époque païenne est aujourd'hui devenue une véritable industrie saisonnière pour de nombreuses entreprises.

Nos timbres-poste sur Noël transcendent la religion et ajoutent une dimension à notre passe-temps. Ils consolident notre expérience de collection et nous aident à nous soutenir les uns les autres en tant que communauté de collectionneurs, de philatélistes, d'exposants et d'amateurs d'un passe-temps. Certains parmi nous croient encore au père Noël.

Dans le présent numéro, nous sommes heureux de poursuivre la publication d'articles rédigés par des personnes qui se sont récemment jointes au *Philatéliste canadien*. Richard Weigand, qui habite dans la région de Kingston, nous parle de sir Oliver Mowat, un ancien résidant de Kingston, qui a été premier ministre de l'Ontario de 1872 à 1896.

Les timbres coupés ont toujours eu une histoire intéressante ayant habituellement trait à une pénurie de timbres dans un bureau de poste. Dans son article sur les timbres coupés présentés à CAPEX, Michael Peach examine un aspect quelque peu différent de ce domaine philatélique. Nous sommes convaincus que vous le trouverez agréable à lire et instructif.

Georges Arfken, quant à lui, se penche sur l'une de ses spécialités philatéliques préférées : le courrier recommandé. Précisément, il s'est intéressé à l'utilisation du timbre de huit cents pour les lettres recommandées.

Dans ce numéro, notre édition de Noël, nous serions vraiment négligents de ne pas publier un article de circonstance. C'est pourquoi Nick R. Bocker analyse les erreurs qui ont réussi à déjouer les mesures de contrôle de la qualité que Postes Canada a mises en place pour son programme de lettres au père Noël.

Bonnes fêtes à tous! ✉

NOTICE TO ALL PHILATELISTS

List your website on the Philatelic Websites pages found in this issue on pages 374-376.

Call Ernie Nyitrai at (905) 477-1511 or email enyitr618@rogers.com to see how.

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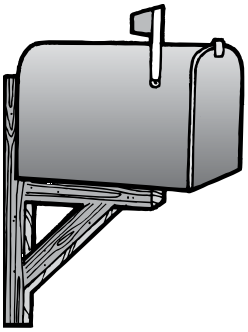

in the MAILBOX
dans la boîte aux LETTRES

Dear Editor

My vote for one of the 30 most deserving Canadian not on a stamp would go Jens Munk 1579-1627. Denmark and Norway have also forgotten him on a postage stamp.

In May 1619 he set sail with two ships and 64 men on orders from King Christian IV of Denmark to find the Northwest Passage. Due to various problems, they had to over-winter at the mouth of what is now known as the Churchill River (they named it Danish River). The crew used one of its ships for shelter but due to scurvy and other illnesses only Munk and two of his crew survived the winter. When ice broke up in June 1620, they managed to sail home in one of their ships.

Many television documentaries have been produced about the Churchill River and polar bears but not one has ever mentioned Munk by name.

I have a thematic interest in "Neptures Realm" Seafaring although I have not shown my exhibit on the topic for some time.

Regards and Good Stamping

Carlo #25574

Dear Editor

I read with interest the story on the royal patronage granted to the RPSC in the latest issue of the Canadian Philatelist. Your readers might be interested to know that the federal cabinet discussed the matter on March 20, 1959. The document can be accessed online at http://www.collectionscanada.gc.ca/databases/conclusions/001039-119.01-e.php?&sisn_id_nbr=18163&page_sequence_nbr=1&interval=20&&PHPSESSID=o6g51i135ph1kceiok2hv28001.

Sincerely,

Pascal LeBlond
Gestionnaire, Collections philatéliques / Manager, Philatelic Collections
Bibliothèque et Archives Canada / Library and Archives Canada

Dear Editor

This is in reply to John Hillson's interesting conjecture. The straight edge 5¢ RLS from plate 2 are discussed in considerable detail in *Canada's Registered Mail, 1802 - 1909*, pages 214 - 218 [1]. *Canada's Registered Mail* and Hillson agree that there were unperforated horizontal spaces on some of the 5¢ RLS sheets. *Canada's Registered Mail* assumes that one perforating wheel had broken and was removed or disabled. Hillson postulates that one perforating wheel was removed deliberately. Hillson's conjecture while interesting is essentially speculation. Pending any real evidence to support his speculation, we prefer to follow the scenario developed in *Canada's Registered Mail*.

[1] Harrison, Horace W., George B. Arfken, Harry W. Lussey, *Canada's Registered Mail, 1802 - 1909*, The Collectors' Club of Chicago, 2002.

Dear Editor,

The writer greatly enjoyed Steve Thornton's article, "The 30 Most Deserving People Not on Honoured by Canada Post" which appeared in the July/August 2009 issue.

Yes, all of these people are worthy of a stamp. I would also include all our former Governors General, French and British, especially John Buchan (Lord Tweedsmuir) and Field Marshall Alexander.

John W. Kirkpatrick
Mount Lehman, BC

Dear Editor

I am looking for an article dealing with Canada's very first stamps - a feature which would provide a newcomer to Canada's stamps with everything they need to know to start a collection.

Would you or a member of the Society be willing to write such a piece? I would happily pay for the writing and would also be able to promote the Society.

Many thanks for your time and help,

Sincerely,
Matthew Hill
Editor, Stamp & Coin Mart
31-32 Park Row
Leeds
LS1 5JD
T: 0113 200 2912
E: mhill@writersnews.co.uk
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NEW RDPs SIGN ROLL IN MANCHESTER

The Roll of Distinguished Philatelists was established in 1921 by the Philatelic Congress of Great Britain with the approval of His Majesty King George V who was the first Signatory. An invitation to sign the Roll is regarded as the world's pre-eminent philatelic honour. Not including the newly elected RDPs, 342 philatelists from 40 countries have achieved this distinction. There are at present 68 Signatories from 25 countries including 12 from Great Britain, 10 from the United States, and two from Canada.

At a recent meeting of the Board of Election, comprising Patrick Pearson, Chairman, Thomas Björinger, Christopher Harman, Wolfgang Hellrigl, Alan Huggins, Rolf-Dieter Jaretzky, Jane Moubray and Robert Odenweller, with Christopher King, Board Secretary in attendance, the members unanimously decided to ask George Barker FRPSL (United Kingdom), Dr Geoffrey Kellow FRPSL (Australia), Barbara Mueller FRPSL (USA) and John Sussex FRPSL (United Kingdom) to sign the Roll.

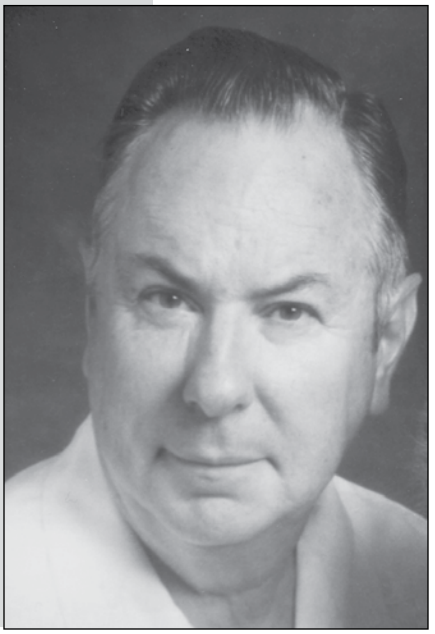
The Signing Ceremony was scheduled to take place on Friday 17th July in Manchester Town Hall during the 2009 Philatelic Congress of Great Britain.

Arfken inducted in APS Writers Unit hall of fame.

We are pleased to announce that long-time contributor to *The Canadian Philatelist* George Arfken, OTB, FRPSC, was recently inducted into the American Philatelic Society's Writers Unit 30 Hall of Fame.

The formal induction took place August 9, 2009 at the Writers Unit breakfast, at the APS Stampshow in Pittsburgh.

Making his home in Clearwater, Florida, George is a retired professor and the former Chairman of the Physics Department at Miami University in Ohio. He is one of the most prolific authors in the field of British North America philately.



Dr. Arfken has written or co-authored 10 books and more than 200 articles. As readers know, his primary interest is in the stamps and postal history of Canada prior to the establishment of the Universal Postal Union.

Among his many philatelic honours are the Royal Philatelic Society's Geldert Medal for best article in *The Canadian Philatelist*, the American Philatelic Society, John B. Luff award for distinguished philatelic research, 2001, and the U.S. Philatelic Classic Society Stanley Ashbrook Cup, 1993.

Cyprus Celebrates

The Cyprus Philatelic Society has 1279 membership. Given that the island nation has a population of only 630,000, the number of stamp collectors belonging to the national society is impressive. However, what is even more noteworthy is that 256 members are juniors.

Clearly, this bodes well for its future. Perhaps Canada can learn something from this tiny island nation.

To commemorate its 50th anniversary, Cyprus released a special miniature sheet on June 1, 2009.

Joint Issue

The Postal Administrations of Vanuatu and the Pitcairn Islands issued a joint miniature sheet on May 14, 2009 to commemorate their participation at the 23rd Asian International Stamp Exhibition, May 2009, in Hong Kong.

Featured on the sheet is the giant panda that once roamed over much of eastern and southern China, northern Vietnam and Myanmar. Today, there may be as few as 1,600 pandas in the wild, restricted to an area measuring less than 6,000 square kilometres in six separate mountain ranges in western China.

For more information about the souvenir sheet, contact the manager of the Vanuatu Post Philatelic Bureau at its Website www.vanuatupost.vu or e-mail: philatelic@vanuatupost.vu

Oversight

Our apologies for neglecting to credit the source publication, *PhilaJournal,* the official newsletter of the Greater Toronto Area Philatelic Alliance, of the article entitled Fifty Years a 'Royal', 1959-2009 by Charles J. G. Verge, FRPSC, appearing on pages 270-271 in the September/October 2009 issue.

NOTICE TO MEMBERS RE: ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING 2010

Please take note that the next Annual General Meeting of the members of The Royal Philatelic Society of Canada will be held at the St. Clair Centre of the Arts, 201 Riverside Drive W. in Windsor, Ontario, on Saturday, May 29, 2010 at 10:00 a.m., (Details are posted on the website.) for the purpose of:

receiving and considering the financial statements of the Society as of December 31, 2009 and the reports of the Executive members, the Directors and Duty Officers;

electing four executive positions* (president, vice-president, treasurer and secretary) and five directors

considering, and if approved, ratifying, sanctioning and confirming, all by-laws, contracts, acts and proceedings of the Board of Directors of the Society enacted, made, done, or taken place since the last Annual General Meeting of the members of the Society; and

transacting of such further and other business as may properly come before the meeting.

* For the first time in the history of the Society, the 2010 election for the above listed positions will be decided by secret ballots submitted by members of the Society. Details of this process will be announced in the next issue of *The Canadian Philatelist*. These new procedures are being established as a result of the new by-laws approved at the Annual General Meeting at The RPSC Convention in St. Catharines in June of 2009.

NOTICE TO MEMBERS RE: NOMINATIONS FOR BOARD POSITIONS

The Royal Philatelic Society of Canada invites nominations for the positions of Executive members and Directors of the Society, commencing in June 2010.

Five (5) Directors, President, Vice-president, Secretary and Treasurer will be elected at the Annual General Meeting to be held as announced above;

The nominations process will be as follows:

Nominations must be in writing, made and seconded by members in good standing of the Society and received by the Cairman, Nominating Committee c/o the National Office by January 1st 2010. Nomination Forms are available from the National Office.

Persons nominated must indicate consent to their nominations.

Persons nominated must submit a short biography of approximately 500 words and provide a head and shoulders, B&W photograph suitable for publishing, with their nomination papers. These will be published in the March/April issue of *The Canadian Philatelist*.

All nominations will be placed before the Nominations Committee who will prepare a slate of Directors and Executive members of those nominated, to ensure national representation based on the level of membership. The committee's list will then be placed on the ballot for distribution to the members for voting purposes. ✉

AVIS AUX MEMBRES - OBJET : ASSEMBLÉE GÉNÉRALE ANNUELLE DE 2010

Veuillez noter que la prochaine assemblée générale annuelle des membres de La Société royale de philatélie du Canada aura lieu au St. Clair Center of the Arts, 201 Riverside Drive, Windsor, Ontario, le samedi 29 mai 2010 à 10 heures (les détails sont affichés dans le site Web). La réunion aura pour but :

l'examen des états financiers de la société au 31 décembre 2009 et celui des rapports de l'exécutif, des directeurs et autres responsables;

la l'élection de quatre membres de l'exécutif* (président, vice-président, trésorier et secrétaire) et de cinq directeurs;

l'examen et, le cas échéant, la ratification, la sanction et la confirmation de toutes les procédures et de tous les règlements, contrats et actes du conseil d'administration, édictés, conclus ou entrés en vigueur depuis la dernière assemblée;

le traitement de tout autre sujet pertinent présenté à l'assemblée.

*Pour la première fois dans l'histoire de la société, l'élection de 2010 aux postes indiqués ci-dessus sera décidée par vote secret des membres. Les renseignements à ce sujet paraîtront dans le prochain numéro du *Philatéliste canadien*. Ces nouvelles procédures sont consécutives aux nouveaux règlements approuvés à l'assemblée générale annuelle du congrès de juin 2009 de La SRPC, tenu à St. Catharines.

AVIS AUX MEMBRES – OBJET : NOMINATIONS AU CONSEIL D'ADMINISTRATION

La Société royale de philatélie du Canada vous invite à soumettre des candidatures pour pourvoir les postes de membres de l'exécutif et de directeurs entrant en vigueur en juin 2010.

Cinq (5) directeurs, un président, un vice-président, un secrétaire et un trésorier seront élus à l'assemblée générale annuelle, comme il est indiqué plus haut.

Le processus de nomination se déroulera comme suit :

Les candidatures devront être présentées par écrit, soumises et appuyées par des membres en règle de la société. Elles devront parvenir au Président, Comité des candidatures a/s du Bureau national avant le 1er janvier 2010. Vous pouvez vous procurer un formulaire du Bureau national.

Les candidats proposés doivent exprimer leur consentement.

Ils doivent fournir avec leur mise en candidature une courte biographie d'environ 500 mots, ainsi qu'une photographie en noir et blanc de type passeport pouvant être imprimée. Ces renseignements seront publiés dans le numéro de mars-avril du *Philatéliste canadien*.

Toutes les candidatures seront présentées au comité des candidatures qui dressera une liste de directeurs et des membres de l'exécutif potentiels afin d'assurer une représentation nationale selon le nombre des membres. Des bulletins de vote seront créés à partir de la liste établie par le comité et ensuite, distribués aux membres pour qu'ils puissent voter. ✉

On Exhibits and Exhibiting

David Piercey, Chairman, Judges Accreditation Program

I am very pleased to announce that starting in the July 1, 2009 – June 30, 2010 exhibition year, Grand Award winners at our Canadian national shows will be eligible to compete in the American Philatelic Society's annual "Champion of Champions" (C of C) competition at StampShow, the summer APS show and convention.

This is something that has been occasionally discussed over at least the past 10-15 years or so, but had never previously been ratified by either society. Credit for these earlier conversations must go to Charles Verge, our former President (and previously Accreditation Program Chair), and Peter McCann, his counterpart in the APS, who were strong initial proponents of this idea. Events finally began to be resolved at The Royal/Royale in St. Catharines this year, when it was suggested by Tim Bartshe, the APS judge invited to join our Royal jury panel that, as times simply seemed much more opportune, it should once again be proposed for formal consideration by both societies.

Following our annual RPSC Board meeting and elections, I was able to secure board-voted approval for the concept, Tim similarly took the idea to the APS' Committee on Accreditation of National Exhibitions and Judges (CANEJ) and their chairman, Stephen Reinhard, took it to the APS Board meeting at the August StampShow this year as a formal recommendation from his committee. As both the RPSC Board and the APS Board have voted their approvals, the rest they say is history.

David Piercey

This is very exciting news for all our national exhibitors, and for the health of Canadian exhibiting in general. It simply provides an additional forum to showcase the very best of our Canadian exhibits, and expose these exhibits to a larger North American philatelic audience. We now get to go to the World Series, on equal footing with all other North American exhibitors. Our national Canadian shows will be effectively recognized as on par with the APS World Series of Philately qualifying shows, and each of our show's Grand Award winners will be invited to the annual C of C competition. Show committees simply need to ensure that I receive their complete Palmares, so that the APS can be duly informed and the invitations extended.

I should mention here that what we have now accomplished for our multi-frame exhibits already exists for our single frame and Youth exhibits. That is, for the past few years, the best single-frame exhibit (the single-frame grand award winner) at each of our national shows is eligible to compete in the single-frame Champion of Champions at the APS' winter convention, AmeriStamp Expo. (The exhibition year for one-frame exhibits is the calendar year; an exhibit winning a one-frame Grand can only compete at AmeriStamp Expo in the same calendar year as in which it was awarded the national Grand.) Similarly, and provided there are at least three youth entries, the best youth exhibit at each of our national shows receives an invitation to the annual youth Champion of

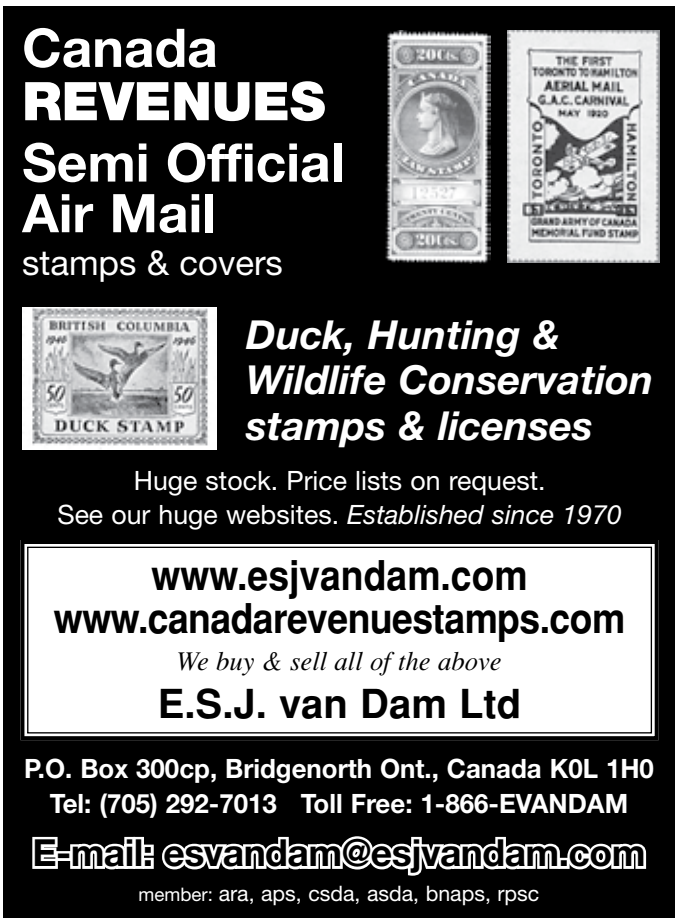
Champions. (One of our Youth exhibitors, Amber O'Reilly, actually won the Youth C of C two years ago.)

In terms of immediate logistics for our shows, this means that the national shows planned for Edmonton and Ottawa this coming season, plus ROYAL*2010*ROYALE in Windsor, will all be eligible to have their Grand Award winners invited to compete in next summer's StampShow in Richmond, Virginia. Any other national shows that may yet be reactivated in coming years in Halifax, Toronto or Vancouver, or anywhere else that seeks and receives RPSC approval, should also be eligible in the future.

While nothing mandates any individual's participation, it is hoped and expected that each Grand Award winner will indeed enter and attend. The success of our involvement at StampShow will be measured by our exhibits competing in the C of C. We already have some of our Canadian exhibitors entering exhibits in the normal StampShow competitions, so this should not be particularly difficult for the Grand Award winners either.

And, if you have not yet attended a StampShow awards banquet, it is quite an event. Every entry (around 30-35 depending on the number of WSP qualifying shows that year) is honored by the exhibitor receiving a medal to acknowledgement and applause on the stage at the banquet. There is just one C of C winner, selected by the show jury, and the award is a substantial piece of hardware and a souvenir that one can justifiably be proud of. Having been on one of these juries myself, I can relate the great care and attention given to determining which of the C of C exhibits merits being selected as the best in show that year, as all the exhibits are exceptional and deserving in their own rights.

Because we are venturing into new ground, exhibitors and show committees may need to make themselves more familiar with the APS' newly-revised Sixth Edition of the *Manual of Philatelic Judging*, which we in the RPSC generally follow. It is now available online at http://www.stamps.org/directories/JudgingManual.pdf . It is as informative for exhibitors as it is for judges, though the information on show organization should be considered mostly supplemental to what the RPSC distributes for national show organizing committees. Also note they have adopted a new "Universal Exhibit Evaluation Form" for all exhibits in all classes (except Youth), which we first developed and pioneered here in Canada. ✉



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A single passion, a single obsession

Alcock & Brown

By Richard Logan

The year 2009 marks the 90th Anniversary year of the first non-stop flight across the Atlantic Ocean in June 1919, by Britons John Alcock and Arthur Brown.

As I write these words, I'm sitting in a Boeing 767 – 300ER travelling across the Atlantic from Ottawa to England at a speed of 853 km per hour. Its design provides excellent fuel efficiency, operational flexibility, low noise levels and an all-digital flight deck. Our flying time is 6 hours 45 minutes. The heat of the cabin is controlled and the in-flight staff is eager to fulfill almost any request they are capable of. This scenario plays out almost every day in 2009.

In 1919, the only creatures that had flown over the Atlantic were birds and Lt. Commander Albert Read and his crew of five in the US Navy seaplane Navy Curtiss 4 – also called "the Nancy Boat" or "Nancy."

Albert Read's flight was not nonstop. He landed his seaplane several times on the trip and was guided by U.S. Navy ships stationed at strategic stops along the way. However, he definitely was the first to fly across the "pond" and he did not do it for money.

Money was the big incentive for pilots and aircraft manufacturers in the early 1900. Lord Northcliffe, owner of the London-based *Daily Mail* and Chairman of the Civil Aerial Transport Committee in England, began offering aviation prizes of various amounts in 1907. That year, A.V. Roe and W. Howard won 100 Pounds Sterling in a model aircraft competition. In 1909, 1,000 Pounds Sterling was awarded to Louis Bleriot for his crossing of the English Channel and in 1911 A. Beaumont won 10,000 Pounds Sterling for being the first pilot to fly around Britain. Then in 1913, the *Daily Mail* established a 10,000 Pound Sterling prize for the first Trans Atlantic flight – North America to Ireland or England in less than 72 hours; however, the competition was suspended during the years of World War I, 1914-1918.

Heathrow Statue

In May of 1919, two teams vied for the 10,000 Pound Sterling prize. One was the "Sopwith" Team, flying a two-seater biplane called *Atlantic* and piloted by Harry Hawker and Kenneth Mackenzie Grieve; the other, the *Martiside* Team of Frederick P. Raynham and William Morgan, flying a biplane called the *Raymor.*

The *Atlantic* took off from Mount Pearl, Newfoundland on May 18, 1919 and the *Raymor* was to follow two hours later. The *Raymor* never made it aloft from Quidi Vidi, Newfoundland and the plane was a total write-off. The *Atlantic* did a bit better. A little more than an hour into the flight, the radiator "clogged up" because the local water in Newfoundland contained heavy mineral content and sediment. Hawker and Grieve had to put down near a Danish freighter and they were rescued – so was the floating *Atlantic* a few days later.

Wanting to do the right thing, the *Daily Mail* awarded the *Atlantic* Team a 5,000 Pound Sterling consolation prize. To many, it did not seem fair.

On The Rock, two other teams were feverishly working to complete the assembly of their planes

and testing the equipment in preparation for the trip across the Atlantic and the prize money.

The Handley Page Team seemed to be in command. Headed by Admiral Mark Kerr, the Handley Page V/1500 *Berlin Bomber* was the biggest aircraft built by the Allies during WWI. It was considered very powerful since it was equipped with four Rolls Royce engines.

The team had watched and heard about the success of the NC – 4. They enjoyed the best airfield and the best accommodations for the *Berlin Bomber* and for a while, they had the only fuel on the island. The V/1500 had been tested many times in what was considered a "typical military approach." Kerr was not about to go after the prize until his aircraft was in prime condition and was awaiting delivery of a new radiator because the one they had kept "clogging up" for some reason.

Enter Captain John Alcock, Lieutenant Arthur Brown and the dark horse in the race, a modified WWI twin-engine bomber called the *Vickers Vimy.* The two men were comparable. Alcock was an extrovert and rough-looking while Brown was shy and smartly spruced. Both had served in the Royal Flying Corps during WWI. Both had their aircraft downed. Both had been prisoners of war. Both dreamed of winning the *Daily Mail* prize.

John Alcock had little flying experience, having been shot down and captured early in the war and Arthur Brown had been an observer, not a navigator while he was a POW in Germany. However, they both had a daring attitude.

How Alcock persuaded Vickers to enter the race and let him pilot the aircraft in March, 1919, is a mystery. Just about that time, Brown arrived at Vickers looking for a job and during the interview mentioned that he had planned a transatlantic flight route while he was a POW. He was offered the job as Alcock's navigator and the rest is history.

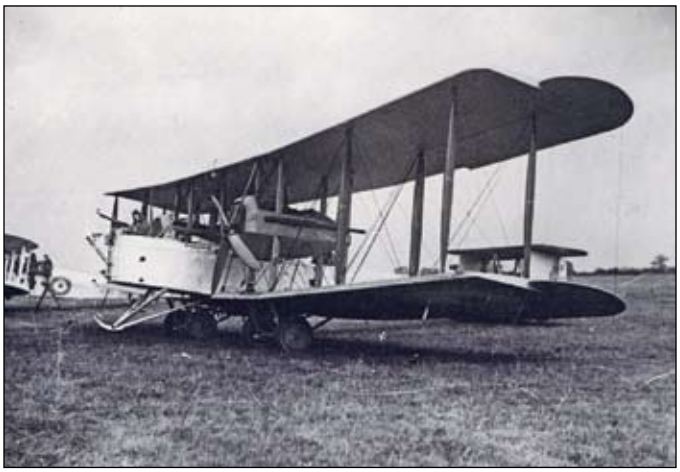
Alcock convinced the Metropolitan Vickers Company to adapt one of their *Vickers Vimy* airplanes, originally intended for wartime use, for a more peaceful occupation: a transatlantic flight. The twin-engine open cockpit bomber -- still the world's largest flying biplane – had a 70-foot wingspan and four-bladed 10-foot propellers. It stood over 15 feet high and weighed over six tonnes fully loaded on takeoff. It was built of wood, metal and fabric and was powered by two Rolls Royce Eagle V-12 engines. Extra fuel tanks were installed where it would have held bombs – fuel capacity 865 gallons – and the cockpit was widened so pilot and navigator could sit side by side rather than one behind the other. The engine could run for 100 hours before needing maintenance while other engines needed overhauling after only 30 hours of continuous use. The aircraft cost 3,000 Pound Sterling and had a range of 2440 miles.

The modified *Vickers Vimy* was built, tested, dismantled, crated and shipped to Newfoundland, arriving on May 13, 1919. The pieces were put together in 14 days with the help of a local engineer and given the minimum ground and air testing. While this was going on, Alcock had zeroed in on the heavy metal content and sediment in the local water and had the water filtered several times, boiled, then cooled so that the radiator would not clog.

Their main problem was the lack of a suitable airfield once the fuel problem caused by the heavily funded Handley Page Team was solved. The field problem was solved by the crash of the *Raymor*. The *Raymor* Team, now out of the race, lent their field – Lester's Field – to the *Vickers* team. However, before the field was usable, the location had to be cleared of rocks, a stone wall and some trees.

Even with a usable field and the plane in position, the *Vickers* Team could not take off because of near

Alcock (left), and Brown just before the flight.



The *Vickers Vimy*.

gale force winds and problems with contaminated fuel.

The *Vickers Vimy* might have started its epic trip on Friday, June 13th, 1919, had it not been for a cracked shock absorber and again, gale force winds.

Alcock and Brown taxied over the rough ground of Lester's Field, throttle wide open and engines at full power. At 1340 hours on June 14, 1919, the aircraft pointed into the west wind. At 1345 hours they were airborne, barely clearing the trees of the pine forest. Ahead were 1890 nautical miles of open sea.

During their almost 16 hour flight, Alcock and Brown encountered snow, fog, ice, turbulence and heavy clouds. They drifted off course when bad weather prevented Brown from taking sextant readings for long periods of time; they lost the use of both their radio and airspeed indicator; they nearly crashed into the ocean twice, when ice prevented the altimeter from working properly; and they suffered extreme cold when the batteries of their warming flight suits gave out. Their altitude varied from 8500′ to about 30′ and their average airspeed was 118.7 miles per hour.

In spite of their difficulties, mechanical failures and icy weather conditions, 15 hours and 57 minutes and 1890 miles after leaving Newfoundland, they sighted Ireland and Alcock set the plane down in a green field outside Clifden, County Galway. This turned out to be Derrygimla Moor, a well-known dangerous bog, not a field at all and the plane promptly nosed down into the mud and water, leaving the men trapped in their seats, held fast by their seat belts.

Once out of the bog, they were given a hero's welcome and endured a turbulent round of receptions, galas and banquets. At a huge public reception, they were awarded their 10,000 Pound Sterling prize cheque by non other than Winston Churchill, then British Secretary of State for War and Air, on behalf of the London *Daily Mail* and Lord Northcliffe. The two fliers insisted that the Vickers and Rolls Royce mechanics who had helped them should receive a 2,000 Pound Sterling share of the prize.

At a reception at the Royal Aero Club, Alcock presented the Vice President of the club with a small linen bag. It contained 197 letters and a parcel that Dr. John Alexander Robinson, Postmaster General of Newfoundland had entrusted to the fliers. These were then rushed to the nearest Post Office where they were franked and forwarded. The mail had made the long journey from Lester's Field to London in record time. Alcock and Brown had made the first transatlantic airmail delivery.

On June 21, 1919, they were knighted at Buckingham Palace by King George V. They left the palace as Sir John and Sir Arthur.

Sir Arthur Whitten Brown was married in October 1919, and he and Kay honeymooned in the United States, returning to work in electrical engineering and aviation. He trained pilots in navigation for the Royal Air Force throughout WWII. By 1948, Brown's health had deteriorated and he died on October 4, 1948 at the age of 62.

Sir John Alcock went back to being a test pilot for Brooklands. He agreed to fly a new *Vickers Viking* to Paris for the first post war aeronautical exhibition. Alcock was flying alone in bad weather and on December 18, 1919, at about 1300 hours, he crashed near Rouen at Cote d'Everard. Before British Army doctors could be summoned from Rouen, he died from his injuries.

Two memorials commemorating the transatlantic flight are found near the landing spot in County Galway, Ireland. The first is an isolated

The 1919 cover carried by Alcock & Brown on the first transatlantic flight. It is addressed to Alcock's sister in Manchester.

A collection of stamps produced to commemmorate the first transatlantic flight.

cairn south of Clifden around 500 feet from the spot where they landed. There is also a sculpture of an aircraft tail fin on Errislannan Hill two miles north of their landing spot, dedicated on the 40th Anniversary of their landing. A third monument marks the flight's starting point in Newfoundland. In addition, a striking memorial was erected at London's Heathrow Airport in 1954 to celebrate their flight. Their rebuilt aircraft can be seen in the London Science Museum in South Kensington, England.

American pilot Steve Fossett and co-pilot/navigator Mark Rebholz successfully recreated the historic 1919 transatlantic flight of Alcock and Brown, landing their replica of the *Vickers Vimy* biplane on the Connemara Golf Links in Clifden, Ireland, just after 1700 hours on July, 2005 from St. John's, Newfoundland. They flew at low altitude and at approximately 100 knots airspeed all through the night, navigating by sextant, compass and 1919 charts. The open cockpit biplane was almost the same as the original Vickers Vimy flown by Alcock and Brown; however, it had two Canadian Orenda V8 engines in place of the original pair of Rolls Royce Eagle V12's. ✉

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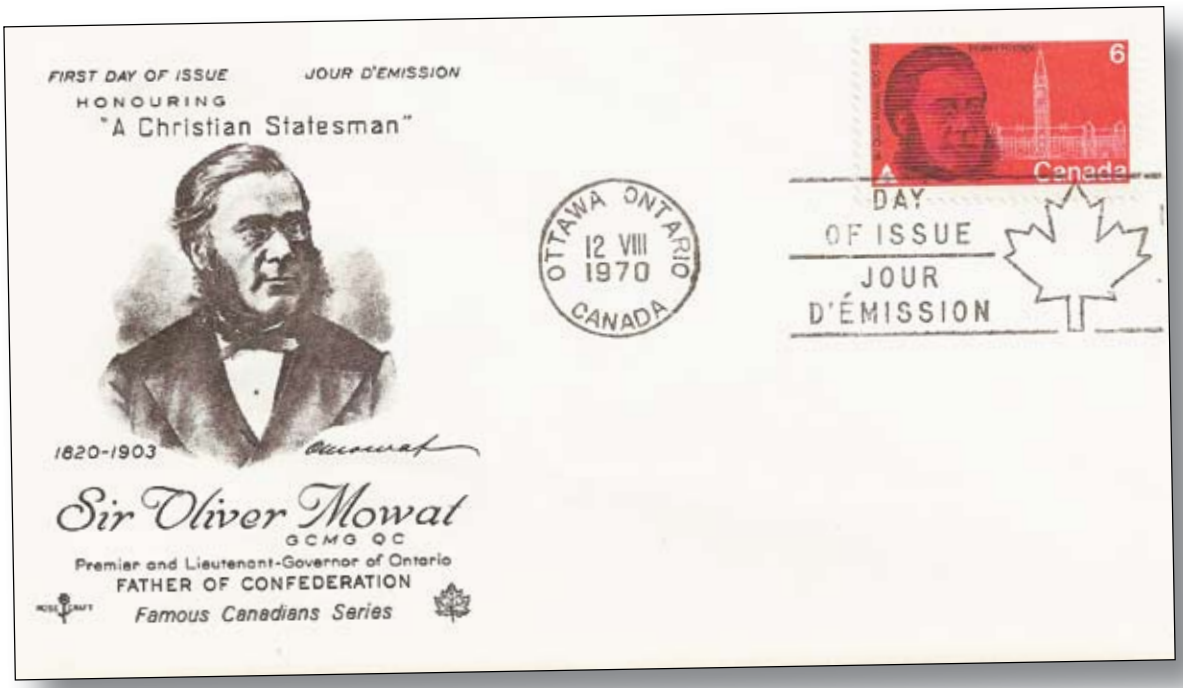
Sir Oliver Mowat

By Richard Weigand



Oliver Mowat was born in Kingston, Upper Canada to John Mowat and Helen Levack on 22 July, 1820. Before entering politics, Mowat trained as a lawyer. On January 27, 1836, Mowat, not yet sixteen years old, articled in the law office of John A. Macdonald and became his first articled law student. He was called to the bar November 5, 1841 and quickly became a successful equity lawyer in Toronto. In 1846, he married Jane Ewart, a daughter of John Ewart of Toronto. In 1856 Mowat was appointed Queen's Counsel.

As a youth, he had taken up arms with the royalists during the Upper Canada Rebellion of 1837, which suggested a conservative inclination in politics. However, he did not trust the politics of Macdonald, George-Etienne Cartier, or the other leaders of the Conservative Party and instead joined the Reformers.

He first entered politics as an alderman of the City of Toronto in 1857. From there, he became a member of the Legislative Assembly for South Ontario as a strong Reformer.

As a member of the Legislative Assembly of the Province of Canada, from 1858 to 1864, he was closely associated with George Brown and served as Provincial Secretary (1858) and Postmaster-General from 1863 to 1864 in the John Sandfield Macdonald administration of pre-Confederation government. He was also an avid supporter of "representation by population. " Together with Brown, he helped create what became the Ontario Liberal Party and the Liberal Party of Canada.

Mowat was a member of the Great Coalition government of 1864 and was a representative at that year's Quebec Conference where he helped work out the division of powers between the federal and provincial governments. Hw was an active participant in the Quebec Conference and is a Father of Confederation. Also in 1864, he was appointed to the judiciary as vice-chancellor of Ontario, a position he held until he was appointed premier on October 31, 1872.

As premier in the 1880s a series of disputes with the Dominion arose over Provincial boundaries, jurisdiction over liquor licenses, timber, mineral rights and other matters. These court battles were won by Mowat, resulting in a weakening of the power of the federal government in provincial matters. Mowat's battles with the federal government greatly decentralized Canada, giving the provinces far more power than Macdonald had intended. He also served as his own Attorney-General concur-

rently with his service as Premier and introduced reforms such as the secret ballot in elections and the extension of suffrage beyond property owners. He also introduced laws regulating liquor and created the municipal level of government.

His government was moderate and attempted to cut across divisions in the province between Catholics and Protestants as well as between country and city. He also oversaw the expansion of Ontario's boundaries and natural resources northward as well as the emergence of the province into the economic powerhouse of Canada.

In 1896 the leader of the opposition, Wilfrid Laurier, convinced Mowat to enter federal politics. It was thought that the combination of the French Canadian Laurier and the prestige of Sir Oliver Mowat in Ontario would be a winning ticket for the Liberal party. The slogan was "Laurier, Mowat and Victory". Victory was, indeed, won and on July 13, 1896, Mowat became Minister of Justice and, a few days later, a Senator.

In 1897 he was appointed Lieutenant Governor of Ontario and served in that capacity until his death in 1903.

Mowat was the great-great uncle of Canadian author Farley Mowat. Himself an author, Mowat wrote two small books in the field of Christian apologetics: *Christianity and Some of its Evidences* (1890), and *Christianity and Its Influences* (1898).

For a lifetime of public service, Mowat was knighted in 1892. He was also honoured with a high school named after him in Toronto. He is buried in Toronto's Mount Pleasant Cemetery.

Canada issued a stamp honouring Sir Oliver Mowat on August 12,1970. This stamp was printed by British American Bank Note Company, a total of 32.2 million stamps were issued with Perfs 12 x 12.5. The issue rate was 6c, domestic postage at that time. This stamp was designed by Ernst Roch and the portrait was engraved by George Gundersen.

Sir Oliver Mowat, GCMG (Order of St Michael and St George), Queen's Privy Council of Canada, Queen's Council (July 22, 1820 – 19 April 1903) was a Canadian politician and premier of Ontario from 1872 to 1896, making him the longest serving premier of that province and the 3rd longest in all of Canadian history. He is one of the Fathers of Confederation. ✉

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WARTIME *Memoirs*

By Andrew Hill

PART II

Philatelic items from the archives of Gerald Green – a Canadian in the U.S. Army 1942-46

Part I of **WARTIME MEMOIRS** can be found in the Sept/Oct '09 issue of *The Canadian Philatelist*

At about this time the small registered envelope from Gerald's parents, shown in Figure 6, began its journey from Ottawa. The original address is hidden by the label on the front, but is assumed to be the U.S. Army Postal Service in New York and may have been to the Army Post Office that served the 880th FAB. A manuscript "Fwd to Btry A, 111th FAB APO #29" has been applied, presumably in the knowledge that Gerald was transferred from the 880th FAB to the 111th FAB. However, as indicated above, by this time Gerald was in the 307th FAB. The "RETURNED TO WRITER. RETURNING TO U.S. LEFT NO FORWARDING ADDRESS" label is assumed to have been applied because the 111th FAB returned to the U.S. with the 29th Division in January 1946. The U.S. Army Postal Service in New York was probably aware of the imminent return of the 29th Division to the U.S. but may not have been aware of Gerald's transfer to the 78th Division. As a result, the label was applied and the letter was returned to the Dead Letter Office (DLO) in Ottawa. What was the process for retrieving letters from the DLO? Was the letter opened to find the address of the sender? Was notification sent to the sender that the letter had been returned? Was notification sent to the recipient that a letter was being held?

Figure 6 – Undelivered Registered Christmas mail.

The letter has postal backstamps for:
Ottawa, 20 Dec 45,
Toronto A.M.F Registration, 20 Dec 45 (blue),
US Postal Service New York, NY Reg'y Div, 21 Dec 45,
US Army Postal Service 413, 27 Dec 45 (red),
US Army Postal Service, New York, NY 28 Dec 45 (purple),
US Army Postal Service 413, 10 Jan 46 (red),
US Army Postal Service, 16 Jan 46,
US Army Postal Service, 19 Jan 46,
US Postal Service New York, NY Reg'y Div, 29 Jan 46,
Ottawa 31 Jan 46, Dead Letter Office No 3 Ottawa, 2 Feb 46 (purple rectangle),
plus two unreadable Canadian strikes.

The meanings of the "743 RE", "529" and "Z-1" manuscript markings on the front are unknown. The "3-31" on the back may refer to "31 March" – the date it was returned to sender or picked up from the DLO?

At the same time as this letter was bouncing around the US Army Postal service in New York, Gerald was engaged in occupation duties in Bremerhaven, having the misfortune to be scheduled for duty on both Christmas Day, missing out on Christmas dinner, and then a week later on New Year's Day.

Alex Herreborg, mother and aunt.

In compensation he was provided with a pass for a U.S. Army leave tour of Copenhagen, Denmark, in February 1946. While there he met a young man named Alex Herreborg, who invited Gerald home to meet his mother and aunt. These turned out to be two rather stately old ladies who were living in an apartment filled with antique furniture. There seemed no doubt that they were well connected as they had an autographed photograph of King Christian X on their coffee table. Alex himself, it seems, had been a member of the local resistance and had been heavily involved in the smuggling of Danish Jews across the Skagerrak to Sweden.

Gerald received a postcard from Alex shortly after he got back to Ottawa in May 1946 (see Figure 7). For some reason this was written entirely in Danish, which seemed a bit odd since Alex spoke fluent English and would have known that Gerald spoke no Danish.

The interesting thing about this postcard is the address, simply "Mr. Gerald Green, USA Army, Copenhagen" and the complete lack of postal markings, either Danish post office, U.S. Army Postal Service or Canada Post. It is somewhat of a miracle that this postcard was delivered at all and raises a number of questions. How did this postcard get out of Copenhagen without at least a Copenhagen postmark? How would the postcard have got into the U.S. Army Postal Service distribution system? Did the U.S. Army Postal Service have an office or drop box in Copenhagen that could have received this postcard directly without it entering the Danish postal system? Was there only one Gerald Green in the U.S. Army so that it could only have been forwarded, eventually, to the one in Ottawa? At the time that the postcard was mailed in February 1946 (from the manuscript) Gerald still had three months to go before returning to the USA. Why could not the U.S. Army Postal Service find him in Germany? Gerald cannot remember exactly how it arrived but, nevertheless, it was delivered to his parent's home address in Ottawa and may have arrived in a package with other forwarded mail.

Translation: Dear friends, Please allow me on behalf of my family to welcome you in our house and hope that you will get a small glimpse of how it is to be in a private home again. You are so warmly welcome with your families whenever you want to visit. Alex Herreborg.

Occupation duties provided plenty of opportunity to trade for, or otherwise acquire, souvenirs. Thanks to the law that forbade the public display of Nazi symbols, there was a lot of stuff hanging around that their owners were only too anxious to get rid of. Although he is not, and was not, a stamp collector, Gerald did manage to accumulate a collection of Nazi-era stamps and postcards, shown in Figures 8, 9 and 10, in exchange for that most useful of international currencies at the time - Lucky Strike cigarettes.

Figure 8 shows a complete set of Polish Occupation Official stamps issued in April 1940 (Scott NO1-15) on cover with datestamp "KRAKAU f 18.12.40 – 17". This cover, and the stamps shown in Figure 9, were obtained from a German bureaucrat who cut

Figure 7 - Postcard from Denmark.

Figure 8 – Polish Occupation Government Official cover.

off his name and address so that he would not be identified as an administrator in the German government in Poland.

Figure 9 shows a selection of stamps from the occupied countries in which this official worked, including Danzig, Germany, Bohemia & Moravia, Luxemburg, Poland, Ostland, and Ukraine. Reichkommissariat Ostland was the name for the Nazi civil administration of the occupied territories of Estonia, Latvia and Lithuania, eastern parts of Poland and western parts of Belarus, Ukraine and Russia.

Figure10 shows a selection of postcards with Nazi party and other patriotic German themes.

Gerald's time in the U.S. Army finally came to an end in May 1946 when he was shipped back to the USA for discharge and the resumption of civilian life in Ottawa.

It has been very interesting sorting through this archive and reading of Gerald's adventures in the U.S. Army in his memoirs. I hope to persuade him to publish them one day. ✉

Danzig Free State - Sc. 234-7 Stamp day 1939.

Bohemia and Moravia - Sc. B14 in aid of German Red Cross, Sc. B18 Hitler's 54th birthday and Sc. B23 3rd anniversary of protectorate.

Poland – Sc. NB 28-32 3rd anniversary of National Socialist Party in Poland.

Germany - Sc. 492-3 Unification of Danzig with the Reich.

Russia Occupation Ukraine – Sc. N29-36, N39-48 part set.

Russia Occupation Ostland – Sc. N9-14, N17-20, N22, N24-8 part set

Figure 9 - A sampling of stamps from German Occupied Countries and Territories.

Figure 10 – German Postcards.

The 8¢ *REGISTERED LETTER STAMP*

By George B. Arfken, FRPSC

With the goal of identifying registered letters more clearly, Canada issued three registered letter stamps. There were no dates of issue. We list the earliest dated use on cover [1]. An orange 2¢ registered letter stamp (RLS) to pay the 2¢ registry fee on domestic letters appeared on December 15, 1875. A green 5¢ RLS to pay the 5¢ registry fee on letters to the United States and on domestic parcel post appeared on January 12, 1876. Finally, a blue 8¢ RLS to pay the 8¢ registry fee on letters to the United Kingdom appeared on March 2, 1876. The blue 8¢ RLS, enlarged, is shown in Figure 1.

Figure 1. The 8¢ registered letter stamp.

The 8¢ RLS was printed from a plate of 50, a 5 x 10 array. The only surviving full sheet is shown in Figure 2. The 8¢ RLS was printed in a rather limited range of blues. There were two printings, one of 100,000 stamps and a second of 25,000. As stated in [1, 221], Harrison, Arfken and Lussey were "not able to establish any correlation of colour with the two printings."

Figure 2. The unique full sheet of the 8¢ registered letter stamp. There are the counters, EIGHT and 8, also four British American Bank Note Co. Montreal imprints. Courtesy of the Brigham Collection.

Figure 3. An imperforate block of 8, printer's waste, positions 16-17 / 31-32. The left imprint with its frame lines is clearly shown. Courtesy of Firby Auctions.

All of the regularly issued 8¢ RLS were perforated 11.9 x 11.9 (Kiusalas 66 x 66). Unlike the Small Queens and the 5¢ RLS, no imperforate 8¢ RLS were released. However, in 1998 an imperforate block of 17 appeared. This block was immediately recognized as printer's waste, cancelled by the printer. Harrison offered a possible scenario for this block [1, 222]. Firby separated the irregular block of 17 into five smaller pieces and offered them in his October 15, 1998 sale. Figure 3 shows a block of 8 from this sale.

An unusual feature of this block of 17 was the appearance of a sewing machine perforation. This is shown in Figure 4.

The 8¢ RLS was issued to pay a registry fee. It was never authorized to pay regular postage and was never valid for paying regular postage. The strange

Figure 4. A single of the printer's waste showing a sewing machine perforation along the bottom edge, position 36. Courtesy of Firby Auctions.

Figure 5. Posted in Hamilton, August 8, 1876, and addressed to Paris, France. The 8¢ RLS was recognized as NOT valid for postage and the cover stamped INSUFFICIENTLY PAID. The Allan packet rate to France was 10¢ for ½ oz. So, not counting the RLS, the cover was 6¢ short paid. The cover was carried by the *Allan Sardinian* out of Quebec, August 12 [2, 358]. There is a London AU 21 1876 backstamp and a Calais 22 AOUT 76 transit stamp. The blue 30 was a British claim for 30 centimes or 6d. The black 9 was a French due mark: 9 decimes or 18¢. Courtesy of Firby Auctions.

cover of Figure 5 was an attempt to have the 8¢ RLS pay postage on an 1876 letter to France.

Figure 6 illustrates the intended and proper use of the 8¢ RLS, paying the 8¢ registry on covers to the U.K. Table 36 of Canada's Registered Mail [1, 295] lists just 16 covers with the 8¢ RLS paying the 8¢ registration during the two years (1876 and 1877) when (1) the 8¢ RLS was available and (2) the registry fee was 8¢. The cover of Figure 6 is No. 2 on this table.

Figure 7 shows a second of the 16 select 8¢ RLS covers. This cover has a red crown REGISTERED, a faint red straight line REGISTERED and a messy black marking.

Figure 6. This was the intended use of the 8¢ RLS. Posted in Ottawa, April 21, 1876, and addressed to Manchester, England. The 8¢ RLS paid the 8¢ registration while the 5¢ Small Queen paid the 5¢ preferred rate. The cover was carried by the *Allan Sarmatian* out of Portland, April 22 [2, 357]. Courtesy of Firby Auctions.

Figure 7. The intended use of the 8¢ RLS. Posted in Galt, November 9, 1876, and addressed to Canoby, Scotland. As in Figure 6, the 8¢ RLS paid the 8¢ registration while the 5¢ Small Queen paid the 5¢ preferred rate. This cover was carried out of Quebec by the *Allan Circassian*, November 11 [2, 358]. Courtesy of Firby Auctions.

On January 1, 1878 the registry fee on letters to the U.K. dropped from 8¢ to 5¢. So, in 1878 what could you do with an 8¢ RLS? The registry fee was still high for letters to other overseas countries. One registered cover to Germany is known [1, 309]. It carried one 8¢ RLS and should have had a second one. Within the British Empire, letters to Australia, New Zealand, Cape of Good Hope and Natal all called for high registry fees. Finally, if you weren't sending a registered letter to one of these countries, the 8¢ RLS could be used legally to pay a 5¢ or 2¢ registry fee as shown in Figure 8.

As there are only 16 8¢ RLS covers properly used during the required period, 1876 - 1877, these covers are scarce enough so that a fine cover of these 16 will bring over $10,000 at auction. Some people are tempted to add an 8¢ RLS to a registered cover to Britain that had the registry paid in cash. Figure 9 shows an example. A potential buyer submitted the cover to the V.G. Greene Foundation to be expertised. Noting the red straight line REGISTERED

Figure 8. A 3¢ overpayment. The 8¢ RLS, whether used deliberately or by accident, was valid for paying the 5¢ registry fee. The cover was mailed from Montague Bridge, P.E.I., July 9, 1878, and addressed to Scotland. This was almost the only legal postal use of the 8¢ RLS in 1878. Courtesy of Firby Auctions.

Figure 9. The Greene Foundation believed that this cover went as a registered cover from Victoria, B.C., January 12, 1876, with the 8¢ registration paid in cash and that the 8¢ RLS was added later. Courtesy of the Vincent Graves Greene Philatelic Research Foundation.

and the red oval LONDON REGISTERED, the Foundation concluded that the cover had been registered BUT that the 8¢ RLS had been added later. The Foundation issued a "bad" certificate, bad meaning that the cover was not a genuine 8¢ RLS cover. The Chairman of the Foundation wrote to the author: "We did not believe the 8¢ RLS was contemporary to the cover." ✉

Endnotes

[1] *Canada's Registered Mail, 1802 - 1909*, Harrison, Arfken and Lussey, Collectors' Club of Chicago, Chicago, 2002.

[2] *Atlantic Mails*, J.C. Arnell, The National Postal Museum, Ottawa, 1980.

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CAPEX*78 Bisects

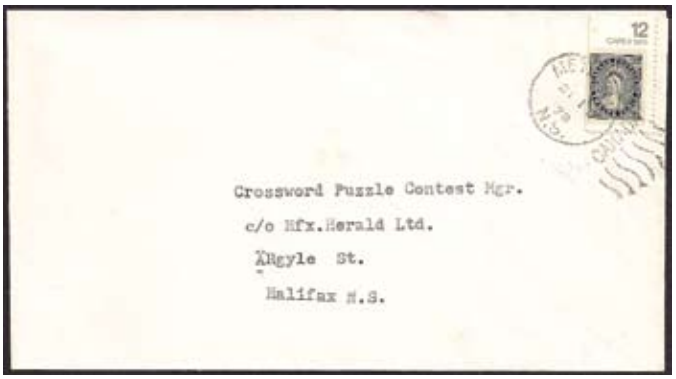
Michael Peach

CAPEX '78, the Canadian International Stamp Exhibition was held in Toronto, 9 - 18 June. To commemorate this event Canada Post issued a series of stamps, 12¢ on 18 January, followed on 10 June by 14¢, 30¢ and $1.25 stamps, as well as a souvenir sheet with the three latter values. The first class inland letter rate had increased from 12¢ to 14¢ on 1 April 1978. All the designs had two classic pence value stamps of the Province of Canada reproduced in smaller format, side by side on each of the stamps. The 12¢ had two black 12 pence Queen Victoria stamps, the 14¢ two blue 10 pence Jacques Cartier, the 30¢ two rose ½ pence Queen Victoria and the $1.25 two slate grey 6 pence Prince Albert (see illustrations). All the stamps had narrow tagging bands on each side, except the $1.25 stamp from the souvenir sheet.

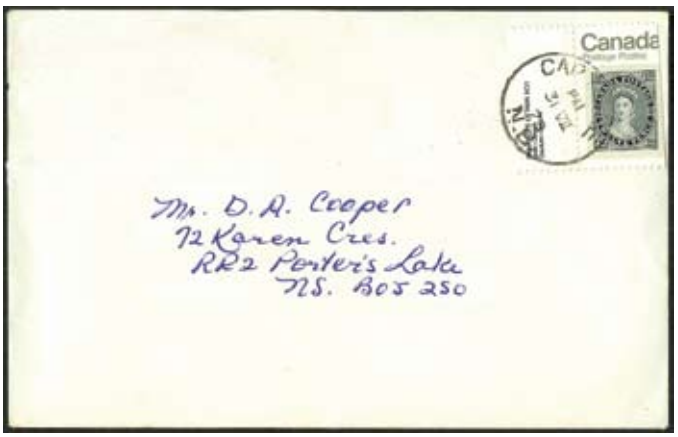
In the collection of the late Dave Cooper, there was a series of CAPEX bisects on cover, mainly the 14¢, mailed from various points during the summer of 1978. The stamps can be bisected either diagonally, top right to bottom left, or top left to bottom right, or vertically. None of the stamps were bisected horizontally. The indicated value is only totally visible on the upper portion of the stamp bisected top left to bottom right, or the right side of the vertical bisect. However, most of one band and a bit of the other are visible on all the diagonal bisects, whereas only one band is visible on the vertical bisects.

Above: Minisheet

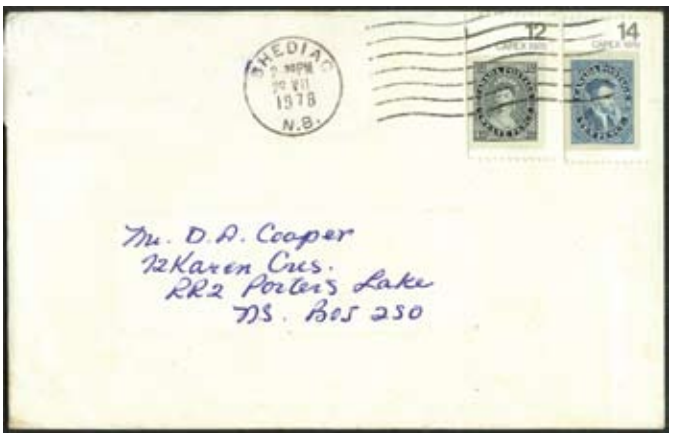
Right: Twelve cent stamp



Cover 1 Vertical bisect of 12¢ stamp.



Cover 2 Vertical bisect of 12¢ stamp.



Cover 3 Combination of 12¢and 14¢ vertical bisects.

Cover 4 Diagonal bisect of 12¢ stamp.

Cover 5 Diagonal bisect of 14¢ stamp.

Cover 6 Diagonal bisect of 14¢ stamp, charged 28¢ postage due.

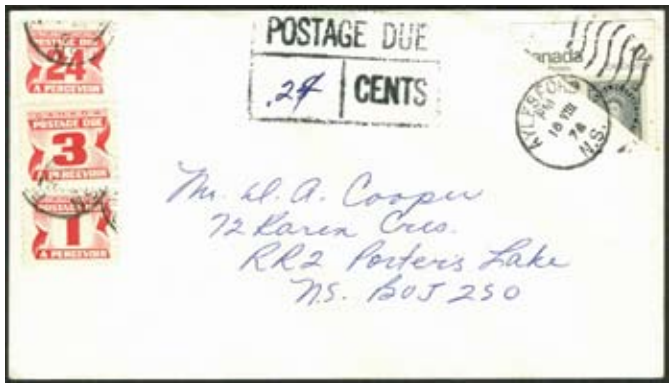
Cover 7 Diagonal bisect of 14¢ stamp, charged 34¢ postage due.

Several of the bisects passed through the system without penalty, although many were charged postage due, 28¢. As I have no count of the total number of covers mailed, I cannot ascertain the percentage that passed undetected.

Vertical bisects have the appearance of a single stamp. The first cover, cover 1, has the right half of a 12¢ vertical bisect, showing the12¢ value, and was mailed from Meteghan, N.S., 21 I 78, when the domestic rate was 12¢. Cover 2 with a bisect of the12¢ stamp passed undetected through the post. It is postmarked Cap Pele, N.B. 31 VII 78. When two vertical bisects are combined the result has the appearance of one of the original stamps, with two tagging bands. Cover 3 has the right halves of the 12¢ and 14¢ stamps. It has a Shediac, N.B. machine cancellation 29 VII 78. There are no single or combined vertical bisects in the collection that were charged postage due.

The diagonal bisects are easier to detect visually and some passed undetected. Cover 4 has a 12¢ bisect, not showing the 12¢, which was cancelled at Magnetic Hill, N.B., 78 31 VII, and cover 5 has a 14¢ bisect showing the 14¢, and a machine cancellation St. Stephen, N.B., AUG 12 1978. Many of these bisects were charged post-

Cover 8 Diagonal bisect of 14¢ stamp, charged $1.36 postage due.



Cover 9 Diagonal bisect of 12¢ stamp, charged 28¢ postage due.

age due. Cover 6 with a 14¢ bisect, mailed from Berwick, N.S., 18 VIII 1978, was charged 28¢ postage due. Cover 7 with a 14¢ bisect mailed from Ridgeway, ONT, 13 VII 78 was erroneously charged 34¢ postage due. Cover 8, also with a 14¢ bisect, from Crystal Beach, ONT, 16 VII 78, was charged T 34¢, while the postage due stamps total $1.36, and are postmarked Porters Lake, N.S., 26 VII 78. Why? A 12¢ bisect on cover 9 from Aylesford, N.S., 18 VIII 78, was correctly charged 28¢ postage due.

Two different diagonally bisected stamps can be recombined to give the appearance of a complete stamp. Cover 10, which has a diagonal bisect of the12¢ and 14¢, appearing to be a complete stamp, was not charged postage due. It was mailed from Scoudouc, N.B., on 31 VII 78.

Cover 11, which has two different diagonal bisects of the 14¢, arranged with the sides touching, and was charged 34¢ postage due at Porters Lake on 6 X 79. The domestic rate had been increased to 17¢ on 1 April 1979, so the postage due was correctly charged at 34¢. ✉

Cover 10 Diagonal bisects of the 12 and 14¢ stamps.

Cover 11 Two diagonal bisects of the 14c stamp, charged 34¢ postage due.

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SANTA LETTERS:

Errors, Misprints and Miscuts

LETTRES DU PÈRE NOËL:

Erreurs de typographie et de coupe

By/par Nick R. Bocker

Printing and perforation errors, paper flaws and folds are all grist for the mill in stamp collecting. For that reason, it should not be surprising that postal history and ephemera collectors are on the lookout for errors, scarce though they may be, on Canada Post's Santa Letter-Writing Program stationery.

Although Santa is perceived as omniscient and faultless, the same cannot be said of his helpers responsible for producing the letters that he sends to youngsters who write to him each year. According to Guinness World Records, Canada Post sent out more than 1.4 million letters in 2008 as part of its Santa Letter-Writing Program. Since Canada Post took the Letter-Writing Program national in 1982, Santa has received more than 17 million letters at his H0H 0H0 North Pole Workshop address.

Given that astonishing number of letters, it should come as no surprise that a few gremlins should have penetrated Santa's strict quality control measures.

For example, looking at the letters used in the first year of the national program, we note some variations: some letters are dated "Christmas 1982"; others are not. (Figure 1) There appears to be no obvious reason for the missing date and the word "Christmas" on some of these letters other than that the printer simply overlooked adding them. However, this is only a guess. Another explanation may be that Canada Post had intended using the undated version in subsequent years but then changed its mind. We know, for instance, that it introduced a new letter design for the 1983 sea-

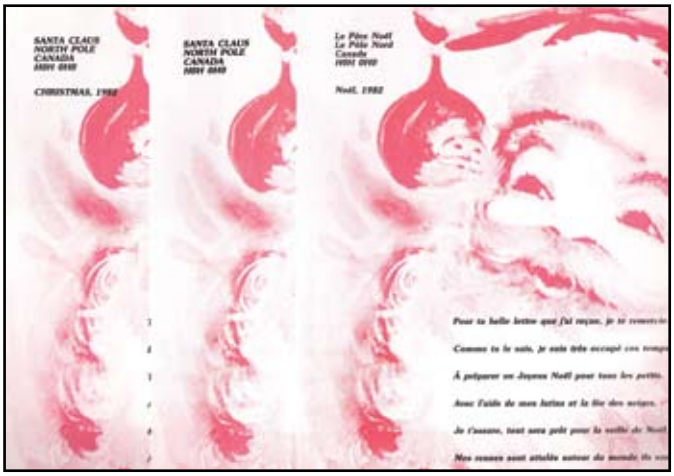


Figure 1.

Les erreurs de perforation et d'impression, les défauts dans le papier et les plissures apportent de l'eau au moulin de la philatélie. Dès lors, on ne s'étonnera pas que les collectionneurs qui s'intéressent à l'histoire postale et aux curiosités soient à l'affût des erreurs, aussi rares soient-elles, sur les articles de papeterie du programme de lettres au père Noël de Postes Canada.

Bien que le père Noël soit perçu comme omniscient et parfait, on ne peut pas en dire autant des aides responsables de la rédaction des lettres qu'il envoie aux jeunes qui lui écrivent chaque année. Selon *Le Livre Guinness des records,* Postes Canada a expédié plus de 1,4 million de lettres en 2008 dans le cadre de son programme de lettres au père Noël. Depuis que Postes Canada a pris en main ce programme national, en 1982, le père Noël a reçu plus de 17 millions de lettres à son atelier du pôle Nord, à l'adresse, H0H 0H0 Pôle Nord.

Étant donné ce nombre impressionnant de lettres, nous ne devrions pas être surpris que quelques bévues aient échappé aux mesures strictes de contrôle de la qualité du père Noël.

Par exemple, lorsque nous examinons les lettres écrites lors de la première année du programme, nous remarquons quelques variantes : certaines sont datées, « Noël 1982 », d'autres non. (Figure 1) Il ne semble pas y avoir de raisons évidentes à l'absence de la date et du mot « Noël » sur ces lettres, outre un oubli de la part de l'imprimeur. Il ne s'agit toutefois que d'une supposition. Une autre explication pourrait être que Postes Canada avait l'intention d'utiliser ces lettres non datées ultérieurement, mais a changé d'idée. Par

son. We should note that all known French-version letters show "Noël 1982."

In all fairness to Santa's elves responsible for the production of the enormous quantities of stationery, we must reiterate that printing errors are rare on the Santa stationery. Paper folds are even scarcer. The printer must obviously have stringent checks in place. However, paper folds do occur. An example comes on one of the English letters from 1987. The fold occurs at the bottom right corner of the letter sheet.

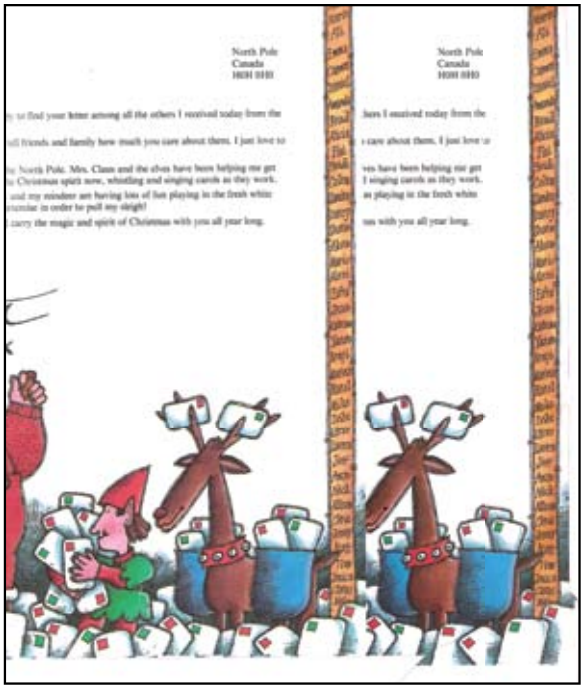


Figure 2.

Normal Santa letters measure 8½ by 11 inches, a standard letterhead size. Nevertheless, when the fold on this letter is opened, the measurement across the bottom of the sheet is 1/8 of an inch wider than the usual size; from top to bottom, it measures 11¾ inches, or three-quarters of an inch longer than the normal sheet. (Figure 2)

What is more interesting is that the letter's artwork extends into this adjacent area, suggesting that these letters are printed on paper stock that is larger than the standard 8½ by 11 inches and are then trimmed to the standard letter size after they are printed.

Occasionally a good-natured elf at Canada Post wants to do something special for the kids who write Santa rather than simply mail out one of the standard, pre-printed letters. These locally produced letters are easily spotted by their typeface that invariably differs from that on letters that Canada Post has professionally printed. Sometimes these local let-

From the desk of Santa

Hello Little One,

The mailroom elves brought in this morning's mail and your letter was on top. I knew right away that it was yours because when I was going over this year's list of good boys and girls, your name, like your letter, shone brightly.

Santa and the toy shop elves have been busy since last Christmas working on all kinds of nice and shiny new toys and games. Just this week, the tiniest of my elves got chased around the workshop by a new toy robot. All the elves chuckled to see him scamper out of the robot's way, but ever more so when they saw Rudolph's big red nose guiding the toy from behind a wall of giant candy canes.

This is my favorite time of year. Mrs. Claus, who is usually very careful about what Santa eats, bakes delicious cookies, cakes and pies for me and the elves because she knows we need to keep our energy levels up. The reindeer, too, know Christmas is coming. Their silver antlers shine in the moon light as they turn their heads towards the North Star. From my desk at the back of the workshop, I can hear them whisper to each other just how impatient they are to take Santa up into the sky with his sleigh for our magical Christmas Eve journey around the world.

On Christmas Eve, don't forget to go to bed when you are told, but not before taking a look toward the sky - you just may catch a glimpse of us heading out on our journey! And when you wake up the next morning, the magic of Christmas will be all around!

I must go now. Mrs. Choral-Meister has come to get me for the weekly elf and reindeer carol practice. I'm afraid they have decided I should sing a verse all by myself, even though Mrs. Claus assured them that my voice is better left to singing in the shower! Please write again next year, we all love to receive your letters and I especially enjoy reading and answering each one.

Lots of love!

Santa

Figure 3.

exemple, nous savons qu'un nouveau modèle de lettre a été conçu pour 1983. Il est cependant à noter que toutes les versions françaises connues portent l'inscription « Noël 1982 ».

Afin de rendre justices aux lutins du père Noël responsables de cette énorme correspondance, nous devons répéter que les erreurs d'impression sont rares sur les articles de papeterie du père Noël. Les plissures sont encore plus rares. De toute évidence, l'imprimeur procède à une vérification rigoureuse. Néanmoins, ce genre d'erreur arrive parfois. Par exemple, l'une des lettres de 1987 en anglais a un pli dans le coin inférieur droit.

Habituellement, les lettres du père Noël mesurent 21,6 par 27,9 cm, soit la dimension standard. Quoi qu'il en soit, lorsque nous déplions la feuille, nous constatons qu'elle est plus large de 0,38 cm qu'une feuille normale et que sa hauteur est de 29,84 cm, soit presque deux centimètres de plus que la feuille standard. (Figure 2)

Ce qui est encore plus intéressant, c'est que l'illustration se prolonge dans la partie additionnelle et nous fait penser que ces lettres ont été imprimées sur du papier plus grand que 21,6 par 27,9 et ensuite, taillées au format lettre.

Occasionnellement, un bon petit lutin souhaite faire quelque chose de spécial pour les enfants qui écrivent au père Noël plutôt que de leur répondre sur le papier à lettres ordinaire déjà imprimé. Ces lettres produites localement sont faciles à repérer, car les caractères diffèrent invariablement de ceux des lettres que Postes Canada fait imprimer par des professionnels. On y

ters contain typing mistakes and other errors.

For instance, one local letter from 1998 contains three typographical errors, not counting several punctuation errors. Luckily, these letters go to children too young to spot these careless mistakes. How their parents perceive them is another matter.

Another example of a locally produced letter comes from a post office in eastern Ontario. A letter-writing elf there must have run out of stock of the official Santa letters as the ones that were sent to youngsters in 2007 are obvious retyped versions. This particular letter contains numerous "typos." For example, the word "even" is incorrectly transcribed as "ever" and the correctly spelled "moonlight" in the original letter is retyped as "moon light." Moreover, the correct use of single exclamation marks did not satisfy this elf, who apparently felt that double exclamation marks were better than single ones. (Figure 3)

However, to balance the slip-ups on these locally produced letters, it is only fair to point out that a professionally written letter by elves ensconced in Canada Post's headquarters in Ottawa reflects the fallibilities of humans. For instance, in one of its French-version letters a grammatical error not caught by proofreaders, the incorrect use of "vécues" instead of the correct "vécus," resulted in the recall of these letters after they had been distributed to local post offices across the country. (Figure 4) It is not known how many, if any, of these recalled letters were actually mailed out to children.

Covers too are not immune from the odd printing slip-up. If we compare the two corner card illustrations and permit boxes shown in Figure 5 we note that the envelope on the left has the corner card illustration and permit box in the usual areas, about a quarter of an inch from the top of the envelope. The cover on the right has these same imprints shifted upwards so that the moon crescent and one of the stars on the corner card illustration extend

Bonjour à toi,

Merci beaucoup pour ta lettre. Elle m'a accordé un petit moment de répit, car nous sommes fort occupés ici, à l'atelier du père Noël !

D'après ta lettre, je comprends que tu attends les vacances avec autant d'impatience que nous ! Plus les lutins chargent mon traîneau, plus je m'excite et plus mes rennes sont impatients de prendre le départ pour notre grande tournée. Mais ils vont devoir patienter encore quelques nuits ! HO HO HO !

Et comme cette nuit est magique ! Le petit renne au nez rouge et moi voyageons aux quatre coins du monde, en nous arrêtant à toutes les maisons où habitent des enfants. Nous apercevons bien des merveilles en cours de route. Nous sommes impressionnés par la beauté de notre planète et nous nous rendons compte à quel point il est important que nous en prenions tous grand soin.

Lorsque j'aurai terminé ma tournée, la mère Noël, les lutins et moi échangerons nos vœux pour les Fêtes, nous partagerons les moments spéciaux et amusants que nous avons vécues lors de notre voyage et de la dernière année, puis nous prendrons un repos bien mérité. Mais, pour l'instant, je dois vérifier de nouveau ma liste, me rendre à l'atelier et inspecter mon traîneau une dernière fois.

Salue bien tous tes amis pour moi. N'oublie pas de m'écrire l'an prochain !

Ton ami,
Père Noël

Figure 4.

trouve parfois des coquilles et d'autres erreurs.

Par exemple, une lettre datée de 1998 comporte trois erreurs typographiques, sans compter les erreurs de ponctuation. Heureusement, ces lettres sont destinées à des enfants trop jeunes pour tenir compte de telles fautes d'inattention; mais ce qu'en pensent leurs parents est une tout autre histoire.

Un autre exemple de lettre produite dans un bureau de poste nous vient de l'est de l'Ontario. Là-bas, un lutin a sans doute manqué de lettres officielles, car celles que les enfants ont reçues en 2007 sont de toute évidence des reproductions. En effet, ces lettres contiennent un grand nombre de coquilles. Par exemple, le mot « even » a été erronément retranscrit « ever » et le mot « moonlight », écrit sans faute dans l'original, est devenu « moon light ». En outre, l'usage d'un seul point d'exclamation ne satisfaisait pas ce lutin qui, apparemment, croyait qu'il valait mieux en mettre deux. (Figure 3)

Cependant, il serait injuste de laisser croire que les lettres des bureaux de poste locaux sont les seules à contenir des erreurs; en effet, même les lettres rédigées de façon professionnelle par des lutins bien installés dans les locaux de Postes Canada n'échappent pas à l'imperfection humaine. À titre d'exemple, une erreur grammaticale dans l'une des versions françaises a échappé aux réviseurs; « vécues » aurait dû s'écrire « vécus ». Il a donc fallu retirer toutes ces lettres des bureaux de poste où elles avaient déjà été distribuées. (Figure 4) Nous ignorons si certaines d'entre elles ont été envoyées aux enfants, et, le cas échéant, combien.

Les enveloppes non plus ne sont pas à l'abri des erreurs d'impression. Si nous comparons les illustrations et l'affranchissement des deux enveloppes de la figure 5, nous constatons que, sur celle de gauche, ces deux éléments se trouvent à l'endroit habituel à environ 0,63 cm du haut de l'enveloppe. Mais sur celle de droite, ils sont déplacés vers le haut : le croissant de lune et une des étoiles du coin se prolongent sur le rabat de l'enveloppe, et la zone d'affranchissement est elle aussi rehaussée.

into the envelope's flap. The placement of the permit box is likewise shifted upwards.

Figure 5.

Because people and Santa's letter-writing elves are fallible, we can take comfort in knowing that there is someone like Santa who is without fault. Not only is he faultless, he is kind and non-judgemental. It is no wonder that children by the millions from around the world write to him each year expressing their most cherished wishes.

As a reflection of the esteem in which Santa is held by Canadians and, indeed, by many people around the globe, Canada Post has assigned his North Pole Workshop a unique postal code. It is the only address in Canada that enjoys this distinction. A letter addressed to the jolly old elf at the North Pole, H0H 0H0, Canada, will ensure that every child writing him will receive a reply. ✉

Les personnes et les lutins qui écrivent des lettres pour le père Noël sont faillibles, mais nous pouvons nous rassurer en pensant qu'il existe quelqu'un, le père Noël, qui lui, ne l'est pas. Il est non seulement parfait, mais aussi gentil et ne juge personne. Il n'est donc pas étonnant que les enfants de partout dans le monde lui écrivent par millions afin de lui exprimer leurs souhaits les plus chers.

Afin de témoigner de l'estime que les Canadiens et beaucoup de gens de par le monde portent au père Noël, Postes Canada a attribué un code postal unique à son atelier du pôle Nord. Il s'agit de la seule adresse au Canada à jouir d'un tel privilège. Chaque lettre adressée par un enfant à ce bon vieux papa Noël, à l'adresse, Pôle Nord, H0H 0H0 recevra immanquablement une réponse. ✉

PITNEY-BOWES COMMEMORATIVE COVERS

By Ross W. Irwin

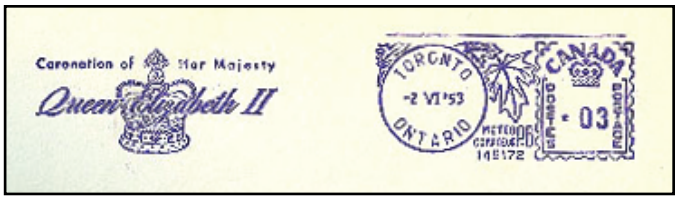
Pitney-Bowes Canada issued several souvenir covers from time to time to commemorate special high-profile events. Images of these cover imprints are shown below. These covers were given to politicians, business people and high-profile philatelists. ✉

"Hamilton Centennial, July 1 - 7, 1946". Dated April 30, 1946. Probably should not be included here but was a special issue sponsored by David Bowes the Pitney Bowes office manager at Hamilton. Issue not known.

"First Day Cover - Mailed from the - Canadian International - Philatelic Exhibition" Dated September 21, 1951, the first day of CAPEX. Promotional sheet on metered mail enclosed. Issue not known.

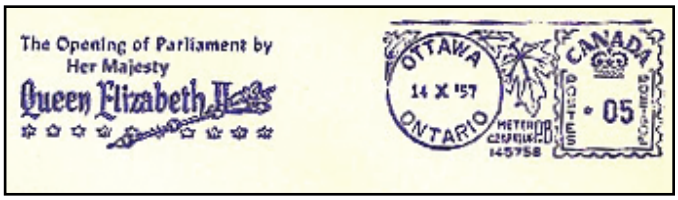
"1851 - 1951 - Centenary of Canada's Postage Stamps", with CAPEX logo. CITY - PROVINCE specimen. Cover dated September 23, 1951. Issued at the Pitney Bowes booth at CAPEX. Booth promoted the new Desk Model postage meter. CAPEX visitors could apply a meter to a cover and mail it at the booth. Issue not known. Capex was from September 21 to September 29. 1951.

"Coronation of His Majesty, King George VI, Souvenir Cover - Metered Mail" Edition of 500 numbered covers with a letter enclosed. Issued May 12, 1937.



"Coronation of Her Majesty - Queen Elizabeth II" Dated June 2, 1953, the Coronation Day. Issue - 1,000 numbered covers.

"XIV Congress - Canada 1957 - Universal Postal Union" Dated September 11, 1957. Issue - 1,000 numbered covers.



"The Opening of Parliament by - Her Majesty - Queen Elizabeth II" Dated October 14, 1957. Issue - 1,000 numbered covers.

"The Opening of - the St. Lawrence Seaway - by Her Majesty - EIIR Queen Elizabeth" Dated June 26, 1959. Issue - 1,000 covers. Royal Yacht *Britannia* present for opening..

Errata

The vagaries of protocol and the proper nomenclature got the best of me in the article I wrote concerning the 50th anniversary of our "Royal" prefix. The fact is that The RPSC did not receive "Royal Patronage" 50 years ago but rather the right to use the title "Royal" as a prefix to the name of our Society. What this basically means is that Her Majesty The Queen allowed us to use the title "Royal" but did not give her personal patronage to the Society. In fact, The RPSC has had Vice Regal Patronage since 1947 when Viscount Alexander of Tunis (later Field Marshal The Right Honourable The Earl Alexander of Tunis) extended it to the Canadian Philatelic Society. Vice-regal patronage continued to be extended over the years by all successive governors general.

I apologize to Her Majesty The Queen and to our Patron, Her Excellency The Governor General, for error of interpretation that I made in my article in the last issue of *TCP*.

Charles J.G. Verge, FRPSC, FRPSL
Historian

Errata

Les caprices du protocole et la nomenclature exacte m'ont échappé dans l'article que j'ai écrit sur la 50e anniversaire de l'octroi de notre préfixe « Royale ». La réalité est que La SRPC n'a pas reçu le « Patronage royale » il y a 50 ans mais plutôt le droit d'utiliser le titre « Royale » comme préfixe au nom de notre Société. Ce qui veut dire que Sa Majesté la Reine nous a autorisé l'utilisation du préfixe « Royale » mais ne nous a pas donné son patronage personnel. La SRPC reçoit le patronage Vice-royal depuis 1947 quand le vicomte Alexander de Tunis (subséquemment Maréchal de camp le très honorable comte Alexander de Tunis) l'a octroyé à la Société philatélique canadienne. Depuis ce temps le patronage Vice-royal de La SRPC a continué à nous être fourni par tous les gouveneurs généraux.

Je présente mes excuses à Sa Majesté la Reine et à notre Présidente d'honneur, Son Excellence la Gouverneure générale, pour les erreurs d'interprétation commises dans le texte de mon article dans le dernier numéro du *CP*.

Charles J.G. Verge, FRPSC, FRPSL
Historien

London 2010 Festival of Stamps

London 2010
International Stamp Exhibition
Business Design Centre, Islington
8 to 15 May 2010
including a major presence by Royal Mail

Empire Mail: George V and the GPO
Exhibition at Guildhall Art Gallery
7 May to 25 July 2010
with material from The British Postal Museum & Archive and the Royal Philatelic Collection

Special displays and talks presented by the British Library Philatelic Collections

Displays at the Royal Philatelic Society London
Open to all – 6 May 2010 by ticket
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Themed displays at many venues
Throughout the year
including Wimbledon Lawn Tennis Museum; Bath Postal Museum; Bletchley Park; Museum of World Rugby, Twickenham; and Marylebone Cricket Club Museum at Lords

One-day events
Organised by the member Federations of the ABPS

More details: **www.london2010.org.uk**

Transcribing Sounds

by Michael Madesker, RDP, FRPSC

Sign Language: Japapnese Sign Language – Shuwa

The Japanese Sign Languarge, Shuwa, consists of 46 basic hand signs arranged in five vertical columns, written from right to left. The Japanese Federation of the Deaf published an English Dictionary of the Basic Sign Language where the traditional arrangement has been changed to aid non-Japanese speakers. The Japanese Manual Alphabet chart shown here, supplied by Ms. Kumiko Takakusa of the Japanese ASL Signers Society, has the arrangement of signs transcribed from left to right, vertically, in two blocks of 25 spaces headed by the vowels in Romaji, the Japanese Roman transliteration system, followed by the Hiragana characters, the cursive Japanese writing system. The manual signs are, of course, the most prominent feature of the chart.

The labels, reproduced below the Japanese Manual Alphabet, are known as goju-on-yubimoji suru, finger letter seals, and have been provided through the good offices of Dr. Kazuyuki Inoue. The goju-on-yubimoji suru were produced by the Hearing-Impaired Persons Stamp Club, a chapter of the Japanese Philatelic Society. The Romaji was compiled by myself based on instruction provided by Ms. Kumiko Takakusa ✉

Varieties

by "Napoleon"

France 1870-73 Ceres, 5c and 15c

The *Yvert et Tellier Specialisé Catalogue* of 1976 has a wealth of information, including some on printing varieties. This piece illustrates two such flaws on France's 1870-1873 head-of-Ceres issue. Use the value multiples with caution as they are more than thirty years old and are based on stamps for which the unflawed value, the denominator in the multiple, is rather low.

Several years ago, *The Canadian Philatelist* covered several other varieties on the same head-of-Ceres stamps. The two discussed here are a break in the upper right corner of the 5 centime and a longish plate crack on the small-denomination-numerals 15 centime. Prices are in the 1976 Catalogue's currency, the French franc. Remember that the multiple still applies, whether the original currency is francs, Euros, or something else.

The printing flaw on the 5 centime is a break in the top frame line at the upper right. Also the dot after REPUB FRANC is shifted upward to just below the frame line. The full-stamp image shows the location outlined by a white rectangle. There is a separate enlargement of the variation. Yvert lists the un-flawed stamp at 175 francs mint-hinged and 12 francs used. The stamp with the flaw, on the other hand, is 450 francs mint-hinged and 250 francs used. The mint-hinged printing variation thus is worth just over 2.5 times the value of the normal stamp. But the used plate flaw is a sizeable twenty times the cost of the normal stamp.

The crack on the 15 centime Ceres is in the lower right corner, starting in the vertical white line just above the horizontal white line. The crack continues vertically to the white line around the medallion. It stays within the white line around the medallion and ends at the three o'clock position. The full-stamp image has the location outlined in white, and the blow-up shows the path of the crack. To make it easier to see, the crack on the blow-up is replaced by a black line. The normal stamp is priced by the 1976 Yvert at 9 francs used. The flaw is listed only in used condition and is a husky 1,250 francs, or over 125 times the price of the basic stamp. While the opening paragraph's caveat about old prices and low denominators does apply, it's clear that the used stamp with the plate crack is much more valuable than the normal stamp.

The plate crack is reasonably visible with 20/20 reading glasses and a 5-power magnifier. It is very visible with the same reading glasses and a 10-power magnifier. ✉

As usual, colour images are available to those who e-mail me with requests (napoleon@voyager.net).

It Does Not Make Sense But a Logical Explanation Must Exist

By Joseph Monteiro

I. Introduction

In the pursuit of this fascinating hobby, one sometimes comes across errors that defy a normal explanation. Yet, a logical explanation must exist as we normally think of ourselves as rational beings. This is true in nearly most fields of study where scientists, doctors and engineers are constantly probing in search of the cause or causes behind certain phenomena or disease.

In this article, I will examine a few stamps with errors that have unusual explanations. The errors will be reviewed under their normal classifications: perforating errors and printing errors.

II. Perforating Errors: The 32-cent United Empire Loyalists stamp

On July 3, 1984, Canada Post issued a stamp to commemorate the United Empire Loyalists. The design of the stamp displays a group of Loyalists attired in 18th century costumes with the Grand Union Jack in the background. The Loyalists were the colonists who remained loyal to Great Britain during the American Revolution.

The stamps were printed by Ashton Potter Limited and were perforated using a 13 perforating gauge. Following the release of the stamps by Canada Post a few misperforated stamps found their way into the hands of philatelists. The perforation appeared in the middle of the second and third column of stamps. The first column of stamps was perforated correctly. Figure 1. At first glance, one would be tempted to explain this error as follows: After printing the first column of stamps correctly, the perforator came down faster than the sheet moved or the sheet did not move as fast as it should have to make a strike in the middle of the stamps in the second column. The strikes thereafter were of the normal size. One can verify this by measuring the stamps in the third column with those in the first column.

However, on closer examination, one finds that this is not the correct explanation. First, note that if it was a T-comb perforator that perforated the stamps. Perforating the stamps from left to right, one would expect to find the horizontal perforations in the initial part of the second column to be slightly elongated or double, suggesting that the explanation above is correct. That is not the case. Second, the size of the sheet (width) is only half the size of the sheet of a normal pane which had five columns. Third, note the vertical selvedge at the right of the stamps.

Based on the these facts, one would be forced to conclude that if such a pattern of misperforated stamps appeared in association with the other aspects described, it is likely that the half pane was folded after being printed and then perforated. One can verify this for oneself and see how such a pattern can be generated. This explains why there are no elongated perforations. The fold in the middle of the second column, which is not visible from the illustration, provides conclusive evidence that this is indeed what happened. It is still a mystery why half of the pane got folded and was sent through the perforator.

III. Printing Errors: 1-cent Sir John Macdonald stamp

Paper folds that create unusual designs do not usually occur. However, on occasion such unusual designs may occur if the paper fold error occurs in

Figure 1. 32¢ Loyalist 'Paper Fold Misperforate'.

Figure 2. 1¢ Sir John A. Macdonald (left). 1¢ Sir John A. Macdonald error (right).

combination with another error. So far, only one instant of such an error is known to have occurred on a Canadian definitive stamp. It exists on the Caricature 1-cent Macdonald stamp. A well-known dealer of Canadian stamps stated: "The one stamp in a billion. Probably a billion of this stamp were printed and this is the only one ever found double faced! The error is due to a fold and offset and the miracle is that it survived. The pair is still unused but someone threw it into a box of used stamps and gave it to a church group. They noticed the pair and sold it separately to me."[1] Figure 2.

One well-known writer on Canadian paper folds states: "I have never seen a comparable corner fold variety, not just on the Caricature definitives, but on any stamp. I am not entirely sure how it was produced, so what follows is part theory, part conjecture."

He writes: "Varieties consisting of reversed offsets of the stamp design on the gum side, while uncommon, are well known. The double head variety is similar to the partial offset on the 14-cent Parliament in that the reversed image stops abruptly in the bottom right corner. So, presumably, the preceding sheet was skewed or folded when it went through the press. But the double-head offset occurs on the face of the stamp, not the gum side, because the sheet with the variety was also folded when it went through the press. Note that the fold must have occurred before the design was printed ..."[1] "There's more! Did you notice that the perforating and guillotining were normal? The corner fold must have somehow become unfolded before the sheet was perforated. Of the two hundred or so corner folds I've seen, fewer than five have a fold that somehow corrected itself part way through the production process. Oh, by the way, the rightmost stamp is 1-bar tagged. The stamp has the normal phosphor bar on the left side but is missing the bar on the right, and there is no tagging between the two reversed stamp images. This observation is not quite as frivolous as it may seem. ... The fact that the right bar is missing implies that the sheet was still folded when the stamps were tagged, but the other elements that produced the reverse image were absent."

VI. The 8-cent Surcharge Jet stamp:

The 8 cents Surcharge on the 7-cent Jet stamp was issued on July 15, 1964. It reflected the increase in rates for airmail postage to the United States. The Jet surcharge error has been described as Canada's rarest and most extraordinarily valuable modern error.[2] This claim is appropriate given the fact that only one error with the normal exists today. The reasons for this unique error are indeed unusual. The surcharge printed in black consisted of a cancellation of the original 7-cent air rate with two parallel lines passing through it and the new 8-cent air rate above the 7. The surcharge is on the left side of the stamp. The error is the omission of the surcharge on the stamp in the sheet or block. In other words, the error refers to one stamp with the surcharge and one without, both being attached to each other. Stamps alone without the surcharge are not errors as the 7-cent stamps were printed and sold without the surcharge. Figure 3.

One source indicates that the error occurred for the following reason: "When one pane of 7-cent stamps was being fed through the overprinting press, the lower left corner was folded over. This covered two stamps to escape the overprint."[3]

The more plausible explanation provided by one catalogue was as follows: "In overprinting the sheet, the lower left stamp was folded up and overlapped the stamp above so that the 8-cent surcharge is printed on the gummed side of the lower stamp. This has resulted in a fantastic UNIQUE CANADIAN VARIETY - a block of six with 4 stamps overprinted 8c on 7c plus two 7c Jet Plane stamps, of which one has inverted surcharge on gum side."[4] For more information see bibliography and endnotes 5, 6 and 7. In other words, the lower left stamp somehow was folded over the upper stamp during the printing of the surcharge. As a result, the surcharge intended for the upper stamp was printed on the gum-side of the lower stamp. Consequently, neither the lower left stamp nor the stamp above received the surcharge over the 7-cent

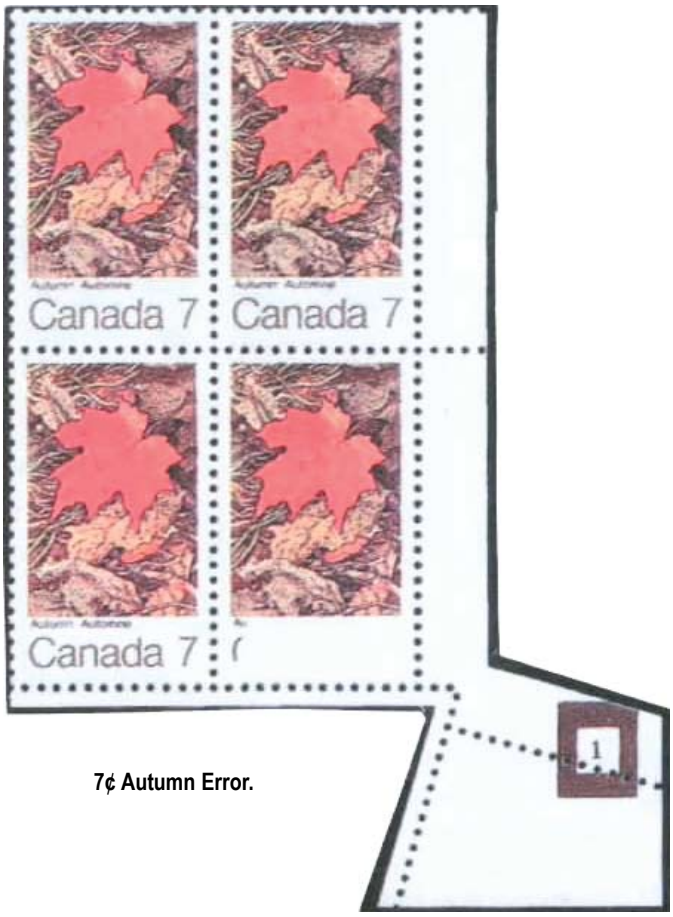
Figure 3. 8¢ 'Missing' Jet Surcharge.

value. This resulted in two stamps without the surcharge. It could be pointed out that the overprinting of this stamp has created two major errors: one with the missing surcharge and one with the surcharge on the gum side.

The 7-cent Maple Leaf Autumn stamp

The 7-cent Maple Leaf stamp with the missing inscription is a well-known Canadian error. As noted by Canada Post Corporation "The 7c Autumn stamp provided one of Canada's rarest modern varieties - grey inscription missing. The error is devoid of "Canada", "7" and the bilingual Autumn designation."[8] The grey inscription mentioned above consists of the words "Autumn" in English and "Automme" in French both in fine print below the design on the left. The country' name "Canada" appears below it on the left with the value "7" on the right in much larger print. This can be seen in the illustration.

This error is not to be confused with an error similar in appearance to the above which was also discovered with the missing inscription. From a casual observation one would conclude that this error was from the same lot of errors mentioned above and that the cause of the missing inscription was because the stamp missed the impression of a plate containing the inscription. On closer examination one finds that this 7-cent Maple Leaf stamp with the missing name of the country and value occurred because during the printing process the corner of the paper folded during the printing process resulting in the stamp not receiving the inscription. One would probably have not arrived easily at this conclusion if the corner of the folded paper was not attached to the error and with a small part of the inscription on the left of the stamp at the bottom. This indicates how easily one can jump to the wrong conclusion as to the cause of an error.



7¢ Autumn Error.

V. Conclusion

In conclusion, logical explanations exist even for the most unusual errors. Sometimes the reason may be elusive when all the relevant information to make this determination is not known. The only solution to this dilemma is to keep looking till one finds all the relevant information to put the puzzle together. Machines usually operate in predictable ways and one has to try and understand how they operate to find out why one gets certain results. When one finds the correct answer the feeling will be exhilarating, making an educated and analytical approach to stamp collecting even more rewarding. ✉

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SORTING OUT THE ISSUES

By Tony Edward

I am often asked "how can I tell the many issues of the same stamp apart from one other?" To which my short answer is: at times you can, at times you can not!

So let us look at an issue that you can spot the different stamp issues with a little detective work. The low-value Mammals stamps were issued on both Slater paper and on Coated Paper papers. The different papers can be easily identified, but you will need an ultra-violet (UV) light to tell them apart. Battery operated UV lights are available from stamp shops for about $20, or maybe a more powerful one could be used in your school's science lab.

Start with the 10¢ and 25¢ Mammal stamps. These were issued on either Slater or on Coated Papers papers, and they are the most easy to tell apart. The Slater paper stamps were issued tagged GT4, and the Coated papers stamp was only issued untagged. The two 10¢ tagged stamps, printed on Slater paper, can be told apart by testing the stamp's perforations.

Next, the 3¢, 5¢ and 6¢ Mammal stamps. They were issued only on Slater paper, and are not tagged. These three stamps can be your clue stamps for grouping the other low-value issues. When you look very carefully at the face of these mid-value stamps under UV light you will see that each stamp's face picture is clearly visible. You can make out all the details of the design and the face looks quite light – the white areas look grey.

Finally, look at the 1¢ and 2¢ low-value Mammal stamps. Both were printed on Slater and Coated Paper papers. Now when you look at theses stamps side by side under the UV light, you will see that on the stamps printed on the Slater paper, each stamp's face picture is clearly visible, like the 3¢, 5¢ and 6¢ stamps. The difference between the two 1¢ stamps printed in Slater paper can be told apart by testing their perforation.

The stamps printed on the Coated Paper show a quite dark look and the white areas of the stamps look more like a dark cardboard colour. For the best results you will need to view the stamps under UV light in a totally dark room, but the difference in face colour under the UV light is quite obvious between the different papers.

It is fair to reckon that all of the light face stamps were printed on the same Slater Paper, and that all of the limited issues of dark face stamps were printed on Coated Paper paper.

Now you know how to tell the different issues of the same stamp apart from one another on the low-value Mammal stamps, it is all right to apply the same logic the high-value Mammal stamps. ✉

MAMMALS –DEFINITIVES 1988 - 1992			
Perforations	13.1 X 13.6	13.1 X 13.6	13.1 X 12.8
Under long wave UV light, the face of these stamps have a …	…non Fluorescent appearance	…dead Fluorescent appearance	…non Fluorescent appearance
1¢	Slater Paper Not Tagged 1155	Coated Papers Not Tagged 1155ii	Slater Paper Not Tagged 1155a
2¢	Slater Paper Not Tagged 1156	Coated Papers Not Tagged 1156i	
3¢	Slater Paper Not Tagged 1157		
5¢	Slater Paper Not Tagged 1158		
6¢	Slater Paper Not Tagged 1159		
10¢	Slater Paper Tagged GT4 1160	Coated Papers Not Tagged 1160ii	Slater Paper Tagged GT4 1160a
25¢	Slater Paper Tagged GT4 1161	Coated Papers Not Tagged 1161ii	
Under UV light the face looks …	… light	… dark	…light

PRESIDENT'S page
la page du PRÉSIDENT

by / par George Pepall, FRPSC

The first three months of the new board and executive's term have been busy, as expected. Along with our quarterly Executive meeting in July, we are now working on the written job descriptions and planning for the roughly two dozen departments of the activities under the banner of The RPSC. In September we met again as an Executive to collate the results of the submissions by the various chairpeople.

It's no accident that Leadership is the first of our seven Strategic Plan goals that The RPSC Board are striving towards. As is often said, change is inevitable, and if organizations are not ready to make changes, then they will be left behind. Our society has stated clearly that it wants to manage change to the benefit of its members and of our hobby, so individuals must step forward to provide Leadership for change, and have done so.

But leaders are not just the obvious individuals, like directors, officers and executive members of The RPSC. They are the committee chairpeople, the chapter and club presidents, the local treasurers and publicity directors, the newsletter editors, the show chairpeople, the youth table organizers, the ticket sellers at the door, the program planners; in short, all those people who give stamp collecting the sociable learning and sharing environment that it thrives in. They are the people who come up with ideas to enrich the chapter meetings, or invent resources to bring novices into the hobby.

Leaders need to be celebrated, not just so they can enjoy our heartfelt thanks, but so others can realize how vital their time and commitment are to the well-being of the chapter. Does your chapter have ways of thanking its leaders and volunteers for years of valuable service? An annual plaque or trophy takes very little money to establish, and becomes a pleasant symbol of recognition of Leadership. In time, it also becomes a unique collective memorial of the service of many members over many years.

Sometimes individuals will back away from Leadership opportunities or invitations because of inexperience or lack of formal training. But modern education principles underline how people learn best by doing. I personally have learned a good deal by taking on the role of treasurer in my own club, and expect to learn more, especially about computer accounting. When that learning begins and satisfaction kicks in for useful work done, the resultant team camaraderie strengthens the club for the future.

Tel qu'on s'y attendait, les trois premiers mois du mandat du nouveau conseil d'administration et de la nouvelle direction ont été bien remplis. Comme suite à notre réunion trimestrielle de juillet, nous travaillons à la rédaction des descriptions de postes et à la planification d'environ deux douzaines de services pour les activités régies par La SRPC. En septembre, nous sommes réuni à nouveau en tant qu'autorité exécutive afin de colliger les résultats des propositions des divers présidents.

Ce n'est pas par hasard que le leadership constitue le premier des sept objectifs du plan stratégique que le conseil d'administration de La SRPC s'efforce d'atteindre. Comme on le dit souvent, le changement est inévitable et les organisations qui ne sont pas prêtes marqueront le pas. Notre société a clairement affirmé qu'elle veut gérer le changement pour le bien de ses membres et de notre passe-temps. C'est pourquoi des personnes doivent aller de l'avant pour prendre les choses en main; et c'est ce qui a été fait.

Les leaders ne sont pas seulement ceux qui, de toute évidence, doivent prendre la tête, comme les membres du conseil d'administration, le personnel et les directeurs de La SRPC. Il y a aussi les présidents de comités, de sections régionales et de clubs, les trésoriers et les directeurs de la publicité, les rédacteurs de bulletins, les présidents d'expositions, les organisateurs de tables pour les jeunes, les vendeurs de billets à l'entrée, les planificateurs des programmes; bref, tous ceux qui prodiguent à la philatélie l'aspect social et instructif dans lequel elle prospère. Ce sont aussi ceux qui arrivent avec des idées qui enrichissent les réunions des sections régionales ou qui inventent des moyens d'attirer des recrues à notre passe-temps.

Il faut rendre hommages à ces leaders, non seulement parce que nos remerciements sincères leur feront plaisir, mais aussi pour qu'ils comprennent à quel point leur temps et leur dévouement sont vitaux pour le bon fonctionnement des sections régionales. Votre section régionale a-t-elle des façons de remercier ses dirigeants et ses bénévoles pour leurs années de précieux service? Une plaque, remise chaque année, ou un trophée ne coûtent pas très cher et deviennent un symbole significatif de reconnaissance du leadership. En temps et lieu, ces objets peuvent aussi constituer un souvenir collectif de la collaboration de nombreux membres pendant de nombreuses années.

Parfois, certains reculent devant les occasions de prendre la tête ou les invitations qui s'offrent à eux par manque d'expérience ou de formation officielle. Mais selon les principes modernes d'éducation, c'est en mettant la main à la pâte que les gens apprennent le mieux. Personnellement, j'ai beaucoup appris en assumant le rôle de trésorier de mon club, et je m'attends à apprendre encore, surtout en comptabilité informatisée. Lorsque nous avons acquis un peu de savoir-faire et que le travail accompli est utile et satisfaisant, l'esprit de camaraderie s'installe et

When that happens, no one need fear that they own the job for life, because others will want to step in when the time is right.

I see that the new president of The Greater Toronto Area Philatelic Alliance, Larry Friend, also makes deliberate reference to Leaders and Leadership. He tells his readers, "Leaders are the winners! If you lead or get involved, many of your wishes or thoughts will become realities." So true, Larry, and best wishes in YOUR new position of Leadership in GTAPA!

As a result of our current work on The RPSC Board, a very special Leadership opening has presented itself. As some of you will know, especially if you are resident in Quebec and a member of our FQP affiliate, youth stamp collecting is alive and well in that province. That is due in large part to the work of people like Yvan Latulippe who run kids' stamp camps and provide youth leaders with resources and ideas for their communities and clubs. What is needed is at least one volunteer to join Yvan and work nationally, as part of a Youth Stamp Commission, as he calls it, to bring stamps to more children across the country. The commission already exists in Quebec, and now needs at least one anglophone person to learn what works in Quebec, and then help the chapters bring those approaches to other provinces. Please contact Yvan by e-mail at yvanlatulippe@videotron.ca or me at pepall@rogers.com if you have questions or are interested. You can get a taste of the work that Yvan is doing by checking out his RPSC Youthphil Club page in this issue of *TCP*.

Thank you sincerely to all Leaders in Canadian stamp collecting! ✉

donne de la force au club pour affronter l'avenir. Il ne faut pas pour autant craindre les nominations à vie, car le moment venu, quelqu'un sera prêt à prendre la relève.

Je constate que le nouveau président de la Greater Toronto Area Philatelic Alliance, Larry Friend, fait aussi librement référence aux leaders et au leadership. Il déclare à ses lecteurs, « les leaders sont des gagnants! Si vous prenez la tête et si vous vous investissez, beaucoup de vos désirs ou de vos pensées deviendront réalité ». Larry, cela est tellement vrai; meilleurs vœux dans votre nouveau poste à la direction de la GTAPA!

Comme suite à notre travail actuel au conseil d'administration de La SRPC, une occasion très spéciale de prendre les devants vient de se présenter. Comme certains d'entre vous le savent, surtout ceux qui résident au Québec et qui sont membre de la FQP, qui nous est affiliée, la philatélie jeunesse est vivante et bien portante dans cette province. Cela est en bonne partie dû au travail de gens comme Yvan Latulippe qui organise des camps philatéliques pour les jeunes et fournit à leurs leaders des idées et des ressources pour leurs collectivités et leurs clubs. Il faudrait au moins un volontaire pour se joindre à Yvan et travailler à l'échelle nationale en tant que membre de ce qu'il appelle une commission de philatélie pour la jeunesse, afin de faire connaître les timbres à davantage d'enfants au pays. La commission existe déjà au Québec et a maintenant besoin d'au moins un anglophone qui examinera les raisons du succès québécois et aidera ensuite les sections régionales à transmettre ces méthodes aux autres provinces. Veuillez prendre contact par courriel avec Yvan Latulippe yvanlatulippe@videotron.ca ou avec moi pepall@rogers.com si vous avez des questions ou si vous souhaitez participer. Si vous voulez avoir une idée du travail d'Yvan, lisez la page de son club philatélie jeunesse SRPC dans le présent numéro *du Philatéliste.*

Un merci sincère à tous les leaders de la philatélie canadienne! ✉

MEMBERSHIP report / Des nouvelles de nos MEMBRES

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.

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

INDIVIDUAL MEMBERS / MEMBRES À TITRE PERSONNEL

I-29019 • Ms. Kit Chapman,

I-29020 • Mr. Francis Waller
Canadian stamps and FDC; Copernicus

I-29021 • Mr. Eulogio Camunias

I-29022 • Mr. Robert Graham
Canada

CHANGE OF ADDRESS ? Changes can be made on-line at www.rpsc.org "Members Login" or by contacting the National Office.

VOUS CHANGEZ D'ADRESSE? Effectuez le changement en ligne à www.rpsc.org "Members Login" ou en prenant contact avec le Bureau national.

I-29023 • Mr. Daniel Buss
Nature stamps of the world

I-29025 • Miss Darcey Sills
Canada, Bahamas, Bermuda, USA, Europe

I-29026 • Mr. Rodney Thacker
US, Canada, Japan, Norway, Finland, Topicals (Meteorology & Figure Skating)

I-29027 • Mr. Thomas Barrett
Canada Admiral Issue

I-29028 • Mr. Derrick Grose,

I-29029 • Mr. Anthony Thompson
Newfoundland

I-29030 • Mr. Bruce Walker
Canada, Newfoundland, France

I-29031 • Ms. Carolyn Kergan
Canada

I-29032 • Mr. Benoit Durand

RESIGNED MEMBERS / MEMBRES DÉMISSIONNAIRES

I-7756 • Mr. Ian G. Stewart

I-22744 • Mr. Barrie W. Martin

I-25574 • Mr. Carlo I. Rasmussen

I-28715 • Mrs. Michèle Perreault

DECEASED MEMBERS / MEMBRES DÉCÉDÉS

HL-6860 • Mr. Bruce Oland

L-12064 • Mr. William P. O' Shaughnessy

I-28681 • Mr. Regi Ausmus

MESSAGES from the National Office
MESSAGES du Bureau national

by / par Peter Butler, FRPSC
Director, National Office / directeur, Bureau national

If you look at the masthead pages of this magazine, you will note that there are many more names listed as officers under the committee listings than before. This is a direct result of the strategic plan coming out of the Board Meetings in St. Catharines. Committees are no longer the responsibility of one person but a team of Board members (executive members and directors) and duty officers. The people with responsibility will no longer have to work in isolation. Committees now have chairpersons who are responsible for spreading the work, collaborating on the assignment of new initiatives, then tracking and reporting progress to specific executive members. The executive has already met for a full day on two occasions and is planning a third session in early November. The implementation of our strategic plan is well under way, everyone is involved in keeping each other on track and communicating the progress within committees is giving everyone a real sense of accomplishment. If you need to communicate with any of the people listed on the masthead, the emails are listed there and their phone numbers are listed on The RPSC website. If you can't find what you are looking for, call the National Office (Mon. to Thurs.) and we'll be pleased to assist you. Here are just a few of the new policies we have enacted since my last message.

An Announcement for Exhibitors

David Piercey has confirmed that Grand Award winners at all RPSC-sanctioned national shows (Edmonton-March, Ottawa-May, ROYAL-May/June and Halifax- every two years) will now be invited to participate in the World Series of Philately (WSP) at the annual *APS StampShow,* beginning in 2010. The RPSC Board approved the motion on June 26.You will note from the masthead that the National and Regional Judging Program Committee, which David Piercey chairs, now includes regional representation from five areas: Atlantic, Quebec, Ontario, West and BC. Let's hope the Territories and the Yukon will be added soon.

Adjustment of Membership Fees

I mentioned in the last magazine that a new membership fees schedule would be created by Treasurer David Oberholtzer. It was approved by the Board on August 21. There are no direct increases in fees but with the soon-to-be-implemented, Canada-wide sales tax program and a move to have all RPSC memberships come due each year in December, a new schedule was necessary. It will be implemented in December. (This system of renewals will be more efficient and will replace the present system of renewal dates being scattered throughout the year.)

The Ethics Committee and the new Code

The new *Code of Ethics*, a *Complaint Procedure*, an *Objection Procedure* and an *Appeal Process* have all been finalized by

Si vous jetez un coup d'oeil au bloc générique de notre revue, vous constaterez que la liste des noms des personnes qui travaillent dans les comités s'est allongée. Voilà un résultat direct du plan stratégique issu de la réunion du conseil d'administration, tenue à St. Catharines. Désormais, les comités ne sont pas sous la responsabilité d'une seule personne, mais d'une équipe de membres du conseil (exécutifs et directeurs) et de responsables. Ceux qui ont des responsabilités ne travailleront plus de façon isolée. En effet, les comités ont maintenant des présidents chargés de répartir le travail, de collaborer aux nouvelles initiatives et de faire le suivi auprès de membres précis de l'exécutif. Ce dernier s'est déjà réuni pendant une journée entière, et ce, à deux reprises, et une troisième réunion est prévue au début de novembre. La mise en œuvre de notre plan stratégique est déjà bien amorcée; tous se tiennent au courant les uns les autres de ce qui se passe et font part des progrès aux comités, ce qui procure à chacun un réel sentiment d'accomplissement. Si vous désirez communiquer avec l'une des personnes dont le nom figure au bloc générique, vous trouverez son adresse de courriel dans le site Web de La SRPC. Si vous ne trouvez pas ce que vous cherchez, appelez au Bureau national (du lundi au jeudi) et nous serons heureux de vous aider. Voici quelques-unes des politiques entrées en vigueur depuis mon dernier message.

Pour les exposants

David Piercey a confirmé que, dès 2010, les gagnants du Grand prix de toutes les expositions sanctionnées par La SRPC (Edmonton en mars, ROYAL en mai/juin, Halifax, bisannuelle) seront dorénavant invités à participer à la World Series of Philately (WSP) de l'exposition annuelle de l'American Philatelic Society. Le CA de La SRPC a approuvé la proposition le 26 juin. Vous remarquerez aussi, dans le générique, que le comité du Programme national et régional d'évaluation, dirigé par David Piercey, est maintenant représenté dans cinq régions : l'Atlantique, le Québec, l'Ontario, l'Ouest et la Colombie-Britannique. Espérons que les Territoires et le Yukon seront bientôt du nombre.

Redressement des frais d'adhésion

Dans le dernier numéro, j'ai déclaré qu'une nouvelle grille tarifaire serait créée par notre trésorier, David Oberholtzer. Elle a été approuvée par le CA, le 21 août. Il n'y a pas d'augmentation directe des frais, mais avec l'arrivée bientôt du nouveau programme de taxe de vente du gouvernement fédéral et notre décision relative au paiement des frais d'adhésion en décembre de chaque année, il était nécessaire d'établir une nouvelle grille. Elle entrera en vigueur en décembre. (Ce mode de renouvellement remplacera celui que nous utilisons actuellement et sera plus efficace, car les dates de renouvellement ne seront plus éparpillées tout au long de l'année.)

Comité d'éthique et nouveau Code

Le nouveau *Code d'éthique*, une *Procédure relative aux plaintes*, une *Procédure d'opposition* et un *Processus d'appel* ont été rédigés par

the Ethics Committee and submitted to the National Office for Executive approval. These documents are lengthy and will need to be translated into French. It has been decided, therefore, that they will not be published in the magazine. Instead, they will be posted on The RPSC website. Members not able to access the internet may contact the National Office to receive copies in either language. We will be including on the new application for membership and the new renewal of membership forms, an opportunity to sign one's agreement with the Code of Ethics, including the other procedures. It is hoped that the applications will be signed when required and members can review the documents on-line at their leisure. Wherever new members are signed up, at stamp shows and other events, a copy of the documents will be available for anyone wishing to read them before signing.

New Election Procedures

Elsewhere in the magazine is the usual page that announces the next Annual General Meeting to be held in Windsor May 28-30, 2010. On that same page, there are directions to all members regarding the nominations for executive positions and directors. Present Executive members and directors in their second year of term will be required to be nominated again for election. Any member seeking election to the Executive or the Board of Directors must also be duly nominated. If members have any questions further to the directions on the announcement page, please call the National Office for assistance. ✉

le comité d'éthique et soumis au Bureau national pour approbation de l'exécutif. Ces documents sont longs et devront être traduits en français. La décision a donc été prise de ne pas les publier dans notre revue. Ils seront plutôt placés dans le site Web de La SRPC. Les membres qui n'ont pas accès à Internet pourront s'adresser au Bureau national pour en obtenir un exemplaire en français ou en anglais. Nous ajouterons aux formulaires d'adhésion et de renouvellement une section où il sera possible d'apposer sa signature afin d'approuver le *Code d'éthique* et les autres procédures. Nous espérons donc que les formulaires seront signés en temps et lieu. Les membres pourront consulter ces documents en ligne à volonté. Lorsque de nouveaux membres sont inscrits aux expositions philatéliques ou à d'autres activités, s'ils désirent lire ces documents avant de signer une entente, ils pourront en obtenir un exemplaire.

Nouvelles procédures électorales

Un peu plus loin dans nos pages, vous trouverez une annonce de la prochaine assemblée générale annuelle, qui aura lieu à Windsor, du 28 au 30 mai 2010. Sur la même page, vous pourrez également lire les directives relatives à la nomination de nouveaux membres de l'exécutif et de nouveaux directeurs. Les membres actuels de l'exécutif et les directeurs qui ont entamé leur deuxième année de mandat devront être à nouveau proposés comme candidats à la prochaine élection. La candidature de tout membre qui souhaite être élu comme membre de l'exécutif ou du conseil d'administration doit être établie selon les règles. Les questions au sujet des directives sur les élections devront être adressées au Bureau national. ✉

Advantages of clubs being chapter members of The Royal Philatelic Society of Canada

- Access to RPSC insurance plan
- Opportunity to order sales circuit books
- Chapter copy of *The Canadian Philatelist* (TCP)
- Access to network of certified exhibit judges
- Access to inventory of slide programmes
- Publication of club's meeting and contact details in *TCP*
- Networking opportunities with neighbouring chapters
- Link to RPSC website, with website development support
- Eligibility to hold a national exhibition and convention
- Access to all member services of our national office

Avantages d'un club d'être membre chapître de La Société royale de philatélie du Canada

- Accès au régime d'assurance de La SRPC Possibilité de commander les carnets du circuit des ventes
- Un exemplaire du Philatéliste canadien (LPC)
- Accès à un réseau de juges d'exposition agréés
- Accès à un répertoire de programmes de diapositives
- Publication dans LPC des réunions des clubs et des coordonnées des personnes à contacter
- Possibilité de réseautage avec les sections régionales voisines
- Lien vers le site Web de La SRPC et aide au développement de site Web
- Admissibilité à la tenue de l'exposition-congrès national
- Accès à tous les services aux membres offerts par le Bureau national

coming EVENTS CALENDRIER

To have your event listed in this section of The Canadian Philatelist, please send all details to The RPSC National Office, P.O. Box 929, Station Q, Toronto, ON M4T 2P1. Details may be faxed to 1-888-285-4143 or e-mail to info@rpsc.org. 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 1-888-285-4143 ou par poste-électronique à info@rpsc.org. Aucune information ne sera acceptée par téléphone. CECI EST UN SERVICE GRATUIT DE LA SRPC.

REGIONAL EVENTS / ÉVÉNEMENTS RÉGIONAUX

OCTOBER 17 OCTOBRE, 2009:
The Kingston Stamp Club's annual Stamp Festival will be held from 10 am to 4 pm at the Edith Rankin Memorial Church, 4080 Bath Road, Kingston, ON. Dealers, door prizes, youth booth, consignment table and snack bar. Free admission. Information from Richard Weigand at (613) 352-8775 or at rweigand@kos.net.

OCTOBER 18, OCTOBRE, 2009:
GRVPA 15th Annual Club Fair, with participation from 15-20 GRVPA & GTAPA clubs, will be held on Sunday from 10 am to 4:30 pm at the Terry Miller Centre, 1295 Williams Parkway, Brampton, ON. Single frame exhibits, 700+ circuit books, youth table with free stamps, two silent auctions with 400+ lots, and snack bar. For more information contact Stuart Keeley at stuart.keeley@sympatico.ca

OCTOBER 18 OCTOBRE, 2009
The Saint John Stamp Club's Annual Stamp Show will be held from 10 am to 4:30 pm at the West Side Legion Hall, Wilson St, Saint John, NB. Free Admission, Dealers, Displays, Door Prizes. For more information contact Jim Young at 506-849-2250.

OCTOBER 24 OCTOBRE, 2009;
The Barrie District Stamp Club's 47th Annual Show and Dealers Bourse will be held from 10 am to 4 pm at the Army, Navy & Air Force Veterans in Canada Club, 7 George Street, Barrie, ON. Free admission. Further information from Dave Hanes at dhanes@sympatico.ca.

OCTOBER 31 OCTOBRE, 2009:
Medicine Hat Coin & Stamp Club will be having a stamp and coin show from 10 am to 4:30 pm at the Stampede grandstand banquet room, 2055 21 Ave. S.E., Medicine Hat, AB. Admisison is $1, free parking, door prizes, concession. Buying and selling both stamps and coins. Vendors welcome. Info from Ron at (403) 526-5158 or Lyle at (403) 529-1930 or medhatcsc@live.com.

NOV. 13 - 15, 2009:
CSDA Fall National Postage Stamp Show, Toronto, ON, Queen Elizabeth Building, Exhibition Place. Hour: Fri. 11 a.m. to 6 p.m.; Sat. 10 a.m. to 5 p.m., Sun. 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Dealers from across Canada, the United Kingdom, and the United Sates. Canad Post, society, and club information, stamps for kids, hourly door prizes. Sponsor/Affiliate: Canadian Stamp Dealers' Association. For more information, contact the CSDA, email: director@csdaonline.com. Website: http://www.csdaonline.com/shows.

NOVEMBER 14 NOVEMBRE, 2009:
The Cabridge Stamp Club's Annual Show and Bourse will be held from 9:30 am to 3:30 pm at the United Kingdom Club, International Village Dr., Cambridge, ON. Club books, 10 dealers, lunch counter, free parking. For more information contact Godfrey Fearn at (519) 623-4911.

JANUARY 9 JANVIER, 2010:
BRANTFORD STAMP SHOW will be held from 10:00 am to 4:00 pm at the Woodman Community Centre, 491 Grey St., Brantford, ON. Philatelic exhibits, 15 dealers, club circuit books, silent auctions, draw prizes, wheelchair accessible. Free admission and parking. More Information at www.brantfordstamp.org.

MARCH 27 MARS, 2010:
KAPEX 2010, the 54th Annual Stamp Show and Bourse of the Kawartha Stamp Club, will be held at the Evinrude Centre, 911 Monaghan Road South (just north of Lansdowne Place Mall), from 9:30 am to 4:00 pm. Stamp exhibits, 12 dealers, Canada Post, silent auctions, show cover, club sales table, 5 and 10 cent table, draw and door prizes. Free admission and parking, wheelchair accessible, refreshments. More info from Ted Lichacz at (705) 277-3095 or Mark Armstrong at (705) 357-3487 or visit www.rpsc.org/chapters/kawartha.

NATIONAL EXHIBITIONS / EXPOSITIONS NATIONALES

MAY 1-2 MAI, 2010:
ORAPEX 2010, Ottawa's National Stamp Show, the 49th Annual Stamp Exhibition and Bourse with over 40 dealers and 150 frames of exhibits, will be held from 10 am to 6 pm on Saturday and from 10 am to 4 pm on Sunday, at the RA Centre Curling Rink, 2451 Riverside Dr., Ottawa, ON. Free admisison and parking. Exhibitors should contact Tom Hare at thare@sutton.com, dealers should contact Stéphane Cloutier at cloutier1967@sympatico.ca. General Information is available from Robert Pinet, Publicity Coordinator at (613) 745-2788 or Pinet.Robert@gmail.com.

MAY 28-30 MAI, 2010:
ROYAL *2010* ROYALE, the Royal Philatelic Society of Canada's 82nd Annual Exhibition and Convention will be held at the St. Clair Centre for the Arts, 201 Riverside Drive West, Windsor, ON from 10 am to 6 pm on Friday, from 10 am to 5 pm on Saturday and from 10 am to 4 pm on Sunday. Daily admission $2 or $5 for a 3 day pass. Over 200 frames of competitive exhibits, 40+ dealers, seminars, youth program and Canada Post. Show information from Brian Cutler at (519) 966-2276 or cutler@mnsi.net and bourse information from Frank Hoyles at (519) 676-8925 or fhoyles@southkent.net. Also, more info on the website at www.royal2010.com.

Dates and locations for forthcoming years:
2011, Dorval, Québec.
2012, Edmonton, Alberta (For info contact Christopher Miller, President, Edmonton Stamp Club at no.113@shaw.ca)

APRIL 30-1 MAY, 2011 / AVRIL 30-1 MAI, 2011:
ORAPEX 2011, Ottawa. Details to follow at a later date.

JIUNE 2-4 JUIN, 2011
SPM EXPO 2011, la première exposition de niveau national à St-Pierre et Miquelon. St-Pierre & Miquelon's first national level exhibition. Inscriptions/Registrations : www.clubphilatelique.com Renseignements/Information : Jean-Jacques Tillard texspm@cheznoo.net

MAY 5-6 MAI, 2012:
ORAPEX 2012, Ottawa. Details to follow at a later date.

INTERNATIONAL EXHIBITIONS / EXPOSITIONS INTERNATIONALES

OCTOBER 21-25 OCTOBRE, 2009:
ITALIA 2009 at Palazzo dei Congressi in Rome Italy under the patronage of the FEPA and recognition of the F.I.P. Canadian commissioner is Dr. Jan J. Danielski, 71 Gennela Square, Toronto, ON M1B 5M7. Tel: (416) 283-2047. E-mail: jjad@rogers.com.

MAY 8-15 MAI, 2010:
London 2010 Festival of Stamps will be held at the Business Design Centre, Upper Street, Islington, London N1. Details at www.london2010.org.uk. Canadian commissioner: Dr. Jan J. Danielski, 71 Gennela Square, Toronto, ON M1B 5M7. Tel: (416) 283-2047, e-mail: jjad@rogers.com.

OCTOBER 1-10 OCTOBRE, 2010:
PORTUGAL 2010, Parque das Nações, Lisbon, Portugal. Commissioner Charles J. G. Verge FRPSC, FRPSL, PO Box 66, Stn "Q", Toronto, ON M4T 2L7. Tel: (613) 851-2770 and E-mail cjgverge@rogers.com.

FEBRUARY 18-28 FÉVRIER, 2011
India 2011, New Delhi, India. Commissioner to be appointed.

AUGUST / AOÛT, 2011
PHILANIPPON 2011, Tokyo, Japan. Commissioner to be appointed.

For a better turnout, have your club's event listed here. Please submit your show information at least eight weeks prior to the publication date that you want your first listing to appear.

The RPSC YOUTHPHIL CLUB

For volunteers in a youth philatelic club, November means that we are on our way to the peak of the year-end *Holiday Season*. Christmas is coming soon and we need to prepare for it now.

Although we sometimes forget that Christmas is a religious celebration, it is also an important social and economic event for many children and adults. So, do not waste time and prepare for it.

First, there is the Christmas party, which is a tradition for stamp clubs. It is an occasion not to be overlooked by youth or adults. Presumably, the party is scheduled for the last club meeting before Christmas. I will not tell you how to organize your party, as I am sure you know the drill: a small lunch, some goodies, games, maybe a short activity and many gifts.

For gifts, there are the classics like stock books, magnifying glasses, tongs, stamp starter kits, stamp mount guillotines, perforation gauges and, of course, stamps. You can go for something more specialized if you know what your youngsters need such as, for example, plastic mounts, sheets for their exhibits, a specialized catalogue, sheet protectors, a position finder, even a book related to their thematic and, without fail, philatelic items such as covers, postcards, pre-stamped envelopes, cancellations and postmarks. In fact, I can tell you that looking for gifts is a year-round business when you are involved with kids.

Special activity suggestions

If you can take on more work, you might consider the following: Because Christmas and the Holidays Season have many traditions associated with them, select, for example, a Christmas tree, Santa Claus, Xmas cards, traditional foods or gifts common to other countries, and do some research on the topic. Your public library and the Web will provide you with all the information that you will need. Prepare a text and illustrate it with stamps or other easy-to-find philatelic items. Make photocopies and give them to your kids for an activity at your Christmas party.

The idea is for your youngsters to find the illustrated stamps and mount them on the photocopy pages. If some of these stamps have monetary value, or are otherwise desirable, they will make excellent draw prizes. The two or three pre-Christmas meetings can be used to prepare some seasonal decorations with your dummy stamps such

Le CLUB TIMBREJEUNES SRPC

Novembre est là et pour tout bénévole qui œuvre auprès des jeunes, le temps fort de l'année commence vraiment. Noël, la grande fête de l'année, arrive. Il faut déjà penser à se préparer.

On finit souvent par oublier que Noël est d'abord une fête religieuse, mais l'importance que cette période de l'année revêt pour les enfants et aussi pour toute notre structure sociale en font le « temps fort » de l'année.

Alors, commençons le plus tôt possible à nous préparer. D'abord réglons une chose tout de suite : le **party de Noël**. Une institution, une tradition, un incontournable! Comme la plupart des clubs philatéliques (adultes comme jeunes), je suppose que votre dernière réunion avant Noël sert de petite fête, de party de Noël.

Je ne vous dirai pas comment organiser votre réunion, je suis certain que vous connaissez la recette par cœur : un goûter, quelques gâteries, quelques jeux, peut-être un petit concours et des cadeaux en masse.

Côté cadeaux, vous avez bien sûr les classiques : classeurs, loupes, brucelles, trousse d'initiation, timbres, massicot, etc…vous pouvez aussi penser à des articles un peu plus spécialisés si vous connaissez les besoins de vos jeunes : bandes transparentes, feuilles légèrement cartonnées pour les expositions, plastiques de protection pour leurs pages, catalogue spécialisé sur leur thématique, même un livre traitant de leur sujet préféré, une grille Thirkell, des feuilles Vario et ….des pièces philatéliques : plis, cartes postales, enveloppes préaffranchies, mini-feuillets, oblitérations, flammes, cachets.

En fait, par expérience, je vous dirais que le « ramassage » de cadeaux pour les jeunes dure toute l'année. Nous sommes toujours en quête de cadeaux à pouvoir leur donner soit à Noël soit à la fin de l'année.

Suggestion spéciale.

Voici un peu de travail pour vous, si cela vous tente. Comme Noël regorge de traditions, vous pourriez en choisir une (le sapin de Noël, le Père Noël, les cartes de souhaits, la crèche, le traîneau et les rennes, les traditions culinaires, les façons de fêter ailleurs dans le monde, la tradition des cadeaux), faire une petite recherche sur le sujet (votre bibliothèque municipale et l'internet vous fourniront toute l'information nécessaire pour ce travail). Vous pourrez agrémenter vos textes de timbres ou de pièces, super faciles à trouver. Vous pourrez aisément vous monter quelques pages que vous ferez photocopier et distribuer à vos jeunes lors du party de Noël.

Placer des cadres vides un peu partout dans votre texte et laissez vos jeunes trouver les timbres qui illustreront les textes. Ou faites tirer la mini-collection que vous aurez préparée (surtout si elle contient de belles pièces).

Les quelques réunions qui précèdent le party pourraient servir à préparer avec les jeunes des décorations montées à partir de vos

as Christmas ornaments, cards, gifts wrapping and so on. The most important thing is to have fun.

Web exploration

Some websites to surf :
Learnaboutstamp.com
Promotestampcollecting.com
Stamppuzzles.com
Stamptools.com

In addition, do not forget to visit our Society's website as well as the more prominent foreign Society sites.

Stamp clubs today, especially those catering to youth, should consider the computer as a basic tool for the club. It should rate only behind your worldwide catalogs on your buying list. Here are some ways to get a computer without having to refinance your mortgage.

Computers

You can actually buy a new laptop for less than $300.00 in some computer stores. It is a good investment if you have the money but we all know that few stamp clubs have the budget to buy a new computer. Think about a computer as you would for a car, which always ends up as an expense - never as an investment.

You will have a more realistic chance of securing a used computer than a new one. The best way to do that is to find a used one the same as you find used stamps.

« pétards » : boules de Noël, cartes de souhaits, emballages de cadeaux. L'important est de s'amuser.

La partie anglaise de cet article contient des suggestions de sites internet à visiter. Ces sites sont unilingues anlais, c'est pourquoi je ne les rementionne pas dans la partie française. Vous pouvez tout de même les visiter, vous y trouverez sûrement des choses intéressantes. De même pour le site suggéré par George Pepall dans son « Mot du Président » et contenant des vidéos.

Aujourd'hui, l'ordinateur devrait être considéré comme un outil de base pour un club philatélique et devrait figurer en deuxième place sur la liste des équipements à se procurer pour votre club, tout juste derrière les catalogues du monde. Voici quelques suggestions de moyens pour vous équiper d'ordinateurs sans être obligés de renégocier votre hypothèque.

Ordinateurs

Pour les ordinateurs neufs, on trouve actuellement des mini-portables pour moins de 300$ dans certaines grandes surfaces ou magasins spécialisés. Si vous avez le budget pour en acheter, il s'agit d'un bon achat. Si vous avez la chance, évidemment d'avoir le budget suffisant, ce qui est assez rare pour un club philatélique. Considérez aussi le fait qu'un ordinateur, comme une auto, rentre toujours dans la colonne des dépenses, jamais des investissements.

Pour les ordinateurs usagés, là on a un peu plus de possibilités. Et en plus, on a de l'expérience puisque la méthode de recherche est la même que pour les timbres.On commence d'abord par les contacts : famille, amis, voisins, confrères de travail, etc..On les met au courant de

First, contact family, friends, neighbours, fellow-workers and so on. Acquaint them with your needs and the price you can afford. If you have storage space available, you can accumulate spare parts such as monitors, printers, and mice. Accept only equipment that runs well. Do not accept anything needing repairs unless you can make them yourself.

Look for office or electronics equipment wholesalers. Ask them if they know customers thinking about updating their equipment. Are they looking to recycle some old equipment? Do the same at retail stores, schools, professional offices, communications businesses, and printers - all the businesses that need the latest technology.

There are many stores selling recycled electronics. Check their discounts. Some non-profit organizations work with teenagers and they usually sell their used computers for a low price. Finally, do not forget to check the classified ads. You can also run a want ad for used equipment.

I want to finish this column by wishing you a holiday season full of happy surprises, joyful moments with your youngsters, philatelic enthusiasm and pleasant meetings. I will communicate with you in 2010 about many new projects to make the New Year a wonderful and happy one for all. ✉

nos besoins, de ce qu'on cherche. Si on est prêts à payer on leur dit combien on serait prêts à mettre.

Si vous avez la place pour stocker, vous pouvez accepter certaines composantes comme les écrans, les claviers, les souris. En autant qu'elles fonctionnent bien. Ne rien prendre qui nécessite des réparations à moins de s'y connaître et d'être capables de les faire soi-même.

Contactez les grossistes en produits de bureaux ou informatiques pour connaître des clients qui changent leurs équipements informatiques et voir si c'est possible de récupérer leurs équipements de vieilles générations.

Vérifiez auprès des magasins spécialisés en matériel informatique, les écoles, les bureaux de professionnels, les entreprises de communications, les imprimeries, toutes les entreprises qui doivent se tenir à la fine pointe de la technologie et qui par conséquent, doivent régulièrement renouveler leurs équipements.

Surveillez les aubaines des magasins de produits informatiques recyclés. Certains organismes de réinsertion des jeunes décrocheurs scolaires « remontent » des ordinateurs et les revendent à beauvoup moins cher.

Et enfin les incontournables « petites annonces », où vous pourrez trouver ou annoncer vos besoins.

Je termine donc en vous souhaitant une fin d'année remplie de belles surprises, de moments agréables avec vos jeunes, d'enthousiasme philatélique et de joyeuses rencontres. On se retrouve en 2010 avec plein de nouveaux projets pour en faire une année extraordinaire. BONNE ANNÉE À TOUS ✉

Yvan Latulippe: 115-600 de la Côte-Vertu, Ville St-Laurent, QC H4L 5E3 • yvanlatulippe@videotron.ca

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Do you have stamp-collecting friends who are not members of The Royal Philatelic Society of Canada? Provide their name and address or pass along this copy of The Canadian Philatelist to them. Have them complete and return the information below. Place your name and RPSC member number (found above your name on the address label of this magazine) in the "referred by" area. For every new member you recruit we'll credit your next year's membership with $5.

Avez-vous des amis philatélistes qui ne sont pas membres de La Société royale de philatélie du Canada? donnez-nous leur nom ou remettez-leur cet exemplaire du Philatéliste canadien. Demandez-leur de remplir et de retourner le formulaire de renseignements qui suit. Inscrivez votre nom et votre numéro de membre de La SRPC (que vous trouverez au-dessus de votre nom sur l'étiquette d'adresse apposée à la revue) dans la case « Recommandé par ». Pour chaque nouveau membre que vous recruterez, nous vous accorderons un rabais de 5,00 $ sur votre prochaine cotisation.

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bret@trajan.ca

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Philatelic Website Listings

With this and every issue of the Canadian Philatelist, philatelic-related businesses can promote their website on the Philatelic Websites pages.

Categories for this page are as follows:

- British North America (BNA)
- GB/Commonwealth • Canada
- United States/Worldwide
- Postal History • Auctions
- Topical Collecting • Post Cards
- Philatelic Literature
- Miscellaneous, i.e. stamp supplies, insurance, catalogues, etc.

An individual can list their web-site under as many of the categories as they see fit.

For those who have a print ad in TCP, each listing will be $10 per TCP issue. (We will further note the page of their print ad in each website listing).

For those who do not have an ad in TCP, each listing will be $25 per TCP issue.

Everyone wishing to list their website in TCP, must commit to list their websites for one year (six issues), which will be billed up front for the year.

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Corporate Email Address

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(905) 477-1511
enyitr618@rogers.com

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www.canstamp.com
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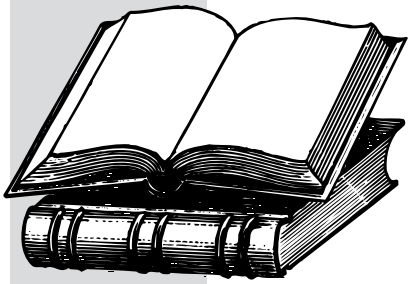

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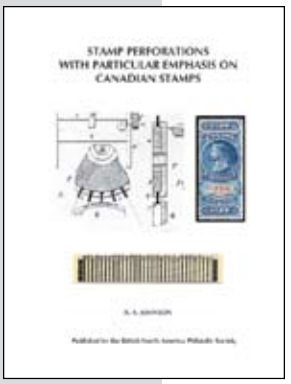


STAMP PERFORATIONS WITH PARTICULAR EMPHASIS ON CANADIAN STAMPS

By R. A. Johnson. Published by the British North America Philatelic Society, 2009. Spiral bound, 8.5x11 inches, 104 pages ISBN: 978-1-897391-48-8 $56.95; Credit card orders (Visa, Mastercard) will be billed for exact amount of shipping plus $2 per order. For payment by cheque or money order, add 10% in Canada, 15% to the US, 20% overseas. GST is payable for Canadian orders. BNAPS members receive a 40% discount. Available from: Ian Kimmerly Stamps, 62 Sparks Street, Ottawa, ON K1P 5A8, Canada. Phone: (613) 235-9119. Internet orders can be placed at www.iankimmerly.com/books/

If you have ever wondered what a platen or harrow perforation is, how a line perforation differs from a comb perforation, or the difference between a single T- and a double T-comb perforation, or how H-combs differ from double H-combs, this book is for you.

Of course, *Stamp Perforations with Particular Emphasis on Canadian Stamps* is more than a mere primer on stamp perforations. It delves into the minutiae of the topic and corrects the erroneous information prevalent in extant philatelic literature that deals with the various aspects of adhesive stamp perforations.

The book is divided into seven amply illustrated chapters, including an introduction, plus a three-page preface and acknowledgement.

Chapter 1 draws a comparison between the tagging on Canadian stamps and their perforations. The author makes the valid argument that "tagging" is currently a neglected facet of Canadian philately much as has been the case with perforations for the past 150 years. Both are "add-ons," according to Johnson.

In Chapter 2, we learn about the origin and history of the perforation gauge. What readers will find noteworthy is that it took 20 years before a standardized perforation gauge was adopted following the first successful demonstration of Henry Archer's perforation machine.

Chapter 3 reveals how one can identify the printers that have produced the more recent Canadian stamp issues from the way that they perforate them. The secret is in understanding how these various printers fail to adjust their perforating machines properly and accurately. Machines that are not perfectly adjusted leave telltale perforation variations that allow aficionados to identify the printer.

The theme of Chapter 4 is the efficacy of the different perforation gauges on the market and which ones are the best based on their design. Readers will also learn the fascinating connection between clock and perforation machine manufacturers.

One of the two appendices in chapter 5 gives an enlightening exchange between the engraving firm of Rawdon, Hatch, Wright and Edson and Canada's Wm. H. Griffin, Deputy Postmaster General. It discusses the merits of two patents for the rotary perforating machines. A successor to these pioneer machines, the Stickney Perforating Machine, was recently uncovered in storage at the Smithsonian Institute National Postal Museum in Washington, DC.

What may look like a normal perforation might not be what it appears. Chapters 6 and 7 outline the results of a study of the Third Bill Stamps and the "Young Queen" Victoria Federal Law Stamps. The study concluded that some of these stamps, contrary to earlier beliefs, have irregular perforations.

A careful reading of the author's groundbreaking research reveals that the lack of a clear understanding of the methods used to perforate Canadian stamps, combined with the less-than-perfect measuring capabilities of our perforation gauges, has resulted in the inaccurate measurement of some perforations as listed in our catalogues.

This publication is highly recommended for all stamp enthusiasts eager to gain a better understanding of an aspect of the hobby that has all too often been poorly presented in philatelic literature. *Stamp Perforations with Particular Emphasis on Canadian Stamps* is a well-researched, scholarly work that deserves a place on the bookshelves of philatelic libraries.

Tony Shaman

CANADIAN INTERRUPTED FLIGHT COVERS

By Major (Retired) R. K. Malott. Published by the British North America Philatelic Society, 2009. Spiral bound, 8.5x11 inches, 136 pages ISBN: 978-1-897391-52-5 (colour) $105.00; 978-1-897391-53-2 (b&w) $39.95. Credit card orders (Visa, Mastercard) will be billed for exact amount of shipping plus $2 per order. For payment by cheque or money order, add 10% in Canada, 15% to the US, 20% overseas. GST is payable for Canadian orders. BNAPS members receive a 40% discount. Available from: Ian Kimmerly Stamps, 62 Sparks Street, Ottawa, ON K1P 5A8, Canada. Phone: (613) 235-9119. Internet orders can be placed at www.iankimmerly.com/books/

Dick Malott's *Canadian Interrupted Flight Covers* is the 56th volume in the British North America Philatelic Society exhibit series. Interrupted flight covers include crash covers that were damaged or delayed while enroute to their destinations. As with other volumes in this series, it will prove to be a useful addition to philatelic libraries of individuals who are intent on improving their chances of earning higher awards at the national and international levels of competition.

The exhibit was first shown at ITALIA '85 where it earned a Large Silver medal. Since that time, it has moved up to the Large Vermeil level at various FIP shows including, most recently, China 2009.

At ORAPEX 2006, the exhibit took a Gold medal and the Grand Award. And, no wonder: It is a comprehensive collection of material showing examples of major air crashes in Canada and elsewhere, including a not-flown cover prepared for the famous 1927 London, Ontario, to London, England, flight that ended in disaster when the plane, piloted by Captain Terence Tully and Lieutenant James Metcalf, disappeared over the Atlantic on September 7, 1927. No trace of the aircraft or crew was ever found.

Also included in the exhibit are interrupted flight covers mailed from places such as the United States, England, Scotland, Italy and India between 1915 and 1984.

Exhibited material is shown chronologically. Each section is highlighted with items related to a specific crash or other cause that interrupted the flight such as mechanical failure, for instance. It is an expansive exhibit, consisting of eight, 16-page frames, divided into 20 sections.

Earliest flown cover in the exhibit is dated June 23, 1918. It was one of 124 covers flown from Montreal to Toronto and bears a triangular red cachet dated June 23. Due to inclement weather, the flight was delayed for a day. Although this cover is the earliest flown cover in the exhibit, there is an earlier example, a postcard, intended to be carried by plane to New Kensington, Pennsylvania. It is cancelled September 4, 1915, but the flight never took place as the plane crashed during a trial flight in Windsor, Ontario.

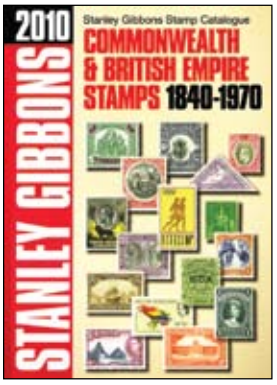
Although the exhibit is replete with examples of interrupted covers and postcards from pioneer airmail days, later material is equally well represented. For example, no fewer than nine pieces of mail from flight 621 that crashed at the then Toronto International Airport, on July 1, 1970, are included in the exhibit. Of the 126 registered letters aboard the ill-fated Air Canada Jet Liner, two are shown in the exhibit, as is a postcard, an acknowledgement of receipt card, an aerogramme and several first-class covers.

It is this comprehensive variety of material that has made it an award-winning exhibit.

Available in colour and black-and-white versions, one of the two versions will likely meet the needs of collectors looking for ways to improve their own exhibits or to learn more about delayed, damaged or crash covers.

Although at $105.00 the colour version is not inexpensive, it becomes more affordable when one takes into the 40% discount available to members of the British North America Philatelic Society. We are recommending this publication for anyone with an interest in postal history, particularly aerophilately with an emphasis on flown mail and associated ephemera.

Tony Shaman



STANLEY GIBBONS STAMP CATALOGUE COMMONWEALTH & BRITISH EMPIRE STAMPS 1840-1970

Published by Stanley Gibbons Publications. 2010 edition. ISBN 10:0-85259-731-2 and ISBN 13:978-0-85259-731-6. Case bound, 696 pages, 297 X 210 mm; Retail price 72.50 British pounds. Orders can be placed by telephone:+44(0)1425-472363 or by e-mail:sales@stanleygibbons.co.uk Also available at www.stanleygibbons.com or from the publisher at 5 Parkside, Christchurch Road, Ringwood, Hampshire, BH24 3SH.

Collectors familiar with this historic catalogue, now in its 112th edition, will appreciate the many changes and additions that the publisher has incorporated into this much improved, new edition.

Most notable are the new colour illustrations. Also new are the listings of several new plate flaws, including a number of the 1935 Silver Jubilee stamps. Other notable additions are: a second 'B' overprint of the British Post Office in Siam; priced notes on Newfoundland imperforate issues; revisions to the South African official stamps; and new printing details for Transvaal's Pietersburg issues.

Stamp prices, not surprisingly, shown for mint and used copies, continue to creep upwards from those in last year's edition. The strong prices throughout many of the listed

countries reflect current market conditions. Prices for the Asia Commonwealth listings in particular are strong, as are countries in Africa, the West Indies, Australian states and New Zealand. The stamps of Canada show many price increases, as does the Newfoundland section.

Included in this classic catalogue are the stamps of the Commonwealth and British Empire from each postal administration's initial issue up to and including the 1970 issues of King George VI. Colonies that amalgamated into larger territories are grouped together before the country united, while dependent territories, as of 1970, appear after the main listings. For example, Australian states appear before Australia itself while Norfolk Island, Papua New Guinea and the other Australian dependencies appear after it.

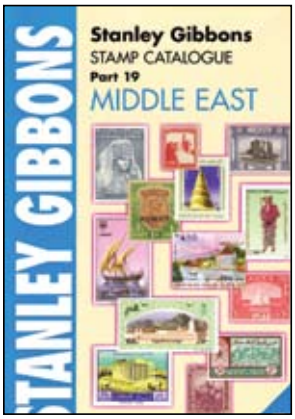
Also included in this latest edition are a comprehensive contents page; an eight-page spread of general philatelic information and guidelines to the scope of this work, including a list of abbreviations found in the catalogue; an international philatelic glossary comprising nearly three page; and a listing of specialist philatelic societies.

Much of the success of this popular publication is attributable to the detailed information provided by specialist societies. Their ongoing research brings to collectors the very latest available information on a number of countries. Revisions to the 2010 edition and newly listed varieties are outlined in a preface by the editor.

Examples of newly listed varieties include more than 40 inverted or reversed watermarked issues. For instance, the Silver Jubilee Study Circle, in addition to providing illustrations of Australian, Canadian and South African varieties, was also instrumental in adding new listings to the "Windsor Castle" issues.

Priced at 72.50 British pounds, this work, although not inexpensive, is a bargain when one considers the quality of its workmanship, its comprehensive content, and its practical lifetime. It is a work in the finest tradition of philatelic publishing. The publication continues to improve with each new edition and we have no hesitation in recommending it to the stamp collecting community.

Tony Shaman



STANLEY GIBBONS STAMP CATALOGUE PART 19 MIDDLE EAST

Published by Stanley Gibbons Ltd. 7th edition, 2009. ISBN 10:0-85259-719-3 and ISBN 13:978-0-85259-719-4. Soft cover, 432 pages, 297 X 210 mm; Retail price 42.50 British pounds. Orders can be placed by telephone: +44(0)1425-472363 or by e-mail:sales@stanleygibbons.co.uk Also available from the publisher at 7 Parkside, Christchurch Road, Ringwood, Hants, BH24 3SH or from www.stanleygibbons.com

The 7th edition of the *Stanley Gibbons Stamp Catalogue Part 19 Middle East*, the first reprint since 2005, is now available virtually in full colour. It is the only English-language catalogue covering the entire Middle East region in a single volume.

In addition to the listing of mint and used stamps, fully priced, this updated catalogue also lists booklets and all major stamp varieties including perforations, watermarks, shade variations, overprints and major print errors. Detailed notes are provided on machine labels, although those of Israel, Kuwait and the United Arab Emirates are unpriced.

Countries covered in the catalogue are the following: Abu Dhabi, Aden, Ajman, Bahrain, British Postal Agencies in Eastern Arabia, Dubai, Egypt, Fujeira, Gaza, Iraq, Israel Jordan, Kuwait, Lebanon, Muscat, Oman, Palestine, Palestinian Authority, Qatar, Ras al Khaima, Saudi Arabia, Sharjah, South Arabia, Syria, Trucial States, Umm al Qiwain, United Arab Emirates and Yemen.

Stamp design indexes for Bahrain, Israel and the United Arab Emirates have been updated. For Egypt, Jordan, Oman and Syria, design indexes have been added for the first time. These indexes are especially useful for topical and thematic collectors although the catalogue itself is highly detailed and informative. For the benefit of postal historians, there are significant postal history entries and explanatory notes for the various stamp issues, where applicable.

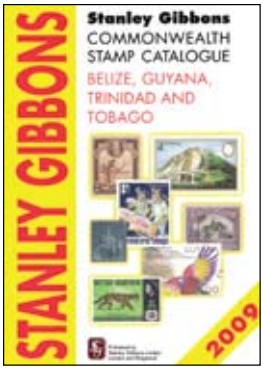
Arabic has for the first time been included in the four-page International Philatelic Glossary of commonly used philatelic terms. The other languages, besides English, are French, German, Spanish and Italian. This feature will undoubtedly appeal to collectors in non-English-speaking counties, particularly those from the Middle East.

The Yemen section of the catalogue is extensive. It deals with issues related to the political break-up of the country. Listed separately, for example, are the stamps of the Yemen Kingdom and Imamate, the Republic, and the Royalist Civil War Issues. The stamps of the Yemen People's Democratic Republic are broken out for the People's Republic of Southern Yemen, the People's Democratic Republic of Yemen, and Upper Yafa. And, lastly, there is the Yemen Republic (combined).

A four-page outline of general philatelic information and guidelines to the scope of the catalogue is valuable information for beginner and longtime collectors alike. It offers information and advice on how to make best use of the catalogue's many features.

Exquisitely prepared, with pride of workmanship evident throughout, this publication will prove its value for general collectors and for philatelists with a specific interest in the stamps of the thirty-odd postal administrations listed in this latest edition.

Tony Shaman



STANLEY GIBBONS COMMONWEALTH STAMP CATALOGUE BELIZE, GUYANA, TRINIDAD AND TOBAGO

Published by Stanley Gibbons (5 Parkside, Christchurch Road, Ringwood, Hampshire, Great Britain, BH24 3SH). ISBN 10:0-85259-733-9 and ISBN 13:978-0-85259-733-0. Softbound cover, 208 pages; 170 X 240 mm. Retail price 19.95 British pounds. Orders can be placed by telephone:01425-472363 or by e-mail:sales@stanleygibbons.co.uk or Internet:www.stanleygibbons.com

Stanley Gibbons has come out with a new catalogue pricing the stamps of Belize, Guyana, Trinidad and Tobago. This first edition continues the firm's popular One-Country catalogue series. Included in this all-new publication are the early colonial listings of British Honduras from 1865; British Guiana from 1850; Trinidad from 1847; and Tobago from 1879.

New issue listing updates are as follows: Belize to November 2008; Guyana to August 2008; and Trinidad and Tobago to July 2008.

Because this catalogue also doubles as a retail price list for stamps sold by Stanley Gibbons Ltd, it includes a 15-page section of philatelic information and guidelines.

Prices for stamps issued to 1970 are taken from the publisher's 2009 *Commonwealth and Empire Stamp Catalogue;* subsequent issues are specifically priced for this new edition.

Prices are quoted for mint and used stamps and are subject to change, according to the publisher. If the condition of a stamp is not as described, the amount paid will be refunded as outlined in the company's guarantee policy. Essentially, the stamps' list prices are the publisher's estimated selling prices at the time of the catalogue's publication. Prices, as outlined under the publisher's sales terms and conditions, are for stamps "in fine condition for the issue concerned."

Also included in this new price list are major plate flaws and printing errors, watermark variations, shades, postage due stamps and official issues. Booklets are also listed along with useful notes dealing with stamp identification and a guide to prices of stamps on cover up to 1945. Virtually all stamp images are illustrated in full colour.

These reasonably priced One-Country Stanley Gibbons catalogues, now numbering more than twenty in the series, are excellent alternatives to the more comprehensive and much higher-priced publications. They are recommended for philatelists whose collecting interests are limited to the stamps of a specific country or group of countries as well as for individuals wishing to expand their collecting horizons. This all-new catalogue will appeal to novice and experienced collectors alike.

Tony Shaman

The Canadian Philatelist **Searchable Database • found at www.rpsc.org**

Each issue of *The Canadian Philatelist* (up to five years ago) has been scanned and assembled into PDF files for on-line viewing (each issue is in one complete PDF file). You can now search a database that contains each article's Title, Author (last name and initial), Topic (and sub topic in most instances), Year of publication, Volume and Number.

La base de données interrogeable du Philaléliste canadien se trouve dans le site www.rpsc.org

Chaque numéro du Philatéliste canadien (des cinq dernières années) a été numérisé et assemblé en fichier PDF afin d'en permettre la visualisation en ligne (un fichier PDF par numéro). Vous pouvez maintenant faire une recherche dans une base de données qui comporte le titre de chaque article, le nom de l'auteur (nom de famille et initiales), le sujet (et les sous-sujets dans la plupart des cas), l'année de publication, le volume et le numéro.

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in my OPINION
a mon AVIS

by/par Richard Logan

How important is the Royal Philatelic Society to you?

That is a question I ask frequently.

I bring it up when I speak to a philatelist who is not currently a member of "The Royal."

It is a pointed question, even a leading question, because I'm trying to make a point – if philately is important to you, then membership in The Royal Philatelic Society of Canada is in your interests.

The "Royal," a national organization, has a two part mission: to promote and defend the interests of philately in Canada; and to provide services of value to its members. The first part of the mission is the most important.

Without an advocate – a well organized national voice – our individual and collective philatelic interests are vulnerable. Our interests are vulnerable to fixity – the absence of growth; our interests are vulnerable to erosion -- post office administrations are eroding the value of stamp collecting and postal history; and our interests are vulnerable to ignorance – self centered local stamp clubs and the absence of a provincial committee in each province to bind the organization together to keep our interests protected.

I have heard some of the most flagrant excuses from non members. Some take it for granted that what we as philatelists have now will be there forever. They therefore reason that a $34.50 membership fee is a "frill." Some dredge up real or imagined neglects therefore they see withholding their $34.50 as a way of settling a feeling of resentment. Some complain that being on a fixed income in a poor economy makes it impossible to pay the membership fee.

All in all, RPSC membership is all about protecting your own philatelic interests. If philately is important to you, you owe it to yourself to support the only national organization that believes that the Hobby of Stamp and Postal History Collecting is important.

Sure, if you are reading this piece then you are probably already a "Royal" member; however, you probably know several philatelists who are not members. Therefore, to better protect your own interests, please convince those others to join the "Royal." ✉

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