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The CANADIAN PHILATELIST
Le PHILATÉLISTE CANADIEN

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Journal of THE ROYAL PHILATELIC SOCIETY OF CANADA
Revue de LA SOCIÉTÉ ROYALE DE PHILATÉLIE DU CANADA

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THE ROYAL PHILATELIC SOCIETY OF CANADA
LA SOCIÉTÉ ROYALE DE PHILATÉLIE DU CANADA

The Royal Philatelic Society of Canada (RPSC) is the successor to the national society founded in 1887. Membership in the Society is open to anyone interested in stamps. Whether you are a beginner or an advanced collector, The RPSC offers a number of services that will be of interest to you. Here are just a few:

***THE CANADIAN PHILATELIST* -** The international award winning bi-monthly magazine of The RPSC, it provides stamp collectors information and news – for members and from the members. Each year, the author of the best article published in *The Canadian Philatelist* receives the Geldert medal.

PERSONAL COLLECTION INSURANCE - Group insurance is available for members to obtain coverage for their personal collections. Chapters can arrange third party liability coverage to protect the club and its events. Both policies have substantially lower premiums than non-members would pay for similar packages. Details are available on both types of insurance, upon request, from the National Office.

SALES CIRCUIT - The Sales Circuit is a useful method of disposing of surplus material and acquiring other material for your collection. Details on request.

ANNUAL MEETING - An annual convention held in a different locale each year provides an ideal opportunity to meet friends, exchange ideas, and get advice on your collection or exhibition at which exhibitors can qualify for international shows. You will also get a chance to visit a dealer bourse and attend interesting and informative seminars.

CHAPTERS - The RPSC has a network of local clubs across Canada. Chapter meeting details are published in The Canadian Philatelist. A great way to network with other collectors in your area.

RPSC WEBSITE - The Society has a Web site www.rpsc.org where members can find out about the latest developments, coming events and link up to many other stamp collecting sites. As a member, your e-mail and Website address can be added.

OTHER SOCIETIES - As the national society for stamp collectors, The RPSC works in partnership with many other societies and associations, such as the Canadian Stamp Dealers Association and Canada Post Corporation.

CANADA POST CORPORATION - The Society maintains a Canada Post Liaison Officer to represent the Society, its members and chapters. Members may raise issues of mutual interest with Canada Post Corporation through the National Office.

Join The RPSC!

- **ADVICE ON DISPOSAL OF COLLECTIONS**
- **THEFT PROTECTION NETWORK**
- **LIVE TELEPHONE CONTACT WITH NATIONAL OFFICE**
- **OPPORTUNITIES TO EXHIBIT AT OUR ANNUAL CONVENTION AND INTERNATIONALLY**
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- **THE RIGHT TO PARTICIPATE AND VOTE AT OUR AGM, AND TO HOLD ELECTED OFFICE**

La Société royale de philatélie du Canada (SRPC) est le digne successeur de l'organization fondée en 1887. Tout individu intéressé par la collection de timbres-poste peut en devenir membre. Que vous soyez un collectionneur débutant ou chevronné, la SRPC vous offre une gamme de services qui sauront vous intéresser. En voici quelques-uns:

LE PHILATÉLISTE CANADIEN - Cette publication bimestrielle, primée au niveau international, offre aux membres des informations et des nouvelles sur le monde philatélique rédigées par ses membres. Chaque année, la médaille Geldert est décernée à l'auteur du meilleur article publié dans Le philatéliste canadien.

CARNETS DE TIMBRES EN APPROBATION - Ils sont disponibles sur demande. C'est une façon facile de disposer de matériel en surplus ou d'acquérir des nouvelles pièces pour sa collection.

RÉUNION ANNUELLE - Un congrès annuel se tient dans différentes parties du pays. Une exposition de niveau national fait partie intégrante du congrès et permet à l'exposant de se qualifier pour les expositions internationales. De plus vous pouvez y visiter les tables de négociants et assister à des conférences.

ASSURANCE COLLECTION PERSONNELLE - les membres peuvent obtenir une assurance-groupe afin de protéger leurs collections personnelles. Les chapitres peuvent souscrire une assurance responsabilité vis-à-vis des tiers pour protéger le club et les évènements qu'il organise. Les primes pour les deux polices sont de beaucoup inférieures à ce qu'un non-membre paierait pour un contrat similaire. Vous pouvez obtenir des renseignements sur ces deux types de police en vous adressant au Bureau national.

CHAPITRES - Des clubs locaux au Canada constituent un réseau où les membres de La SRPC reçoivent un accueil chaleureux. Les renseignements sont publiés dans Le philatéliste canadien.

SITE WEB DE LA SRPC - La SRPC a un site Internet www.rpsc.org où les membres obtiennent les informations à date, les événements philatéliques à venir et peuvent accéder à plusiers autres sites philatéliques. Vous pouvez, en tant que membre, y ajouter vos adresses courriel et site web.

PARTENARIAT - La Société a des ententes avec plusieurs autres sociétés et associations philatéliques, notamment l'Association canadienne des négociants en timbres-poste et la Société canadienne des postes (SCP).

SOCIÉTÉ CANADIENNE DES POSTES - La SRPC a un agent de liaison pour représenter La Société, ses Chapitres et ses members. Les members peuvent soumettre des questions d'intérêt commun aux deux Sociétés. Vous pouvez également obtenir des renseignements auprès du Bureau national.

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ROYAL PHILATELIC SOCIETY OF CANADA
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Les renseignements contenus dans le présent formulaire seront utilisés à seule fin de communication par le Bureau national de la SRPC, les directeurs de la Société et ses représentants. La Société publie le nom de chaque personne qui fait une demande d'adhésion dans *Le Philatéliste canadien* afin que les membres puissent exprimer leur objection, le cas échéant. Ces renseignements ne seront jamais vendus ou transmis à des publicitaires. Si vous avez des questions, veuillez vous adresser au Bureau national au 1-888-285-4143

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Journal of The
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Revue de La
SOCIÉTÉ ROYALE DE PHILATÉLIE DU CANADA

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THE COVER:

This edition has much to do with traditions that we uphold, memorialize, and celebrate throughout the years. In November, the tradition is one of commemoration, honouring those who have fought, and died for our freedoms and for our country. It's a time of sadness, introspection and memory. In December, our thoughts are for the living: our family and friends, and a celebration of happier moments. It's a joyful time of feasting, and giving. Hopefully, our cover reflects that dichotomy, that juxtaposition, within the two months. This issue of *TCP* is an attempt to blend, and meld, two of our most cherished traditions in this country. Items concerning remembrance begin on page 342, while our Christmas coverage begins on page 368

PAGE COUVERTURE:

La présente édition est liée de près aux traditions que nous observons, commémorons et fêtons au fil des ans. En novembre, la tradition en est une de commémoration, qui rend hommage à ceux qui se sont battus et qui sont morts pour nos libertés et notre pays. C'est un temps de tristesse, d'introspection et de commémoration. En décembre, nos pensées vont aux vivants : notre famille et nos amis et à la célébration de moments joyeux. C'est le moment de fêter et de donner. Nous espérons que notre page couverture rend cette dichotomie, cette juxtaposition s'étendant sur deux mois. Le présent numéro du *Philatéliste canadien* tente de mêler et de fondre deux des traditions les plus chères de notre pays. Les articles concernant le souvenir commencent à la page 342, et ceux sur Noël à la page 368.

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EDITOR'S notes

notes du RÉDACTEUR

RPSC news *by / par Herb Colling* **nouvelles SRPC**

A November-December edition of a magazine presents quite a quandary for an editor. The most significant event in November is Remembrance Day: a commemoration of death, remembering those who died for our freedoms. The most significant event in December for the Christian world is a celebration of life: remembering the birth of Jesus Christ. Two seeming opposites juxtaposed within two months and in the context of the same magazine.

For this edition, then, we'll give both their due by creating two magazines within a magazine. We'll have two distinct sections. The first, a retrospective of the wars that helped Canada assert its nationhood, a consideration of the Canadian troops who stood together and distinguished themselves – and our country – in the field of battle. With the help of Richard Logan, we'll consider the hardships of war that brought many immigrants to this country. It's a telling document of struggle and survival recorded in stamps. Then, Len Prince will develop his own story about the privations of the men who served, specifically through the eyes and letters of a member of his own family, his uncle, who was missing in action during World War II. It's a riveting story that demonstrates the horrors of war.

The second section will look at Christmas through several points of view, both the religious and secular. Henny Uyl will start us off simply by telling the story of the virgin birth through stamps from her award-winning exhibit. Then, Maria Belenkova will help us switch gears and look at the stamps of Russia that tell the story of the origin of Grandfather Frost in that country. It's the Russian version of Santa Claus. Nick R. Bocker will complete the tale with a visit from the big man himself. Appropriately, it would seem, the North Pole is celebrating Canada's Sesquicentennial with a special addition to Santa's annual correspondence to children in this country. And then Richard Logan will return with a look at the first commercial Christmas cards that spell out the message of Christmas loud and clear for all to hear.

Of course, we'll also include our regular features. David Piercey will be by to talk about

L'édition de novembre-décembre d'une revue est tout un dilemme pour le rédacteur en chef. En effet, au mois de novembre, l'événement le plus marquant est le jour du Souvenir : une commémoration de la mort qui nous rappelle que des hommes ont perdu la vie pour nos libertés. L'événement le plus marquant du mois de décembre dans le monde chrétien, quant à lui, est une célébration de la vie : la commémoration de la naissance de Jésus-Christ. Deux événements apparemment opposés, juxtaposés sur deux mois dans le contexte d'une même revue.

Pour la présente édition, eh bien, nous rendrons à chacun son dû en créant deux revues en une. Nous aurons donc deux sections distinctes. La première est une rétrospective des guerres qui ont aidé le Canada à affirmer son statut de nation, un regard sur les troupes canadiennes qui ont fait front commun et se sont distinguées, tout comme notre pays, au champ de bataille. Avec Richard Logan, nous examinerons les difficultés de la guerre qui ont amené beaucoup d'immigrants au Canada — une documentation éloquente sur la lutte et la survie, consignée dans des timbres. Ensuite, Len Prince nous racontera les privations des hommes qui ont servi, en se basant principalement sur les observations de visu et les lettres d'un membre de sa propre famille, son oncle, porté disparu au combat lors de la Seconde Guerre mondiale — une histoire fascinante qui montre les horreurs de la guerre.

La deuxième section se penchera sur Noël selon différents points de vue, religieux et séculiers. Ainsi, Henny Uyl débutera simplement en racontant l'histoire de la naissance virginale, s'inspirant des timbres de son exposition primée. Puis, Maria Belenkova nous amènera sur une autre voie où nous examinerons des timbres de Russie qui racontent l'histoire du grand-père Gel, la version russe du père Noël. Nick R. Bocker conclura le conte avec une visite du grand homme lui-même. Et, ce qui semble bien approprié, le pôle Nord célèbre le cent cinquantième du Canada par un ajout spécial à la correspondance du Père Noël destinée aux enfants de notre pays. Par la suite, nous retrouverons Richard Logan dans un article sur les premières cartes de Noël commerciales qui transmettaient à tous, haut et clair, le message de Noël.

Nous ne manquerons pas d'inclure nos chroniques habituelles. David Piercey sera là pour nous parler d'actualités, de collections et d'expositions de timbres

topicals, collecting and exhibiting stamps of a particular theme. It's the latest thing in judging and exhibiting. Joseph Perrone will augment that idea by discussing an exhibit of his own that demonstrates how stamps can provide valuable history lessons. That concept of histories conveyed in stamps may be evident as you peruse this edition, and analyze its line-up of stories. We'll wrap up our Sesquicentennial coverage with Dale Speirs revealing the origins of the maple leaf flag, which is a history in itself.

New voices, James Colbeck will discuss a dynamically exciting project in Stratford that, this year, included stamps because of his artistic efforts. It's a novel idea that may well appeal to the music, and stamp lover in all of us. Andy Pedden will add his voice about Cinderella stamps as a prelude to our Christmas coverage. He'll document why he's been an avid collector for years. It's our usual eclectic mix of regular stories, augmented by our juxtaposition of birth and death. It's a magazine within a magazine: two sections to commemorate and celebrate respectively the months of November and December. I hope you'll sit down, relax, and enjoy this edition of *The Canadian Philatelist*. ✉

sous un thème particulier; une primeur en matière de jugements et d'expositions. Joseph Perrone renchérira en discutant de l'une de ses expositions, qui démontre comment les timbres peuvent fournir de précieuses leçons d'histoire. L'idée d'histoires transmises par les timbres se concrétisera à mesure que vous parcourrez le présent numéro et analyserez sa série de récits. Nous conclurons la couverture du sesquicentenaire avec Dale Speirs qui nous révélera l'origine du drapeau à feuille d'érable, une histoire en soi.

De nouvelles voix se font entendre, notamment celle de James Colbeck, qui nous fera part d'un projet dynamique et sensationnel à Stratford. Cette année, grâce à ses efforts artistiques, comprenait des timbres; une idée originale pourrait bien toucher l'amoureux de la musique et des timbres en nous. Andy Pedden ajoutera son son de cloche sur la paraphilatélie en prélude à notre numéro de Noël. Il nous expliquera pourquoi il est un collectionneur passionné et pourquoi il l'est depuis nombre d'années. Bref, c'est notre mélange éclectique habituel d'histoires, enrichi par une juxtaposition de la vie et de la mort. C'est une revue dans une revue : deux sections pour commémorer et célébrer respectivement les mois de novembre et décembre et vous donner une idée de ce qu'ils représentent. J'espère que vous vous assoirez, que vous relaxerez et que vous aimerez ce numéro du *Philatéliste canadien*. ✉

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IN THE **MAILBOX**
DANS LA BOÎTE AUX **LETTRES**

TO CHARLES VERGE

Your article on Canadians on Stamps of the US (September October edition) was quite informative and I found it historically interesting, to boot!

I was amazed that you were able to pick out Henry Sandham as a Canadian, as there are many that think of him as American as he did a lot of work (and lived) in Boston and in California. And many Americans incorrectly give him the name John Henry Sandham!!! But you are correct, Henry (Hy) Sandham is Canadian; born in Montreal. He was my grandmother's great-uncle. Bet you didn't know that the portrait of Sir John A. McDonald that hangs in the rotunda of Parliament was painted by Henry Sandham? Quite proud of that really. I've also attached the picture that the Cdn stamp was made from, called "The Critics."

I know you picked out Sc 618 for your article but the same stamp is also colourized in *US Scott* # 1563. You may also note that Canada included Henry Sandham in the millenium stamp CAN SC#1821a - Royal Canadian Academy of Arts.

Again. Good article.

Cheers,

D.B. (BRUCE) WALTER, CD
SECRETARY
BARRIE DISTRICT STAMP CLUB

Editor's note: Charles Verge also wrote to let me know he found another U.S. stamp with a Canadian connection. It was in an exhibit called: They Came to America*; that he judged in Seattle recently. The individual is Harold Rudolf Foster (Hal Foster, 1892-1982, born in Halifax, Nova Scotia.)*

In 1937, he created his signature comic strip about Prince Valiant. (Scott 3000s) There were also books, and now the stamp since 1995.

BONJOUR MONSIEUR COLLING, ÉDITEUR

J'ai (Régent Roy, RPSC 29084) fait l'acquisition d'une grande et belle collection de marques postales olympiques, sur 403 enveloppes, des Jeux olympiques de Montréal 1976, du 17 juillet au 1er août. Cette collection a été faite par une dame dont j'aimerais connaître le nom afin de l'identifier à ma collection, pour lui rendre hommage. J'ignore complètement de quelle province elle est ou a été.

Je lance donc un avis de recherche auprès des membres de la RPSC pour m'aider à l'identifier. Elle a eu l'idée géniale de mettre sa photo, avec dentelure, et la marque postale générale de la XXIe Olympiade de Montréal 1976, sur la dernière enveloppe de, maintenant,

ma collection. Vous pouvez me contacter à : regent.roy@xittel.ca.

Pour information, on peut me rejoindre facilement par courriel.

Merci

RÉGENT ROY

HELLO HERB:

I was surprised and pleased to read the two articles on Jack Miner. I grew up in Kingsville, and Uncle Jack was one of my Sunday School teachers in the early 1930s. I am pictured on one envelope at the front of a group around Uncle Jack holding a branded Canada goose. I donated this envelope to the Kingsville-Gosfield Heritage Society and archive several years ago. I am sure both groups would appreciate a copy of this issue of *The Canadian Philatelist*.

My late father, Leonard Malott, inherited 22 acres of farm land next to the sanctuary. He tried to grow corn, but eventually gave it up as thousands of Canada Geese and Chinese Gold Neck Pheasants ate the shoots and later the corn. We were allowed to shoot the birds to scare them off, but it didn't work. This was the Great Depression and any birds killed ended up in cold storage for Sunday dinners. Eventually my dad sold the land to the sanctuary.

Another Sunday School teacher was the late Reverend Creasy who was instrumental in getting me started collecting stamps. He gave everyone in the class a stamp album and some used stamps. Each week, those who mounted the stamps received more. He was a missionary in Newfoundland, and accumulated thousands. On many Saturday afternoons, I would visit him to see his collection and converse about stamps. I think he would be proud of his student who became involved in Canadian Aerophilately, has received many philatelic awards for exhibiting, and is a life member in the RPSC. In retrospect, after 90 years, those early days in Kingsville were wonderful.

Thank you for the articles on "Wild Goose Jack." Simeron Matijasevic is to be congratulated on his discovery of Miner's early correspondence and his exemplary donation to the Jack Miner Sanctuary.

DICK MALOTT
FRPSC, FRPSL, FCAS, AHF (AAMS)

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in MEMORIAM

Dudley Blaschek receiving his 50 Plus Club medal and certificate from Peter Newroth, who knew him for over 45 years. Photo courtesy of Robin Clarke.

The Canadian Philatelist deeply regrets the death of Dudley Blascheck, who celebrated his 90th birthday in February. He died peacefully on September 3 in Hospice in Victoria B.C. Blascheck was born in Corbridge on Tyne, UK on February 11, 1927. He was a member of the Vancouver Island Philatelic Society, and once served as president of that organization. He collected Rhodesian stamps from the colonial days, primarily because of family connections in that country. He also collected postal history of the Union Castle Line: famous passenger, freight, and mail ships that connected South Africa with the British Isles. His family used the service frequently on their travels, and those voyages prompted his love of collecting philatelic material.

Blascheck will be missed by his brother Anthony Blascheck, son Tony Blascheck, daughter Sharman Wieser, son-in-law Peter Wieser, grandchildren Natalie (Wieser) Englmann, André Wieser and their spouses Shawn and Lindsay; and two great grandchildren Giselle and Penelope Englmann.

Blascheck also wrote articles about his research in several specialized journals. In June, he was inducted into the 50 Plus Club sponsored by the Royal Philatelic Society of Canada. The club recognizes RPSC members who have been involved with the society for over 50 years. TCP featured Blascheck's story in the September October edition of the magazine. It is our great regret that he never got to see that edition. The RPSC extends condolences to Blascheck's family and friends.

ON THE FLY: we're always talking about ways to get the word out about stamps. Well, here's a novel way to do it. The Canada Aviation and Space Museum in Ottawa used stamps, and postal history, to advertise its March break programs earlier this year, especially those that were linked to stamps.

Help deliver mail throughout the museum.

The museum used several wee ads on its Facebook page in an effort to stimulate interest in the museum exhibits, in this case: The Mail Must Fly! Melissa Gruber is the marketing officer, and she says, "There is a good link between early flight and mail delivery, so – from time to time – historic events can be linked to aircraft and stamps that we have in our collection."

On this day in history, 1919, the first international air mail from Canada was flown out from Vancouver, B.C.

Gruber says they'd do it again because they have a lot of great stamps.

It seems a natural in some ways, as there are many stamps available to commemorate aeronautic themes. Perhaps it's something that philatelic institutions should be espousing, and expanding to other non-philatelic organizations. ✉

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The Origin of the MAPLE LEAF FLAG

By Dale Speirs

In 1964, Prime Minister Lester Pearson initiated action for a new Canadian flag, and touched off what historians agree was one of the most acrimonious debates in Canada's history. Few Canadians know that the flag had its origins in the Suez Canal crisis of 1956, and even fewer know that two postage stamps played a part in the flag debate.

THE RED ENSIGN

The Red Ensign was never Canada's official flag by statute law. The use of the Red Ensign was by informal observance and tradition. It was also common to use the Union Jack. The Red Ensign was the flag of the British merchant marine, adapted slightly for Canadian use. Until 1921, there were numerous variations of the Red Ensign, with no standardization of the symbols on its fly. The fly is the right half of a flag, when viewed with the flagpole on the left.

Canadians were not obligated to use a given design, and some citizens liked to modify the Red Ensign according to their whims. Many Red Ensigns were personal designs by flag makers, with the fly having all sorts of crests and coats of arms. After 1921, Canada adopted an official Coat of Arms, which was used on the flag. In 1945, the Liberal government established the final version of the Red Ensign and made it official by an Order-In-Council or cabinet decree. The matter was not brought before the House of Commons because Prime Minister Mackenzie King preferred to avoid controversy. He wanted a different design but knew it would never succeed, so he left it for a future generation to decide.

The postcard, circa the first decade of the 1900s, shows a building festooned with 50 or more flags. Based on the military personnel in ceremonial dress drawn up in ranks, and the crowds surrounding them and watching from the rooftops, this is almost certainly a Dominion Day celebration on July 1st of an unknown year. The postcard is mint and undated by the printer. The building would not have so many flags for any other type of holiday. A few of the flags are Union Jacks, but the majority are Red Ensigns with blank flies. This isn't because the postcard printer couldn't reproduce crests on the fly, since the Union Jacks on the ensigns are quite clear. It seems probable that these Red Ensigns actually were blank on the flies at the ceremony.

The Red Ensign in any form was never honoured on Canadian stamps during its lifetime. A stylistic version of it, more like a pennant, was used for machine postmarks on various occasions.

This is an 1897 flag cancel, as close as the Canada Post ever got to showing the Red Ensign as a primary subject.

Another style of postmark is a flag cancel for the 1937 Coronation. These are modified Red Ensigns, not Union Jacks per se. The Union Jack did appear

on the 1942 10 cent stamp depicting the parliament buildings. The maple leaf, by itself as a symbol, frequently occurred on stamps as an ornament in the frames.

In the aftermath of the adoption of the Maple Leaf flag, the Ontario and Manitoba legislatures retaliated in 1966 by adopting Red Ensigns as their flags, each with the appropriate provincial crest. At the time, both provinces were controlled by Tory governments, and explicitly made it clear that they were acting to spite the federal Liberals.

ENTER NASSER AND PEARSON

Before entering politics, Lester Pearson had a long career in the Canadian diplomatic service. He was Canada's agent responsible for brokering a peace agreement with Egyptian President Gamal Nasser, after the Suez Canal was nationalized by the Egyptian government in 1956. The British and French military forces, occupying the canal area, were disconcerted by Pearson's proposal to interpose a United Nations peacekeeping force. This was intended to allow the British and French governments to save face when forced to withdraw, after finding out the hard way that imperialism wasn't acceptable anymore in a post WWII world.

Nasser made good use of postage stamps as propaganda regarding the defeat of the British and French forces, if not in combat, then by diplomacy.

Four stamps, issued in 1956 and 1957 during the height of the crisis by the Egyptian post office, were multilingual: English and French; just to drive home the point to foreign stamp collectors.

Pearson had a major problem in working the deal. Because Canadian troops wore uniforms similar to the British, and carried a flag with the Union Jack on it, Nasser objected to the troops coming to Suez. Matters were made worse by the insensitivity of the Canadian minister of national defence, who proposed to send the Queen's Own Calgary Regiment as Canada's contribution to the peacekeeping force. The minister was completely oblivious to the feelings of Egyptians, who had just been fighting the Queen's Own West Surrey Regiment from England. Pearson could do nothing to shake the Colonel Blimps in Canada. He failed to make them understand that Canada was not the 'honest broker' it liked to portray itself as, but was viewed by Third World nations as a lackey of Britain. It was this background that remained with him in later years, and prompted him to act when he became prime minister.[1]

Pearson eventually succeeded in establishing the first United Nations peacekeeping force for which he received the Nobel Peace Prize. When the United Nations began issuing a series of stamps of all its member nations' flags, the stamp depicting the Maple Leaf flag on a U.N. stamp became particularly appropriate for this topic.

In the run-up to the year 2000, Canada Post issued a stamp in the Millennium series that made reference to Pearson's achievement. This is the stamp as it was on a page in the Millennium book, graphically cropped with its inscription. The stamp depicts a dove carrying a maple leaf through the United Nations logo.

THE POLITICS OF THE FLAG

When he became prime minister, Pearson initiated action in 1964 for a new flag. He wanted to eliminate the Union Jack and the fleur-de-lys in any new design, and substitute maple leaves as more appropriate for Canada. No one could accuse Pearson of lack of courage, for his announcement that such a new flag would be brought in was made at the annual convention of the Royal Canadian Legion. It was probably the most hostile audience he ever faced in his political career.[2]

The debate in the House of Commons was sidetracked by procedural nitpicking, and generated more heat than light. Former Prime Minister John Diefenbaker, now the opposition leader, led the charge. He was not against a new flag as such but wanted the Union Jack kept on it. While he used that publicly as his reason for opposing a union less flag, he wrote in his memoirs that the real reason was that Pearson didn't follow proper procedure in bringing the matter before the House of Commons. Diefenbaker resented having the new flag design sprung on him and his fellow Tories by surprise.[3]

Tommy Douglas, leader of the NDP in the House of Commons, had no feelings either way about a new flag. He was disgusted by the vicious nature of the debate and the squabbling over procedural details. In watching Pearson and Diefenbaker during the flag debate, he remarked that they were: "... two old bulls out on the prairie bashing their heads together." He was a monarchist, but supported Pearson's design of three maple leaves, although he later changed over to the single leaf proposal.[4]

THREE LEAVES

The final design of the flag was different from Pearson's proposal. He wanted three maple leaves, and even got the Canadian post office to issue a stamp on May 14, 1964, showing what he had in mind, although not in the exact design of his flag. In volume three of his memoirs, Pearson wrote: "By this time, I knew pretty well what design I favoured myself, and even got the post office to put out something similar in the guise of a stamp. My first and favourite design proposed light blue bars top and bottom with a red maple leaf on a white background." [2]

Illustrated is a first-day Rosecraft cover of the three-leaf stamp. Its cachet is peculiar in that it burbles on about how Canada was founded by two races. In the meantime, the third leaf on the stamp is an acknowledgement that other nationalities helped make the country, specifically aboriginals and non-British or French immigrants.

The stamp did not go unnoticed by the opposition. On August 26, 1964, the postmaster-general, J.R. Nicholson, was questioned by a backbencher who specifically asked if the stamp was part of a campaign to soften up the public. Nicholson blandly replied that the stamp design predated the flag debate, which was technically true, but evaded answering directly that it was indeed part of the maple leaf campaign. Diefenbaker returned to the attack on September 1, unsuccessfully trying to pin down Nicholson about who ordered the stamp issued. Nicholson admitted that he chose the colours for the three-leaf stamp, but claimed they were picked because they were more easily detected by automatic sorting machines. Diefenbaker couldn't shake him, and therefore moved on to non-philatelic aspects of the flag debate.[5]

The Tories were hampered by the fact that, in 1959, when Diefenbaker was prime minister, the Canadian post office had issued a stamp with three maple leafs of a very similar design. The stamp was for the bicentennial of the Battle of the Plains of Abraham. Like Pearson's stamp, it showed three maple leaves on a single stem, although they were green. In the debates of the House of Commons, Nicholson was able to piously point to the 1959 stamp and ask the Tories why they would think there was anything wrong with the 1964 version. The Tories had no answer, although everyone in the Commons knew perfectly well what Pearson was up to with his stamp.

THE FLAG IS DESIGNED

Pearson preferred a flag with blue bars and three maple leaves, but eventually acceded to the single-leaf design that was adopted. The Pearson version was shown on the back cover of the 2015 flag stamp booklet issued by Canada Post. It is the middle flag of the three designs shown. When the flag debate was at its height in 1964, designing a new flag became a national sport, second in popularity only to hockey. Thousands of designs were sent to Ottawa. Many citizens tried to work in both the Union Jack and the fleur-de-lys, while others went in the opposite direction with abstract designs. In 2015, when Canada Post issued a stamp for the 50th anniversary of the flag, the first-day cover showed a few of the many designs that flooded into the government.

In early 1964, when discussions about the new flag began in earnest, John Matheson, the Liberal M.P. for Leeds County, Ontario, and Alan Beddoe, a retired Royal Canadian Navy officer, were actively involved in the design of the flag. The Coat of Arms granted to Canada in 1921 stated that Canada's official colours were red and white, but Pearson was wedded to the idea of red, white, and blue on the flag. The design initially submitted to the House of Commons on June 15 was three red maple leaves on a single stem on a white background, with blue bars at each end of the flag. After long emotional debates in the Commons, the design was referred to a special committee on September 10. The committee sat 41 times in six weeks and studied about two thousand designs, as well as listening to testimony from experts on history and heraldry.

George Stanley, Dean of Arts at the Royal Military College in Kingston, Ontario, broke the impasse by proposing a red and white flag based on the college flag, substituting a single maple leaf for the college crest.

Matheson then negotiated a deal with the NDP to accept this design, and the Tories were out-voted in committee.[6] Pearson was persuaded that the three leaves design was too closely identified with himself to get through the Commons, whereas the cleaner single leaf design didn't have the political baggage.

In 1976, a pair of stamps were issued honouring the centennial of the RMC, one of which showed a colour guard carrying what, at first, appears to be a maple leaf flag. However, a closer look shows it is a different RMC flag, a standard with a crown and logo of the college superimposed on a maple leaf. This should not be confused with the original design modification that produced the maple leaf flag.

The final debate in the House of Commons lasted 33 days and 252 speeches before Pearson invoked closure. On December 15, the flag was adopted by a vote of 163 to 78. The Red Ensign was lowered on Parliament Hill on February 15, and the maple leaf flag raised for the first time. That date is the official birth date of the flag. The Rosecraft cover documents the details.

THE FIRST MAPLE LEAF FLAG STAMP

Strangely, the new flag was first depicted on a stamp issued not by the Canadian post office, but by South Korea, five days before the Canadian stamp came out. South Korea was commemorating the allies of the Korean war. Its stamps depicted the flags of the main combatants, of which the new Canadian flag stood out prominently on

one of the stamps. This may or may not be a design error stamp, depending on how one interprets the design. Canada fought in the Korean war under the Red Ensign, so that might be considered the correct flag. However, South Korea was honouring the countries, not the actual battles, so it would have been wrong to show an obsolete flag. The proportions of the red bars on the maple leaf flag are slightly off, but this is a common problem on foreign stamps, some of which reduce the bars to stripes.

On June 30, 1965, having been scooped by South Korea, the Canadian post office issued the first Canadian maple leaf flag stamp. It would have been nice to have it out on July 1, but the earlier date was chosen because the post offices would be closed for the Canada Day holiday. Those were the days when first-day covers were not yet monopolized by the CPO, and many private FDCs were issued.

ADAPTING TO THE NEW FLAG

Anything that used an illustration of the Red Ensign in print had to be changed over to the new flag. Among many others, postcards had to be re-issued so as not to be obsolete in the eyes of tourists. As an example, I have a before-and-after pair of postcards published by Grant-Mann Lithographers of Vancouver. The original postcard design is a photo of the Calgary Stampede chuck wagon races in the early 1960s, with Red Ensign and Union Jack flags decorating the track. The company saved money by painting maple leaf flags over the Red Ensigns. Strangely, the Union Jack was left as is.

THE MAPLE LEAF FLAG STAMP REVIVED

The 1965 flag stamp was a nice clean design, which has stood the test of time quite well, unlike some of the atrocities issued by the Canadian post office during the prior decade. When Toronto hosted the International Philatelic Youth Exhibition in 1982, Canada Post issued a souvenir card depicting the stamp. In 2005, the Postcard Factory issued a series of 40 postal cards with various views. The postage imprint on the postal cards was the 1965 flag stamp, minus the denomination and 'Postes-Postage' phrase. ✉

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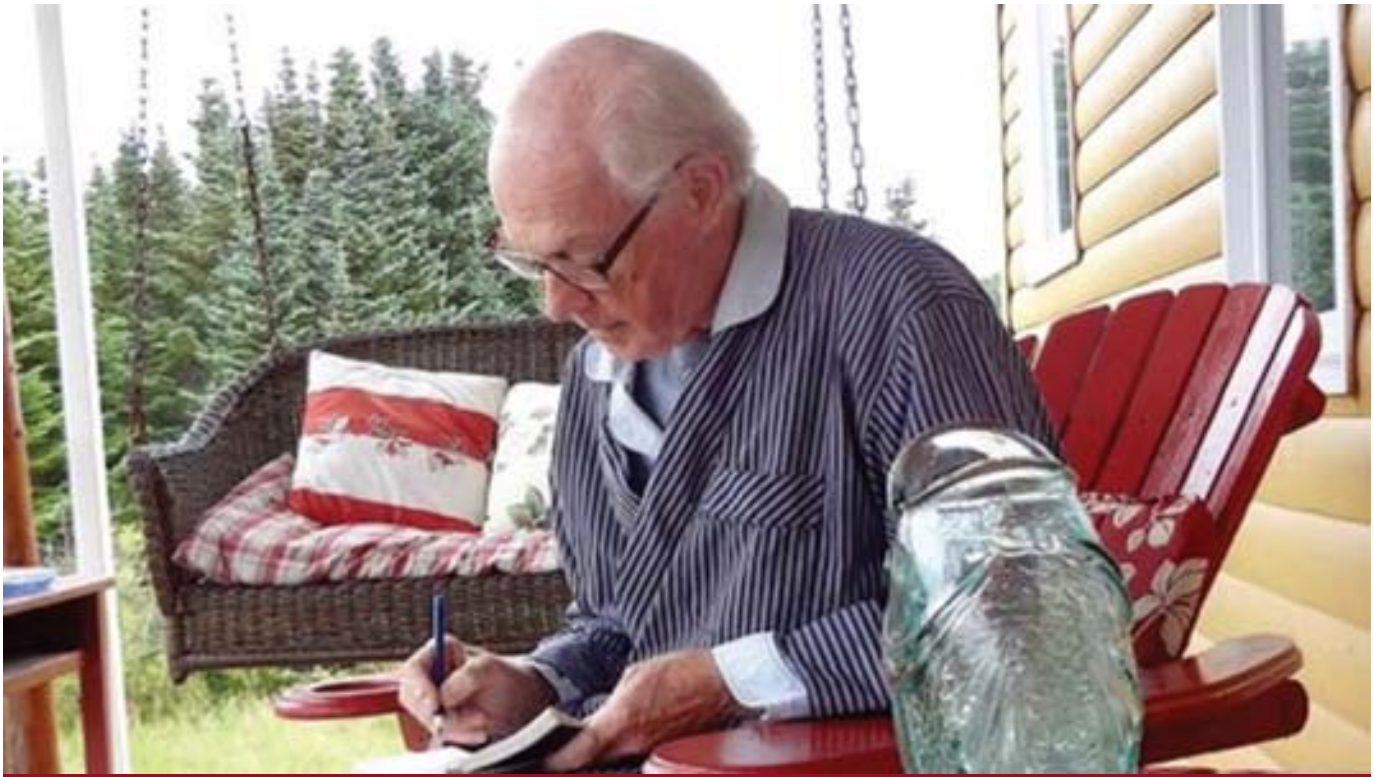

A Failed Design and a Unique Canadian Stamp Project

By James Colbeck

In 1969, I was one of six Canadian designers approached to submit a concept for a stamp to commemorate Governor General Vincent Massey. I was delighted to take part in this competition. After all, he was an iconic personality, Canada's first native-born governor general. Unfortunately, my design was not successful.

My proposed Vincent Massey stamp (above). The Vincent Massey stamp that was chosen (right).

Fast forward to January, 2017. I received a call from John Miller, the artistic producer of the Stratford Summer Music Festival. I had worked for Miller on two previous occasions, painting pianos for the 'Paint Me, I'm Yours' program. Under this program, richly decorated upright pianos are inscribed with those four words: Paint Me, I'm Yours; for distribution in the community so that passers-by can play. As a festival city, Stratford is an ideal location for the program. In 2015, eight pianos were completed. In January, Miller invited me, along with three other designers, to take part once again.

Sophie Belenkova playing a tune on site.

Appropriately, the theme, for piano decorating this year, was 'Celebrating Canada's 150th Birthday.' It took some persuasion, but I accepted the invitation when I realized that I could use my Vincent Massey stamp in acrylic on a background of vermilion red on the upper front of the piano.

Then, I could celebrate Canada's 150th on other surfaces of the piano by using stamps to tell Canada's history. I thought it would be exciting and different, and I wouldn't be doing much painting. Instead, my plan was to decoupage dozens of cancelled stamps onto the piano, along with assorted enlargements. A friend provided me with bags of cancelled stamps, which she didn't want any more.

Bucky the beaver as an old-fashioned postal clerk.

My wife, Lori, and I laboriously rummaged through those stamps evening after evening until we had an interesting selection. Then came the trimming of the paper on which the stamps were mounted. I decided against soaking-and-separating the stamps. I felt the back papers themselves would be an asset when it came to gluing them to the piano. It was all trial-and error, no question.

As the weeks passed, and the piano was delivered to a barn behind our apartment building, my concepts for the decorations altered again and again. Meanwhile, I applied two coats of exterior primer and three coats of vermilion red acrylic to the instrument, and allowed it to cure for a couple of weeks before applying the stamps, and then three coats of varathane to protect it from the weather. All went well from start to finish. The four pianos were 'launched' publicly on August 1st, positioned suitably around the centre of downtown Stratford.

'The proof is in the pudding,' they say. Even before the piano left the barn near the end of July, several visitors, who had heard about it, dropped by to enjoy it. None were expecting what greeted them. All seemed thrilled and amazed and intrigued. They had gained, they said, a new appreciation of stamps and particularly of Canadian stamps as a significant art form and a celebration of our country's history. ✉

James Colbeck is an author illustrator. He has a BA (RMC), BEd (AcadiaU), and was a former art teacher in Yarmouth County, NS. He 'taught' (Canadian) stamp design to his grade nine and grade 12 students from 1986 to 2005.

The stool celebrates Parks Canada. The leaves are hand-cut, or hand-painted.

In Flanders Fields

By John McCrae

In Flanders fields the poppies blow
Between the crosses, row on row,
That mark our place; and in the sky
The larks, still bravely singing, fly
Scarce heard amid the guns below.

We are the Dead. Short days ago
We lived, felt dawn, saw sunset glow,
Loved and were loved, and now we lie
In Flanders fields.

Take up our quarrel with the foe:
To you from failing hands we throw
The torch; be yours to hold it high.
If ye break faith with us who die
We shall not sleep, though poppies grow
In Flanders fields.

Major John McCrae, later Lieutenant Colonel McCrae, wrote those immortal words on the battlefront during the second battle of Ypres, Belgium, on May 3, 1915. McCrae was a medical officer, surgeon, and gunner with the First Brigade of the Canadian Field Artillery. The day before, Alexis Helmer, a soldier in his unit, was killed by a direct hit from an eight inch German shell. He was McCrae's close friend, and former student. That evening, under the cover of darkness, McCrae recited from memory a few passages from the 'Order of the Burial of the Dead' as proscribed by the Church of England. There was no Chaplain available, or present.

On May 3, McCrae wrote his poem perched in the back of an ambulance parked near the dressing station beside the Yser Canal, just a few hundred yards north of Ypres. He was in sight of Helmer's grave. He was tired, but calm as his eyes strayed over the battlefield as he wrote. His poem was completed within 20 minutes. It was first published in the London-based magazine *Punch*, and it would last forever. It was used as propaganda, in recruitment drives, and fundraisers to support the war effort. Its reference to the poppy made the flower the most recognized memorial symbol for soldiers killed in combat. An inscription of the poem is encased in a bronze book at the memorial at John McCrae's birthplace in Guelph, Ontario.

In 2015, Canada Post issued a stamp using some of the images in the lines of the poem. Designers Janice Carter and Tejashri Kapure began with the photograph of a real poppy to set the fragile and translucent tone of the stamp. They followed up with the crosses 'row on row,' the larks 'bravely singing,' with the silhouette of a helmeted soldier.

McCrae himself was an indirect casualty of war. Worn down by his time at the front, he died of meningitis and pneumonia on January 28, 1918. The first Canadian stamp to commemorate John McCrae was issued on October 15, 1968, 50 years after he died. A total of 24 million of the five cent stamps were printed by the Canadian Bank Note Company. The designer was Imre von Mosdossy.

Ironically, an American woman was the first to distribute poppies on Armistice Day in the U.S. to raise funds for a legion in Athens, Georgia. Moina Michael became known as the poppy lady, and there are any number of colourful cachets commemorating the significance of the poppy during WW I. One of those cachets recounts the first instance of wearing poppies, which occurred in New York City on November 9, 1918. Moina Michael was working for the Y.M.C.A. at that point, and she distributed poppies to men attending the 25th annual conference of the 'Y.' Her campaign was adopted by the National Legion Convention in 1920, and rapidly spread throughout North America. The American Legion of Milwaukee sold poppies just before Memorial Day, 1920, to secure funds for disabled veterans. In recognition of her services, Michael received the Distinguished Service Medal of the American Legion Auxilliary. She died at the age of 74 in Athens, Georgia, on May 10, 1944. ✉

Postcard Adventure One

By Herb Colling

A friend of mine recently discovered that I am a stamp collector, and editor of a national stamp magazine, and she loaned me her postcard collection to examine. There are over 300 cards, many of them extraordinary. That little adventure prompted this series of articles about historic postcards.

One series in her collection shows pictures of the *H.M.S. Agincourt*, a dreadnought battleship, built in the U.K. in 1911. She was the largest British battleship of her day with 11 hundred crew, 14 heavy guns, and seven twin-gunned turrets, more than any other battleship at the time. Originally built for the Brazilian government, she was christened the *Rio De Janiero* during the South American arms race when Brazil was looking for an impressive design to demonstrate its naval supremacy against Chile and Argentina, its chief rivals.

ship`s badge

Brazil paid almost three million pounds for the ship, which could travel at a speed of 22 knots with a range of 81 hundred miles.Brazil was an incredibly rich country in its heyday because of the rubber boom, but that wealth was short-lived. As relations with Argentina improved, and when the rubber market collapsed in Brazil, the ship was sold to the Ottoman Empire, while it was still under construction. She was renamed *Sultan Osman II*, after the founder of the empire.

When World War I broke out, with the Ottoman Empire favouring a German alliance, the ship was requisitioned by the British government as was another British-built vessel destined for ownership in Turkey. First Lord of the Admiralty, Winston Churchill, gave orders to seize the ship, and to deny access by the Turks, "By armed force, if necessary." Both ships had been paid in full by Turkey, and the seizures were a contributing factor to the Turks siding with Germany and the central powers.

Joining the British fleet in the North Sea, the ship was renamed *H.M.S. Agincourt*, after the famous battle against the French in 1415. Primarily a patrol boat, she participated in the Battle of Jutland in 1916, off the north coast of Denmark. It was the largest naval confrontation of the war. The

Postcards commemorating the Battle of Jutland by *Agincourt* and *Onslaught*

Germans had hoped to lure the British fleet into a trap to break the British naval blockade of Germany. Britain, on the other hand, was determined to contain the German fleet, and keep it away from the Atlantic, as well as Britain and her shipping lanes. The battle began on May 31, but ended on June first.

"It was the perfect attack. Right height, right range, right cloud cover, right speed; but wrong *%&@c# ing ship!" was the quote by Commander Stewart Moore, *H.M.S. Ark Royal*. There was concern that, if the *Agincourt* fired a full broadside with her heavy guns, she would either break in half, or sink. The vessel fired several broadsides during the engagement, suffering only a few popped rivets, the only damage she sustained that day. The full broadside was described as, "Such a ball of fire that it seemed the ship had blown up."

In total, 14 British and 11 German ships were lost with Britain losing six thousand men, twice as many sailors as the Germans. Technically Britain won because it retained control over the North Sea, which was the country's ultimate long-term goal. The battle was tactically inconclusive, however. The British fleet failed to force a decisive outcome, but the Germans failed to cripple the British fleet. Jutland was the last major battle fought primarily by battleships in world history.

The crew of musicians, dressed up for entertainment, in happier times.

After the war, *Agincourt* was on reserve by 1919, and was sold for scrap in 1922 to meet the terms of the Washington Naval Treaty. The idea was to prevent an arms race and military build-up by reducing naval construction. The agreement was signed by the governments of the U.K., the U.S., France, Japan and Italy; but was revoked by Japan and Italy in the mid 1930s, which presaged World War II.

There have been five British naval vessels bearing the name *Agincourt* from as early as 1796 to as late as 1945 – 1974. ✉

***H.M.S. Agincourt*, 1915, with *H.M.S. Erin* in the background.**
Courtesy, government of the U.K.

True Friends Ever, On to Victory

An Abnormal Normal

By Richard Logan

When Hitler invaded Poland to ignite World War II on September 1, 1939, he captured the city of Lodz within a week. By the end of the year, he took all the Jews of the city – 230 thousand people, one third of the population – and concentrated them in the 'Lodz ghetto,' an area just over four square kilometres in size in the northern suburb of Baluty.

Initially, Jews were required to wear a band on their right arm to distinguish them from Poles and Germans. Once in the ghetto, that was changed to wearing a yellow Star of David, and the word 'Jude' on their right breast and back. They were told that the concentration of the Jewish people in one place was necessary in order to protect them from hostile or forceful behaviour from the non-Jewish population and the military.

Workers in one of the Litzmannstadt ghetto workshops, circa 1940.

On April 11, 1940, Lodz was given a new name: Litzmannstadt, after Karl Litzmann, the German general who captured the city during World War I. A special rubber stamp cancellation of sorts appeared on letters and cards mailed on that day.

The Lodz ghetto was also renamed Litzmannstadt, and was ordered closed on April 30. The next day, the walls went up, and the Jews were locked in, completely

Rubber stamp cancellation of April 11, 1940

at the mercy of the Nazis. To create a sense of normalcy, a Judenrat, or Jewish council of 24 men, had already been established to give the Jews a feeling of self-government. With limited results, the Judenrat tried to organize food distribution, aid stations, old age homes, orphanages, schools, sewage disposal, even their own police force. The Judenrat replaced the local German currency with ghetto paper and coins, and created a post office, and 'local stamps' exclusively for mail within the ghetto.

The ghetto post office had three basic functions: receive and deliver mail for the ghetto, which had arrived at the German post office; receive outgoing mail, and pass it on to the German post office; and act as a messenger service for the council. The post office employed 62 clerks, 50 letter carriers, and 27 messengers.

On December 8, 1941, 10 regulations were established regarding postal services. Residents were encouraged to write on postcards with clear, short, clean, and direct sentences, avoiding close lines. They could no longer write for permission to leave or enter the ghetto. They could no longer request packages, nor could packages be sent through the government mail. Mail to Switzerland, and overseas, would no longer be forwarded. Letters were to be addressed to the recipient with no return addresses. The letters were merely given the Judenrat stamp by the post office. There were several other restrictions, but they all meant that less mail went out, and less was received.

10 mark 'Rumkie' coin used in the ghetto. There was also a similar five mark coin. Photo credit: Dr. Romuald Wroblewski, University of Uppsala, Sweden.

The Germans wanted to create a sense of normalcy in Lodz because it was an important industrial centre in the heart of the country. Lodz was famous for its textile industry, but the Germans also needed workers to manufacture war supplies for the German army, which was on the march. Those workers were the Jews, gypsies, and refugees amassed in the ghetto, which rapidly grew in size. In the early stages, there were about four people to a room. Lodz was the second largest ghetto in all of German occupied Europe, after Warsaw.

'Rumkies,' or paper currency, issued and signed by Rumkowski.

Living conditions were appalling. Leaving the ghetto without a pass was forbidden under penalty of death. Inside the ghetto, those who approached the wooden fence surrounded by barbed wire were shot. The biggest problem was the distribution of food, which was rationed by Chaim Rumkowski -- known as the Elder of the Jews -- and the Jewish head of the Judenrat. He doled out food based on a worker's status and production. It was a time of shortages, but certain jobs, like office workers, received more food than others.

A 62 year old Polish Jew, Rumkowski became the Nazis' 'man on the inside.' He was autocratic, a man torn between helping the ghetto population, while giving in to the demands of German authorities. Convinced, initially that productivity would ensure survival; he forced people to work 12 hour days, despite deprivation, and the lack of good food. Almost all of the adult population and a good percentage of children were employed in about 120 workshops, producing uniforms, wood, metalwork, and electrical equipment for the German army. Rumkowski once boasted that these 'Ressorts,' as they were called, were a 'gold mine.'

On January 30, 1942, Rumkowski issued a notice in the German and Yiddish languages, asking for submissions of designs for stamps, and medals for exceptional work within the ghetto.

"I intend to issue postal stamps to be used in the ghetto for five and 10 Pfennig; accordingly I request suitable designs in German and Yiddish text, from which I will choose the best for future use. For compensation, I establish three prizes: for the first best design approved, Reichsmark 100; for the second best design, Reichsmark 60; for the third best design, Reichsmark 40. All designs must be submitted in sealed envelopes... not later than February 15, 1942."

The first issue of ghetto locals.

To this day, it is not known how many designs were submitted; only that there were two issues. The first consisted of two imperforate stamps, five Pfennigs, printed in red, and 10 Pfennigs printed in green on carton/kraft paper. They were issued on March 9, 1942. The second issue, of three imperforate stamps, was designed by Pin-

chas Szaar, likely the same artist who designed the first issue. The five Pfennigs was printed in blue, the 10 Pfennigs in green, and a 20 Pfennigs brown. Only the 10 Pfennigs value was on gummed paper. These were issued just before the Jewish New Year, celebrated on September 12, 1942. They lasted for only a few months.

Any designs submitted with Yiddish script – contrary to the notice – were not considered. It is also interesting to note that Litzmannstadt was the only ghetto to have its own stamps.

Design of a local stamp for the ghetto in both German and Yiddish. Photo credit: Meczenstwo Walka, Zaglada Aydow W Polsce 1939 – 1945 #104.

As the war progressed, the new normal of the Nazis started to unravel. Close to 20 thousand Jews, from other parts of the Reich, had been transferred to Litzmannstadt, along with five thousand Roma people, often known as gypsies. The ghetto was bursting at the seams, and deportations were increased. Rumkowski selected who would be sent to the extermination camps. The Roma were the first to be deported to the Chelmno death camp 50 kilometres away, and 10 thousand Jews followed. On another occasion, 34 thousand Jews received the summons for deportation, nicknamed 'wedding invitations.' The Nazis saw people as numbers, not individuals. The next large group consisted of 20 thousand Jews deported at the rate of one thousand per day.

All those who were unable to work – the sick, the aged, and children – were invited on the death transports with the promise of a meal. Then, there was a respite from the deportations, which lasted about a year and a half. During this time, the remaining inhabitants of the ghetto were starving, overworked, and afflicted with dysentery, tuberculosis, and typhus. Despite their condition, they were still required to supply munitions for the German army. As one source explained, "They worked, hungered, and mourned."

Children rounded up for deportation to the death camp at Chelmno, circa 1942. Photo credit: Bundesarchiv.

On June 10, 1944, Reichsführer Heinrich Himmler, facilitator and overseer of the concentration camps, ordered the liquidation of the Litzmannstadt ghetto. The first transports left on June 23 for Chelmno, and continued to July 15 when they halted. The Germans had decided to liquidate Chelmno as Soviet troops moved closer, and the death trains were transferred to Auschwitz. After August 4, 1944, 74 thousand Jews from Litzmannstadt were sent to the Auschwitz and Birkenau gas chambers. Chaim Rumkowski, his wife Regina, and his children were among those transported.

Five months later, on January 19, 1945, the Soviet army liberated the Litzmannstadt ghetto. Official figures show that 877 Jews, who had gone into hiding on August 4, were all that remained of over 245 thousand Jews who had passed through the nightmare.

Ironically, Poland in Hebrew is pronounced Polin, from po 'here,' lin 'you should dwell.' This led to the creation of a popular saying about Poland being 'a heaven for Jews.'

After the Nazi invasion, Poland was more like a living 'hell.' ✉

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1939 James MacLintock, in uniform.

WAR Letters

By Len Prince

On October 31, 1943, my grandmother, Mary MacLintock, wrote to her son, Private Jas. W. MacLintock, my uncle, care of the Perth Regiment C.M.F. Canadian Army overseas. Dear Jim, the letter begins...

My grandmother relates that they'd received two letters a week ago, but have only just had a chance to write. She talks of Halloween, and how they gave apples to the few children who showed up. She says most people gave apples because that's all there was, candy being in short supply because of the war.

She also mentioned the fact that they don't drive much anymore, maybe once a week for groceries. The car is mostly relegated to the garage. "Our gas is getting low, and we won't be able to get any until April." Her letter goes on about mundane, every day kind of things: neighbours moving in and out; a birth; a wedding; a child who had his tonsils out, and is going to Sunday school now; the weather, with a lot of flu going around; and relatives who came from the farm for a visit.

Mary and Gilbert MacLintock, Jim's parents

Her letter seems to be saying that life goes on in spite of the war. A family is coming home tomorrow, she pens. They wrote to ask that she go into their house to start a fire in the furnace, so it would be warm on their arrival. One neighbour is off to Halifax, having enlisted in the navy, and his wife and children are off to live with her mother. She talks of having received Jim's

Top right: Enlisting, head and shoulders shot with cap. Scotland and England, 1943

cheque for 333 dollars and two cents, "And will put it in the bank tomorrow, so it will be there when you get home again." She also mentions having purchased another 50 dollar Victory Bond on Friday, and that dad bought one at Ford for 400 dollars. "I hope this will be the last, and that the war will be over soon."

My grandmother writes that she packed a Christmas parcel of homemade cookies, jelly and honey. The package was stuffed with popcorn as packing material to prevent her goodies from being broken in transit. She said she'd send chocolate bars in December so Jim would have them for the New Year. She'd planned to send more walnuts in the parcel from the tree in the backyard, but there was no room, so she'd send those for the New Year too.

In closing, she talks about other families that they visit to play cards, and relates how all of their boys are in the service now, getting ready to ship overseas, or have already gone. "Must listen to the news before I go to bed." It was signed 'mother, with lots of love,' and it was mailed at 11 a.m., November 1, 1943.

In a follow-up letter, January 12, 1944, my grandmother wrote, "Dear Jim, I was going to send an air mail letter, but I guess I ran out of forms." She mentioned that Kath (Jim's sister, my aunt) received three air mail letters from him today, one posted about a month ago. "Not too bad for one day. She gets more mail than we do." She goes on to say that she received one he wrote on Christmas Eve, in which he states that he was thinking of them. "Well Jim, we were thinking about you too." In that letter, Jim talked about going to midnight mass, and then drinking, to which his mother replied that she was glad he went to mass, "Although it would be strange to you. But, as long as the thought was there, it doesn't matter what religion it is." She also commented about his drinking, "There was very little done around here this year, as it's too hard to get."

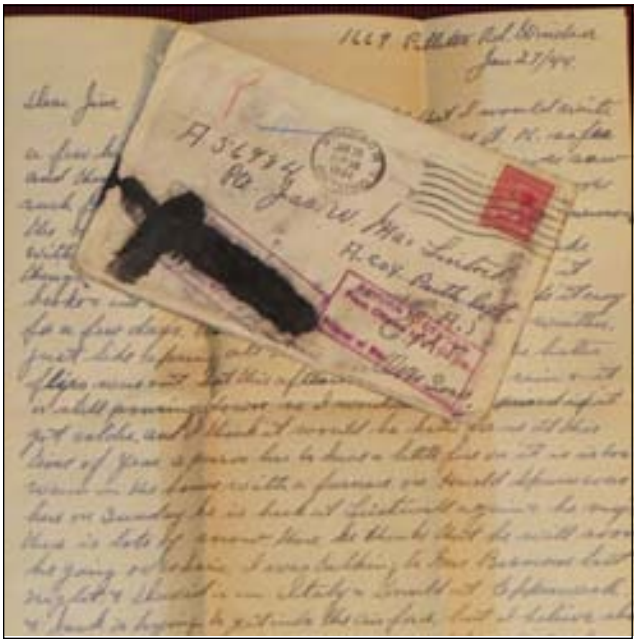
Enclosed in the letter was a picture of a lineup, running two blocks long in front of a wine store in Windsor. The caption: "Only a few hours of 1943 remain, and many Windsorites spent much of the time standing in long beer, wine and liquor queues today..." The article concludes, "Liquor rationing has increased the number of wine drinkers."

In her letter, my grandmother goes on to talk about putting the Victory Bonds in the safe at the bank, "As there is so much thieving going on around town." She tells about a neighbour whose son is overseas at headquarters, and asks if the two boys have run into each other yet. She asks about the parcels she sent, wondering if he received them, and tells him that she is getting another one ready just in case he didn't get the others. "But I can't find any candy. I guess it was all cleaned up during the holidays, and they don't know when they'll get another shipment."

She wonders what condition the parcels are in when he gets them, and asks if he needs socks, or anything. She laments that her pen is running out of ink, and says that, "Dad has the good one with him." She wishes Jim well, "And may the best of luck be with you," signed mother.

In a third letter, mailed on January 28, 1944, my grandmother talks about several local boys being overseas in Italy; with another at Ipperwash, a military base near Sarnia, getting ready to go; and yet another trying to get into the air force, but not having the eye sight for it. She mentions that a lot of local boys are in Italy, have seen action, and that some have been wounded. "How do you like it where you are?" she asks. "What outfit are you with? I guess things are bad over there. I guess those poor people had to put up with a lot, but I hope it will be all over soon."

She comments that they haven't received a letter since the one he wrote on Christmas Day, but she lived in hope that one might come soon. "I hope this finds you in the best of health. May God watch over you, and keep you all safe, your loving mother.



There was no response until the fall when the bad news hit. My grandmother's first letter was returned on September 22, 1944. It was followed shortly after by the other two. They came back unopened. They'd never been delivered. The first two were stamped with the ominous, 'Missing in Action,' confirmed. The third one was stamped, 'Prisoner of War.'

Eventually a letter arrived from Jim. It is now undated, with several missing pages. In a faintly written hand, no longer discernible with time, Jim pencilled about his job in the trenches, which was to carry ammunition up as far as possible: bomb shells going to the artillery, and rifle bullets to the men in the trenches on the front lines. If they were unable to get through, then the soldiers from the front came back to intercept it.

Often, they came under small arms fire. In one case, an officer was killed. A piece of shrapnel hit the truck, and pierced the steering wheel. "A tank came over us about 11 p.m.," Jim writes, and was not more than 300 feet away from them. "It fired shells, but not at us. It makes you mad when you are not allowed to fire. It's such a one-sided affair. He [the tank] would have killed us, but some civilians got it instead, and now their day's work is done."

There is just one fragment of the letter, but then it peters out because of pages missing. To fill in the blanks, Bob MacLintock, my cousin and Jim's son, picks up the story. My uncle was involved in the Battle of Ortona, a major conflict in a town in Italy during December, 1943. It involved intense house-to-house fighting with an entrenched German army. When it was deemed unsafe to travel along the streets, Allied engineers blasted holes through adjacent houses, so troops could continue up the street from building to building. It was a method called 'mouse holing,' and it was much safer because soldiers were inside, and not exposed to sniper fire. If the Germans held the upper floors of the building next door, then enough explosives were detonated to destroy the whole structure.

The Allies eventually took the town, and continued their advance to cross the Arielli River north of Ortona on the 17th of January, 1944. In that battle, there were 185 casualties, including 137 people killed, 29 captured by the Germans, and the rest injured. Bob MacLintock figures that was where his dad, my uncle, was captured. He was shipped to Stalag Seven 'A' in Bavaria, 35 kilometres north east of Munich. It was Germany's largest prisoner of war camp. Originally built to house 10 thousand prisoners, it contained eight times that many by 1945.

My cousin, Bob MacLintock, figures that the Red Cross came to Stalag Seven 'A' by war's end, looking for drivers for a bus to take political prisoners to the Swiss border where they would be released. Uncle Jim volunteered, figuring it was his chance to escape. En

route, he convinced his German guard that the Allies were winning, and that it would be better to surrender to an American controlled check point. The German gave up his guns to my uncle and, when they arrived at the check point, the German was taken prisoner, and my uncle was free.

When the correspondence continues, Uncle Jim talks about the thousands of wounded, many of them horribly. The story reverts to the front line where the wounded walked from the trenches without a groan or a murmur toward the hospital trains where they waited to be taken away. Jim remembers one guy on a stretcher, laughing and joking with some others standing around. He was smoking a cigarette, but starts to cough and choke. He throws his cigarette butt away, pulls his blanket over his head, and lies back. A doctor came by shortly thereafter, pulled the blanket away from the man's face, and discovered that he was dead.

Later on, Jim talked to another stretchered soldier, offered him a pipe of tobacco, and asked about his troubles. The man grinned, and pulled the blanket off his legs. One was missing completely; the other was blown off at the knee. Inside the hospital, Jim remembered a 17 year old boy sitting propped up in bed, playing ragtime on a mouth organ. That same morning he'd had one of his legs amputated, Jim writes, and the other one was coming off in the afternoon.

"I could keep on for days telling you of the things I saw, and the wonderful pluck of our men, but I think the most awful thing I saw was the first batch of 15 men who had been gassed." They were in a yard at the back of the hospital. "A more terrible sight it is impossible to see. Poor chaps, frothing at the mouth, struggling for breath, and one could hear their lungs rattling as they coughed, and they were an awful colour." He says he only saw a few of them, but there were hundreds more inside. He writes, "No one could possibly exaggerate the pluck, endurance, and heroism of our men. It's just superb."

The next few pages are missing at this point. When the letter continues, it's hard to figure out. The one thing that is clear, Jim talks about being back at headquarters in peaceful, dear old London, "No longer a prisoner, back out of the hands of the bastard Hun."

Bob MacLintock, Jim's son, my cousin, filled in some of the blanks. He says my uncle's unit was cut off from the main force, and captured by the Germans in Italy. He spent two years in a prisoner of war camp. He was 17 years old when he enlisted, six foot four, a strapping lad. When he was released from prison, he weighed 150 pounds. He came home, but never talked much about the war. He often woke up screaming and in a cold sweat at night. There was no talk of post traumatic stress in those days. That's just the way it was for the guys, like my uncle Jim, who survived. ✉

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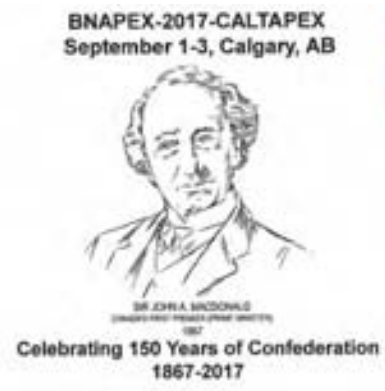

BNAPEX 2017 CALTAPEX

Calgary, Alberta, September 1st to 3rd

By/par George Pepall, FRPSC

I took the opportunity to attend an extraordinary philatelic show in Calgary, Alberta, at the start of September. It was a joint undertaking of the Calgary, RPSC, chapter 66 and the British North America Philatelic Societies. Members of both organizations received the benefits of the collaboration at the Hyatt Regency Hotel.

An unusual element of the show was a teleconference for the 11 directors of the new board of the RPSC, which has been in service since the annual meeting in Boucherville in May. As past president, I decided to participate in person in order to experience this unique, two-in-one show. I also wanted to be sure that our society had an information table with membership forms and back issues of *The Canadian Philatelist.*

Before I became immersed in RPSC board business and philately, I joined a tour to the Head-Smashed-In Buffalo Jump Museum, historic Fort Macleod, and the town of Vulcan. For anyone interested in the habits of buffalo, western Canadian police history or Trekkie lore, this trip was not to be missed.

Au début de septembre j'ai eu l'occasion d'assister á une exposition philatéliqe extraordinaire a Calgary en Alberta. L'exposition était organisée conjointement par la Calgary Philatelic Society (CPS — section de clubs no 66 de La SRPC) et la British North American Philatelic Society (BNPS). La collaboration des deux sociétés a été couronnée de succès à l'hôtel Hyatt Regency.

L'un des éléments inhabituels de l'exposition a été une téléconférence des onze directeurs du nouveau conseil d'administration de La SRPC, dont le mandat a débuté à Boucherville en mai. En tant que président sortant, j'ai décidé d'aller en personne vivre l'expérience de cette exposition unique, deux en une. Je voulais aussi m'assurer que notre société disposait d'une table d'information où l'on pouvait se procurer des formulaires d'adhésion et d'anciens numéros *du Philatéliste canadien.*

Avant de m'immerger dans le travail du conseil d'administration de La SRPC et la philatélie, j'ai participé à une excursion comprenant une visite au précipice à bisons Head-Smashed-In, au site historique de Fort Macleod et à la ville de Vulcan – une excursion incontournable pour tous ceux qui s'intéressent aux habitudes du bison, à l'histoire de la police canadienne de l'Ouest ou à la tradition « Trekkie » (amateur de Star Treck).

What was notable about the joint show - even in the tour of the area - were the synergies gained from working together as two societies with one common purpose: the furthering of stamp collecting and philately for beginners, learners and specialists alike. The picture postage, the frames of exhibits in two combined categories, the joint welcoming desk, the printed program and the remarkable number of seminars and specialists' meetings provide lasting reminders of how affiliates working together can achieve more for everyone.

Topics on the board agenda included, but were not limited to:

- Our financial status
- Future conventions, beginning with St. Catharines, in June of 2018
- Youth philately
- The RPSC Strategic Plan
- A possible newsletter for members
- Recruitment of new members
- Membership fees
- *The Canadian Philatelist*
- Management of new frames

Information on these discussions is available on the RPSC website through the posted minutes, or from any director.

Ce qui était remarquable dans l'exposition conjointe, même dans la visite de la région, c'était la synergie dégagée par le travail en commun de deux sociétés dans un seul but : le développement de la collection de timbres et de la philatélie chez les débutants, les personnes en apprentissage et les spécialistes. Le timbre-photo, les cadres d'exposition dans deux catégories combinées, le bureau d'accueil commun, le programme imprimé et le nombre remarquable de séminaires et de réunions de spécialistes nous rappellent comment des clubs affiliés qui travaillent ensemble peuvent réussir à en faire davantage pour tous.

Les sujets à l'ordre du jour du conseil portaient, entre autres, sur :

- notre situation financière;
- les prochains congrès, qui commenceront par celui de St Catharines, en juin 2018;
- la philatélie jeunesse;
- le plan stratégique de La SRPC;
- un éventuel bulletin à l'intention des membres;
- le recrutement de nouveaux membres;
- les frais d'adhésion;

Toward the end of the meeting, Jim Taylor announced his resignation as president, effective immediately, citing personal reasons. He will continue as a director and as international liaison officer. Taylor served most efficiently as master of ceremonies of the Sunday Palmares banquet, which again was a linked presentation of the CPS and BNAPS. A vote followed Taylor's announcement, in accordance with the by-laws, that elected vice-president Ed Kroft as the new president, and director Sam Chiu as the new vice-president.

Thanks and congratulations go out to the many volunteers and leaders of both the Calgary Philatelic Society and the BNAPS for achieving a unique philatelic success that can be a model for members across Canada. ✉

RPSC director Jim Taylor receives gold award for his earth science topical exhibit.

Le directeur de La SRPC, Jim Taylor,reçoit "une médaille d'Or" pour son exposition thématique sur la science de la terre.

• Le philatéliste canadien;
• la gestion des nouveaux cadres.

Vous trouverez un compte-rendu de ces discussions sur le site web de la SRPC dans le procès verbal qui y est affiché ou auprès de l'un ou l'autre des directeurs.

Vers la fin de la réunion, Jim Taylor a annoncé sa démission du poste de président pour des raisons personnelles. Il continuera d'assumer ses fonctions de directeur et d'agent de liaison internationale. Jim s'est montré un maître de cérémonie des plus efficaces au banquet du palmarès du dimanche, qui, encore une fois, était organisé conjointement par la CPS et la BNAPS.✉

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NOTICE to members

RE: ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING 2018

Please take note that the next annual general meeting of the members of the Royal Philatelic Society of Canada will be held at the Holiday Inn and Suites Parkway Conference Centre, 327 Ontario Street, St. Catharines, ON L2R 5L3 on Saturday, June 23, 2018 at 10:00 a.m., for the purposes of:

receiving and considering the financial statements of the society as of December 31, 2017 and the reports of the executive members, the directors and duty officers;

- electing seven 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 such further and other business as may properly come before the meeting.

The 2018 election for the director positions will be decided by secret ballots submitted by members of the society. Details of this process will be provided in a later issue of *The Canadian Philatelist*.

RE: NOMINATIONS FOR BOARD POSITIONS

The Royal Philatelic Society of Canada invites nominations for the positions of directors of the society, commencing in June 2018. Seven directors 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 national office by December 8, 2017. Nomination forms are available from the national office or www.rpsc.org. Persons nominated must consent in writing to their nominations and must also include a short biography of approximately 300 words, and a head and shoulders, black and white photograph suitable for publishing, with their nomination form. ✉

AVIS aux membres

OBJET : ASSEMBLÉE GÉNÉRALE ANNUELLE 2018

Veuillez noter que la prochaine assemblée générale annuelle des membres de La Société royale de philatélie du Canada aura lieu au Holiday Inn and Suites Parkway Conference Centre, 327, rue Ontario, St Catharines, ON L2R 5L3, le samedi 23 juin 2018, à 10 heures pour :

la réception et l'examen des états financiers de la société au 31 décembre 2017, ainsi que des rapports des membres du conseil de direction, des directeurs et du personnel;

- l'élection de sept 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 qui sera soulevé à l'assemblée.

Les élections de 2018 en vue de pourvoir les postes de direction seront remportées par vote secret des membres de la société. Les détails de ce processus seront dévoilés dans un numéro ultérieur du *Philatéliste canadien.*

OBJET : CANDIDATURES POUR LES POSTES AU CONSEIL D'ADMINISTRATION

La Société royale de philatélie du Canada vous invite à soumettre des candidatures en vue de pourvoir les postes de directeurs, qui entreront en vigueur en juin 2018. Sept (7) directeurs seront élus à l'assemblée générale annuelle conformément à l'annonce faite ci-haut. Le processus de mise en candidature 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 Bureau national avant le 8 décembre 2017. Vous pouvez obtenir un formulaire de mise en candidature auprès du Bureau national ou en visitant le www.rpsc.org. Les candidats devront consentir par écrit à leur mise en candidature et le formulaire de devra être accompagné d'une courte biographie d'environ 300 mots ainsi que d'une photo en buste, en noir et blanc, convenant à la publication. ✉

PRESIDENT'S page

la page du PRÉSIDENT

RPSC news *by / par ED KROFT* **nouvelles SRPC**

This is my first column as the president of the RPSC. In writing to you, my objectives are to keep you informed about what is going on in our society and to solicit views from you - the membership - about what additional benefits we can provide to you. As president, I hope that our membership will produce volunteers to assist in the running of the society and to promote the hobby that we all enjoy.

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

The board currently has 11 members, three short of its maximum. Elections are held at the annual general meeting. The next one is Royal 2018 in St. Catharines on June 22-24. Nomination forms are due December 1, 2017. If you are interested in running for a board position, please submit a nomination form with the required information.

SOCIETY COMMITTEES

Many of you may not be interested in serving as directors or officers of the society, but are willing to contribute your time and energy to help. The RPSC is always looking for capable volunteers to serve on its committees. Take a look at the list of current committees shown on page 326 of this edition of *The Canadian Philatelist* or on the website www.rpsc.org. Thank you to those who serve, and have served on these committees.

The board just established a social media committee to broaden awareness of RPSC activities by, among other things, establishing a Facebook page. We all need to reach out to stamp collectors who are unaffiliated with the RPSC to increase membership.

THE CANADIAN PHILATELIST

The Canadian Philatelist is the society's flagship publication and I am grateful to our authors, editorial committee and our editor, Herb Colling, for the work done to date. I believe that our publication can get better. Therefore I urge our readership to contribute articles for possible publication. The society also appreciates the patronage of those dealers who advertise in our publication and who attend and participate at our annual convention.

FINANCES

The RPSC is a non-profit organization, which depends primarily on membership dues and a

Voici ma première chronique en tant que président de La Société royale de philatélie du Canada (SRPC). Mon objectif, en vous écrivant, est de vous tenir informés de ce qui se passe dans notre société et de recueillir vos idées, à vous, les membres, sur les avantages supplémentaires que nous pourrions vous offrir. En tant que président, j'espère que des bénévoles sortiront de nos rangs pour aider au bon fonctionnement de la société et promouvoir le loisir que nous aimons tous.

CONSEIL D'ADMINISTRATION

Le conseil compte actuellement onze membres, soit trois de moins que le nombre maximal. Des élections ont lieu chaque année à l'assemblée générale annuelle. La prochaine sera Royale 2018, à St Catharines, du 22 au 24 juin. Les formulaires de candidatures doivent nous parvenir avant le 1er décembre 2017. Si un poste au conseil d'administration vous intéresse, veuillez soumettre un formulaire de candidature avec les renseignements requis.

COMITÉS DE LA SOCIÉTÉ

Beaucoup d'entre vous ne souhaitent peut-être pas offrir leurs services en tant que directeurs ou membres du personnel de la société, mais aimeraient donner de leur temps et de leur énergie. La SRPC cherche constamment des bénévoles capables d'occuper des fonctions au sein des comités. Jetez donc un coup d'œil à la liste des comités qui existent actuellement et qui figure à la page 326 de la présente édition du Philatéliste canadien ou sur notre site Web www.rpsc.org. Merci à ceux et celles qui se dépensent ou se sont dépensés au sein de ces comités.

Le conseil vient juste de mettre sur pied un comité des médias sociaux pour favoriser une connaissance accrue des activités de La SRPC, notamment, en créant une page Facebook. Nous devons tous tenter de joindre les collectionneurs de timbres qui ne sont pas membres de La SRPC afin d'augmenter les adhésions.

LE PHILATÉLISTE CANADIEN

Le philatéliste canadien est la publication phare de notre société et je remercie nos auteurs, le comité de rédaction et notre rédacteur en chef, Herb Colling, pour le travail accompli à ce jour. Je crois toutefois que notre revue pourrait être bonifiée. Je presse donc nos lecteurs de nous fournir des articles qui seront éventuellement publiés. La société est également reconnaissante du soutien des marchands qui placent des annonces dans notre revue, qui assistent et participent é notre congrés annuel.

publishing grant for its revenues. There is also a charitable foundation to which tax deductible contributions can be made. More about finances and fundraising at a later date.

EXHIBITING

The RPSC encourages participation at various local, national and international stamp shows. It runs a judging programme, headed by David Piercey, which qualifies individuals to serve as judges at different levels. If you are interested in participating, please let Piercey or the national office know. Also please consider exhibiting at a local club or show. Kindly let people see what you are collecting and share your knowledge with others.

CHAPTERS AND AFFILIATES

Our society is blessed to have many affiliated chapters and clubs throughout Canada. The listings are found on the society website. Thanks to all who volunteer tirelessly in these organizations. Keep up the great work.

NATIONAL OFFICE

The administration of the RPSC is located in Toronto. I am fortunate to have the assistance of Margaret Schulzke, Garfield Portch and Rob Timberg who work in different capacities. Thanks also go to Ted Nixon, and to the Vincent Graves Greene Foundation who work closely with our society.

I might also add that the philatelic library at the Greene Foundation is without compare in Canada and its capable librarians are always willing to assist.

WEBSITE

The RPSC website contains a great deal of valuable information. Thanks to our webmaster, Robin Harris, for keeping it current. I urge all members to surf the site to learn more about our society, to connect with other knowledgeable collectors and to obtain information which will contribute to your enjoyment of philately.

CLOSING REMARKS

I want to thank all my current board members for their support, including my other executive members: Sam Chiu, Robert Pinet, Rob Timberg, Stuart Keeley and past presidents George Pepall and Jim Taylor. Charles Verge, one of the society's past presidents and a member of a number of committees, continuously provides guidance on many topics and issues for which I am grateful.

I am encouraging you - our membership - to write or email me with your thoughts or suggestions. What more might our society do for its members? ✉

FINANCES

La SRPC est une société à but non lucratif, qui compte principalement sur les frais d'adhésion de ses membres et sur une subvention aux publications pour ses revenus. Il existe également une fondation de bienfaisance donnant droit à des exemptions fiscales. Nous parlerons davantage de finances et de collecte de fonds ultérieurement.

EXPOSITIONS

La SRPC encourage la participation aux diverses expositions locales, nationales et internationales. Elle administre un programme des juges dirigé par David Piercey, qui permet à des membres de se qualifier en tant que juges à différents niveaux. Si vous désirez y participer, veuillez vous adresser à Piercey ou au Bureau national, dès maintenant. Songez aussi à exposer dans un club local ou dans le cadre d'une exposition. Donnez aux autres l'occasion de voir ce que vous collectionnez et communiquez-leur vos connaissances.

CLUBS MEMBRES ET AFFILIÉS

Notre société a la chance de compter de nombreux clubs membres et affiliés d'un océan à l'autre. Vous en trouverez la liste à la site Web. Merci à tous les infatigables bénévoles de ces organisations. Continuez votre beau travail.

BUREAU NATIONAL

Le siège administratif de La SRPC est situé à Toronto. J'ai la chance d'avoir l'aide de Margaret Schulzke, Garfield Portch et Rob Timberg, qui exercent diverses fonctions. Je remercie également Ted Nixon et la Fondation Vincent Graves Greene, qui travaillent étroitement avec notre société.

J'ajouterais aussi que la bibliothèque philatélique de la Fondation Greene est sans comparaison au Canada et ses bibliothécaires compétents sont toujours prêts à nous aider.

LE SITE WEB

Le site Web de La SRPC contient énormément de renseignements précieux. Je remercie notre webmaître, Robin Harris, de le maintenir à jour. J'encourage fortement tous les membres à aller naviguer dans le site pour en apprendre davantage sur notre société, entrer en lien avec des collectionneurs avertis et obtenir l'information qui contribuera à leur plaisir philatélique.

LE MOT DE LA FIN

Je tiens à remercier tous les membres actuels du conseil pour leur soutien, de même que les autres membres de la haute direction : Sam Chiu, Robert Pinet, Rob Timberg, Stuart Keeley et les présidents sortants George Pepall et Jim Taylor. Je tiens également à témoigner ma reconnaissance à Charles Verges, l'un des anciens présidents de la société et membre de nombreux comités, pour les conseils qu'il est toujours prêt à nous donner sur bien des sujets et bien des enjeux.

Je vous encourage donc, vous, nos membres, à m'écrire ou à m'envoyer par courriel vos idées et suggestions. Quoi d'autre notre société peut-elle faire pour ses membres? ✉

David Piercey, FRPSC

NEW CATEGORY: TOPICAL EXHIBITS

One of the new exhibit categories, introduced in the *Manual of Philatelic Judging and Exhibiting* (2017), is called 'topical exhibits.' It is for thematic collectors, who collect by image alone. Many stamp enthusiasts have been collecting like this all along, but this new category is an indication that their exhibiting pursuits are now being more formally recognized. As a result, further explanation is required to understand the differences between topical exhibiting, thematic exhibiting, and display exhibiting.

The manual indicates the following: "Topical exhibits are composed of a variety of philatelic items, the design of which illustrates a specific topic or subject. If you choose to present a topical exhibit, it would show as many philatelic items as possible with the image of the particular subject or group of subjects that is the focus of your exhibit."

Perhaps the most obvious distinction for topical exhibiting is that the philatelic items presented are all related through the images on each item. For example, if one is exhibiting 'trains' we would expect to see in its topical development a lot of philatelic items depicting images of trains, whether locomotives, cabooses, mail cars, or other rolling stock, and the treatment of the exhibit would be limited to aspects of trains that can be shown with philatelic items.

Whereas a thematic exhibit on trains might be expected to show, for example, James Watt and George Stephenson, inventors of the steam engine and the steam locomotive respectively, this sort of association and thematic development is unnecessary in topical exhibiting, and one can stick to depiction of trains in all their variations.

Nevertheless, the material selected for a topical exhibit must continue to be appropriate, and a diversity of philatelic elements should still be included. Elements in topical exhibits, other than stamps and their varieties, include not only thematic elements like postmarks, cancellations, and meter marks, but can also be extended to include revenues, illustrated mail, official cachets, first day covers (if the illustration is relevant), poster stamps, labels, and cinderellas, to name some of the more obvious. In fact, anything that was designed to go through the mail (except picture post cards) is considered fair game. Distinct from display exhibiting, however, a topical exhibit cannot include paper ephemera, coins, medals, ticket stubs, or other non-postal items.

Like thematic exhibits, display exhibits require a plan to indicate how the exhibit will be organized. The story line, often explicit in other types of exhibits, is instead implicit in the topical exhibit's plan. The more complex the plan and the balance of philatelic elements displayed within each heading, subheading, or

further subdivision, the better the appreciation of treatment in the judging process.

As with other types of exhibits, importance is defined in the manual as "the exhibit represents a significant challenge in scope or complexity. The exhibit is the best example of this subject, and it cannot be easily duplicated." So, the onus is on the exhibitor to select a topic that is relatively complex to show with philatelic material, and thus address the challenge factor in assembling the exhibit. My example of 'trains' might in fact be too simplistic a topic, unless it was to be fleshed out in greater and sufficiently complex detail.

Thematic knowledge is demonstrated by both the organization and treatment of one's material. Philatelic knowledge, however, must still be demonstrated in a topical exhibit, and this can be illustrated through a wide choice of philatelic elements, appropriate selection and identification of their varieties, and a representation that excludes exceedingly common (e.g., Sand Dune or CTO material) that would otherwise detract.

Personal study and research must also be evident, as should rarity and difficulty of acquisition. It behooves the exhibitor to flag any such study and research, and as with other types of exhibits, to indicate rarity whenever appropriate. Indeed, these are both necessary requirements, and become ways to have others appreciate the depth and complexity of one's chosen topic.

The accompanying exhibit page, although taken from a thematic exhibit on 'fisheries', could just as easily have come from a topical exhibit, as all the philatelic elements shown on the page depict a codfish in illustration of the subheading's topic. Note, too, that philatelic knowledge is demonstrated by the selection and identification of the various varieties shown, and that a thematic organizational structure (i.e., headings and subheadings organized hierarchically) is present, as required also for topical exhibits. This page would have been an even better example had it included a wider variety of elements, though perhaps the stamp varieties make up for this shortcoming.

* * *

Readers, seeking further information may be interested in a useful article by American judge, Edwin Andrews: 'How to Judge a Topical Exhibit,' http://www.aape.org/docs/HowtoJudgeATopicalExhibit.pdf. Written from a judging perspective, it also indicates how to organize a topical exhibit for maximum appreciation.

I have devoted previous columns to considerations for thematic and display exhibiting. See *TCP* Nov-Dec 2015; Jan-Feb 2016; Jan-Feb 2017; and Mar-Apr 2017. ✉

Previous columns in this series now also appear on the RPSC website, at http://www.rpsc.org/exhibiting.htm. Readers are encouraged to use them to facilitate further discussion at club meetings, and for promoting novice exhibiting at local and regional levels.

The Young Collector

By Joseph Perrone

EACH STAMP IS A LITTLE HISTORY LESSON

Last year I decided to enter my first stamp exhibition to share my interest in World War II history through some stamps I had collected. The category chosen for my exhibit was a 'single frame' presentation. It's the simplest form, so a good way to start. The challenge of this format is to express one thought clearly and effectively.

As I worked, I found that exhibiting would be a great way to combine my passion for history and for stamps. By studying the various images on stamps in my collection I had previously noticed that conflicting messages were portrayed. Therefore, I began to explore further how stamps had been used for political purposes during World War II.

My task was to highlight the stories depicted by stamps issued by opposing governments. Nazi Germany had some of the most visually exciting postage. From a scene of SS troopers on the lookout with machine guns, to deadly Luftwaffe aircraft streaking down from the sky onto a soon-to-be destroyed target, the stamps are captivating.

The Polish government later responded with interesting anti-war stamps depicting scenes of its towns and cities flattened by the Nazis. These stamps are among my favourites since they cleverly convey before-and-after effects of war by contrasting images from 1939 and 1945.

German stamps, heroic, eye catching, without showing the atrocities and damage of war.

Polish stamps, not as visually appealing, but they do show the carnage.

After discussing my ideas with some members of my stamp club I came up with the title of my exhibit: Propaganda vs. Truth. Since this was my first exhibit, and stamp collecting is about learning from others, I sought and received guidance and helpful suggestions from experienced exhibitors. The result was a selected assembly of specific stamps arranged to deliver powerful and contrasting concepts.

I won first place at the West Toronto Stamp Club for the single frame exhibit. The judge thought I had succeeded in portraying one interesting aspect of stamps succinctly on a single page. However, upon reflection, I won a great deal more than reward and recognition from participating in this exhibit.

First of all, I learned that each stamp is a little history lesson. The stories depicted are fun to research and consider historically. Exhibiting has helped me learn and build my collection and network with other experienced collectors and dealers. Through my exhibit, they now know what I collect.

Stamp collecting isn't just about filling holes in an album. It also means having a good time at the stamp club and socializing. Exhibitions, at which you can share and receive philatelic knowledge, are a satisfying aspect of what makes the pastime so much fun.

Further, when you exhibit your stamps, more people come to know your material and what your interests are. They often give you excellent information and share

their material with you. For example, just this week a gentleman from my previous club, who remembered my exhibit, was kind enough to mail me a military cover. He included a detailed page of his own research about this gift.

I was honoured to receive this beautiful cover from another exhibitor who inspired me to create my own. Furthermore, the envelope in which the cover came was nicely franked with what I believe is a new and collectible experimental kiosk stamp.

Once you start researching for your exhibit, you begin to discover unusual details of stamps you may not have noticed before. You begin to see them in new ways as you connect with the past. Consider, for example, my topic: Propaganda vs. Truth. As one observer, Hiram Johnson, noted during World War I, 'the first casualty, when war comes, is truth.' I discovered that some stamps have been highly controversial. In fact, some countries have produced stamps whose images are deliberately misleading – what you might call a philatelic version of 'fake news.'

By far, one of the best features about exhibitions is that you get to view other entries. You are inspired as you meet the whole range of stamp collectors, from beginners, to people who pass out certificates of authenticity at the Vincent Graves Greene Foundation. You will find detailed displays of items, and you might even become interested in one of the topics.

My favorite exhibit, so far, was by David Foote regarding Australian rocket mail. He gave a wonderful talk about this very unusual way of transporting mail. Due to difficulty crossing a swollen and dangerous river, a rocket with a tin containing mail was launched and sometimes received by the postmaster on the other side who would deliver it accordingly. What an interesting detail of postal history! I found this mailing method amusing, since some rockets blew up on the ground and some flew badly off course. I saw some of these flight covers and I suppose they may be correctly termed as 'disaster mail.'

(Disclaimer: I do not recommend this method of transporting mail, as serious injury or even death may occur. Kids, do not try this at home.)

Another intriguing exhibit that fascinated me was a history of the Toronto post offices and their various cancellations and postmarks. Because of this exhibit, I now search for strange postmarks, fancy cancels, and local cancellations.

Currently, I am looking for some material from where I live in Massie, Ontario. So far, I have located one cover with a Massie receiving postmark containing two intact letters from 1906.

Stamp collecting and exhibiting have helped me learn many history lessons, and have also helped with the building of my collection. Presenting is a thrilling, knowledge-building experience which allows you to interactively share your interests and inspire yourself and others. I highly recommend exhibiting for any collector, especially for those who are new to the hobby. ✉

A Collector's Niche

By Andy Pedden

I've been collecting stamps off and on for 65 years, since I was five years old. I'd collect for a while, stop and start, catch up, and carry on. It all began at Christmas one year.

I collected used stamps from letters, and Christmas cards, that my parents received in the mail. There were all sorts of gimmicks to get people started in those days. If you picked up a pack of penny matches at the hardware, gas, or convenience store, all you had to do was open it up. On the inside cover was a notice with an address: send a penny and receive a lot of stamps; so that's what I did. I saved them all, even though they were the cheapest varieties with no value. At least, it got me started.

Initially, I collected world stamps, but discovered Cinderellas about 30 to 40 years ago. They're non denominational stamps that resemble postage stamps, but were never issued by a government postal administration. Some skeptics refer to them as stickers, and don't think of them as stamps at all, but I beg to differ. I like the design of them, the style, and the art. The graphics are phenomenal. They're like an underappreciated fairy tale character, and I'm always one to support an underdog, especially if it comes with a good story, and most of these stamps do have a good story.

I have a penchant for Christmas Seals that feature the Lorraine Cross, part of my Christmas heritage, I guess. I like the shape, the double cross bars, and what they represent. Christmas Seals, as we now know them, were first printed in Denmark in 1904 to raise funds for charitable programs associated with child welfare, and lung diseases like tuberculosis. The first 'stamp' bore the likeness of the Danish queen, with the word 'Julen,' which means Christmas, across the top. Over four million were sold for .02 DKK per seal. Within six years, enough money was raised to build what became the Christmas Seal Sanatorium in Kolding. It opened in 1911.

Sweden and Ireland picked up on the idea, and the tradition expanded across Europe, and then throughout the world, spreading to the U.S. in 1907, and Canada

in 1908.[1] The stamps were especially popular in Toronto and Hamilton where funds were raised to build a hospital in Muskoka to fight T.B. In all, 58 Toronto schools backed the campaign, and sold 10 thousand Christmas Seals in 1908 alone. Over seven thousand dollars was raised that year. Funds from the seals have been used to give chest X-rays and tuberculosis tests to millions of Canadian children to prevent the spread of the infectious disease to others.

In the U.S., if you made a donation, you'd receive Christmas Seals from post office lobbies on behalf of the American Red Cross, then the National Tuberculosis Association, and then the American Lung Association. T.B. is still one of the most common major infectious diseases in the world. In 1987, the American Lung Association trade marked the term 'Christmas Seals' to protect its rights. The symbol, the Cross of Lorraine, is a French heraldic cross, and it is now the international symbol to represent the fight against T.B.

The Canadian National Exhibition, or C.N.E., in Toronto has been known to use Cinderella stamps in its advertising.[2] It produced about 65 stamps over eight years in the early part of the last century. Twelve were put out in 1923, promoting Toronto as the convention city of Canada, the city of cheap power, and the site of the Royal Agricultural Winter Fair. It touted Toronto for its good transportation, with lots of water sports. In 1927, a Cinderella stamp from the Ex celebrated the 60th anniversary of Confederation. Two more stamps, in 1928, commemorated the Golden Jubilee year, the 50th anniversary of the C.N.E. Another, in 1929 honoured Empire Year. In 1933, a simple bold label was produced. The format is similar to the rectangular postmarks of the day.

Four Cinderella stamps were produced in 1937 to commemorate the First Canadian National Philatelic Exhibition held that year at the C.N.E. In honour of the occasion, 42 souvenir stamps were produced. The images depicted various buildings on the exhibition grounds, as well as other historic buildings in the City of Toronto. The sheets cost 25 cents, and the accompanying booklet hailed the C.N.E. as the world's largest annual exhibition, which cost 1.2 million dollars to put on, and with a record one day attendance of 260 thousand. The Maple Leaf Mills Company produced a series of Know Canada stamps in 1938, and one of the images was Prince's Gate, which was built 11 years earlier as the entrance to the C.N.E. in honour of Prince Edward and Prince George who visited in 1927.

In 1967, a Centennial logo was created by designer Stuart Ash It incorporated 11 triangles to symbolize the 10 provinces and territories of Canada made into a maple leaf motif. There were six designs in all, many of which were circular, predominantly red, white and blue, with a couple of self-adhesives. Their development coincided with corporate labels with a similar Centennial tartan for companies that sponsored Centennial events, including Mechron, and the Chateau Laurier in Ottawa. In some cases, there was a blue blank space where the corporate name could be stamped.

Not to be outdone, Expo '67 was also rife with Cinderella stamps. The Exposition was a major international affair held in Montreal from April 28 to October 27 to showcase the best commercial enterprises from countries around the world. There were many postage stamps produced from the participating regions, along with Cinderellas to tout the pavilions and exhibitors at the fair. The commemorative label was put

out by the organizing committee to show the Expo 67 logo. They were imperforate, dry gummed, 36 x 54 mm with a design size of 31.5 x 51.5 mm. Similar corporate labels were also produced to advertise sponsoring companies. The company name and logo were printed in black on the yellow portion at the bottom of the stamp. At least 182 companies took part.

Specific examples for the Man and His World exhibit and theme were also created. One was produced by IC-Stamps, and features two stick figures embracing a globe with Montreal at the top in red lettering. Another shows a futuristic cityscape and the slogan, "Terre des Hommes – Man and His World" on the right hand side. That one was printed in Montreal by Cameo Printing. Another commemorative label for the World's Fair was produced in Denmark, and features a colourful skyline of Montreal.

There were also 70 passport stamps produced for Expo 67 to show what pavilions tourists had visited. Some countries used actual stamps, but others produced their own distinct labels. Some of the countries represented include: Ethiopia, Germany, Barbados, Guyana, Norway, Venezuela, Czechoslovakia, Martinique and Guadeloupe. Red Rose Tea, the Canadian National Railway company, the Canadian pulp and paper industry, and Scouts Canada were also represented, as were the quaint towns and scenic mountain lakes of the Laurentians north of Montreal. A peculiar addition was a Cinderella stamp commemorating a short, six minute, animated comedy called Urbanissimo about a battle between a city with legs and a farmer. The film short was directed by John Hubley, sponsored by the Canada Mortgage and Housing Corporation, and shown in the Man in the Community Pavilion at Expo.

Many Cinderella stamps started as promotional advertisements. The Western Canada Flour Mills Company was formed in 1905 with head offices in Toronto, and a mill in Winnipeg. To promote its Purity brand flour, it published a full set of stamps, circa 1915, that were never really common, and are now quite rare because not many were produced. They were designed and printed by the National Art Company of Toronto, and sent to people who responded to an advertisement in a magazine. They cost five dollars a sheet, and at least four sheets were produced: perforated, gummed 39 x 63 millimetres. [3]

I must admit that I'm an odd ball collector, and there aren't many of us, probably only about 180 in the world collecting Cinderella stamps. When we die, our collections may be thrown out, or destroyed because people don't know what we have, what Cinderellas are, and don't appreciate them. I enjoy the unusual, the unique. Many people don't understand my fascination with Cinderella stamps but, when I talk to groups of people about them, I blow their minds. Maybe that fascination will catch on, and they'll become popular again. You never know. ✉

FOOTNOTES:

(1) Wikipedia. Internet.

(2) Robson, Lane. C.N.E.: Ex Postcards, Cinderella Stamps, Postage. *The Canadian Philatelist*. Nov-Dec issue, 2015.

(3) Lafreniere, Ronald. G. *Field Guide to the Cinderella Stamps of Canada, Second Edition*. Bird Bear Press. Verdun, Quebec, May 2, 2015.

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CHRISTMAS: Promise, Prophecy, Fullfillment
NOËL : promesse, prophétie, accomplissement

By/par Henny Uyl

Christmas is a special time of celebration and worship. Christians go to church on Christmas Day to celebrate the birth of Jesus, sing Christmas carols, and listen to the message which always focuses on an aspect of the Christmas story, and how that relates to our lives today. Little did I know that my 'space filler' hobby, which started about five years ago, would lead to telling this story with stamps.

The name 'Christmas' comes from the 'The Mass of Christ.' The Christ-Mass service was the only service that was allowed to take place after sunset and before sunrise the next day, so it was held at midnight. Thus, we get the name Christ-Mass, shortened to Christmas. The first recorded date of Christmas being celebrated on Dec. 25th was in 336 A.D. Some years later, Pope Julius I officially declared that the birth of Jesus would be celebrated each year on that day.

Great Britain Christmas mini sheet Issued November 8, 2011 to celebrate the 400th anniversary of the King James Bible. (*Scott* # 2973)

I really became attracted to Christmas stamps when I saw Great Britain's Christmas stamps issued in 2011. These showed the Christmas story with related scripture references. Then, while visiting a dealer, I was asked if I had the world's first Christmas stamp issued by Canada. I hadn't really paid much attention to the 'map stamp' of 1898, but now I was intrigued and thus many hours were spent at the computer researching the stamp.

Then, in an 'ah-ha' moment, the map stamp gave me a very clear and loud message. It was inscribed with 'XMAS 1889'! I have been an Inductive Bible Study student and leader for over 30 years and the message was unmistakeable. Philatelically, we witness firsthand the fulfillment of God's covenant, a promise to Abraham, the patriarch of the Jewish nation, in Genesis 12:3, "in you all nations of the earth will be blessed." Christmas, is celebrated throughout the whole Chris-

1898 Canada two-cent imperial 'Xmas' stamp. (*Scott* #85)

Noël est un moment spécial de célébration et de culte. Les chrétiens vont à l'église le jour de Noël pour célébrer la naissance de Jésus, chanter des cantiques et écouter des messages, toujours axés sur un aspect de l'histoire chrétienne et son lien avec nos vies modernes. Je ne me doutais pas que mon loisir pour « passer le temps », entrepris il y a environ cinq ans, m'amènerait à raconter une telle histoire à l'aide de timbres.

Le mot « Christmas » (Noël en anglais) vient de « The Mass of Christ » (la messe du Christ). Le service de la messe du Christ était le seul service religieux autorisé à prendre place après le coucher du soleil et avant son lever le lendemain, et avait donc lieu à minuit. Ainsi, le mot ChristMass a été réduit à Christmas. La première date de célébration de la messe de Noël répertoriée comme ayant eu lieu le 25 décembre était en 336 de notre ère. Quelques années plus tard, le pape Jules 1er a officiellement déclaré que l'anniversaire de la naissance de Jésus serait célébré chaque année à cette date.

La Grande-Bretagne a émis un mini feuillet le 8 novembre 2011 pour célébrer le 400e anniversaire de la Bible version King James (*Scott*, no 2973).

J'ai vraiment commencé à être attirée par les timbres de Noël lorsque j'ai vu ceux émis par la Grande-Bretagne en 2011. Ils représentaient une histoire de Noël accompagnée d'une référence pertinente aux Saintes Écritures. Ensuite, un marchand que je visitais me demanda si j'avais le premier timbre de Noël au monde, émis par le Canada. Je n'avais jamais vraiment prêté attention au timbre Mappemonde de 1898, mais là, j'étais intriguée et j'ai passé de nombreuses heures à l'ordinateur à faire des recherches sur ce timbre.

Puis, dans un éclair de génie, j'ai saisi le message haut et clair que me lançait le timbre Mappemonde. Il y était écrit « Noël 1889 »! Je suis étudiante et guide d'étude inductive de la Bible depuis 30 ans; le message était donc sans équivoque. Par la philatélie, nous devenons des observateurs directs de la réalisation de l'alliance de Dieu, la promesse faite à Abraham,

Le timbre de Noël impérial du Canada de deux cents de 1898 (*Scott*, no 85).

Issued November 6, 1996. (*Scott* # 583)

Émis le 6 novembre 1996. (*Scott*, no 583).

tian world! The 'X' indicates the Greek letter 'CHI' which is short for the Greek word Χριστός, which means Christ. The practice of using 'XMAS' in the place of Christ's name has been used by religious scholars for at least a thousand years.

There are different stories regarding how and why the stamp was released after Dec. 25th and inscribed with 'XMAS 1898.' No matter how it was played out on the world stage, Canada was responsible for the world's first Christmas stamp. Some people hold that the release was chosen to mark the birth of Jesus and that the stamp is dedicated to the 'Prince of Peace,' not the Prince of Wales.

As you follow the story through the Bible, you learn that the "blessing to all nations" was fulfilled through the birth of Jesus. "For today, in the city of David, there has been born to you a Saviour, who is Christ the Lord. (Luke 2:11)

The birth of Jesus was prophesied in the scriptures of the Old Testament. Micah, 733-701 B.C., told us where the child would be born. Isaiah, 739-681 B.C., told us the child would be born to a virgin, that he would be a "great Light to those walking in darkness." Isaiah also tells us that he will be "called Wonderful Counselor. Mighty God, Eternal Father, Prince of Peace."

The account of the Christmas story begins with the angel Gabriel. He was sent by God to Nazareth of Galilee, to a virgin whose name was Mary, and told her that she would be with child through the Holy Spirit. When Joseph, who was engaged to Mary, found out that

le patriarche de la nation juive, dans Genèse 12:3 « en toi se béniront toutes les nations de la terre ». Noël est célébré dans tout le monde chrétien! Le « X » correspond à la lettre grecque « CHI », qui est un diminutif du mot grec Χριστός, qui signifie Christ. La pratique consistant à utiliser « XMAS » en anglais à la place du nom de Christ a été en vigueur chez les érudits religieux depuis au moins un millier d'années.

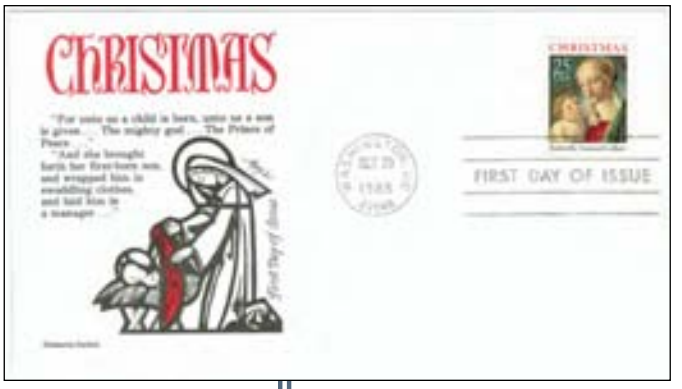
Il existe diverses histoires sur le comment et le pourquoi de l'émission du timbre portant la mention « XMAS 1898 » après le 25 décembre. Peu importe la façon dont le jeu s'est déroulé sur la scène mondiale, le Canada a été responsable du premier timbre de Noël au monde. Certains prétendent que la date d'émission a été choisie pour souligner la naissance de Jésus et que le timbre était dédié au « Prince de paix » et non au prince de Galles.

En suivant l'histoire dans la Bible, nous apprenons que la « bénédiction à toutes les nations » a été accomplie par la naissance de Jésus. « Car, aujourd'hui, dans la ville de David vous est né un sauveur, qui est le seigneur Christ Jésus » (Luc 2 : 11).

La naissance de Jésus a été prophétisée dans l'Ancien Testament. Michée, 733 à 701 avant J.C., nous indique où Jésus devait naître. Quant à Isaïe, 739 à 681 avant J.C., il nous apprend que Jésus naîtrait d'une vierge, qu'il serait « une lumière pour ceux qui marchent dans les ténèbres ». Il nous dit aussi qu'il sera « appelé conseiller merveilleux, dieu puissant, père éternel, prince de paix ».

Air Postal Stationery stamped with Christmas greetings. 13 cent JFK (Issued May 26, 1967). Cancelled Dec. 25, 1967 in Bethlehem, CT. Received in Bethlehem, Israel on January 2, 1968. Biblical prophecy from Micah 5:2

Entier postal pour la poste aérienne estampillé avec des vœux de Noël. JFK, 13 cents (émis le 26 mai 1967), oblitérés le 25 déc. 1967 à Bethlehem, CT., reçus à Bethléem, Israël, le 2 janvier 1968. Prophétie biblique de Michée 5 : 2.



Aristocrat Cachet, October 20, 1988 FDC, cancelled Washington, DC. Tied with *Scott* #2399 Madonna and Child by Botticelli. Prophecy from Isaiah 9:6. Fulfillment from Luke 2:7

she was pregnant, he decided to end the engagement quietly. However, God came to him in a dream and told him not to be afraid to take Mary as his wife. She would bear a son and his name would be "Emmanuel, which means God with us." (Matthew 1:21)

Toward the end of Mary's pregnancy, Caesar Augustus, the Roman Emperor, decreed that a census be taken of the inhabited world. Everyone had to register in their own city. This meant Joseph and Mary had to travel to Bethlehem to be registered. When they arrived in Bethlehem, there was no room for them in the inn and Mary was in labour. She gave birth to her son in a stable; a manger, which became his first bed.

On the hills around Bethlehem, shepherds were tending their flocks. Suddenly, out of the darkness, an angel of the Lord appeared to them, filling the sky with God's glory. They were to "not be afraid", because he was bringing them news that would be of great joy to all people. (Luke 2:10) A Saviour had been born in Bethlehem! Then there appeared a whole multitude of angels praising God and saying "Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace, goodwill to all men". The shepherds left immediately and found Mary and Joseph and the baby as he lay in the manger.

The baby was named and circumcised when he was eight days old. His parents presented him to the Lord at the temple in Jerusalem and there carried out the requirements of the law, concerning the birth of a child. Mary and Joseph brought a pair of turtledoves for the sacrifice. While in the temple the baby was blessed

Cover tied with *Scott* #881. First Day of Issue Cancellation Nov. 21, 1979. Circular handstamp with eight pointed star cancelled at Bethlehem, Llandeilo. CYNTAF DCYHOEDDIAD DYDD: Welsh for First Announcement Day. Bethlehem, Llandeido is a tiny farming community in Carmathanshire County, Western Wales. It is part of the preserved tri-county area of DYFED. The post office was closed in 1988 and resurrected in July 2002.

Cachet Aristocrat, 20 octobre 1988, FDC, oblitéré à Washington, DC avec le no 2399 de *Scott*, la madone et l'enfant de Botticelli. Prophétie d'Isaïe 9 : 6. Accomplissement dans Luc 2 : 7

Le récit de l'histoire de Noël commence avec l'ange Gabriel. L'ange avait été envoyé par Dieu, à Nazareth en Galilée, vers une vierge nommée Marie pour lui annoncer qu'elle concevrait un enfant né de l'Esprit Saint. Lorsque Joseph, qui était fiancé à Marie, se rendit compte qu'elle était enceinte, il décida de rompre sa promesse discrètement. Toutefois, Dieu l'approcha dans un songe et lui dit de ne pas craindre de prendre Marie pour femme : elle enfanterait un fils et son nom serait « Emmanuel, ce qui signifie Dieu est avec nous » (Mathieu 1 : 21).

Vers la fin de la grossesse de Marie, César Auguste, l'empereur romain, décréta qu'un recensement devait avoir lieu dans le monde habité. Chacun devait aller se faire enregistrer dans sa ville natale. Cela signifiait que Joseph et Marie devaient se rendre à Bethléem pour se faire enregistrer. Lorsqu'ils sont arrivés à Bethléem, il n'y avait pas de chambre pour eux dans l'auberge et Marie était en travail. Elle a donné naissance à son fils dans une étable et une mangeoire devint son premier lit.

Sur les collines autour de Bethléem, des bergers gardaient leurs troupeaux. Soudainement, issu des ténèbres, un ange du Seigneur leur apparut, remplissant le ciel de la gloire de Dieu. Ils ne devaient « pas être effrayés », parce que l'ange leur apportait une nouvelle qui serait une grande joie pour tous les peuples (Luc 2 : 10). Un sauveur était né à Bethléem! Ensuite apparut une multitude d'anges qui louaient Dieu et disaient « Gloire à Dieu au

Pli du premier jour d'émission du timbre Scott 881, daté du 21 novembre 1979. Oblitération circulaire comportant une étoile à huit pointes apposée à Bethlehem, Llandeilo; CYNTAF DCYHOEDDIAD DYDD : premier jour d'émission en gallois. Bethlehem, Llandeido est une petite collectivité agricole du comté de Carmathanshire, au pays de Galles occidental et se trouve dans la région préservée des trois comtés de DYFED. Le bureau de poste a été fermé en 1988, puis ouvert à nouveau en juillet 2002. Des gens de partout au monde se rendent en pèlerinage à Bethléem ou envoient leurs cartes de Noël et leur courrier à Bethlehem, Llandeido afin de les affranchir avec la célèbre oblitération.

by Simeon and Anna. Simeon foretold of Jesus' destiny, and also warned Mary that "a sword will pierce your own soul too." (Luke 2:35)

A bright star had appeared in the sky when Jesus was born. Wise men from the east followed the star to Jerusalem, looking for the new born king of the Jews. Herod, who was the Jewish king, looked for an answer from his chief priests and scribes as to where the Messiah was to be born. The wise men were sent to Bethlehem with strict instructions to return to Herod, so he also could worship the new king. Upon coming to Bethlehem, the star, which they had been following, stopped over a house. The wise men worshipped the child and presented him with gifts of gold, frankincense and myrrh. They were warned by God not to go back to Herod and took a different route back to their own country. (Matthew 2:10)

Issued September 17, 2001 (*Scott* # 408)

People from around the globe embark on pilgrimages to Bethlehem or send their Christmas cards and mailings to Bethlehem, Llandeido in order to have them franked with the famous Bethlehem postmark.

After the wise men were gone, God warned Joseph in a dream to take the young child and his mother and flee to Egypt, because Herod was going to try and kill the child. Joseph got up in the night, and did as he was instructed by the angel. He returned to the land of Israel after the death of Herod and settled in Nazareth with his family.

It didn't take long for Herod to realize the wise men were not coming back. No one would lay claim to his throne. He therefore ordered all male children under the age of two in Bethlehem and its vicinity to be killed. The despair and sorrow would have been unimaginable. The prophet Jeremiah foretold of this mass slaughter of children sometime between 627-574 B.C.

Through Jesus, the child of Christmas, God fulfilled His promise to Abraham. He has blessed all nations with hope, love, joy and peace. Christians in all the nations of the world celebrate Christmas! ✉

plus haut des cieux, et paix sur la terre aux hommes de bonne volonté ». Les bergers sont partis immédiatement et ont trouvé Marie, Joseph et le bébé couché dans une mangeoire.

Le bébé a reçu son nom et a été circoncis le huitième jour. Ses parents l'ont présenté au Seigneur dans le temple de Jérusalem et ont observé les exigences de la Loi concernant la naissance d'un enfant. Marie et Joseph ont donc offert une paire de colombes en sacrifice, tandis que dans le temple, le bébé était béni par Siméon et Anna. Siméon prédit le destin de Jésus et avertit Marie qu'une « épée te transpercera l'âme » (Luc 2 : 35).

Émis le 17 septembre 2001 (*Scott*, no 408).

Une étoile brillante apparut dans le ciel au moment de la naissance de Jésus et les Rois Mages venus de l'Orient la suivirent jusqu'à Jérusalem, à la recherche du roi des Juifs nouvellement né. Hérode, qui était roi des Juifs, interrogeait ses prêtres en chef et ses scribes en vue de connaître l'endroit où devait naître le Messie. Les sages ont été envoyés à Bethléem avec la stricte directive de revenir rendre compte à Hérode afin que lui aussi puisse aller adorer le nouveau roi. À leur arrivée à Bethléem, l'étoile qu'ils avaient suivie s'était arrêtée au-dessus d'une maison. Les sages ont adoré l'enfant et lui ont offert des cadeaux : de l'or, de l'encens et de la myrrhe. Comme Dieu les avertit de ne pas retourner vers Hérode, ils emprunterent une route différente vers leur pays (Mathieu 2 : 10).

Après le départ des Rois Mages, Dieu avertit Joseph dans un reve de fuir en Egypte avec sa femme et son jeune enfant parce qu'Hérode allait tenter de le tuer. Joseph s'est levé en pleine nuit et a fait ce que l'ange lui demandait. Il est retourné au pays d'Israël après la mort d'Hérode et s'est installé à Nazareth avec sa famille.

Hérode s'est rapidement rendu compte que les Rois Mages ne revenaient pas. Personne ne revendiquerait son trône. Il a donc ordonné la mort de tous les enfants de moins deux ans dans Bethléem et ses environs. Le désespoir et le chagrin dépassaient l'imagination. Le prophète Jérémie avait annoncé ce massacre d'enfants entre 627 et 574 avant J.C.

C'est par l'entremise de Jésus, l'enfant de Noël, que Dieu a tenu la promesse qu'il avait faite à Abraham. Il a béni toutes les nations par l'espoir, l'amour, la joie et la paix. Les chrétiens de tous les pays du monde célèbrent Noël! ✉

Serpentine dye cut from quarterly pack. (*Scott* #'s 2240-2242). Domestic, US and International Rates. Issued November 1, 2001. At the time of issue P stamp valued at 52 cents.

Perforation serpentine à l'emporte-pièce provenant des pochettes trimestrielles (*Scott* nos 2240-2242). Tarifs du régime intérieur, États-Unis et international, émis le 1er novembre 2001. Au moment de l'émission, le timbre « P » était évalué à 52 cents.

GRANDFATHER FROST

By Maria Belenkova

You are looking at a jolly white-haired fellow with a red nose and red cheeks, stacking his large red sack with yellow packages. At first glance, it might appear that Santa Claus is busy answering letters from children, and that the scene is related to Christmas. In truth, the stamp depicts Grandfather Frost as provided by the postal service in Russia. Frost's loyal helper, Snowman, is delivering another batch of correspondence. The stamp is marked Russia, 2005, and reads 'Post of Grandfather Frost.' The cost of the stamp is five rubles, or 34 cents.

In 2005, several organizations, including the government operated Post of Russia, the Russian Philatelic Society, the newspaper, *Sobesednik*, the children's magazine, *Murzilka*, and the publishing house, Marka, organized a nation-wide competition for the best design of a stamp for the Post of Grandfather Frost. Eight year old Elizaveta Bochkina won the competition, and her design appeared on the stamps in 2005. Specifically, the stamps were used by the Post of Grandfather Frost for correspondence with children during the holiday.

Although, modern Grandfather Frost has an ambiance of a kind, generous, loving elder, the original character had a very different persona. In tsarist Russia, Grandfather Frost -- often called Frost-the-red-nose -- was viewed as a powerful winter god, equipped with a cane that he used to freeze rivers and land. His wife was a grouchy old woman called, 'Winter.' Wolves, gusty north winds, snow, ice storms and squalls were their faithful servants. Around Christmas time, the oldest person in the family made an offering to appease the winter god. This tradition was lost when the Soviets came to power in 1917.

The Soviet government was suspicious about celebrations that reminded people about religion. Traditional winter holidays, like Christmas and New Year, ceased to exist for several decades. New Year's festivities were only allowed again in the mid 1930s, making January 1st the main winter holiday.

The first stamp, with a New Year's theme, was issued in 1962. Issued every year thereafter, the stamps had no special value, their main purpose was to strengthen Soviet ideology. These stamps were designed by Soviet artists, generally depicting the Kremlin, red stars, pine trees

touched with snow, Soviet leaders, red flags, Ostankino TV tower with a plane flying over it, etc.

As the USSR came crashing down, the pompousness of Soviet design was replaced with colourful winter motifs. The wind of change in post-Soviet Russia brought back the figure of Grandfather Frost on stamps in the 1990s. The first stamp of the Russian Federation was issued on December 2, 1992. It featured traditional New Year's symbols such as bells, fire crackers, pine tree branches, as well as a clock with the colours of Russia's flag: white, blue and red.

After years of repressed creativity, Russian artists began experimenting with new designs, materials, and forms. For example, stamps issued in 2003 – 2004 were printed on a special thick paper that felt more like textile. The stamp issued in 2010 was innovative because it was not just the first self-adhesive stamp in Russia, but it also had two round corners.

The stamp in 2011 featured a decorative ball with white snowflakes. It was formed using a special silver paste, creating a holographic effect.

Many Christmas and New Year traditions were lost over the years of the Soviet regime, but new plans to bring the younger generation closer to their roots are on the rise. That's how the project 'Velikiy Ustyug – homeland of Grandfather Frost' came alive. Created in 1998, the residence of Grandfather Frost is located in one of the most beautiful places in Russia – Velikiy Ustyug. Apart from the residence, the post office of Grandfather Frost is working in a similar fashion to Santa Claus. However, it appears that Grandfather Frost is capable of answering all of the letters by himself, without any help.

Recently, special mail boxes were installed in 15 post offices around Moscow to collect mail sent to Grandfather Frost in Velikiy Ustyug. According to the Russian news agency, *Novosti*, over 10 thousand Moskovites wrote letters in 2015.

You too can write to Grandfather Frost. The official website indicates that all you need to receive a letter back is a postage paid envelope, and your return address. Mail your letter to: Oktyabrskiy per., 1A, Velikiy Ustyug, Vologodskaya oblast', Russia, 162390, and ask Grandfather Frost what you might like for the New Year. Maybe, he will even attach a special stamp for you. ✉

REFERENCES:

1) ***History of New Year Stamp*** **by Anna Larionova (published in *Nasha Gorodskaya Gazeta*)**
2) ***Archive of Competitions*** **article in Post of Russia.**
3) **Post of Grandfather Frost official website (http://pochta-dm.ru/holidays/)**
3) ***Post of Grandfather Frost Began Its Service In Moscow*****, article in Novosti website dated Dec 2, 2016.**
4) **Joint stock company "Marka" (http://rusmarka.ru/catalog/marka/position/13274.aspx)**

New Santa Letter Features CANADA'S MAPLE LEAF

By Nick R. Bocker

Santa is always looking for ways to improve his stationery to make it more meaningful and appealing to his many admiring fans: the children who correspond with him from around the globe. Last year, for example, he introduced a new letter for the Yule season. It's in both of Canada's official languages: English and French; and it's being used to respond to children who write from other countries. The new letter features Canada's red maple leaf imprinted after Santa's name. The symbol is recognized worldwide as distinctly Canadian. As explained by his team of postal elves in Ottawa, the letter is also time neutral, meaning that it does not refer to 'before' or 'after' Christmas.

Regular readers of this column know that Santa responds differently to letters that arrive before Christmas, and those that come after December 25. For the first time, this international letter will not differentiate between the two. Last year, two dozen foreign language letters, plus a pair of letters in braille, were sent out. Santa's elves in Ottawa emphasize that all foreign language letters are answered in the language in which they are received.

For domestic correspondence, Santa uses three English and three French letter versions to ensure that no children in the same household receive identical responses. In addition, there are two 'before' and one 'after' computer-generated letters that parents or caregivers can download from Santa's website. These are also available in English and French.

For international mail, the envelopes also use newly introduced alphanumeric tracking codes, prefaced EI, short for English International, and FI for French International. This is followed by a machine-readable bar code to help keep Santa's mail secure.

Primary grade teachers are always involved in Santa's letter-writing program sponsored by Canada Post. It helps youngsters learn how to compose letters, and address envelopes correctly. As a result, Santa's stock of H0H 0H0 stationery last year included four poster size

letters, two French and two English, measuring 17-by 22-inches. Postal elves sent them to schools in response to the letters written from the classroom.

For letters that do not reach Santa in time for the usual response letters, the elves use postcards to acknowledge these late arrivals. Unlike the envelopes, not all of these postcards are imprinted with unique alphanumeric codes, and some are printed without the barcode. This omission is most unusual, given Canada Post's preoccupation with keeping Santa's mail secure.

The outstanding question remains: why were some of these postcards imprinted with the alphanumeric code, while others were not? For the time being, the answer remains an enigma. ✉

RPSC PHILATELIC RESEARCH FOUNDATION

SRPC FONDATION DE RECHERCHE PHILATÉLIQUE

Donations to the RPSC Philatelic Research Foundation

The two objectives of the Foundation are to promote youth philately, and to encourage philatelic research by sponsoring its publication and distribution. These objectives are achieved through donations of cash, or of philatelic material from collectors and philatelists. Donations of collections receive a charitable receipt for income tax purposes equal to the appraised fair market value.

Potential donors should contact the foundation president, Peter Butler, FRPSC, directly (1-416-921-2073), or via the National Office (1-888-285-4143), or in writing at 10 Summerhill Ave., Toronto, ON M4T 1A8, to discuss the type of material intended for donation and the process for receiving a charitable donation receipt.

Dons à la RPSC Philatelic Research Foundation

Les deux objectifs de la fondation sont de promouvoir la philatélie jeunesse et d'encourager la recherche philatélique en en commanditant la publication et la distribution. Ces objectifs sont atteints au moyen de dons d'argent ou de matériel philatélique de la part de collectionneurs et de philatélistes. Les dons de collections philatéliques donnent lieu à un reçu pour don de bienfaisance aux fins d'impôt égal à la valeur de remplacement selon la juste valeur marchande d'expertise.

Les personnes qui souhaitent faire un don peuvent s'adresser au président de la fondation, Peter Butler, directement au -416-921-2073 ou au Bureau national au -888-285-4143, ou par écrit au 10 Summerhill Ave., Toronto, ON, M4T 1A8, afin de discuter des articles à donner et du processus d'émission d'un reçu pour don de charité.

commercial

THE FIRST CHRISTMAS CARD

By Richard Logan

The sending and receiving of Christmas cards is still a large part of today's Christmas tradition. Goodwill messages began in pagan times during the winter solstice with the giving of good luck charms. Then, it evolved into handwritten messages on engraved bordered paper. Handmade Christmas cards came next; and there were always handwritten letters to friends and family both in country, and out.

Henry Cole, a British senior civil servant -- designer and author of a number of children's books, under the pseudonym Felix Summerly – also worked as an assistant to Rowland Hill, postal reformer and official, often credited with the invention of the postage stamp. Cole played a key role in the introduction of the penny post. He is, in fact, sometimes credited with the design of the 'Penny Black.' Cole also served as a senior assistant to the master of the rolls and records of the Chancery of England.

Artists Samuel Lock and George Whitfield, using a printing process called Woodburytype, 1876.

With Christmas fast approaching in 1843, Cole – with too many irons in the fire – decided that he was too busy to write his usual individual Christmas greetings to friends and family. One of his 'irons' was an art shop in Old Bond Street where he, as part owner, used to produce his children's books. It was called 'Summerly's Home Treasury Office' and it gave him access to artists, colourists and printing houses. One of his contacts was John Calcott Horsley an academic painter of genre and historical scenes.

Original drawing by John Calcott Horsley from which the plate was made. Courtesy of the Victoria and Albert Museum.

Cole discussed his dilemma with Horsley and, within a short while, the artist produced an acceptable design, incorporating a vine entwined trellis triptych. It had two side panels depicting good deeds, and the central panel showing a family toasting the recipient of the card; except for the three smallest children, who are tasting plum pudding. The bottom of the central panel featured a banner and the wording: A Merry Christmas and A Happy New Year to You. Space was provided for the name of the person receiving the card, and for the sender.

The first commercial Christmas card, devised by Henry Cole (1802 - 1882), designed by John Callcott Horsley, courtesy of the Victoria and Albert Museum.

The final card was engraved by John Thompson and lithographed by Jobbins of Warwick Court on 127mm x 84mm stiff pulp pressed pasteboard in sepia ink.

An edition of one thousand cards was printed, then painstakingly hand-coloured by Charles Mason. It is not known how many cards Cole personally used, or if Horsley used some too. It is known that the rest were sold at Sommerly's Home Treasury Office at a cost of one shilling each. While the idea of the card proved popular to the recipients, their families, and guests; it was not immediately reprinted because of the cost and due to criticism by the Temperance League.

The idea of commercial Christmas cards only really blossomed in 1866 when Charles Goodall and Sons expanded the idea to four designs. In 1870, Royal Mail reduced the cost of postage to a half penny per ounce. This, and the advent of less expensive colour lithography, lowered costs for both retailer and consumer. In 1875, Louis Prang brought the commercial Christmas card to the United States, and the rest is history.

Henry Cole went on to become an even greater facilitator. The Great Exhibition of the Works of Industry was held in the Crystal Palace in London from May 1-15, 1851, and was enormously popular. It was also a financial success under the presidency of Prince Albert and the astute management of Henry Cole. Cole was also instrumental in the development of the Victoria and Albert Museum, and became its first director in 1852. Sir Henry Cole was knighted by Queen Victoria in 1875.

The sending of material Christmas cards has declined somewhat in the last couple of decades because of the use of 'E-Greetings.' Electronic cards are easier to acquire and send, and don't require the high cost of postage. Nonetheless, in North America alone, there are approximately 2.5 billion Christmas cards exchanged annually, so the tradition persists despite modern conventions.

Readers will be interested to know that there are only 20, or at the most 21 of the original Cole Christmas cards remaining, and a card sent from Cole to his grandmother was sold in 2001 by British auctioneers Henry Aldridge and Son to an anonymous bidder for a record-breaking 22 thousand Pounds Sterling.

Themes have changed over the years; however, the message is still the same:

A MERRY CHRISTMAS AND A HAPPY NEW YEAR

SOURCES:

George Buday, *The History of the Christmas Card*, (1954) Spring Books, London, England.

Arthur Blair, *Christmas Cards for the Collector*, (1986) Batsford, London England.

Michelle Higgs, *Christmas Cards: From the 1840's to the 1940's*, (1999) Princes Risborough, Buckinghamshire, England.

To have your event listed in this section of The Canadian Philatelist, please send all details to The RPSC National Office, P.O. Box 69080, St. Clair Post Office, Toronto, ON M4T 3A1. Details may be faxed to 416-921-1282 or e-mail to info@rpsc.org. Information will not be accepted by telephone. Please ensure that details are submitted at least 12 weeks before the date of the Show. THIS IS A FREE SERVICE OF THE RPSC. Your show can also be posted on our website by visiting https://www.rpsc.org/shows.php.

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. 69080, St. Clair Post Office, Toronto, ON M4T 3A1. Les détails peuvent être faxés au 416-921-1282 ou par poste-électronique à info@rpsc.org. Aucune information ne sera acceptée par téléphone. Veuillez transmettre vos renseignements au moins 12 semaines avant la date de l'exposition. CECI EST UN SERVICE GRATUIT DE LA SRPC. Vous pouvez aussi afficher votre exposition dans notre site Web en visitant le https://www.rpsc.org/shows.php

REGIONAL EVENTS / ÉVÉNEMENTS RÉGIONAUX

NOVEMBER 3-4 NOVEMBRE, 2017

Hamilton 2017 Fall Stamp Show, sponsored by the Hamilton Stamp Club, will be held on Friday from 5:00 pm to 10:00 pm and on Saturday from 10:00 am to 4:00 pm at St. Jean de Brebeuf Secondary School, 200 Acadia Drive, Hamilton, ON. Large silent and voice auctions Friday evening with viewing starting at 5:00 pm. Saturday is a 20 dealer bourse with stamps, postcards, covers and supplies, plus youth booth and silent auction. GRVPA clubs circuit sales books Friday and Saturday. Light food and refreshments available with ample free parking. For more info contact Steve Forten at 905-807-1798, email southont@cogeco.ca or visit our website at www.hamiltonstampclub.com.

NOVEMBER 4 NOVEMBRE, 2017

KENTPEX 2017 sponsored by the Kent County Stamp Club will be held from 9:30 am to 3:30 pm at the Active Lifestyle Centre, 20 Merritt Avenue, Chatham, ON. 87th Annual Stamp Exhibit and Sales. Free admission and free on-site parking. There will be approximately 24 frames of exhibits and 10 dealers, and free hourly draws of philatelic prizes. For more information contact Kevin Jenkins at 519-360-9700 or email kjenkins@tregaskiss.com.

NOVEMBER 10-11 NOVEMBRE, 2017

Ukrainepex 2017. The Ukrainian Philatelic and Numismatic Society's international exhibit is being hosted by the Ukrainian Collectibles Society (Toronto). It will be held from 9:00 am to 4:00 pm on both days at the Old Mill, Brule Room, 21 Old Mill Road, Toronto, ON. In addition to comprehensive philatelic and numismatic material, the exhibit will include medals, postcards, sport cards, ex libris, etc. Admission is free. During the show two Picture Postage stamps will be released - one to honor Victoria Cross winner Filip Konowal, the second to celebrate the 50th anniversary of the Ukrainian World Congress. For more information contact Jerry Kalyn at 416-251-6898 or email admin@upns.org.

NOVEMBER 18 NOVEMBRE, 2017:

GRVPA Club Fair, sponsored by the Grand River Valley Philatelic Association, will be held from 10:00 am to 4:00 pm, Saturday November 18 in the U.K. Hall, 35 International Drive, Cambridge, ON. Free admission and parking. Represented by 15 member clubs of the GRVPA. 450+ circuit books and two silent auctions. A snack bar will also be available. For more info please contact Stuart Keeley (905) 227-9251, stuart.keeley@sympatico.ca

NOVEMBER 25 NOVEMBRE, 2017

Okanagan Mainline Philatelic Association Stamp Show and Bourse being held in Summerland from 10:00 am to 2:00 pm at St. Stephen's Anglican Church, 9311 Prairie Valley Road, Summerland, BC. Free admission, door prize, stamp auction. For more info contact Roy Heinrichs at 250-542-4127, email rhein2@telus.net or visit http://okanaganstampclubs.ca.

NOVEMBER 25 NOVEMBRE, 2017

Stampfun 2017, the 3rd annual show of the Waterloo Region Stamp Club, will be held from 10:00 am to 4:00 pm at the Royal Canadian Legion, 316 Marsland Dr, Waterloo, ON. Visit our 10 dealers. Circuit books, silent auction and door prizes. Free admission and parking. Coffee and donuts in the morning and the Legion operates a lunch counter. Everyone welcome. Enjoy a great day with friends! For more info contact Oscar Cormier 519-742-5892, stamps@bell.net or visit http://waterlooregionstampclub.weebly.com.

JANUARY 13 JANVIER, 2018

Brantford Stamp Club Annual Show Bourse, sponsored by the Brantford Stamp Club, will be held from 9:30 am to 3:00 pm at Branlyn Community Centre, 238 Brantwood Park Road, Brantford, ON. Free admission and parking, 15+ dealer bourse, silent auctions, Club circuit books, door prizes, stamp exhibits (special categories for Junior and Novice exhibitors), lunch counter with refreshments, wheelchair accessible. For more info contact Paul James at 519-751-3513, email pjames@execulinki.com or visit http://www.brantfordstampclub.com.

JANUARY 20 JANVIER, 2018

69th Cathex, sponsored by the St. Catharines Stamp Club, will be held from 10:00 am to 5:00 pm at the Grantham Lions Club, 732 Niagara Street, St. Catharines, ON. Exhibits, 12 dealers, youth area, club circuit books. Free admission and parking. Wheelchair accessible. A lunch counter is available. For more info please contact David Hillier (905) 641-2318, email: fancycancelhillier@gmail.com or visit http://stcatharinesstampclub.ca.

JANUARY 27 JANVIER, 2018

Okanagan Mainline Philatelic Association Stamp Show and Bourse being held in Lake Country from 10:00 am to 2:00 pm at the Senior Activity Centre, 9832 Bottom Wood Lake Road, Lake Country, BC. Free admission, door prize, stamp auction. For more info contact Roy Heinrichs at 250-542-4127, email rhein2@telus.net or visit http://okanaganstampclubs.ca.

MARCH 17 MARS, 2018

Oxford Philatelic Society Exhibition 2018, sponsored by the Oxford Philatelic Society, will be held from 9:30 am to 4:00 pm at Woodstock Christian School, 800 Juliana Drive, Woodstock, ON. Featuring dealers, exhibits, lunch/snack counter, youth gift bags, prize draws, club circuit books. Free admittance and free parking. For more information contact Russell Smith at 519-539-5055, email viking37@rogers.com or visit http://www.oxfordphilsoc.com.

MARCH 23 – MARCH 25, 2018. DORVAL, QC

The Lakeshore Stamp Club's LAKESHORE 2018 annual exhibition will be held at the Sarto Desnoyers Community Center, 1335 Lakeshore Drive, Dorval, QC. Free admission and ample free parking. Lunch counter on premises. Hourly door prizes. Competitive exhibition with over 100 frames of exhibits. Many dealers, club bourses, show covers, commemorative postmark and picture-postage stamp. Youth activity center. Hours: Friday and Saturday: 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.; Sunday: 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Information: François Brisse, P.O. Box # 1, Pointe-Claire/Dorval, QC, H9R 4N5. Email: fsbrisse@sympatico.ca

L'exposition philatélique annuelle LAKESHORE 2018 du Club philatélique du Lakeshore se tiendra du 23 au 25 mars 2018 au Centre communautaire Sarto Desnoyers, 1335 Bord-du-Lac, Dorval, QC. Entrée et grand stationnement gratuits. Cafeteria. Tirage de prix de présence toutes les heures. Exposition compétitive de plus de 100 cadres. Nombreux négociants, bourses du club, plis souvenirs et oblitération commémorative, timbres-photos. Centre d'activités pour les jeunes. Horaire: Vendredi et samedi: 10h00 à 17h00, dimanche: 10h00 à 16h00. Renseignements: François Brisse, C.P. #1, Pointe-Claire/Dorval, QC H9R 4N5. Courriel: fsbrisse@sympatico.ca

APRIL 14 AVRIL, 2018

K-W Stampfest 2018, hosted by the Kitchener-Waterloo Philatelic Society, will be held from 10:00 am to 4:00 pm at St. John's Lutheran Church, 22 Willow Street, Waterloo, ON. Annual Exhibits, dealer bourse and youth booth. For more information contact Leigh Hogg at 1-800-361-6631, email kwpskw@gmail.com or visit http://www.kwstampclub.org.

APRIL 21 AVRIL, 2018

KAPEX 2018, sponsored by the Kawartha Stamp Club, will be held from 9:30 am to 4:30 pm at the Evinrude Centre, 911 Monaghan Rd, Peterborough, ON. The Kawartha Stamp Club invites the public to "KAPEX 2018", their annual stamp show and exhibi-

tion. This is the only regional stamp show for the Peterborough area. Lots of free parking including wheelchair access, with a free gift for every child who attends. There will be up to 12 stamp dealers from around Ontario, Canada Post, Woolworth books, raffles, draw prizes, table auctions, stamp exhibits, a snack bar and a special edition Show Cover. Everyone is welcome to this annual all-ages event. For more information contact Susan Scott at 705-775-0230, email suescott555@gmail.com or visit www.rpsc.org/chapters/kawartha.

NATIONAL EXHIBITIONS / EXPOSITIONS NATIONALES

MARCH 24-25 MARS, 2018

EDMONTON SPRING NATIONAL 2018, sponsored by the Edmonton Stamp Club, will be held on Saturday from 10:00 am to 5:00 pm and on Sunday from 10:00 am to 4:00 pm at the Central Lions Recreational Centre, 113 St & 111 Ave, Edmonton, AB. Stamp dealers from across Canada, Stamp Circuit Books, Door Prize Draw, Junior Stamp Table, National-level Competitive Stamp Exhibits (WSP). Free Admission, Free Stamp Evaluations. Exhibits Chairperson: liuszmoser@gmail.com, Show Chairperson: eddykstra@shaw.ca. For more information visit www.edmontonstampclub.com.

JUNE 22-24 JUIN, 2018

ROYAL*2018*ROYALE - the 90th Convention of The RPSC – sponsored by the St. Catharines Stamp Club, will be held on Friday and Saturday from 10:00 am to 5:00 pm and Sunday 10:00 am to 3:00 pm at Holiday Inn Suites, Parkway Convention Centre, 327 Ontario St, St. Catharines, ON. Admission fee on Friday and Saturday, free on Sunday. Free parking, 140+ exhibits, 30+ dealer tables, seminars. Board meeting on Thursday, June 21, at 4:00 pm. For more information contact Stuart Keeley at 905-227-9251 or email stuart.keeley@sympatico.ca.

INTERNATIONAL EXHIBITIONS / EXPOSITIONS INTERNATIONALES

FIP PATRONAGE EXHIBITS OPEN FOR ENTRIES

MAY 27-31 MAI, 2018

TEL AVIV 2018—Tel Aviv, ISRAEL
ISRAEL 2018 World Stamp Championship at the International Convention Center, Jerusalem. Website:TBA. "Specialized" FIP Entries are restricted to: Traditional, Postal History, Literature and Modern Canadian. Commissioner: TBA.

AUGUST 15-18 AOÛT, 2018

Praga 2018 - Prague Czech Republic, Clarion Congress Hotel in Prague 9 Vysocany, Freyova 33
Website: https://www.praga2018.cz. "Specialized" FIP Entries are restricted to: Traditional, Postal History, Literature, One Frame, Modern [5-Frame], Open, and Revenue. Canadian Commissioner: David McLaughlin, E-mail: David.McLaughlin@rogers.com. Telephone: 905-509-7530 (Eastern Time), Pickering, Ontario

The International Exhibitor Newsletter, an update of FIP, FIAF & RPSC International Exhibition News for Canadian Philatelic Exhibitors, is now available to RPSC Members by email from Jim Taylor, International Liaison. Send your name and email address to miquelon@shaw.ca .

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 69080, St. Clair Post Office, Toronto, ON M4T 3A1.

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. 69080, St. Clair Post Office, Toronto, ON M4T 3A1) 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-29702 Robert Gill

I-29703 Kenn Sundberg
Canada - used, United States - mint and used, Postal History.

I-29705 Carl Fleck
Canadian stamps in general. Slant towards Admirals, centennials and precancels.

I-29706 Thomas Black
Canadian stamps, covers, back of book, booklets, special collections, plate blocks

I-29707 Martin Dionne
Canada, USA, Great Britain

I-29708 Gregg Redner
Canadian Stamps, Canadian Postcards, British Stamps, British Postcards, American Postcards

I-29710 John Bucci
Dealer: Postal History, Canada & World Wide Covers, and Postcards

I-29711 David Smith
Canadian Stamps

I-29712 Luc Levasseur

I-29713 Gordon Boudreau

FM-29714 Nicole Mercer

DECEASED MEMBERS / MEMBRES DÉCÉDÉS

HL-8767 • Dudley Blascheck

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PHILATELIC WEBSITE LISTINGS / LISTE DES SITES WEB PHILATELIQUES

Auctions / Enchères

ALL NATIONS STAMPS AND COINS
www.allnationsstampandcoin.com
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www.easternauctions.com
easternauctions@nb.aibn.com

LONGLEY AUCTIONS
www.longleyauctions.com
bill@longleyauctions.com

R. MARESCH & SON AUCTIONS
www.maresch.com
tony@maresch.com

SPARKS AUCTIONS
www.sparks-auctions.com
kate@sparks-auctions.com

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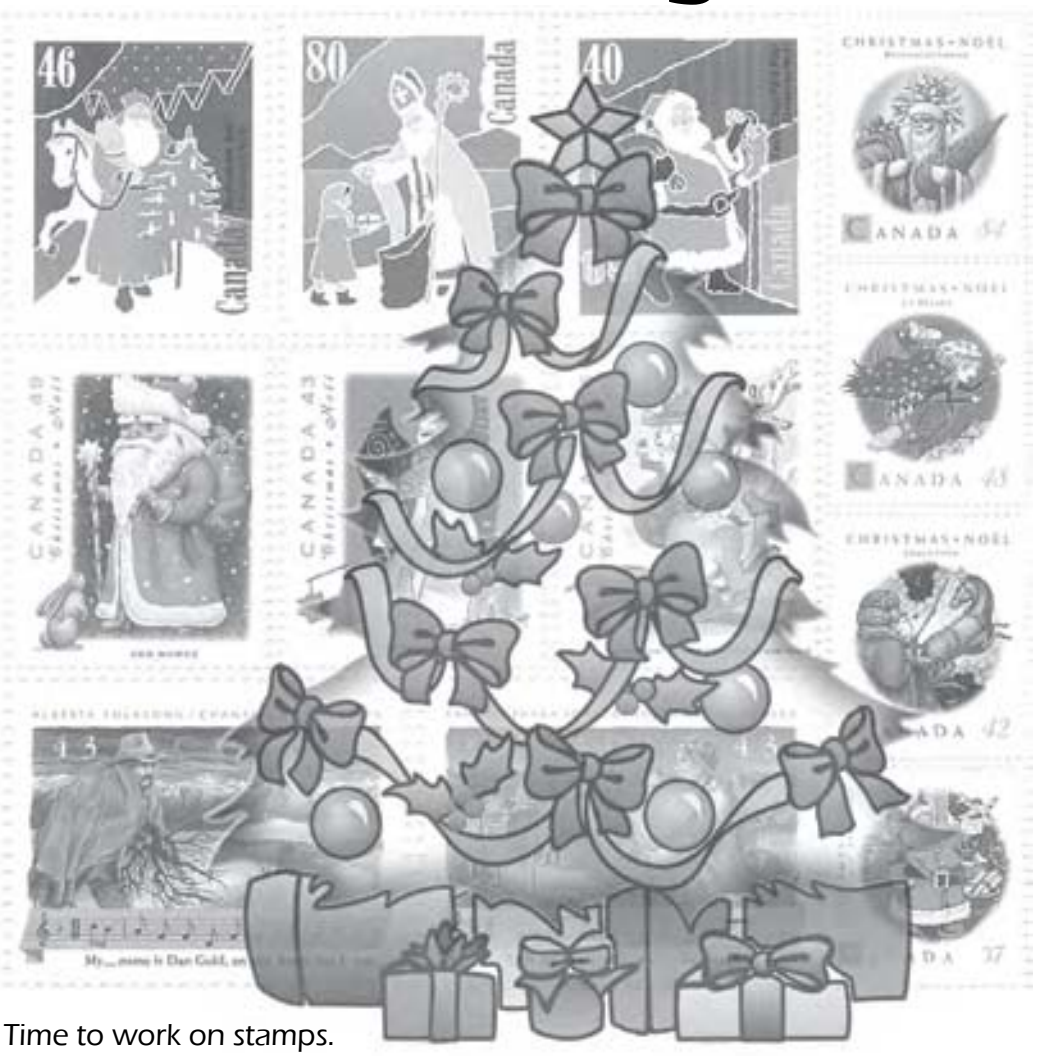

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