VOLUME XIX. NUMBER 1
JANUARY - FEBRUARY, 1968
WHOLE NUMBER 104

The CANADIAN PHILATELIST

OUR PATRON

HIS EXCELLENCY THE GOVERNOR GENERAL OF CANADA

THE RIGHT HONOURABLE ROLAND MICHENER, C.C.

Journal of the
ROYAL PHILATELIC SOCIETY of CANADA

THE WHEELER DEALER

January 1, 1968

Dear Friends:—

The East End Stamp Centre on Jones Avenue in Toronto has been in business for about ten years. The business was located in a small store and operated only for counter business. The premise was neatly arranged and the stock of stamps neatly displayed and well organized. First were the black display stock cards, then reserve #1 in envelopes, and after that reserve #2 in mint sheet files. They specialized in new issues, but over the years had built up a very comprehensive and attractive stock. The building had been sold and so the owner, due to personal reasons decided to sell the stamp business. He phoned and asked if I would be interested. The very next morning, I was there bright and early and worked the day valuing the stock. My offer was refused, it sometimes happens, but wait, nearly a month later I got a phone call — would I still be willing to buy at the offered price. Yes, was my answer, providing the stock was as I had seen it. Well there had been some sales and purchases, but these balanced out so the deal was completed and a cheque for the full amount handed over. The stamps were packed into boxes and in a heavy rain, we filled the car to full capacity. Another complete dealers stock for Empire.

On a two day trip to Western Canada, I sold a $37,000.00 lot of B.N.A. which contained some really rare and unique items. At the same time I purchased a very nice six volume foreign collection from a dealer, and three volumes of Canada from a collector in his 80th year.

Then there was a quick trip down to London, Ontario. I only bought one cover, but it was worthwhile. Another trip was to Montreal which is a different city now that Expo is over. When I wanted hotel accommodations at 11 p.m. I could take my choice of the best, and as for Motels, the taxi driver said "they're available at a dime a dozen". I valued a trunk full of albums, visited the local dealers, sold a nice collection. A very busy 1½ day trip.

On Tuesday, November 28th, I drove to St. Catharines early in the morning and spent the day valuing an old time collection. These were the ledger type, large and heavy, but in excellent condition. The Canada had Pence issues, 1868, a good lot, Jubilees unused to the $5.00 etc. I completed the deal at 3.30 p.m. and at 4 o'clock was across town in another home valuing four Scott Specialty Albums of France and Colonies. After an hour, I made my offer which was refused. I left. At 6 p.m. I telephoned, the answer was still "no". For a third and last attempt, I phoned, went back to his house, and about 11 p.m. bought the collection. By the time I had coffee and drove back to Toronto it was 1.30 p.m.

In between the above calls I had an interesting experience. While driving down town for dinner, I noticed an antique store. My father collects old Porcelain Ink Wells, and I am always on the look out for these in my travels. I was in the store for only a couple of minutes, when another man came in and asked the proprietor if he sold stamps. He told the man that he did not deal in stamps. That was too much for me, so I introduced myself saying I would be glad to be of help. The owner of the store suggested to the man that he go home and get his stamps and that I should wait in his store to value them. This was done, and while waiting, I purchased a beautiful antique Dresden Ink Well. However, the sad part is when the chap came back with his album, it turned out to be a note book containing several hundred of the commonest stamps of 30 years ago. There were only two items of any value and I offered the princely sum of $5.00. At that point he said he had better take the stamps home and ask his wife if it was alright to sell them—end of story.

Philatelically yours,

Harry Martin Jr

HARRY B. MARTIN, Jr.

Empire Stamp Corporation Limited

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(Telephone WA. 1-8967)

The CANADIAN PHILATELIST

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CONTENTS

Page

Articles

Canada Postal Stationery—Canada OHMS Officials on Cover. by Roy Wrigley 9

Canadian Forces Mail & the Christmas Stamps. by Lt. Col. R. H. Webb 31

The Kubin Bisects of Hungary. by M. R. Rasic 45

Miscellaneous

Important Announcement For All Chapters 6

Regular Features

The Editor Speaks Out 2
Sales Dept. 40
Postmarked Ottawa 34
The Hollow Tree 25
Chapter News 47
Coming Events 47
Postmarked London 19
The Honour Roll 41
The Secretary's Page 42
Mail Bag 36
Book Reviews 43

Deadline for advertising & editorial copy: FIRST OF MONTH preceding publication date.

Opinions expressed in the various articles in this journal are those of the writers, and not necessarily endorsed by the Society.

The Editor Speaks Out . . . .

A member recently wrote complaining that our editorials are too controversial and that we should only report "newsy" items. While we feel that each collector is entitled to collect anything that strikes his fancy and we ourselves collect many non-catalogue items we do feel that as the magazine of the national society it is our duty to bring, sometimes unpleasant, facts to the attention of our members. If the specialty bulletins would do the job they are supposed to do and cover the disadvantages as well as the advantages of a particular specialty this would not be necessary.

☆ ☆ ☆

There was a time when a first day cover really meant something. Starting with the Penny Black a first day cover has been something to acquire and, once acquired, a prize possession. However, we are now in the throes of an affluent society, and everything has changed. Modern first day covers are a matter of abhorrence for true philatelists.

It is only natural that dealers should endeavour to acquire from collectors as much of this affluence as possible; at least from those of us who are so fortunate as to be even moderately affluent. The lengths to which some of these dealers have gone in embellishing the covers that they purvey are absolutely fantastic. The use of ornate designs, and even of gold dust, on the covers has grown to such an extent that frequently the stamp becomes of very minor importance. We think, in general, it is reasonable to say that the stamp itself has become merely a necessary evil on these covers.

There are some dealers whose sales are mainly in modern first day covers. and there are even others who run an operation on these covers. These dealers are responsible for a cover, say, of a specific design, of which they put through the mail thousands, or even tens of thousands. These covers all bear the first day date of mailing though in fact they may have been cancelled by the postal authorities not on the first day, but before the first day, or after the first day. If any of the cancellations are illegible these illegible covers are returned to the post office much later than the first day and the post office in return sends the dealer new covers with legible first day cancels.

The dealer sells as many of these covers as required by the demand over a period of time. When sales start to lag he issues a notice to the effect that these covers have now tripled or quadrupled in value over their first selling price. However the dealer is a good scout and he will let the collector have a cover at a considerable mark-down from the new market value but, of course, at an advance on the original selling price. But one must hurry in placing his order as his stock of covers will not last long at this new price. The dealer probably has considerable stock remaining but he doesn't let the public in on this fact. After all he is selling covers not factual information.

The enhanced valuation put on the covers by the dealer is in all likelihood his own estimation and if a collector tries to sell his cover, bought at the original price, he may get quite a shock, for most dealers will not buy it and those who are willing to buy offer only a very nominal price.

Many a collector has fallen for this very dubious practice and when he comes to dispose of his collection of modern first day covers he finds to his sorrow that they are practically worthless. While any collector who wishes to indulge in this pleasant (?) pastime is quite free to do so, it is to be hoped that he does so knowing what it is all about and also it is to be hoped that he does not pay high prices for these covers unless it is a matter of "easy come, easy go".

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We can think of a couple of exceptions to the above. One is where the stamp used on the first day cover is, in itself, of intrinsic value and worth a considerable amount. The cover has considerable value accordingly, but not because it is a first day cover.

The second exception is where the stamp is of a topical nature and a run on this stamp by topical collectors creates a scarcity which sends the stamp up on the open market. This will likely cause an artificial valuation since such stamps tend to rise on the open market far above their real value and, later on, settle to a more reasonable level. However, this market value is created by an actual demand for the stamp and is not an artificially created dealer valuation.

Human nature being what it is we do not think that this sort of manipulation will cease but we do hope that the collector will come to see it for what it is and that he will be guided accordingly. If he does see and is guided accordingly, he will not, then, expect to receive any great sum for his covers later on when he decides to dispose of them, nor should he expect to receive awards at Exhibitions of any standing for these "made" items.

☆ ☆ ☆

NOTICE TO MEMBERSHIP

Due to the increasing number of stamp thefts the addresses of new members have been omitted from the New Member List and from the Change of Address section of the Secretary's Page. The Directors are also considering abandoning the publication of a Year Book for the same reason. As guide to our future policy the Editor would welcome members opinions on this subject.

☆ ☆ ☆

Once again we are indebted to member J. J. Charron #6741 for the index to Volume XVIII.

☆ ☆ ☆

Dr. Sidney V. Soanes #7405 writes to warn members that the "BENZENE" referred to in the September / October "Postmarked London" feature should be translated as "BENZINE" in North America. "BENZENE" with an "E" is toxic. We hope to run an article on this subject by Dr. Soanes in a future issue.

☆ ☆ ☆

Back Numbers of C.P.

The Editor has available the following back issues of our magazine for those members who want to complete broken sets. Price 25c. each postage paid.

1959 Volume X Numbers 1, 3, 4, 5 & 6.
1960 Volume XI Numbers 1, 2, 3, 4, 5 & 6
1961 Volume XII Numbers 2, 3, 4, 5 & 6.
1962 Volume XIII Numbers 2, 5 & 6.
1963 Volume XIV Numbers 1, 2, 3, 4 & 6.
1964 Volume XV Numbers 1, 3, 5 & 6.
1965 Volume XVI Numbers 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, & 6.
1966 Volume XVII Numbers 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, & 6.

Only a few numbers are available for some years and early application is desirable.

☆ ☆ ☆

North Toronto and East Toronto Stamp Clubs held their combined Centennial Stamp Exhibition on October 23rd to 28th under the able chairmanship of Dr. Fred Stulberg. I was pleased to note that a tribute was paid to both Louis Lamouroux and Alf Scadding as both founding members and first presidents of the respective clubs. A good show Fred.

☆ ☆ ☆

The Canadian Association for Isreal Philately is sponsoring an excursion to COMPEX on May 30th, 1968. Details and application forms may be obtained from the Association, 157 Clifton Ave., Downsview, Ontario.

☆ ☆ ☆

Member R. J. Jackson #7348 reports that the Centennial symbol was in use as part of a slogan cancel for the National Ukranian Festival between July 15th and August 5th at Dauphin, Manitoba.

35 M/M SLIDE PROGRAMS

1. Animals on Stamps Part 1
2. Animals on Stamps Part 2
3. Birds on Stamps Part 1
4. Birds on Stamps, Port 2
5. Admiral Issues of Canada by Gerald Drew-Smith
6. The "De La Rue" Key Types of the British Empire by H. G. Gosney.
7. The Faroe Islands by W. J. Banks.
8. Provisional Cancellations of Germany 1945-6 by H. C. Meier.
9. The Private City Post Stamps of Germany by H. C. Schulz
10. Germany Postal Stationery Part 1
11. Russian Zone Handoverprints of Germany 1948.
12. The 1945 Overprints or Corkmarks of East Germany.
13. Coins on Greek stamps.
14. The Age of Discovery and Exploration by W. J. Banks.
15. The Canadian Admirals by Hans Reiche.
16. Music on Stamps.
17. Medical Subjects on Stamps.
18. Canada's Maple Leaf Issue — Queen Victoria by W. J. Banks.
19. Geology on Stamps.

No's 14 - 19 inclusive have just been added and are available to chapters as of Jan. 1/68.

As new programs are added to the slide library they will be reported in the Canadian Philatelist. Chapters may obtain information etc. from Mr. James E. Kraemer, 17 Commanche Dr., Ottawa 5.

☆ ☆ ☆

THE GELDERT MEDAL

At the annual meeting in Ottawa President Harry Sutherland announced that in recognition of Dr. G. M. Geldert's contribution to philately and to the Royal Philatelic Society of Canada a medal will be awarded to the article, or series, appearing in the Canadian Philatelist which in the opinion of the committee is deserving of such recognition. Further details and the design of the award will be published in a later issue.

NOTICE TO MEMBERSHIP

ALL 1967 members have now received their billings for 1968 dues and this copy of the Canadian Philatelist is the last one you will receive if your fees remain unpaid at January 31st. Please co-operate with the undersigned, remit your dues and save extra work for all concerned.

Signed "Walter F. Anderson",
Secretary

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Important Announcement

The board of directors of the R.P.S.C. has approved a programme on a trial basis commencing January 1, 1968 and ending November 30, 1968 in recognition of the work which the Chapters have been doing in obtaining new members for the Society.

Details are as follows:

1. The admission fee of $1.00 which must accompany any application for a new member will be paid by the R.P.S.C. to the Chapter which sponsors the new member.
2. Where a Chapter sponsors more than 10 new members the R.P.S.C. will pay to the Chapter an additional $1.00 for each new member (in excess of 10) sponsored by it.
3. A grant of $25.00 will be paid by the R.P.S.C. to any Chapter all of whose members are members in good standing of the R.P.S.C. and which provides a membership list to the Secretary.

EXAMPLES

I. A Chapter sponsors 5 members for the R.P.S.C. A cheque for $5.00 will be paid to the sponsoring Chapter.

II. A Chapter sponsors 20 members for the R.P.S.C. A total payment of $30.00 will be made to the sponsoring Chapter.

III. A Chapter all of whose members are members in good standing of the R.P.S.C. sponsors 5 new members. A total payment of $30.00 will be made to the sponsoring Chapter.

This programme, it is hoped, will be mutually beneficial to the Society and to the Chapters. As indicated above it has been instituted on a trial basis for the period mentioned. Payments to each Chapter will be made on or after June 1 and December 1.

SUPPORT THE R.P.S.C. AND SUPPORT YOUR CHAPTERS

COMPLIMENTS OF

CANADIAN BANK NOTE
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THE CANADIAN PHILATELIST

INDEX TO VOLUME XVIII. – 1967

COMPILED BY J. J. CHARRON, RPSC 6741

CANADA

Aerogram & Airgraph, W.W. II 161
Alberta, Post Offices of 15
B.N.A. "Service" Letters up to 1869 247
Canada Fakes 77
Canada Militia, Niagara Field P.O. 13
Censor Marking, W.W., Internment Camp 163
Centennial Maple Leaf Cancels 137, 265
Centennial Stage Coach Covers 11
Centennial Stamps 201
Centennial Symbol Cancel '67 219
De Thuin's B.N.A. Fakery 218
Duplex Cancel. Devices of Hamilton, 1860-77 49
EXPO '67 Maximum Card 159
EXPO '67 Stamps 201
Hechler Bogus "Service" and "Official" O/P 11
"Interrupted Mail" Covers 160
Juan de Fuca Despatch 14
Lanark County, First P.O.'s 284
London to London Air 74
Montreal-Moscow First Flight 273
New Brunswick Fakes 80
Newfoundland Fakes 79
New Issues 45
Nile Expedition, 1884-85 217
Nile Expedition Covers 13
North and South Post Offices 180
North West (Riel) Rebellion Covers 67
Nova Scotia Fakes 80
N.W. Territorial Post Offices 159-273
Ottawa River to Lake Opeongo, First P.O.'s 109
Pan-American Games Max. Card 275
Patriotics, Boer War 275
P.E.I., 6 d. Reprint 121
Pembroke, First Post Offices 35
Postage Meters in Canada 203
Postal Stationery, Federal Government 65
RCAF in S/E Asia, (1942-45) 149
RCAF MOON Cancels 121
Roller Cancellations 91, 271
Rosseau Crown Cancellation 11
Siberian Expedition Cover 162, 271
Siberian Expedition Force Covers 73
Tagged Stamps of Winnipeg, The 188
War Tax Precancelled 125
Yukon Territory Post Offices 159

FOREIGN

ARO Field Force Cover 67
Greenock and Ardrishaig Packet Service 57
Maluku Selatan 48

REVENUE

Bell Telephone Co. Franks 14, 67
Labrador U.S.A. "Locals" 123
"Locals" 275
Montreal Telegraph Co. 222
Newfoundland, $100. Edward, Variety 218, 275
Newfoundland, "5" on 25c., Provisional 218
Newfoundland Transportation Tax 14, 273
Ontario Gasoline Tax 14
Supreme Court, $30. on $1. 121
Supreme Court Law, 25c., Geo. VI, 1938 123
Supreme Court Law, 10c., Widow "In Prize" 123
Weights & Measures Red NO Denomination 69
Yukon & Dawson Court Die Proofs 74
Yukon Law, 25c., Variety 218

EXHIBITIONS

AMPHILEX 1967 192
BYPEX '67 ..... 107, 157, 223, 255
EXPO on the "FRANCE" 144
IFA VIENNA 1968 279
London's 1970, International Phil. Exhibition 279
SIPEX 29
Societe Philatelique de Quebec, La 29

MISCELLANEOUS

Adhesive Postage Stamp, Beginning of 31
C.P.R. Letter Sheets 161
Dealer Speaks, The 17
'Display By' 7
Diseases of Philately 181, 226, 259
Mail by Rail 185
N/E Cheam and Suburbs P.S., Minutes of 27, 115
Off-Center Fad? Why the 271
Philately, As it is 21
Photography, Philatelic 236
Postmarked London 43, 77, 181, 226, 259
Postmarked Ottawa 47, 89, 141, 213, 267
Posts, A Host of 87
STR. VADSO Marking 123

CATALOGUES — HANDBOOKS — LITERATURE

Canadian Revenue Directory — 1967 11
Cataloga de Selos do Brasil 277
Decimal Issue of Canada, The First 131, 217
Guide to Precancel Collecting 129
Great Britain, Spec. Stamp Catalogue 129
Hale, H. Warren K., Memorial Book 123
Higgins & Gage Postal Stationery 160, 218
Postman's Knock, The 139
Postal Stationery of the World 129
Satfield — Can. Secret Mark Stamps 5
Scott's, Vol. I 278
Scott's, Vol. II 279
Stamp Collector's Monthly Gazette 139
Stamp Collector's Record 140
Stanley Gibbons, "Elizabethan", 1967 4
Stanley Gibbons, G.B., Vol. I 277
Stanley Gibbons, Parts I, II, III, 1967 4
Stanley Gibbons Simplified, 1967 4
The Philatelist, 1867 215
Thiaude — France, 1967 5

RPSC

Geldert, Dr. G. M., F.R.P.S.L., F,R,P,S,C, ... 195

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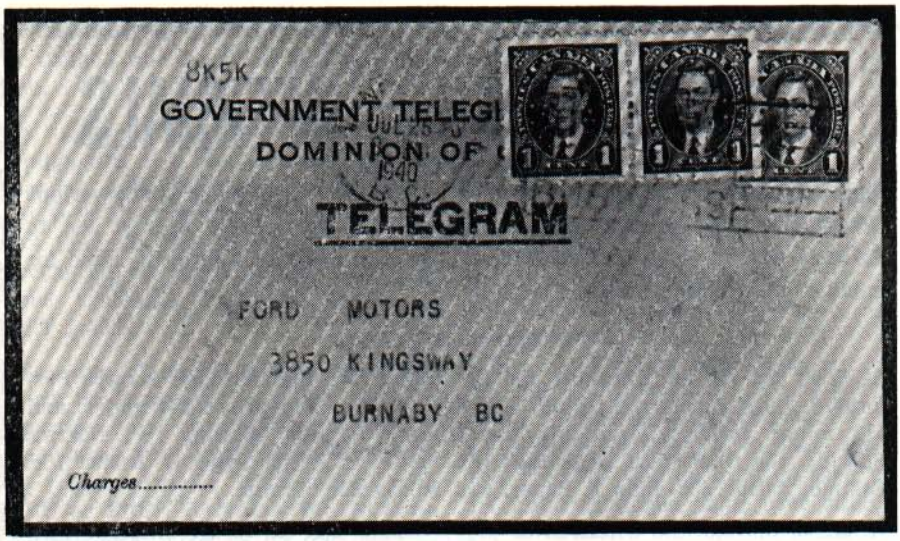

A Government Telegraphs official cover franked with perf OHMS stamps.

Canada Postal Stationery
Canada O.H.M.S. Officials On Cover

By ROY WRIGLEY

On July 1, 1935 the Canada Post Office perforated OHMS on stamps used by the Government Departments, and Crown Companies, commencing with the 1912 K. Geo. V. Admirals, and carried through to September 1949, when the stamps were overprinted OHMS. One year later, the overprint was changed to 'G'.

On December 31, 1963, the use of these special stamps was discontinued, and mail from Government Departments was carried without the use of stamps. Registered, or Special Delivery letters were noted as such, and recorded at the local Post Office. Letters could be sent Air Mail, by attaching a sticker. If a letter was not fully prepaid, "Postage Due' stamps were affixed, and the receiving Department paid in cash to the P.O. Department, double the deficiency.

These Canada OHMS Official stamps prepaid mail to any point in the Universal Postal Union. As legitimate Government postal issues, the Perforated OHMS., as well as the Overprinted OHMS, and 'G' should be listed in any representative stamp catalog. They merit the respect given them by many collectors, as they were issued for use, not for speculators who offer limitless numbers of 'black spots'.

Over the period 1935 to 1963 through the use of these specially marked stamps, the Post Office Department was able to assess the amount of postage used by the various Departments, and as of January 1, 1964, entered into agreement with the various Departments, and Crown Companies, for prepayment of their mail on a bulk rate, and was thus able to dispense with the use of stamps, this based on prior year's postage. This effected a great saving in printing, paperstock for 20,565,000 stamps, also for accounting, and distribution, and newly installed postal meters. The saving for 1966 amounted to one quarter million dollars. Expo 67 is on the bulk

CANADA OMHS OFFICIALS

This is the first opportunity of offering the OHMS ON COVER of the various Government Departments. These are hard to come by, and offer at 50c. to $2. each, with increase for better items. Selection sent on approval. Send for index of all known varieties FREE.

SPECIAL OFFERS:

At $2.00 3rd Edition Checklist and Catalog of Canadian Postage Stamps Perforated, and Overprinted OHMS, and 'G', classifies and prices 234 major, and 513 minor varieties, including the Missing Periods, Missing 'G', Narrow Spacing, the final short issue 1962 Q.E. issue, and 1953 Type 'C' #039a 10c. Eskimo, #045a 20c. Pulp & Paper, and #045a 50c. Textile.

At $3.00 Guide to the OHMS of 61 pages, album size, for 3-ring binder, which describes all issues, with 694 stamp size illustrations, that may also be used as an album.

At $10.00 I offer a beginner's collection of 75 varieties. One only at this price.

At $100.00 a representative collection of the original 5 Hole and 4 Hole Perforated, the Overprinted OHMS and 'G' with items catalog to $8.00, mounted on album pages.

Your wantlist, or request for a selection, would be appreciated.
I still have a few sets of the 1962 QE #046 - 49 1c., 2c., 4c. and 5c. in use only a few months when the 'G' stamps were discontinued:

set of MINT singles	$1.10	USED singles	$3.00
MINT blocks	3.00	USED blocks	8.00

and, in the Type C "FLYING G":

	MINT	USED
#039a 10c. Eskimo	$1.00	.50
#045a 20c. Paper	5.00	3.00
#038a 50c. Textile	2.50	2.00

(a few mint blocks at 4 times singles)

CANADA REVENUES, B.C. TELEPHONE FRANKS:

5c. and 25c. of the 1944, 1946, 1951, 1958, 1959 issues, and 5c., 25c. and $1.00 of the 1947, 1949 and 1957 issues, Catalog $13.50 for $4.00.
13 panes of six (3 watermarked) including Book cover, catalog $59.50 plus for $9.00.

Mark items required, this sheet will be returned, with material for your approval.

ROY WRIGLEY

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basis, and it is planned now to include the Canadian Broadcasting Corporation, Air Canada, and Canadian National Railways.

A further economy was effected through use of a standard envelope, in place of each Department having it's own printings, carrying: "Postes CANADA Post, On Her Majesty's Service — Service de sa Majeste. and top right boxed CANADA POSTAGE PAID — PORT PAYE.

However, stampless covers have been in use for many years, where name of Department or printed signature of Department head appears, together with the regular Ottawa cancellation, with FREE or FREE CANADA FRANCO on bars or waves. The writer has these as far back as June 21.1940. There is also the franking "House of Commons — Chambre des Connons, Free CANADA Franco" and carrying the signature of the Minister. Another cancel for a short period was "OTTAWA 20 IV '54 ONTARIO - OHMS - SSM" with no stamp.

Aside from the fact that the number of OHMS that were used was small, compared with the regular stamps, it was difficult to secure used copies from Government offices, and more particularly so where "On Cover'. In fifteen years specializing in this group I was fortunate recently to acquire a collection, with duplicates, from the Estate of a former Department head, who had retained the stamps on their cover. These embrace items as far back as the 1930 K. Geo V. Maple Leaf issue, in original 5 Hole Perforated OHMS., from the Receiver General's Office, the first Department to use these stamps.

Of particular interest is the War emergency campaign, to conserve paper and shipping supplying all Departments with labels : Use envelopes over again. "SAVE PAPER ! SAVE SHIPPING !! —— Fold here —— To open, slit along dotted line. Envelopes can then be used again. O.H.M.S." An instance of this is an envelope from the Oil Controller

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Name Your Country for a Similar Packet

L. A. Davenport

230 LONSMOUNT DRIVE
TORONTO 10, ONTARIO

for Canada, 15 King St. W., Toronto, Ont. Department of Munitions and Supply, under a 4c. 1942 War issue, perforated 4-Holes, with slogan cancel, addressed to Prince Rupert, B.C. The envelope was slitted at top, and 'Save Paper' label addressed from the Indian Office in Prince Rupert to Major D. M. MacKay, Indian Commissioner for B.C., Box 76, Vancouver, B.C. Over the original 4c. 1942 stamp, postmarked Toronto, was affixed two 1942 2c. War issue. What makes this cover a remarkable piece is the Type V "BLACKOUT" cancel with date "18-JUL 21 "44" the name of the Port being omitted, as Prince Rupert was one of 4 seaports on the Pacific Coast, the Post Office "blacked out" to guard against enemy interception of the mail. While German submarines entered the St. Lawrence, and were off Halifax, Japanese shelled Carmanah Light, on Vancouvr Island, near Victoria.

The War effort was served with such slogan cancels as : Enlist Now, Buy 1st War Loan. Buy Victory Bonds. Help the Red Cross. Eat right for Health. Pay No More than Ceiling Prices. Save Metals, Rags and Waste Paper. Coal—Save 1 ton in 5. V . . . for Victory. Remembrance Day, and Flag cancels.

In the 'BLACKOUT' cancels, there were six types, used during the First War, in the Ports of Halifax, St. John, Quebec, Vancouver, New Westminster, Prince Rupert, and Victoria.

INDEX OF FEDERAL DEPARTMENTS and CROWN COMPANIES USING PERFORATED OHMS, OVERPRINTED OHMS, AND 'G' AND CURRENT OHMS CANADA POSTAL STATIONERY.

DOMINION DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

I have a group of this Department's covers, used during the First War, at a period that extended efforts were made to increase farm production. As these covers carried the 1942 War issue stamps, perforated OHMS 4 holes high, the use of "OHMS" or "FOR OFFICIAL USE ONLY" was not printed on these. These imprints came into use with the 1949 (Revised) overprinted OHMS issue. All earlier covers were printed in English, while later many were in English and French. All imprints Upper Left, unless noted.

	Imprint of Department	# 7 Envelope Color & Code	# 10 Envelope Color & Code
1	Imprint only, no point of mailing noted	buff A91	buff A73
2	" " OHMS	manila A91	manila A73
3	" " For Officials Use Only		manila A273
4	" bilingual		manila A73L
5	" Experimental Farm At Point of Mailing	manila EA80	buff EA81
6	" " "		manila EA81
7	" " Point of mailing printed	white none	white FE2
8	" " "		manila EV2
9	" " "		buff EA75
10	" Fruit & Vegetable Division		buff MF175
11	" Live Stock and Products Division	white MA102	manila ML301
12	" Dairy Products Division		manila MD54
13	" Health of Animals Division		white PHA709
14	" Plant Products Division		manila PS315
15	" Science Service. Field Crop Inspect Lab		manila SA52
16	Prairie Farm Rehabilitation Office (no imprint)		white RA105

BANK OF CANADA

17	Public Debt Division bilingual		manila

BUREAU OF STATISTICS

18	Head Office, Ottawa. signed L. D. Wilgress	Manila	
19	signed W. N. Mackenzie	Manila	
20	OHMS-SSM wavy lines	Manila	
21	Employment Statistics signed Jas. G. Parmelee	white	

CANADIAN INFORMATION SERVICE

22	Head Office, Ottawa. signed D. P. Heeney	buff	

CITIZENSHIP AND IMMIGRATION

23	No Imprint, Except Code in Lower left. OHMS in centre	buff C&I. 7	manila C&I. 19
24	Imprint Of Dept. bi-lingual.		manila C&I. 99
25	" " in Lower left		manila C&I. 19
26	" " " For Official Use only		manila C&I. 19
27	" at point of mailing		manila 305

CIVIL SERVICE COMMISSION

28	Imprint in lower left	white	white, Manila.

EXTERNAL AFFAIRS

29	Imprint signed "H. C. G. Ext Affairs"		white

FINANCE

30	No Imprint, except "J.L.F. M.F." in Lower left		white
31	Deputy Minister in L.L.		manila
32	Comptroller Of The Treasury		manila
33	Salvage Division		white
34	Taxation Division		manila (window)

FISHERIES

35	Fisheries Research Board At Point of Mailing	manila (also with Code 416A.)	
36	Dept. Of Fisheries in L.L.		buff
37	Fisheries Research Board. Pacific Station, Nanaimo.	white	
38	Pacific Biological Station. Nanaimo.	white	

GOVERNMENT TELEGRAPHS

39	Imprint top centre Telegram	green #3	
40	" " with Coat of Arms	buff (window)	

JUSTICE

41	Purchasing Agent LL "Free F. P. Varcoe"		manila

LABOR

42	Department Of Labor, with Crest	manila	
43	" "	white	
44	" " Japanese Division.		
45	" Wartine Bureau Of Technical Personnel		manila
46	" Canadian Government Annuities LL		manila GA. 147
47	" bi-lingual		manila (window)

MINES AND RESOURCES

48	No Imprint except M&R 7 LL	buff M&R 7.	
49	" " LL	white M&R 7.	white M&R 10.
50	" " LLL 10.		buff M&R 10.
51	" " LL 10.		white
52	Department Imprint LL LL In Black		
53	Department Imprint LL in gold		white

54 Dominion Water & Power Bureau LL
at point of mailing — manila
55 Code # 'M&R 9' only in LL — buff M&R 9.
56 Immigration Branch, at point of mailing — manila Imm. 305

MUNITIONS AND SUPPLY

57 Department Imprint LL — manila M&S 63
58 " LL — white M&S 63
59 " LL, Office of Oil Controller UL — manila M&S63 manila M&S22
60 " LL — white M&S 22
61 " UL P.O. Box 790 Place d'Armes, Montreal — white

NATIONAL DEFENCE

62 Imprint bi-lingual Commanding Officer
R.C.A.F. Comox — manila RCAF G168
63 No Imprint except M.F.B. 299 in LL — white MFB 299
64 " M.F.B. 1483 LL — buff MFB 1483
65 Defence Construction (1961) Limited bi-lingual — white DCL. 1

NATIONAL FILM BOARD

66 Department Imprint — white NFB ADM 4
67 " — manila NFB ADM 4
68 " At Point of Mailing — manila NFB 176

NATIONAL GRAIN COMMISSION

69 Department Imprint Winnipeg, Man. — manila

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CANADIAN POST OFFICE GUIDE — 1863 REPRINT $1.50
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R. J. Woolley, Apt. 206, 1520 Bathurst St.,
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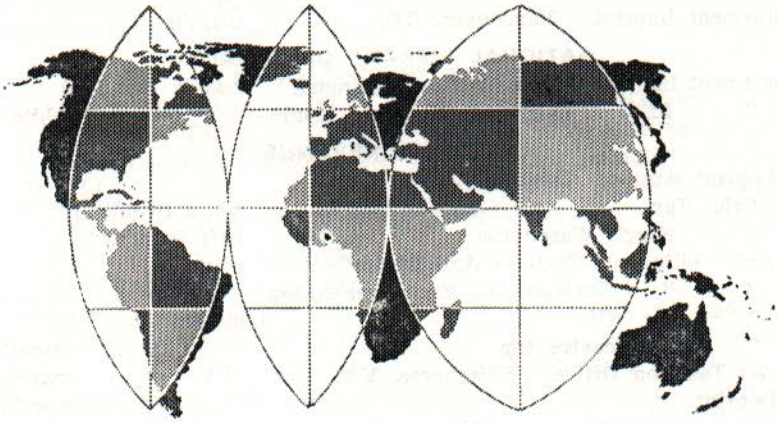
	Imprint of Department	# 7 Envelope Color & Code	#10 Envelope Color & Code
	NATIONAL HARBOURS BOARD		
70	Department Imprint Vancouver, B.C.	manila	
	NATIONAL LIBRARY OF CANADA		
71	Department Imprint across bottom, bi-lingual	manila (window)	
72	" LL bi-lingual (W. Kaye Lamb)		white
	NATIONAL REVENUE		
73	No Imprint stamped Customs And Excise. Sales Tax.	white (window)	
74	" King's Warehouse	buff (window)	
75	Imprint bilingual Customs And Excise	white	
76	" " Customs And Excise centre top	white	
77	" " UL	manila	
78	" " centre top		manila R422
79	District Taxation Office. Whitehorse, Y.T.		manila
80	No Imprint		manila
81	Imprint District Treasury Office		manila (window)
82	" bilingual Accounting Branch stampless	manila (window)	
83	" " Taxation Div. all in stencil	manila (window)	
	NORTHERN AFFAIRS AND NATIONAL RESOURCES		
84	Department Imprint bilingual At Point of mailing	manilaNANR8	manilaNANR9
85	" " Water Resources Branch		manila NANR 9
86	No Imprint District Engineer		manila
	PATENT OFFICE		
87	No Imprint signed 'C. Stein', Patent Office, Ottawa		manila
	POST OFFICE		
88	Canada Post Office LL 'Official business only' UL	buff	
89	" "	manila	
90	Money Order Division LL 'W. J. Turnbull, Dy. P.M. Gen'l'	manila (window)	
91	C.O.D. Remittance Only bilingual	buff	
92	Public Relations LL		manila
93	Financial Branch bilingual signed W. J. Turnbull		white
94	P.O. Department " LL		manila
95	" UL signed W. Hamilton PMG LL		white
96	" UL signed J. R. Nicholson PMG LL		white
97	" UL Postage Stamp Division		manila
98	" stencil across top. Dead Letter Office		manila
	PUBLIC PRINTING AND STATIONERY		
99	Imprint bilingual LL 'Edmond Cloutier, King's Printer	white	
100	" UL Office machine Section		manila (window)
101	" UL Office machine Section		manila
102			
	PUBLIC ARCHIVES		
103	Imprint Bilingual LL signed 'W. Kaye Lamb'		white
	PUBLIC WORKS		
104	Dept Of Public Works UL	buff	
105	" UL At Point of Mailing		manila



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RADIO ASTROPHYSICAL OBSERVATORY

106 Dominion Radio Astrophysical Observatory. Penticton, B.C. LL — manila

RECONSTRUCTION AND SUPPLY

107 Department Imprint LL — manila R&S 63

ROYAL CANADIAN AIR FORCE

108 R.C.A.F. in red LL "Don't be Extravagant with Words or Stationery" — manila G 78
109 " LL — manila G. 168

ROYAL CANADIAN MINT

110 Royal Canadian Mint LL Ottawa, Canada. — manila

ROYAL CANADIAN MOUNTED POLICE

111 Imprint R.C.M.P. UL For Official use only. — manila 5181
112 " LL (several type faces) — manila
113 No Imprint — manila
114 Imprint R.C.M.P. UL bilingual (stampless)

TERRITORIAL COURT

115 Territorial Court UL Whitehorse, Y.T. — manila

TRADE AND COMMERCE

116 Export Permit Branch UL signed W. A. MacKenzie — blue
117 Weights & Measures — white SDU 12

TRANSPORT

118 Dept. Of Transport LL Return to point of Mailing UL — manila 52

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119	Imprint		LL		white, buff and window
120	"	bilingual	UL		manila
121	"	"	LL		manila (window)
122	"		LL	two type faces	buff
123	"	bilingual	LL		manila and white
124	Imprint		UL	"At Point of Mailing'	manila (window)
125	Imprint	bilingual	UL		manila manila
126	Imprint	"	UL	'Hire thro Nat Emp' light	manila manila
127	Imprint	"	UL	" heavy	manila
128	Imprint	"	UL	" light	manila (window)
129	Imprint	"	LL	Return address printed	manila
130	No Imprint			"	manila
131	Imprint	"	LL		manila (window)
132	Imprint	"	UL	stampless	manila (window)
133	Imprint	"	UL	"	manila
134	Imprint	"	UL	Chief Treasury Officer. Stampless.	manila (window)
135	Imprint	"	UL	District Treasury Officer	manila

VETERAN'S AFFAIRS & SOLDIER SETTLEMENT

136	Imprint	"	UL		man. VLA 214 man. VLA 213
137	Imprint	"	UL		white VLA 213
138	Imprint		UL		white VLA 213
139	Soldier Settlement		UL		buff SS 601
140	"	"	UL	At Point of Mailing	buff SS 601
141	"	"	UL	"	buff VLA 214
142	"	"	UL	"	white VLA 214
143					

WARTIME FINANCE COMMITTEE

144 National War Finance Committee, Ottawa. 'J. L. Ilsley' white

WARTIME INFORMATION BOARD

145 Imprint LL white

WARTIME MERCHANT SHIPPING LIMITED

146 Imprint UL Montreal, Que. white

WARTIME PRICES AND TRADE BOARD

147	Imprint	bilingual	LL	signed 'D. Gordon'	buff
148	"	"	UL		buff
149	"	"	LL		white, buff, manila
150	"	"	UL	Department of Licencing	buff (window)
151	"	"	UL	Truck Control	manila

CANADIAN WOOL BOARD LTD. (Wartime Crown Company)

152 Imprint UL 8 King St. East, Toronto, Ont. white (window)

The writer, at 2288 Bellevue Avenue, West Vancouver, B.C. would be pleased to hear from collectors interested in this group of Canadian Postal History, and of Official covers not listed.

Postmarked London

By ROBSON LOWE RPSC 7400

The British Philatelic Exhibition held during the first four days in November was well supported, the exhibits and the press booths occupying the main hall, another hall containing some eighteen dealers booths and a third the G.P.O. with its panoramic exhibit and counter manned by the Philatelic Section. There was one break in the harmony where on the last day, a would-be buyer of obsolete commemoratives lost his temper when he found that full sheets were no longer available. Alas, I missed this curious incident, but the amiable and efficient Post Office staff who had catered for the foibles of collectors for four days, carefully supplying corner blocks and so on, were very embarrassed. The security guards evicted the disturber of the peace and no blood was shed. In case you feel that this was a surprising matter, I would remind you that some years ago, several people were killed in an Egyptian Post Office when a commemorative set was limited to one per customer (from memory I believe that this was the Port Fouad set).

Philatelic passions are not often discussed but those of us who sit in the rostrum have seen them in play. Fervent hopes dashed when some one with more money but obviously no philatelic knowledge has acquired the loved one. **"But I made the backguard pay for it"** is usually the crumb of comfort. These human passions are well understood but they can be avoided in several ways. **"What I cannot afford to own I do not want"** is a philosophy which takes the heartburn out of collecting. In these days when colour photography is so inexpensive, I find that this substitute, properly mounted and written-up with the foot note "The original of this photograph is owned by Willie Smith" pleases me, delights Willie Smith and I hope satisfies any viewer of my collection that possession is not so important as appreciation.

There are other philatelic passions and I often wonder why anyone should accept an invitation to be a judge at an exhibition. Even if there is a panel of twenty judges, each of whom must have some ability otherwise he would not have been invited, it is extremely unlikely that in a hundred exhibits that there will be more than eighty on which any member of the panel is qualified to give an opinion. Every human being is biased by his experience and in consequence will judge more accurately a subject that he knows well. When it comes to the subject that is strange to him he falls into one of the following traps.

1. Too high an award for a study that has been based on a textbook with which the judge is not familiar.
2. Too low an award for a study of little commercial value which is really a marvel of philatelic research.
3. Too high an award because of the obvious value of an exhibit.
4. Too high or too low an award because of the presentation.

And that brings up a vital point — writing-up. One well known judge at international exhibitions told me that he never reads the descriptions on an album page. Maybe time was his enemy but unless one is completely familiar with a subject, I cannot see how one can judge the merits of a collection without reading what the owner has to say about it. My collection must appal him because I write all I can find out about an

the CANADIAN PHILATELIST

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item for two reasons. Firstly, if I do not put it down on paper I forget it. Secondly, some one else viewing the collection may be inspired to correct or supplement my commentary.

I like exhibitions, they give me pleasure. I like to exhibit because one hopes to give pleasure to those who view the frames and there is the often fulfilled hope that a viewer will seek one out and add to ones knowledge. But I will not exhibit for competition for I do not believe that I have the moral right to take other people's time to look at the results of my personal hobby and be compelled to express an opinion, regardless of the competence of the judges. If the judgment is laudatory it arouses envy or derision from others. Should it condemn then at least it will arouse the indignation of the owner. I collect for my personal pleasure and not to find out what the rest of the world thinks about it. If more than a few collect what I like then I could not afford to indulge in this particular passion of collecting.

Recently I lunched with a philatelist who is a popular and competent judge of European classics and the subject of expert opinions came up. "I would rather have the opinion of the one authority who knows than the combined opinion of a committee who do not know" was the pungent view of my host. Basically I agree but knowledge itself can prove a trap. This may only be my personal experience but I find that it is necessary for my opinion of a stamp that I know well to be checked for quality. Working at speed, it may be easy for experience to identify a stamp with certainty and one too quickly turns to the next patient. The good philatelist who may not know the stamp well, views the piece of paper more clinically and may well spot some defect which the ego of knowledge has overlooked. It is for this reason that both expert committees and commercial houses should have their stamps looked at by more than one person. A valuer may deal with two hundred lots a day. A describer with a hundred lots and the mounters and photographers with as many. If they all have their eyes open, little will escape the trained scrutiny of four people.

Last night the pound was devalued. The effect of this action on the hobby is likely to be the same as before. More collectors from overseas will buy in England. More collectors in England will buy and in a few weeks the status will be as before. Having an international house, banking in six different countries, it is undoubtedly true that those European branches in countries which do not devalue will increase their turnover. Collecting will thrive under the stimulus of increased international competition.

And good hunting in the New Year.

R. L.

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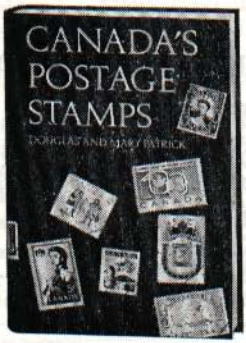

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CHAPTER MEETINGS

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SCHOOL FOR BLIND
Miss Alice McLearn
2160 Connaught Avenue, Halifax, N.S.

CALGARY PHILATELIC SOCIETY

MEETS 1st and 3rd TUESDAYS
SOCONY MOBIL OIL BOARDROOM
at 8.00 p.m.
President: John M. Gareau,
1420 Carlyle Road S.W.
Secretary: G. M. Hill,
1612 - 50 Avenue S.W.

• VISITORS WELCOME •

EDMONTON STAMP CLUB

First and Third Mondays at the
MACDONALD HOTEL

President: Ian Paterson, 11330 - 67 St.
Secretary: E. J. Christensen Box 399
EDMONTON ALBERTA

LA SOCIETE PHILATELIQUE DE QUEBEC

(CHAPTER No. 40)

Meets in the Centre Audio-Visuel
1158 Bourlamaque
Québec
First & Third
Wednesdays of the month at 8.30 p.m.

KITCHENER WATERLOO PHILATELIC SOCIETY

(Chapter 13, of the R.P.S.C.)
Meets at 7.30 p.m. the 2nd. Thursday of month (except during June, July, August & December) in Kitchener Public Library
— Visitors Welcome —
PRESIDENT, Janet Beins,
630 Rockway Drive, Kitchener, Ont.
Tel., 744-2343 or 743-6391

WEST TORONTO STAMP CLUB

Established 1935
ANAVIC HOTEL - 2080 DUFFERIN ST.
MEETINGS:
2nd and 4th TUESDAYS—7.30 p.m.
VISITORS WELCOME

MONTREAL STAMP CLUB

Meetings: Every Thursday at 8 p.m.
Juniors at 7 p.m.
Except during the summer months
N.D.G. COMMUNITY HALL
5311 Côte St-Antoine Rd.
(Corner Décarie Blvd.)

ST. CATHARINES STAMP CLUB

(Chapter 53 of the R.P.S.C.)
Meets the FIRST and THIRD Monday—September through June at 7.00 p.m. in
St. George's Parish Hall,
83 Church St., St. Catharines, Ontario.
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R.R. 1, Vineland, Ont.
Secretary—Bruce McCausland,
7 Dorset St., St. Catharines.
R.P.S.C. Representative—William E. Bray
37 Burness Dr, St. Catharines.
VISITORS WELCOME

LAKEHEAD STAMP CLUB

(RPSC Chapter No. 33)
Meets second Tuesday of each month in
City Hall, Fort William
and
Last Friday of each month in
Lakeview High School, Port Arthur
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Donald Jack, Secretary-Treasurer,
437 South Marks Street,
Fort William, Ont.

LOW RATES FOR CHAPTER MEETINGS

CHAPTER MEETINGS

OTTAWA PHILATELIC SOCIETY

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THURSDAYS
CHATEAU LAURIER
Secretary:
Stanley W. MacLeod,
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CHAPTER 5 OF THE ROYAL
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SECOND and FOURTH THURSDAYS
(except in July and August)
— at —
DEWI SANT WELSH UNITED CHURCH
33 Melrose Avenue
VISITORS WELCOME

R A STAMP CLUB OTTAWA

(CHAPTER 41, RPSC)
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1852-57 6d purple (reddish). An attractive used example of S.G. 17 with imprint and three very wide margins. Very thick soft wove paper. Rare $384.00.

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1860 2nd orange-vermilion. An attractive used example of S.G. 10 with good colour and nice strike. $153.60.

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League City, Texas 77573.

#911 — C.A.P.O. 51 - ON KISKA

Trying to get my Canadian Military Cover collection mounted, and organized, for the first time in years, I came across a cover which I purchased back in 1951. I do not recall having discussed it before.

The cover is a 6c. U.S. Airmail stamped envelope, but bears the cancel, "C.A.P.O. 51 - OC 16, 43."

For a short period in World War II, Canadian troops were located on Kiska Island, one of the far western islands of the Aleutian chain of the Alaskan peninsula. However they were there only a short time. Covers from there showing the C.A.P.O. 51 marking are not common.

* * * *

#912 — CANADIAN SOLDIER IN CHINESE P.O.W. CAMP

Another cover which I turned up at the same time as the above, was from a Canadian PFC, completely stampless, but postmarked CANTON, who was being held at P.O.W. Camp #3, and addressed to Nova Scotia.

The cover bears two handstamps:—

"Service des
Prisonniers de guerre"

and:—

"Via The Chinese People's Committee
for World Peace and against
American Aggression.
Peking, China."

* * * *

#913—CANADIAN AIRWAYS LTD. COURTESY MAIL CACHET

From Ian Paterson of Edmonton comes information regarding another "Courtesy Flight" marking which I had not previously reported in this column. The strike was in purple and used on the reverse side of the cover. Most likely a rubber handstamp. It measures 36 x 73mm and reads "Extra Air-Mail Delivery / Edmonton - McMurray / Courtesy of / Canadian Airways Ltd." in four lines.

The cover was dated at Fort Smith, June 9, 1936 and was a government letter to Waterways. This raises the next question, — Was this courtesy service granted only to government mail, or was it sometimes extended to commercial and private letters?

* * * *

#914—PERFORATION VARIETIES OF FIRST ISSUE MANITOBA LAWS

As a result of one of the studies being made by members of the Canadian Revenue Study Group, we can now report that there are perforation varieties aplenty on the first issue Manitoba Laws 1877. These are the "nine scallop" varies overprinted "L.S." and "C.F."

So far the following have been reported:—

Perf. 12 — all denominations
11¾ — at least four denominations
11½ — at least three denominations
12½ — at least three denominations
12¼ — on one denomination
12 x 12¼ — on one denomination
12¼ x 12 — on one denomination
11¾ x 12 — at least three "

That's at least three major and five minor varieties to look for!

#915 — EARLY "INTERRUPTED MAIL" COVER — 1882

Recently I came onto what to me is my earliest dated "interrupted mail" cover. Postmarked, and just bearly still able to be deciphed, "TRURO, N.S. Dec. 31, 1881". Addressed to Flint, Mich. The stamp has disappeared, and a long rectangular label has been attached reading:—

"Damaged by Fire on Canada Southern R.R., January 1, 1882."

Can anyone give me further information regarding this particular R.R. fire? Where did it occur, and what was the cause?

* * * *

#916 — APRIL 26, 1937 TRAIN WRECK COVERS

In the same lot from which came the 1882 Wreck cover, there were two covers postmarked "London, Ont. APR. 26, 11 AM, 1937". Both were stamped with a two line handstamp reading:—

"DAMAGED BY WATER
DUE TO TRAIN WRECK"

—and both were addressed to Hamilton.

They did not make Hamilton for a few days. At Ingersoll they were in a train wreck which took four lives, including Fireman Norman Aiken of Sarnia, and Engineer Malcolm Isbister of Toronto. A washout had occurred on the main line of the Canadian National Railways, two miles east of Ingersoll. Swirling flood waters and mud nearly covered the railway cars when they jumped over a ten foot embankment.

On the reverse of both covers is a label, in part reading "Found Damaged, torn or open and Officially Repaired" which was tied with the circular "Hamilton, Canada, CITY DELIVERY, APR / 30 / 1937".

The information regarding the details of this wreck come from clippings from the **Toronto DAILY STAR** of April 27, 1937. I have lost my notes as to where these came from, but I believe that Col. Lloyd W. Sharpe of Hamilton was the helper this time.

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#917—C.A.P.O. Nos. USED IN NEWFOUNDLAND

Those that collect Canadian Military Postal History material are interested in obtaining examples showing the various C.A.P.O.s where Canadian Forces were stationed in Newfoundland during World War II, — before it became a Province of Canada.

At least six C.A.P.O.s are known to have been used there. — as follows:—

#1 — St. John's
#2 — Gander
#3 — Lewisporte (?)
#4 — Gander
#5 — Torbay
#10— Goose Bay, Labrador

It is possible that these #s were used at other locations at different times. The above are those which I have had recorded from covers in my own collection.

* * * *

#918—CANADIAN MILITARY HOSPITAL MARKINGS OF WORLD WAR I

While I do not have too many, I have noted with interest the several different Military Hospital markings of World War I which we have accumulated.

—H.M. HOSPITAL SHIP, "ARAGUAYA"—enclosed in large rectangular box.

—No. 4 CANADIAN GENERAL HOSPITAL—Basingstoke, Hants. Enclosed in medium, rectangular box. Legend in five lines.

—No. 5 CANADIAN GENERAL HOSPITAL—Liverpool. Enclosed in medium, rectangular box. 5 lines.

—No. 9 CANADIAN GENERAL HOSPITAL—Rhyl. Double lined oval.

—No. 14 CANADIAN GENERAL HOSPITAL—Meads, Eastbourne, Sussex. Very small oval, single lined.

—No. 15 CANADIAN GENERAL (Duchess of Connaught Canadian Red Cross) HOSPITAL—Taplow, Bucks. Double-lined oval.

Note: an earlier type of this last, also in a double-lined oval reads— THE DUCHESS OF CONNAUGHT / CANADIAN RED CROSS HOSPITAL, TAPLOW, BUCKS.

—AUXILIARY HOSPITAL—an unboxed, two line Straight-lined marking reading:—
POSTED BY A WOUNDED SOLDIER AT SHENSTONE HOUSE AUXILIARY HOSPITAL, Hr. BROUGHTON, MANCHESTER

—CANADIAN EYE AND EAR HOSPITAL West Cliff Folkestone. Long Rectangular Box with Two Line Legend.

—CONVALESCENT HOSPITAL— Woodcote Park, Epsom. Double Lined Circle, with double bar across center framing "POSTAL SERVICE".

There they are, ten different Hospital Markings. How many can come up with additional ones?

* * * *

#919—CANADIAN P.O.W. POSTMARKS

We have noted the following P.O.W. postmarks. These are the regular circular postmark, with "P.O.W." at top, and the No. below. We have in our collection:—

10, — 20, — 21, — 23, — 30, — 31, — 32, — 44, — 101, — 130, — and 133. We refer only to those in Canada. We have also seen letters addressed to POWs listing Camps "A" "E", "M" and "Q", but have not seen postmarks so designated.

* * * *

#920 — CAPE BRETON LAW STAMP NEW $1.00 VALUE

Norman Hendershott of London, Ont. reports a new addition to the 1957 issue of Cape Breton Law Stamps. Apparent the 25c. value is being discontinued, as the new $1.00 value is being issued in the color of the 25c., a "pale red or carmine."

Like the 25c. and 50c. values, this $1.00 value is issued in a sheet of 25, Perf. 11¾, and straight edged all around.

So far we have not seen the stamp.

SUPPORT YOUR CHAPTERS

—

GET ANOTHER MEMBER FOR THE ROYAL

Can someone in Cape Breton Island fill us in on the date this stamp was issued, and can they confirm that the 25c. value has been discontinued?

The 25c. and 50c. Cape Breton Island Law stamps of various designs have been in use for 65 years,—it is no surprise that fees have been raised, necessitating the new value.

* * * *

#921—U.S. ARMY POSTAL SERVICE "A.P.O.s" BASED IN CANADA

During World War II there were a great many U.S. Army Post Offices located in Canada. The following list is nowhere complete, but these I have in my own collection.

APO 440—Longe Pt. De Mingnan, Que.
APO 462—Edmonton, Alta.
APO 473—Camp Canol, NWT.
APO 475—Watson Lake, YT.
APO 476—Muskwa, B.C. (?)
APO 677—Goose Bay, Labrador, NFLD.
APO 691—Fort Chimo, Que.
APO 692—Frobisher Bay, Baffin Is. NWT.
APO 701—Fort St. John, B.C.
APO 702 & 702 BR.—Whitehorse, YT.
APO 702-1—Whitehorse, YT.
APO 722—Edmonton, Alta.
APO 722-F—Edmonton, Station Hospital
APO 724—Dawson Creek, B.C.
APO 728—Port Edward, B.C.
APO 737—Churchill, Man.
APO 918—Muskwa, Alta. (?)
APO 931—Kluane Lake, YT.
APO 996—Watson Lake Junction
APO 997—Prince Rupert, B.C.
APO 999—Fort Smith, NWT.

I can't understand the two "Muskwas" one in Alta., the other in B.C., but that's what my notes state. One or the other must be an error! Can someone help me out, and can anyone make any additions to this list?

These interesting items of philatelic history were kindly donated to the society by Mr. Ed Averill of Toronto. The editor would be interested in the acquqisition of similar material relating to Canadian philatelic history.

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Fig. 1—Field Service Post Card from a Canadian Officer, posted in France on 9 Dec. 1915 with the seasonal greetings on the message side.

Canadian Forces Mail and The Christmas Stamp

By LT. COL. R. H. WEBB

The question might well be asked; what possible connection can there be between Canadian Forces Mail and the Christmas stamps which have come into vogue in recent years? Well, the purpose of this brief article is to show that such a connection does exist even though it may be a rather subtle one.

A long time ago — before the age of sophisticated systems and thematic collections — Canadian troops serving in the battle zones of the First World War were introduced to Field Service Post Cards (FSPC) similar to those illustrated in figure 1. Old soldiers of both World Wars will recall that the writing of anything other than the address, dates and signature was forbidden. Yet, a second look at the illustration will show that Christmas and New Year's greetings have been added contrary to the printed instructions. Such disregard should have resulted in the destruction of the card but, since this was not done, I assumed there must have been some authority for their presence. After several unsuccessful enquiries Mr. Alan J. Brown, the editor of the Forces Postal History Society, came up with the following extract from an official account of the circumstances surrounding the issue of FSPC to the British Army in the First World War.

> "————————nothing was to be added to the printed sentences except dates and signature. An exception was made, however, at Christmas time when it was permitted to add such sentences as 'A Merry Christmas' and 'A Happy New Year'. Beyond this concession all cards observed in the post to bear unauthorized additions were to be passed to the censor for treatment."

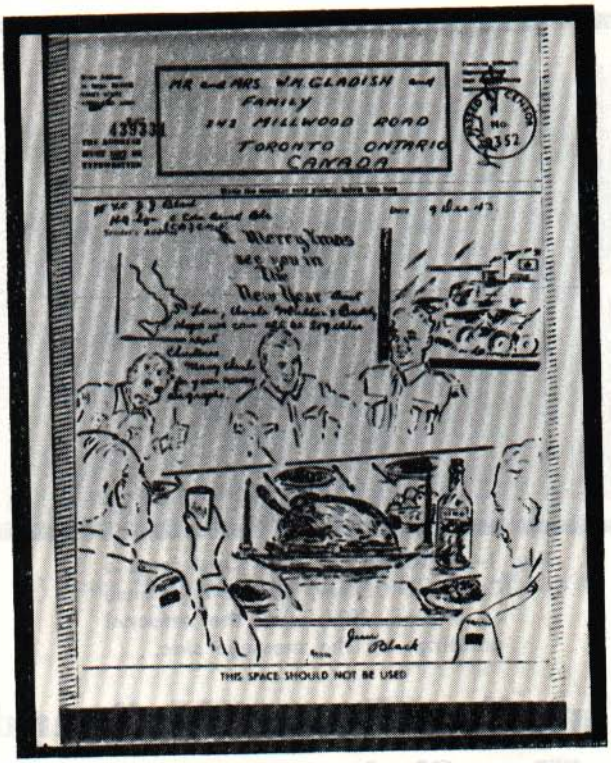

Fig. 2 — Airgraph for Christmas 1943 from a Canadian soldier in Italy.

In the First World War the Canadian Forces in Europe formed part of the British Army and generally used its supplies and procedures. Accordingly, the FSPC were available to all personnel through the Postal Services and the seasonal greetings on the illustrated card is quite legitimate.

In the Second World War, depending on their location, the Forces again received certain postal benefits at Christmas. This time they applied to the airgraph and the air letter (aerogramme) as indicated in figures 2 & 3.

The airgraph service, which began in mid-1941, provided a ready method for sending seasonal greetings from those areas where normal Christmas cards were unobtainable or where their use was hardly practical. As the airgraph forms were prepared by the printing and stationery units of the various Allied Forces it was a simple matter to add suitable designs at the time of printing. On the other hand, a sailor, soldier or airman with an artistic touch could draw his own design. The first Christmas airgraphs were produced for the British Forces in the Middle East for Christmas 1941; thereafter, the practice became almost universal.

Air letter forms with special designs are believed to have been originated by the RAF in Ceylon for Christmas 1942 and they were available, of course, to members of 413 Squadron of the RCAF as this unit was stationed near Colombo at the time. Then, for 1943 air letters overprinted POSTAGE FREE in red were issued on the basis of four to each member of the Forces in Ceylon, India and other locations around the Indian Ocean. Again, Canadians serving in those parts were entitled to the concession.

Fig. 3—Postage Free air letter from a Canadian officer in North West Europe, posted on 3 Dec. 1944 at FPO SC 760.

Air letters similar to the one illustrated in fig. 3 were produced for Christmas 1944 by No. 1 Printing and Stationery Unit of the Canadian Army with the concurrence of the P.O. Dept. and issued on the basis of five to each member of the Canadian Forces in North West Europe. The postage free concession was valid only if the air letters were posted in a Canadian FPO between 30 October and 5 December.

In conclusion, it is suggested that the FSPC of the First World War, the airgraph and the air letter of the Second, with their officially authorized Christmas greetings, designs and postage free concession all have a genuine place in any thematic collection of Canadian Christmas Stamps.

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Postmarked Ottawa

By HANS REICHE (RPSC 6397)

A few highlights from BYPEX - 67. The old system of bidding for a contract on printing philatelic material for the Post Office is out. The two printing companies in Ottawa will share the total work of printing stamps and stationery. New equipment is being installed to modernize some of the printing processes and this will mean better centered stamps, multicoloured designs by use of offset methods and improved tagging. The so called "comb" perforation will be used instead of the line perforation and no uneven corner perforations will be the result. The so popular sports series and the unusual arrangement of the sheet layout will be tried again on some later issue and may be with different colours for each stamp on the same sheet. The new printing process may require the issue of smaller sheets and little room, if any, will be left for plate inscriptions. The end of the plate inscriptions or plate blocks appears near. The Postmaster's thumb or destructive killer cancellation may be replaced by some more informative type. European cancels often convey a story, are much larger in size and very clean. Our machine cancels and the first day cancels are clean (with few exceptions) but they seldom tie in with the actual stamps or events which they are to commemorate. We may see here a great improvement over the next year and the wildlife series may make use of such more informative cancellation types.

We wonder how many of you have noticed the two different BYPEX - 67 cancels? Both rather attractive. The first one was an arrangement of wavy lines with the word BYPEX 67, 27 to 29 Sept. 67 and the centennial symbol. It was used from 1 Sept. 67 to 25 Sept. 67. The second one was a similar arrangement but the entire set-up was in the form of a flag with a flag staff. This cancel was used from 26 Sept. 67 to 29 Sept. 67. Both slogan and flag cancel should be of interest to all specializing in this field, especially because this is the first flag cancel issued since many, many years. *

Do you want to know who is responsible for the prices of BNA stamps in the Scott catalogue? During the Dealer's Message Seminar which was held at BYPEX - 67 we found out that it is Jim Sissons and Les Davenport. We also heard that auction lot estimates are usually set a little low. This gives the bidder an additional incentive because he thus believes that he might obtain a bargain. We were informed that no Canadian dealer makes any special effort to sell speculative new issues or unhinged stamps, unless specifically asked for by the customer. Ed Richardson enlightened his large audience by showing a large amount of material under the heading of "Collecting the uncollectible". We hope he will enlarge on this theme in the Philatelist.

The new postal stationary envelopes show two distinct types of the 5 cents blue. The impression on the size 8 envelope is different from the size 10 envelope. With the intended postal rate changes these new stationary items should be watched. There will also be a change introduced soon by covering the inside of the envelope with an inscription, and this is to reduce opaqueness.

The so called "double" print of the Seaway stamp excited a lot of collectors at that time (especially those who owned copies). Large sums were paid for these stamps although it was known that these

were not actually double printings of the red portion. But that is besides the point. The writer has found a very similar variety on the Newfoundland flower stamp. Here the red portion is doubled. How many did you find?

Probably a first in any exhibition was displayed at the LONDEX 75 show. This was a story of Perforations and Misperforations of Canadian postage stamps by Dr. F. G. Stulberg. This subject lends itself to further expansion into other countries and possibly even a general display of perforation methods.

* NOTE: BYPEX Souvenir Covers may still be obtained from the Secretary Box 3144, Station C, Ottawa, Ont.

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52-63 (12)	70/-
60 corner control B6	35/-
61 corner control B6	35/-
62	12/-
63	35/-
63 corner control B6	£12
64	52/6
64/a in pr. slight gum creases	£37/10
66	£18/10
67a	30/-
68/a strip/3	£3
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70/a strip/4	47/6
82	14/-
83-5 B4	£100
83a	£18/10
85	£15
85a	£65
87	£6
88	£17/10
89-91	15/-
91	12/-
91-101 U	£75
99-101	£72/10
99-101 U in B4	£310
99 U	87/6
101 U	£57/10
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125 U	14/-
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52	15/-
53a	26/-
54	10/6
54 U pair	£2
56	12/6
66	24/-
67	67/6
86	38/6
87	45/-
91-103 (13)	£7
91-103 (88) compl. all shades except 102a each in corner or margin B4s	£54
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103	65/-
121-33a (18)	70/-
123a	£12
132	10/-
132a	22/6
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143-4 U	38/6
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THE MAIL BAG

Dear Sir:

As you are no doubt aware, there have been numerous thefts of stamp and coin collections over the past few years. The stamp collection of the undersigned was stolen last Friday evening along with some items of jewellery. Investigating police officers are of the opinion that the burglars were after the stamps, the jewellery being secondary.

I am unknown for the most part in philatelic circles, however, I am a member of The Royal Philatelic Society of Canada, the names and addresses of which you publish in "The Canadian Philatelist". This, to me, seems unwise in the light of the number of thefts that have taken place. I can understand your reasons for doing so, but believe consideration should be given to omitting this information in the future for the sake of security.

Donald S. Bartlett,

* * * *

Dear Sir:—

In reference to "The Mail Bag" in the November - December issue of The Canadian Philatelist and Mr. A. L. J. Sarson's (R.P.S.C. 8459) letter I concur with every word in his letter.

May I also refer to Mr. Arthur L. Dawe's (R.P.S.C. 7936) letter in the same issue? I am in agreement with his remarks too, and as for the latter Mr. Dawe quoted that he received from J. G. Cunningham, Director of Information and Public Relations in reply to a letter he wrote to the Post Master General. This is evasive (my own experience with them). I assume Mr. Dawe critized the design, rather than the designer and if what we are getting is the best the "Artists" can produce, it is time other sources were asked.

This is a matter in which the R.P.S. must take a more active interest evidently.

Yours truly,
A. V. Davidge R.P.S.C. 4353

Dear Sir:

I would like to say hurrah to those 2 letters that appeared in the Nov. & Dec. No. of the C.P. I was very glad that someone spoke up regarding this year's 1967 stamps!

Both Mr. Sarson & Mr. Dawe have my feelings and I also showed the letters to my mother who used to collect stamps long time ago, and she, too, was very pleased to see that and agreed every word that they mentioned.

I thought that we were getting something quite different when the Flower Stamps came out. But I was very disappointed with the 67 lot, particularly the high values, the Woman's stamp is the worst stamp of the year, I must admit!!

Of all the stamps, I term the Expo, Vanier & Toronto Stamps were the decent ones, and I am sure the members will agree with me.

When I look and see the Stamps of the Commonwealth, and know how colorful they are, and the most attractive ones, it puts me to shame when I look at ours and makes me wonder what are we coming to these days, with no imagination whatsoever!!

I am sure the members will speak up with Mr. Sarson and Mr. Dawe, and also with me that the R.P.S.C. should do something about those stamps.

Miss M. E. Oliver #7105

* * * *

Sir:

The 12d Black stamp which Mr. Hans Reiche wrote about in Postmark Ottawa (June 1966) is in fact, a specimen stamp. The word "specimen" had been removed, laid lines faked, and the postmark added. This "stamp" together with one hundred other stamps was stolen from my home in 1964. When I read Mr. Reiche's article I had a faint suspicion that it could be my stamp that was described, but I did not think that it was possible in the circumstances.

The first clue of the whereabouts of this collection came to light at the RCPS Convention at Hamilton. I learned that there was a member of the armed forces in the Ottawa area who was selling a selection of stamps identical to those stolen from me. The resulting RCMP investigation brought the startling fact that this collector had purchased the entire selection from another serviceman — a man whom the RCMP suspected and interrogated in Vancouver.

At the military trial, the suspect was found guilty of being in possession of stolen property. He was reprimanded and fined $50.00. The stamps were ordered returned to the collector who had purchased them. I was thanked for coming to Ottawa and appearing as witness. The insurance company, consequently, investigated this matter. The result was that on Friday, October 13, 1967 the Insurance Company returned the stamps to me. Stamps that are still missing are:

—3d Beaver laid paper
—3d Beaver wove paper
—Quebecs - mint set
—10 engraved forgeries of the Jubilee dollar stamps (2 ea). The cancellation of one of the $3.00 value was a perfect impression of the rare Toronto "High Street" square circle type postmark (Ex Bailey)
—Mint 8c. registered letter stamp
—3 Prince Albert Panelli forgeries
—1859 17c. Cartier forgery
12½c. Qn Victoria forgery
—2 - 3d Beaver forgeries
—USA - 17c. Lincoln with nose variety
- 12c. Washington with wide vertical crease.

Stan Lum

* * * *

Dear Sir,

I have recently read the press release put out by the Post Office Department which gave the details of the issues for 1968 and a very gay assortment we are promised. This bulletin also stated that the Canadian Bank Note Company was installing new equipment in order to print multi-coloured stamps in one operation, this is very commendable. But I

Martin Apfelbaum:

If you remember, last month my column was devoted to how to go about submitting bids for an auction.

This month I'll try to explain how a bid sheet is processed by the auctioneer.

When the bid sheet arrives it is immediately numbered, for the earliest received bid sheet takes preference in the event of tie bids. At this point, your number takes preference over your name because of the ease of writing and sorting numbers over the alphabetical and length problems created by name.

The bids are then entered in a prenumbered "bid book". A section is provided in this book for each lot in the sale and is boxed off so that at a glance the entire picture of the lot is available. In the left box is the lot number, next to it is the owner's symbol, across from this is the lot description from the auction catalog.

In the bid section all the bids are entered. A typical entry would be 766/$27.00. This means that bidder number 766 has bid $27.00 on this particular lot. To carry this out further, we might have the following sequence of bidding: 766/$27.00 812/$22.00 938/$32.00. Looking back, we see that bidders No. 766 and No. 812 are eliminated by reason of low bids and, at this point, 938 is the winner. We advertise that we save our buyers as much as possible, and so if this lot were in a public auction we would start the floor bidding at $28.00, the first raise over the second highest mail bid.

The only reason the lot would cost the buyer more would be if floor competition pushed it up. In any case, this lot would not cost bidder No. 938 more than $32.00 because at that point the auctioneer would stop bidding for him.

Auction buying is the modern way to acquire stamps for your collection. In case you haven't tried it, why not send for our Apfelbaum Public Auction and Discount Mail Sale catalog? You will find them interesting and full of items that will be useful to you.

Martin L. Apfelbaum

Executive Vice-President.

Earl P. L. Apfelbaum, Inc.,
1503-05 Walnut Street, Phila., Pa.,
19102, LOcust 7-6288,
Area Code 215.

would like to suggest to the Canadian Bank Note Company that rather than new printing presses they install new perforating equipment which will at least do a 50% better job of perforating than the equipment presently in use. My reason for writing this letter is that a friend of mine has just received a large order for the Philatelic Section at Ottawa and as most of the stamps are five miles off centre they will have to go for postage. Although the Post Office Philatelic Section order forms state that every effort is made to send well centred stamps the garbage they are sending out to stamp collectors is nothing short of a National Disgrace. I don't think they make any special effort at all Sending out this junk is alright for collectors in Canada as we can at least use it for postage but what about the orders from overseas collectors, they are stuck with it. In many instances I can get better centred stamps from the local Post Office that I can get from Ottawa. In spite of what the order forms say about all sales being final and no refunds given for offcentred stamps I would like to suggest to all readers of "'The Philatelist" that they return any orders to Ottawa which don't meet with their approval, perhaps if Ottawa get enough collectors sending orders back to them we will start to get better centred stamps with our orders. After all they did back down on the 2c. coil of 1963 after they got so many complaints about it.

Michael Millar, #7537

* * * *

Dear Sir,

As a footnote to the interesting information regarding Centennial Maple Leaf cancellations submitted by Mr. Wayne Curtis in the November-December issue (p.265), I wish to report that there exist two different circular date stamps for Vancouver, similar to those of Montreal, one being "Vancouver B.C.", and the other "Vancouver B.C. Canada". From the covers I have gathered there does not appear to be any definite period when each was used — the dates over-

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lap one another. But I have noted, from return addresses where present, that "Vancouver B.C." seems to be used in outlying areas of Greater Vancouver (e.g.), Burnaby and Steveston), and "Vancouver B.C. Canada" used in the downtown section of the city.

I might add that I would be delighted to obtain, by gift, exchange, or purchase, examples of this cancellation from Fredericton, N.B., and used with "Montreal P.Q. Canada".

(Mrs.) Claire L. Mackay
R.P.S.C. #8688

* * * *

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Immediately after the Ottawa convention your sales department started to move into high gear to meet the demands from chapters and members. In October over 1400 books were circulating, this being achieved by a rapid turnover due to fine co-operation from all chapter representatives. Enquiries for material are coming in with almost every mail and whilst all are welcome it has made it difficult to maintain circuits to all who request them. However in only two instances were shipments delayed because of lack of suitable material.

At the present time **less than 5%** of the members supply all the circuit material required so these remarks are directed to the other 95% to see what they can do to keep the department supplied with good stamps. Right now I can use at least **500 books.** So far this season 45% of all sales has been CANADA; with France; Netherlands and British West Indies coming close. British Oceania is also in big demand. So lets start the new year with some books from every member. THE NEED IS URGENT.

A new enlarged sales book is in preparation and by the time this article is in print the new books should be available. They will hold about twice as many stamps as the existing book and the book will be sized 8" by 6". Full particulars of cost and the new regulations governing the sales department can be obtained by writing to me. Those members who already contribute to the sales dept., need not write as I will be writing to you all direct. **PLEASE NOTE:** The existing sales books still in members possession can still be sent in for entry into the circuits. **They will be accepted up to JANUARY 1st 1969.** This should give you sufficient time to mount your duplicates and send them to me.

Stamps **not** required at the present time are those of Aden; Liechtenstein; Luxembourg and British Asia.

A personal note — My own philatelic interest is that of the postal history of the Isle of Man. If you have any items please write me.

QUESTION: Who needs covers? With the introduction of a larger sales book covers are more easily mounted. If you need covers let me know NOW so that supplies can be obtained. F.D.C. will not be handled.

May I wish you all a very prosperous new year and good hunting for that elusive item.

Gordon F. W. Frost

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The Honour Roll

On which is inscribed the names of those members who have contributed to the progress of the Society in securing the addition of new members and chapters for the year 1967:

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Amos, M. F., Cooksville, Ontario
Anderson, W. F., Ottawa (26)
Bayley, Colin H., Ottawa (2)
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Bedard, W. L., Detroit (4)
Bileski, K. Winnipeg (3)
Black, John F., Kingston, Ont. (2)
Bowie, David S., Sudbury, Ont.
Boyd, Dr. Norman O., Windsor, Ont.
Bray, W. E., St. Catharines, Ont.
Burns, B. W., Parksville, B.C. (2)
Chapman, Dr. C. H., Lethbridge, Alta.
Christensen, A. H., Westmount, P.Q. (3)
Cleaver, Ivan H., Burlington, Ont.
Cole, G. D. D., Toronto
Cole, R. W., Ottawa
Crofton, C. P., Sudbury, Ont.
Curtis, Wayne R., Montreal (4)
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Filion, Georges E., Quebec
Geldert, Mrs. Phyllis, Ottawa (3)
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Hadley, Fred R., White Rock, B.C.
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Hancock, S. G., Atikokan, Ont.
Hansen, Glenn F., Winnipeg (13)
Harris, E. A., Flin Flon, Man. (6)
Holmes, Albert N., Dartmouth, N.S. (2)
Howson, O. B., London, Ont. (2)
Jones, Sheldon L., Roblin, Man.
Juneau, Mmme. Yvonne, Montreal
Kazman, Seymour, Don Mills, Ont. (2)
Kenyon, Stewart S., Edmonton
Koepke, Stan C., Regina, Sask. (2)
Kraemer, James E., Ottawa (4)
Kryer, Rudy, Willowdale, Ont.
Lagios, Nick, Montreal (2)
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Lamb, H. R., Toronto
Lant, R. H., Toronto
Littlefield, L. N., Melrose, Mass.
Maresch, W. H. P., Toronto
Miers, R. B., Lennoxville, P.Q.
Morley, Douglas R., Dartmouth, N.S.
Mackenzie, F/O George, Trenton, Ont. (5)
MacLeod, Stanley W., Ottawa
McIntyre, A. W., Edmonton, Alta.
McLaughlin, J. J., Whitehorse, Y.T.
McMillan, Dr. D. A., Thorold, Ont.
Patrick, D. A., Port Credit, Ont. (2)
Philips, W. J., Ottawa
Piggott, E. Reg., Kentville, N.S.
Pilgrim, E. B., St. Catharines, Ont.
Rapson, Bryan Arvida, P.Q.
Reiche Hans, Ottawa
Robertson, K. M., Victoria, B.C.
Ronis, Janis, Brampton, Ont.
Ross, Miss Beverlee J., Seattle, Wash.
Rowe, Kenneth, Toronto (2)
St. Laurent, J. C., Clinton, B.C.
Saunders, H. T., Ottawa (2)
Schnier, G. A., West Covina, Calif.
Smith, A. F., Halifax, N.S.
Smith, P. L., Islington, Ont. (2)
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Staton, Wesley, Regina
Stokl, Frank, Hamilton
Struthers, A. E., Cite des Deux Montagnes, P.Q.
Sutherland, Harry, Toronto
Teare, W. A., Victoria, B.C. (2)
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Whitehouse, Ivor F., Dixville, P.Q. (2)
Woodman, H. L., Kentville, N.S. (2)
Woodside, D. J., Brockville, Ont. (3)
Wrigley, Roy, West Vancouver, B.C. (2)

HONOUR ROLL FOR 1968

Anderson, W. F., Ottawa
Geldert, Mrs. Phyllis, Ottawa
Lakehead Stamp Club #33, Port Arthur, Ontario

The Secretary's Page

The applicants listed below have applied for membership in the Society. In accordance with the Constitution, their names are hereby published. If no adverse reports are received within thirty days of publication, they will be admitted to full membership.

New Members

8783 Bell, J. R., Vanderhoof, B.C.
8784 Dobson, E. B., Petrolia, Ont.
8785 Preston, T. G., Toronto, Ontario
8786 Forfar, Keith, Milwaukee, Wisc., U.S.A.
8787 Florakas, Nicholas E., Quebec, P.Q.
8788 Anasir, E. S., Montreal, P.Q.
8789 Morrow, J. J., Rivers, Manitoba
8790 Goretzki, Mrs. M. A., Bagotville, P.Q.
8791 Churley, George H., Vancouver, B.C.
8792 Faulstich, Mrs. Edith M., Yonkers, N.Y., U.S.A.
8793 Bourne, George, Ottawa, Ontario
8794 Bell, John F., Downsview, Ontario
8795 Sheppard, P. J., Dorval, P.Q.
8796 Levedag, W. A., Toronto, Ontario
8797 Hennok, Jim, Anderson Park, Ontario
8798 Ducker, Mrs. O., Flin Flon, Manitoba
8799 Edgington, Charles, A., Olathe, Kansas, U.SA.
8800 Hogoboam, Mrs. Eunice, Flin Flon, Manitoba
8801 McLellan, L. T., Regina, Sask.
8802 Sisman, J. E., Aurora, Ontario
8803 Pratt, Cnl., Robert H., Milwaukee, Wisc., U.S.A.
8804 John Colin Campbell, Brampton, Ontario
8805 Sansom, H. J., Malton, Ontario
8806 McDiarmid, William L., Hamilton, Ontario
8807 May, Mrs. Margaret, Toronto, Ont.
8808 Taylor, James L., Stoney Creek, Ontario
8809 Lennstrom, Colin, Port Arthur, Ontario
8810 Grimmer, J. Harley, Fairview, N.S.
8811 Temple, G. E., Willowdale, Ont.

Reinstatement From Delinquent List

8031 McGuirl, Stan., Ottawa, Ont.

New Chapter Welcomed

No. 90 Kelowna Stamp Club,
Gerald M. Rogers,
R.R. 1, Kelowan, B.C.

Chapter Change

No. 80 Saskatoon Stamp Club,
Sec.-Treas.—J. A. Robb,
2226 Wiggins Ave.,
Saskatoon, Sask.

Deceased

W. J. Hassan, Ithaca, N.Y.
Dr. T. Christie Innes, Pittsburgh, Pa. (Life Member)

President Harry Sutherland and Honourary Secretary Mrs. Phyllis Geldert chat with Governor General Michener and Mrs. Michener during their visit to BYPEX 67.

Book Reviews

Stanley Gibbons Postage Stamp Catalogues

Part I British Commonwealth 35 shillings
Part II Europe & Colonies 60 shillings
Part III America, Asia & Africa 50 Shillings

All of these famous volumes have been revised and issued in the new large format. The three column layout is particularly effective in those complex listings which always appeared very cramped in the old two column format. It would be foolish to say that there were price changes in view of the ever rising stamp market. Over 2500 pages of up-to-the-minute information for all collectors.

K. R.

* * * *

We have seen the first issue of Great Britain's new "Stamp Weekly" newspaper published by Link House Publications, Dingwall Avenue, Croydon, England. One Shilling per issue.

An effective combination of colour and black & white illustrations and interesting news articles makes this a very useful news magazine for all philatelists. A comprehensive new issue section is supported by a great variety of advertisements. As is usual with this type of presentation a large classified ad section caters to many tastes.

K. R.

* * * *

Stanley Gibbons ELIZABETHAN postage stamp catalogue — 1968

The latest edition of the standard reference work for modern British Commonwealth maintains the high standard set by this well known philatelic publisher.

The ELIZABETHAN is right up to date both in new issue listing and pricing which is conveniently shown both in dollars and sterling. An interesting feature is that prices are shown for both sets and individual stamps, where there is more than five stamps in a set.

Missing colour varieties in recent Great Britain issues have been given special coverage. Only those varieties authenticated however are included.

This new edition costs a little more but there is more value for money including 84 additional pages; 1,215 extra stamps listed; 458 new varieties and 622 new illustrations. It is a must for the Elizabethan collector.

G. F. W. F.

* * * *

The Colonial Posts in North America 1606-1783 by Kay Horowicz and Robson Lowe

Published by Robson Lowe Limited, 50 Pall Mall, London, S.W.1.
Price 35/- - $7.

This is a fascinating story which must appeal to collectors whose studies embrace the posts of the British Empire and the United States. After a brief historical note, a survey of the internal postal history follows, commencing with the first announcement concerning the postal service in Boston in 1639.

Chapter IV recounts the postal history and catalogues the fifty manuscript postal markings and 101 handstamps of the thirteen colonies and the Floridas, East and West.

Chapter V lists the Colonial postmasters and illustrates a portrait of William Goddard who did not attain that office although he created the Constitutional post. VI lists the postal mileages from New York, VII deals with the use of the Bishop Mark which appeared in five different sizes and eight different colours and was used in nine towns, VIII describes the difficult subject of currencies and IX, the revenue stamps. A page is devoted to the bibliography, the twenty-three half tone illustrations include four of the invaluable contemporary maps published by Herman Moll and there are thirty line illustrations of handstamps. The index lists nearly five hundred references.

This slim volume is packed with information and will form one of the sections of Volume V of The Encyclopaedia of Empire Postage Stamps.

K. R.

France — Specialised Catalogue Published by Georges Monteaux, 6 Square de L'Opera Louis-Jouvet Paris 9, $1.00 Postpaid.

This 120 page catalogue, now in it's 11th edition, has become indispensable to the collectors of mint 20th Century stamps of France. Being the price list of this Paris dealer, it is a realistic guide to current market prices.

The first half of the Catalogue deals with the definitive stamps of the Blanc, Sower, Pasteur and Peace types. The detailed listings and illustrations include the latest discoveries and information which is otherwise only available in the French Philatelic journals.

Other 20th Century stamps are listed according to the method used in the Thiaude Catalogue, with groupings according to design rather than date of issue. Despite this, there is no difficulty in understanding the listings. The addition of special listings of Booklets and Coil strips makes this catalogue invaluable to the collector of these stamps.

A. G. M.

* * * *

Observer's Book of Postage Stamps, Published by Frederick Warne.

Price 6s net.

This little volume will prove of immense worth not only to the serious philatelist but also to the novice. Postage stamps are now everyday objects and it seems amazing that they only came into being 125 years ago, and this volume traces their history, design and printing from the beginning to present day methods. There is a geographically arranged gazetteer of countries, three indexes and a glossary. The illustrations are superb, 16 pages in colour and 502 black and white illustrations.

K. R.

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A letter bearing an example of the Kubin "bisect" as described in the article.

The Kubin Bisects Of Hungary

By M. R. RASIC

In the 1930's a man with a bundle of old covers, came to Vienna and stepped into the office of the late Edwin Mueller, who was at that time together with the famous stamp expert Rudolf Friedl. The man was from Kovin (formerly, during the Austrian times called Kubin) in Yugoslavia, located on the Danube in the Serbian Banat. He offered the covers for sale, but he did not know how much to ask. Mr. Mueller looked through the covers, just over twenty, and all had Hungarian stamps of the engraved 1871 issue, all postmarked "Kubin" and all addressed to local people. About half of the covers had the 3 Kr. stamp, and the other half had a 2 Kr. and a bisect of the same stamp, to make up the 3 Kr. local rate. This is the story of the discovery of the "Kubin Bisects". To end the story, we have to say, that the man was paid 100 Austrian Shillings for each of the covers with the bisects, at that time about $7.00.

This fascinating story was told to me by the late Edwin Mueller while we had lunch in New York at his favorite restaurant.

Ten years have passed since that time and I felt compelled to investigate this matter as it was from "My Territory" of philatelic interest.

In November 1961, I called on Mr. A. L. Michael, who was at that time still in the store of Wingfield's on the Strand. It was shortly after the International Stamp Exhibition of Budapest, where his Hungary collection was awarded a Gold Medal.

Mr. Michael kindly allowed me to look through his beautiful collection. There, I found 3 covers with Kubin bisects, plus several postmarked Kubin with the single 3 Kr. green stamp. The covers with the bisects were all dated September 28th. 1873, and all written by George Dimitrovic, a clerk in the office of the lawyer Stopfkuchen in request of payment. All claims were for drinks, enjoyed at the local pub which belonged to Mrs. F. Miuza. The covers with the 3 Kr. stamps, had different dates, and were also in request of payment, but for different services (doctor's fees, etc).

Shortly before this visit, I myself acquired a cover with a Kubin bisect at an auction sale in Germany. It was also dated September 28th, 1873, asking payment of 6 Fl. 84 Kr. for drinks in Mrs. Miuza's tavern. Later I have seen a few more covers with such bisects, all dated September 28th, 1873 ,with exception of one dated June 1874. Looking carefully through the covers, I came to the conclusion, that the bisected stamps have most probably been used before. Consequently, we have to consider the usage not an emergency franking, but a re-use of already used stamps to the detriment of the Post Office. — This naturally, does not in any way, diminish the philatelic value of these covers, and makes them perhaps even more elusive.

It is characteristic, that from September 1873 until June 1874, no such bisects have been found, which indicates that the Post Office discovered the fraud, and gave a warning to the lawyer's office. Mr. Stopfkuchen, the lawyer, apparently warned his clerk Dimitrovic, not to do such a thing in the future. It is obvious, that Dimitrovic, put the few Kreuzers into his pocket.

The reader will naturally ask, how come, that the man from Kubin got hold of such a bundle of these covers. Well, the bisect cover which is illustrated here, and all the covers I have seen, including the ones with the 3 Kr. stamps, have a blue pencil mark by the postman "Wird nicht angenommen" (Has not been accepted), or "Annahme Verweigert" (Receipt has been refused). So all the letters have been returned to the lawyer's office and probably stored in the attic, until they were discovered.

A prominent collector of Hungary, had his doubts because it seemed unlikely to him, that in a small town like Kubin so many people at the same time were owing money for drinks. As a former lawyer in Yugoslavia I think I can answer this question.—There, people of the trade, particularly small store owners, giving credit for small amounts of money, usually wait until they accumulated a certain amount of debts, because they did not want to bother the lawyers just with one or two small claims. So Mrs. Miuza waited until she got a fair number of debts for drinks, and finally in September 1873, gave the list to the lawyer to collect the money.

As far as I recall, at that period, a law was introduced in Croatia-Slavonia, which was a separate law-territory from the Serbian-Banat, making such debts unlawful with no possibility of claim, similar to debts resulting from card games. The law was called "Zakon o krcmarskoj vjeresiji" (The Law of Public House Credits"). Recently I was trying to find out, if such a law existed in the Serbian-Banat, just to see if the lawyer was justified to ask payments for drinks.— My research was unsuccessful, as neither one of the lawyers I have contacted or the Law Societies, could find any trace of this law, not even in Croatia-Slavonia, although I am sure that it existed in that part of the country.

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CANADA — Fine mint coils in pairs, strips 4, per. 10, #263-.46; #264-.75; #265-.75; #267-1.65; #278-1.40; #279-7.50; #280-3.75; #281-4.00; #295-.60; #296-1.10; #331-1.10; #332-1.50. Wes Staton, 431 - 17th Ave., East, Regina, Sask. R.P.S.C. 3289.

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Chapter News

The CFB Trenton Stamp Club, Chapter 89 of the RCPS started its 1967-68 season on September 14th with renewed interest and many new members. The membership at present is 25 and the future looks rosy. The complete executive of the 66-67 season was re-elected for another year which includes; President and RCPS Representative — F/O G. A. MacKenzie, Vice-President Cpl. John Sequin; Secretary — Miss Jean Alyea.

The club meets every Thursday evening at 8 PM, all visitors are welcome. An entertaining program is held every week and there are always plenty of stamps to dig through.

* * * *

D. S. Hambrook was elected President of the Barrie District Stamp Club at its first meeting of the season. Chapter Representative will be Dr. P. A. Scott.

COMING EVENTS

APRIL 6th 1968 Kitchener - Waterloo Philatelic Society Exhibition & Bourse "Stampfest 68" Eastwood Collegiate Institute, East Ave., Kitchener. For details please contact: Mrs. R. B. Gillrie, 630 Rockway Drive, Kitchener.

MARCH 23rd and 24th, Kawartha Philatelic Society 11th Annual Exhibition and Bourse. St. Peter's H. S. Auditorium, Downie St. Peterborough.

NOVEMBER 1st to 9th, "EFIMEX 68" International Philatelic Exhibition, Mexico City. Canadian Commissioner —W. H. P. Maresch, 628 Yonge Street, Toronto.

SAY YOU
SAW IT
IN C.P.

Letter To Editor

Dear Sir:

The "Plateblock" controversy has been interesting to follow in the pages of the Philatelist and there is no question that both the pros and the cons have something to say. It has been some time since we have seen anything that has created so many letters to the editor. The Editor is to be congratulated for expressing his opinion freely as are all the members that have taken time to express their own. We as Canadians are usually afraid to state any opinion that may cause any controversy on almost any matter from our foreign policy to our hobby, afraid that we will step on somebody's toes. There is nothing wrong with a good honest debate, and we should have more of it. There is though only one thing that I would like to add to all that has been said on the subject already. Modern Plateblock collectors and other collectors of modern material collect these stamps for their own sake and as such it is perfectly alright; for everyone has the right to collect what they want. There are though some Plateblock collectors that feel they are doing something philatelic by collecting all plates in all positions, and that is not the case; can any one of them distinguish a modern stamp—let us say the 1c. War issue—as coming from Plate 6 rather than from Plate 30 without the selvedge?

Yours very truly,
Wm. H. P. Maresch,
R.P.S.C. 4411

OPICALS

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Late News

Congratulations are in order for Colin H. Bayley who is the recipient of a Centennial Medal for service to the nation and was also made a Fellow of the Royal Philatelic Society, London.

* * * *

Note for airmail specialists:

Sq. Ldr. R. K. Mallot, 16 Harwick Crescent, Ottawa, is hoping to arrange for a special cachet to commemorate the 50th Anniversary of the First Airmail Flight in Canada, June 24th, 1918, Montreal to Toronto, and he requires the support of all interested members. Please contact him as soon as possible.

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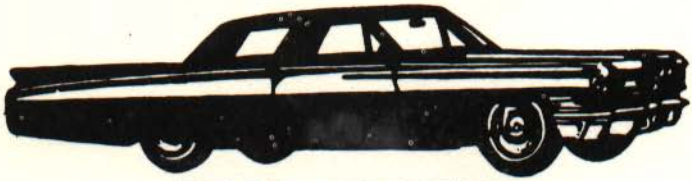

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