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2 / January - February 1997
The Canadian Philatelist
IT'S A NEW YEAR

A lively subject of philatelic conversation these days is the impact of computers on philately. A couple of years ago I commented in this column that stamp collectors seemed to be slow to seize on the new technology. The situation has now reversed, and quite dramatically.

This issue contains an announcement of the RPSC's new Web site which provides Society information to Internet users. Most other philatelic organizations are or have taken similar initiatives.

Most of the RPSC’s officers and services now have, or soon will have, accessibility by fax and e-mail. Here at The Canadian Philatelist, yet another new-fangled box will soon take its place beside the standard office Underwoods.

Dealers are adding fax and e-mail addresses to their advertisements. A number of auction houses now make their catalogues available on the Internet, and at least one has run an auction exclusively on the Internet. There is a great potential here for one-of-a-kind and private treaty offerings. Dealers can delete items as they are sold, and add new items constantly. The list will always be up to date.

There is, I suppose, a certain irony that this new technology is making obsolete the very core of our hobby—the conventional mail system, and its prepayment label, the postage stamp. The vast majority of mail now consists of advertising and business mail, mostly bills and payments. Most of this material is now paid for by meter or permit, not postage stamps. If it begins to move electronically, there may be insufficient volumes of magazines and personal mail to justify the postal system.

It is quite clear that Canada Post already considers commemorative stamps issues for their marketing potential, not as a means to mark significant persons and events, or as educational tools. Significant anniversaries are passed by because they seem dull, with little potential to sell stamps that will never be used on mail. On the other side, joint marketing efforts with business firms are becoming more common. The forthcoming Canadian Tire commemorative, sponsored by this firm, is the latest example. Canadian Tire may not be the most significant Canadian business, but it is aiding Canada Post by selling the commemoratives at its stores. As well, the firm is more familiar than one from the nineteenth century headed by a bearded magnate who is unfamiliar to most people.

With traditional reasons for new stamp issues being eclipsed, and the mail system as we know it in peril, what is to become of philately? Closer to home, what will be the ultimate fate of societies such as the RPSC and journals such as this? These are interesting times.

OUR RESIDENT ICONOCLAST

About a year ago, Michael Millar told me that he intended to step down at the end of his current term from his positions as RPSC Director and Chairman of the Anti-Theft Committee.

I had first met Mr. Millar many years ago on the judging circuit, and I quickly saw that he was a man of strong opinions with the ability to express them well. When I assumed the editor's desk I added his name to my list of potential regular contributors.

Mr. Millar has promised to offer regular columns as "Our Resident Iconoclast." His subjects will range from the humorous to the serious. He begins this issue with a lighter piece on an error he found in a recent article.

The column title, I readily admit, is a bit of a plagiarism. An editor I greatly admire, the late David P. Morgan of Trains magazine, once ran a column styled "The Professional Iconoclast." It contained opinion that often ran against the conventional wisdom.

I am certain that readers will find Mr. Millar to be sometimes thought provoking, sometimes amusing, occasionally infuriating, but never dull.

As an afterthought, I can report that Harold Gosney, Mr. Millar's victim this issue, has acquitted himself admirably. He explains that he claimed Norman Bethune was born in a Methodist manse because "Methodist" is easier to spell than "Presbyterian."
You surely have this pair in your collection?

Do you have the miniature pane of 20 from which this comes? If you have one or more, and if they didn't come from me, send me photocopies of yours. I'll return them indicating my offers for each pane.

You see, there are at least 50 different by now. Some have varieties on them that will astonish you. You may have something for which I'll cheerfully pay you $30, $50, $100, $300, $500, $1,000 and even more; all the way to $10,000 for one pane. So far I have bought and sold over $500,000 worth. Normal panes sell at $25.00. Send $100.00 for one normal plus three others with varieties worth much more.

Included lots of valuable information.

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THE EARL GREY

Sir,
Patrick Campbell's "Saga of the Earl Grey" (Nov.–Dec. 1996) brought another reminder of the Earl Grey's very brief existence as a ship of His Majesty's Royal Canadian Navy. I have a group of war medals awarded to a stoker on the Earl Grey. As one of the engine crew, he would have sailed from Halifax to Murmansk, returning to Canada by private steamer. Like so many others in the first days of the Navy, he was a former Royal Navy stoker who made a transfer to the Canadian Navy. As stoker the poor man must have shovelled coal all the way across the Atlantic to north Russia—tons of it!

The group of medals consists of the Queen’s South Africa Medal, impressed “S. ANGEWIN, STO. HMS MAGICIENNE”; the 1914–15 Star (illustrated above), impressed “S.G. ANGEWIN, ACT. CH. STO., H.M.C.S. EARL GREY”; the British War Medal, impressed “S.G. ANGEWIN, LDG. STO. 20540, R.C.N.”; and the Victory Medal, impressed “S.G. ANGEWIN, LDG. STO. 20540, R.C.N.”

Ross W. Irwin
Guelph

CUMULATIVE INDEX

Sir,
Could someone be found who would be willing to edit and do a cumulative index for all the Canadian Philatelists issued to date? The yearly index is O.K. but many early volumes had no yearly index. Some were also very inadequate by omitting obituaries, etc.

There is a great deal of interest today in philatelic literature and an index that could be sold would give the Society much publicity. I am certain there are many members with computer and desk top publishing skills who would be willing to do the work required so that we could have a comprehensive index.

Olay W. Mowat
Dunville, Ont.

Sir,
It has been so many years The Canadian Philatelist has issued its yearly indexes, but no one has ever put together a cumulative index of all the indexes into one source directory of indexes.

BNAPS is doing this with BNA Topics, the AAMS has done it with its Airpost journals, the Collectors Club has done it with its journals, and I could go on and on. It’s about time to have a project to compile a cumulative index for The Canadian Philatelist.

Joseph Berkovits
Toronto

VENICE CORRECTIONS

Sir,
Thank you for printing Mr. D.P. Zaphirou’s correction of the Brescia markings in my “Venice” article (Mar.–Apr. 1996). Mr. Zaphirou is absolutely right: the markings should read “Bres. P.Ven.” (Brescia per Venezia). The usage, according to Hermann Deniger, was from 1714 to 1726. The controversy over the time parameters is of little importance due to the great scarcity of authenticated examples.

At ISTANBUL ’96 I was able to display five frames of Venice material. One item I showed was a June 20, 1698 cover from Yerevan, Armenia to Venice (shown on p. 63, Jan.–Feb. 1996 Canadian Philatelist). I described it as being taxed 11 soldi. One of the great postal historians, James Van Der Linden, noted that
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The Canadian Philatelist
this was a forwarded letter, correctly described with one exception, the postage paid. The fee paid was 4 soldi, shown in the lower part of the cover. The two manuscript strikes which I interpreted as 11 soldi were in fact an acknowledgment of payment.

I am grateful to Mr. Van Der Linden for noting the error and allowing me to correct something I should have been able to read better.

Several of the covers in my collection came as a result of the eagle eye of the late Allan Steinhart. He would draw my attention to a listing in an auction catalogue or point out Venetian material in the stock of a dealer not known for that type of material. The “Yerevan” cover was one of Mr. Steinhart’s recommendations. The most he ever accepted for this type of advice was a lunch. He believed that this was not his area of competence and would not accept a fee. His friendship, if gruff sometimes, will be genuinely missed. There was much more to Allan Steinhart that should have been appreciated while he was with us. A tender memory will have to take its place.

Michael Madesker
Downsview

FORGERIES

Sir,

Hans Reiche, in his July–Aug. 1996 column, referred to Edwin Mueller of Vienna regarding forgeries. I assume the Edwin Mueller who published The Mercury stamp journals is one and the same. As a former client from the Fifties, I still occasionally reread these well worn journals. He disliked the promotion of “never hinged” and his prediction of regumming problems has come true. His comments about exhibiting and judging problems, the plight of philatelic writings, and other matters are as if they had been written today.

Mr. Reiche has, in a previous column, favoured marking forgeries sent in for expertising, but conveniently omitted Mr. Mueller’s views on expertising dictatorship and that of defacing questionable material.

Carlo Rasmussen
Naestved, Denmark

ANOTHER ONE GOT AWAY

Sir,

I have just finished reading “The Fish That Got Away” by J.J. MacDonald (Nov.–Dec.). It is a fascinating and most interesting article. It reminded me of an experience I had over 40 years ago.

At that time I was working as a social worker in a Toronto hospital. I had become very friendly with the security guard, an elderly gentleman who was probably in his late 60s. He was a stamp collector, and many evenings I’d stay after 5 pm to swap stamps with him.

Through our conversations over many months, he told me that he had been divorced for many years and lived alone. He said he had a large and valuable collection of the stamps of Great Britain. Many and many a time he expressed concern about what would become of his collection after he died. He said that no one in his family was interested in his stamps. He was very preoccupied with the matter of to whom to bequeath his collection in his will.

I offered no comment or suggestions in regard to his concerns. As a good social worker should, I could only listen silently and sympathetically to his problem. But in my heart of hearts I was more the stamp collector than the social worker. I hoped that he might think of me as a possible heir to his collection, inasmuch as we had become friends through our mutual stamp collecting hobby. We had spent many pleasant times together trading stamps and stamp stories. But as quickly as this thought entered my head, I dismissed it as just so much greedy wishful thinking.

About a year after we had befriended each other, this gentleman died. I was saddened by his death and had long since forgotten about his problem about who to name in his will as the inheritor of his stamp collection. Paramount in my thoughts when I learned of his death was my sense of loss of a friend with whom I could no longer spend enjoyable moments together with our hobby.

About six months after his death I received a letter from the Official Guardian’s Office. Before opening the letter, I couldn’t help but notice how thick and bulging was the envelope.
Suddenly my heart skipped a beat! Was this a notification that my late stamp collecting friend had named me in his will as beneficiary of his stamp collection?

Eagerly I opened the envelope.

No, I was not the heir to any stamp collection!

The contents of the letter was the minutes of the last Social Workers' Association meeting, as well as a notice for the next meeting. The social worker responsible for sending out this material happened to work in the Official Guardian's Office and, I assume, had permission to use their envelopes for this mailing.

I must have believed, deep inside of me, that I had landed a "fish" when my eyes fell on that very official looking letter addressed to me!

Oh well, I guess all of us hope, at one time or another, to land that "Big Fish." But not many of us ever do. That's life, I suppose!

Norman Gulko
Willowdale, Ont.

(Editor's note: Mr. Gulko was one of many readers to respond enthusiastically to J.J. Mac-Donald's article. All asked for more of this type of article, but I can't print another anecdotal story until someone writes it. Why not write up one of your philatelic stories or reminiscences as a winter project?)

AIR FARES TO PACIFIC '97

Sir,

I write with respect to the note regarding air fares to PACIFIC '97 (Nov.-Dec., p. 410).

You refer to United Airlines' discount as being 10% off the "unrestricted mid-week coach fare." There is no such fare. The unrestricted coach fare has no limitations of day of travel. It is valid any day of the week. However, it is a very high fare. Currently the fare from Toronto to San Francisco on this basis is $2,116.00 plus taxes. I would expect that no one going to the show, except those who normally travel in business or first class, would pay this fare.

I checked with United's group desk. The actual discount they offer is 5% off any fare available to a traveller. Currently, the lowest coach (economy) class fare from Toronto, based on a 14 day advance purchase, is $659.00 plus taxes. A senior and travelling companion is entitled to a 10% discount off this fare. On top of this would be United's additional 5% discount.

It is possible that, from time to time, with no advance notice, and usually with a window of about 5 business days to purchase, there are "seat sales." On this basis, the advance purchase fare may be up to $300 less than the current lowest fare. All of the above refers to any of the major scheduled airlines as well as United. United's edge is the additional 5%.

Murray Heifetz
Toronto

(Editor's note: Our original report on air fare discounts was based on information received from PACIFIC 97. Mr. Heifetz is a travel agent, and the information he gives above was correct at the time of writing, the first week of December 1996. We will keep readers informed of any new developments regarding air fares from Canada. The difference in cost between the high and low fares would pay for a mighty nice stamp! Members contemplating going to the show should check current fares and discounts with a competent and qualified travel agent. Remember to quote United's Meeting ID Number 505-TD.)

"MAC" McCREADY

Sir,

It was a pleasure to read in Charles J.G. Verge's article in the Sept.-Oct. issue that the late Arthur L. McCreasy was honoured by being posthumously elected to the A.P.S. Writers' Unit Hall of Fame.

As one who knew and often visited "Mac" McCready in Cobden, Ontario I wish to say that Mr. McCreasy certainly deserved the honour. Being a senior collector, the writer knew personally most of the authors of articles in Popular Stamps.

I believe that the Edward Goodchild referred to on page 345 should be identified as Edward Goodale, a well known Hamilton philatelist who collected Canadian precancels and Canadian postal history.

Many thanks to Mr. Verge for documenting, writing and promoting Mr. McCreasy to a well deserved place in the Writers' Unit Hall of Fame.

[A senior RPSC member]
MADESKER REELECTED

The World Youth Stamp Exhibition took place in March 1996 at INDONESIA 96. During the exhibition the annual convention of the FIP Youth Commission was held. Michael Madesker of Canada was reelected President, and Yaakov Shabtai of Israel as Vice President.

REGUMMED & RESTORED STAMPS

Recently we have noticed several advertisements for firms offering to regum unused stamps, and restoration services for damaged stamps.

We do not wish to either defend or denounce such services. However, all collectors should take note that these altered stamps will eventually appear on the market. Buyers should be wary when making purchases of higher priced material. Inspect the items carefully, seek expert advice, and buy from reputable dealers.

10TH ST. GABRIEL CONGRESS

From August 15 to 18, 1996, nearly 300 European and North American collectors of religious themes on stamps gathered in Kecskemét, Hungary, about 80 kilometres southeast of Budapest, for the tenth quadrennial exhibition and congress of the World Union of St. Gabriel, which was organized in 1953.

The first Gabriel Guild for Christian philately originated in the mid 1930s in Germany; its first Gabriel bulletin was published in 1942. Independently, the ecumenical Collectors of Religion on Stamps (COROS) was founded in the United States in 1943. The COROS Chronicle has been published since 1945. COROS has become the North American counterpart, affiliated with the international St. Gabriel organization, and has a number of Canadian members.

Gabriel Guilds now exist in most European countries, South America, and India. The Guild is named for the Archangel who was sent both to the prophet Daniel and then to the Virgin Mary in Nazareth. It is said that he carried messages to Mohammed. Gabriel is now honoured as the patron of philatelists.

Appropriately, the Magyar Post issued a postal card on August 15 to honour KECSKEMÉT, choosing the enamel icon of St. Gabriel from the crown of St. Stephen for the 17-forint impressed stamp design. There were also special cancels, two of which are illustrated below.

So far the only Congress held outside Europe was in Sao Paolo, Brazil in 1980. The eleventh Congress is scheduled to coincide with the annual COMPEX exhibition in Chicago in 2000. Rev. Augustine Serafini, a new RPSC member who joined at CAPEX 96, is in charge of the Congress project. He is both editor of The COROS Chronicle and a vice president of the World Gabriel.

CHANGES FOR 1998 SCOTT CATALOGUES

Beginning with the 1998 edition, the Scott Catalogues will stop separating the British Commonwealth from the rest of the world. With the new alignment, Volume 1 will contain U.S. issues plus world A-B. The strict alphabetical order will continue with the remaining five volumes: Volume 2, world C-F; Volume 3, world G-J; Volume 4, world K-O; Volume 5, P-Slovenia; Volume 6, Solomon Is.-Z. Volume 1 is scheduled for an April 1997 release, with the rest of the set appearing at one month intervals. The only exceptions to this alphabetical order are those stamp-issuing entities that became incorporated into a larger entity. For example, the pre-Confederation issues of the various BNA provinces are included with Canada. The same applies to Australia, and to the German and Italian states.

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Classics the following month.

Many Commonwealth specialists are likely to balk at having to purchase the entire 6-volume set, and will consider switching to the two-volume Stanley Gibbons Commonwealth set.

VICPEX ’96

The three local stamp societies of Victoria, BC staged one of the most successful shows ever held in Victoria on October 5 and 6, 1996.

This show proved that Victoria is a most active philatelic centre. This interest in philately was reflected in the quality and diversity of the exhibits presented.

The tone of the exhibition was set with two superb non-competitive exhibits. “Postal History of the Klondike Gold Rush” was a magnificent exhibit prepared for CAPEX ’96 by the Northern Canada Study Group, and put together and written up by Gray Scrimgeour. It was obvious that people attending VICPEX ’96 were fascinated by the story of the fabulous gold rush.

Bob Heasman’s excellent exhibit, “Canada’s Bickerdike Mail Marking Machines,” won a large silver medal at CAPEX ’96 in Toronto. Both of these non-competitive exhibits were wonderful examples of what can be done with philatelic material.

In the competitive exhibits, “Norman Rockwell — A Philography,” won a gold award and the AAPE award for Stan Freestone. This exhibit and ten-year-old Andrew Erickson’s junior exhibit, “Bicycle Stamps,” a silver award winner, won the Most Popular Exhibits award.

Other winners included: Vince Leonardson’s “Runners and Blades,” vermeil and AAPE award; 12-year-old Graham Moffat’s “Stamps from around the World,” gold and Junior Trophy; Robin Clarke’s “Some Maritime Postal Markings,” gold and Gerald E. Wellburn Trophy; Les Martin’s “Aerophilately of India,” gold and Reg Nairne Trophy; Don Shorting’s “Registry System of Canada,” gold and W. (Bill) Sach Trophy; Paul Parizeau’s “The Cape Triangulars,” gold and Eric Hamber Trophy; Don Shorting’s “Handstamps on SFL of Canada,” vermeil and Centennial Trophy; Tom Watkins’ “Airmail in the Red Lake Mining District of Ontario,” vermeil and Clark Homing Trophy; and Charles Arnold’s “Malta,” silver and Frank Dyment Memorial Trophy.


The students of Frank Hobbs School exhibited a special display of stamps, and there was an interesting Vancouver Island Philatelic Society archival display. It was encouraging to see the enthusiasm shown by the junior exhibitors. Philately is indeed alive and well in Victoria!

CANADIAN POSTAL MUSEUM

A new exhibition, France—Canada: Three Centuries of Letters and Correspondence, is currently on display at the Canadian Museum of Civilization. This exhibition explores the relationship between Canada and France from the perspective of postal connections. On display are stampless covers dating back to 1685, archival documents, postal dies, and uniforms worn by postal workers.

This exhibit was on display at CAPEX 96, and was seen in Paris in the fall of 1996. It will be in the Canada Hall Mezzanine of the Museum of Civilization in Hull until April 4.

SPECIALIST SOCIETIES

Two specialist societies have taken a new direction by publishing the same article in their respective journals. Edward J. Rasmussen’s “The Well—Travelled 58th Infantry” appeared in the October issue of Japanese Philately and in the Fall 1996 issue of the Military Postal History Bulletin. The article concerns the Japanese Regiment’s activities in Siberia in the 1920 period, and has appeal beyond each of the specialist groups. This is an excellent way to dispel the insularity that characterizes so much of today’s specialist philately.

Japanese Philately is published bimonthly. Membership information is available from Ken Kamholz, Box 1283, Haddonfield NJ 08033. Information about the quarterly Military Postal History Bulletin is available from George Cosentini, 12421 Banuelo Cove, San Diego CA 92130.
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FIP EXHIBITIONS IN 1996

During 1996, R.K. Malott of Ottawa represented Canada at three overseas International Exhibitions, in addition to his duties as Canadian Commissioner at CAPEX 96. He reports as follows.

ESPAMER 96 and AVIACIÓN Y ESPACIO 96.

Held in Seville, Spain, 4 to 12 May, these were two separate exhibitions in one. ESPAMER 96 was for all FIP classes except Aerophilately and Astrophilately. The exhibitions were well organized and featured many outstanding exhibits from Spain and Europe. The facilities were excellent, with efficient armed security. Thousands of school children were bussed in to attend the exhibitions, as were senior citizens. There were a number of educational exhibits, including one on rocket mail during the Spanish Civil War, and one on delivery of mail by pigeons. The Spanish Army had six pigeonaires on duty with a daily release of 50 pigeons carrying messages that were returned in two days to the sender. Seville and Grenada are great tourist centres with something for everyone. For excitement take a taxi ride!

Six Canadians entered ESPAMER 96: Joseph Shelton (Gold); Tom Cummings (Large Silver); Ralili Neuhauser-Borggren (Silver Bronze); Joseph Monteiro, Piet Steen (Silver Bronze, Literature); Michael Nowlan (Bronze, Literature). My own Crash Cover exhibit was shown non-competitively as I was an aerophilateic judge.

AEROFILA 96

This 1000-frame exhibition, held in foyer of the main post office in Buenos Aires, Argentina between 30 August and 8 September, was only for Aerophilately and Astrophilately. Although small in size, there was an excellent educational program for collectors and exhibitors. Social activities were not overlooked as all attending enjoyed the Argentinean beef and wine, and the wondrous intricacies of the tango.

There were seven Canadian entries: Mike Shand, Dick Malott (Large Vermeil plus special prize); Bill Bartlett (Vermeil); Dick Malott (Silver Bronze); Nelson Bentley (Bronze); Chris Hargreaves (Silver, Literature); Piet Steen (Felicitations).

Exceptional exhibits of South American and Spanish airmails were on display, some of which have never been seen in Canada or the United States. Being assigned a commissioner to the International Exhibitions provides an excellent opportunity to view and study exhibits that may never be shown outside the country in which the exhibition is held.

Commissioners and judges were taken to a nearby Army Helicopter Base for a tour of the facilities, including a small helicopter museum and the officers' mess for lunch. It was interesting to visit the local stamp shops to see what undetected gems might be awaiting a knowledgeable buyer. Buenos Aires is a vibrant city with many historic sites and buildings, as well as museums.

ISTANBUL 96

Much has been written concerning the philatelic and organizational problems at ISTAN-

A post card cancelled at ISTANBUL 96 on FIP Day, 6 October 1996.
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BUL 96. Through inexperience, lack of local assistance, and a civilian phobia against a military controlled exhibition area, the beginning of the exhibition was a bit rough. Attendance was minuscule, but for those entitled to enter into the exhibition area ISTANBUL 96 was terrific. There were luxurious facilities at the exhibition halls, friendly and hospitable hosts, and outstanding social functions with philatelists from around the world. The world famous Army Military Museum was part of the exhibition complex. As a special surprise for aerophilatelists, the Turkish Post Office sponsored a first helicopter flight from Europe to Asia and return. The 3,000 souvenir envelopes flown sold like hotcakes.

There were 15 Canadian entries in this 3,000-frame exhibition, not seven as reported elsewhere. Awards went to: RPSC Philatelic Research Foundation (Large Vermeil, Literature); Michael Madesker; Dick Malott (Large Vermeil with special prizes); Martin Bratzel (Vermeil, Lit.); Kenneth Magee, James Kraemer, John M. Powell, Sarah Murphy (Vermeil); Michel Forand (Large Silver, Lit.); Kar Valdo Laas (Large Silver); Canadian Philatelist, Michael Forand (Silver, Lit.); Anna Liffey, Julian Cleavey (Silver); Michael Forand (Bronze, Lit.). Appropriate medals were presented to all exhibitors at these exhibitions, except for ESPAMER 96 and AVIACIÓN Y ESPACIO 96, which presented a metal box for storing personal papers and souvenirs.

— R. K. Malott

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WPC NEWSLETTER

We spent a pleasant hour browsing through the huge 76-page September 1996 issue of the WPC Newsletter, published by the World Philatelic Congress of Israel, Holy Land and Judaica Societies. It is packed with news, reports, and useful articles.

This organization has affiliates in Canada, the US, Israel, South Africa, and a number of European countries. The quarterly newsletter is mailed to members in all these countries. The editor is a Canadian and RPSC member, Mr. Arie Ben David. He can be reached at Box 77540, Downsview, ON M3H 6A7, and will be pleased to supply information. This is a live, progressive society, and the newsletter is indispensable to the Holy Land and Israel collector, as well as those with an interest in Palestine, Concentration and Ghetto mail.

SPRAY CANCELS

Canada Post's spray on cancels seem to be attracting a growing number of fans, although most philatelists still regard them with horror and disdain. In the latter part of 1996 only one special slogan, "BEST WISHES / JOIE ET PAIX", was scheduled for the period. One of our editorial assistants has been monitoring incoming mail, and has put aside a number of varieties from late 1996.

The stamp month slogan, "TIMBRES DU CANADA STAMPS", was to run only in October, but it remained in use on many machines well into November. It was used on machines 095 and 096 at Stoney Creek until the first week of December, when the Christmas slogan commenced.

The Christmas cancel was to be used until January 6 to cover the orthodox Christmas celebration. Machines were then to revert to the "POSTAL CODE / CODE POSTAL" slogan, but machines 100 and 101 at Montreal are using "POSTE CANADA / CANADA POST".

We did not note any impromptu Remembrance Day slogans this year. We would welcome any reports from readers.

At press time, no special slogans for 1997 have been announced, but there continue to be collectible items even without them. A few
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Cdn. Stamp News, Toronto

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Peter McCarthy,
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of the recent varieties are shown above.

Ross Irwin of Guelph reports a new machine, 077B, from Winnipeg. We are not certain of the meaning of this designation. In the past, Winnipeg has been a hotspot for innovations.

AEROPHILATELIC SOCIETY FUNDRAISER

To help support the society's activities, the Canadian Aerophilatelic Society is selling covers flown by the Snowbirds on 19 October 1996 at 15 Wing, Moose Jaw, Saskatchewan. The covers are autographed by the pilots. Single covers are $8.00 each, or $45.00 for a set of nine. A Snowbird decal and a brochure go with each purchase. Orders should be sent to R.K. Malott, President, CAS, 16 Harwick Crescent, Nepean, ON K2H 6R1. An example is illustrated below.
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ASDA  ■  CSDA  ■  APS  ■  PTS  ■  IFSDA  ■  BNAPS  ■  RPSC  ■  ATA  ■  AQPP
As we start a new calendar year, I can report to you that the Officers and Directors held a meeting in Toronto on November 16, 1996, to consider improvements in our management techniques. A number of important decisions were made.

The Office Administrator, for the past several years, Ms. Donna Pena, left us on October 31, 1996, and we were faced with a decision either to hire another part-time staffer, or to consider a proposal made to us by Andrew Parr and Associates, who had managed CAPEX. The proposal was circulated to the Board in late September, and after full discussion at the meeting, it was approved.

There will now be telephone service at Parr and Associates' office during normal working hours, 9 am to 5 pm EST, on weekdays. At other times you will receive an answering machine message. The new telephone number is (416) 979-7474. Fax service will be available at (416) 979-1144, and there is also e-mail at info@parrassoc.com (no period). Mr. Parr will be known as the Administrator of the Society. There will be no change in the Society's mailing address, which remains at P.O. Box 929, Station Q, Toronto, ON M4T 2P1. You should also note that the President is now accessible by fax at (604) 261-3459. An RPSC website is now operating on the Internet. Details will appear soon in The Canadian Philatelist.

Our Executive Director, Denis Hamel, has recently moved to Montreal. As he expects to be fully occupied in earning a living in the new location for the foreseeable future, he has resigned from his position as a Director of the Society, and as President of the RPSC Foundation. We will miss him, and hope that he will be able to resume his philatelic activities shortly.

The Directors decided that there will be no new appointment as Executive Director, but that Alan McKanna, FRPSC, Chairman of the Finance Committee, will be the Director primarily responsible for the activities of the National Office. He will be assisted in this oversight by our Treasurer, David Oberholtzer. We sincerely hope that this new structure will eliminate problems recently encountered by some members with new and renewal memberships, and other administrative matters.

The Directors also bade a fond farewell to Michael Millar, FRPSC, who is resigning as a Director at the end of his term in 1997. As he does not expect to attend the 1997 Annual Meeting in Calgary, he was presented with a suitably inscribed Society gold medal and an RPSC decanter in commemoration of his service as Director from 1979 to 1997, Second Vice-President from 1990 to 1993, and Head of our Anti-Theft Committee from its inception until 1996. His contributions to the Society are notable, and we wish him every success in his future endeavours.

Several other Directors have indicated they wish to retire next year, so nominations are solicited to fill these vacancies.

The past year has been a busy one for your executive—full of challenges, but very interesting with our participation in CAPEX. The new year also looks busy, with PACIFIC 97 under way. HAPPY NEW YEAR!
<table>
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<th>#9 USED</th>
<th>#15 V.F.</th>
<th>#18A USED</th>
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20 / January - February 1997
The Canadian Philatelist
Postmarked OTTAWA

by Hans Reiche

PERFORATIONS

Collectors have sometimes wondered why certain stamp issues may present different sizes of perforation holes. Only recently has this been noted on some of the definitives, but already in the early days such differences could be found. The usual perforation hole on most stamps is 1.0 mm in diameter, but holes less than 0.75 mm in diameter exist on some of the older issues. Jarrett mentioned this decades ago, and showed stamps that were perforated on one side with large holes and on the other side with small holes. The writer has numerous examples of such stamps in his Admiral collection.

What is the reason for these size differences? There are several possibilities. The perforation pins that engage into the perforating holes on the perforating machine suffer wear. With this wear, their dimensions may change, becoming thinner or smaller in diameter, until eventually they are replaced. In order to engage without binding, the holes on a rotary perforating machine must be slightly smaller in diameter than the pins. This allows for slight deformation of the pins. In many cases the perforation itself may not be sharp in contour, due to pulling at the circumference of the paper hole. In this case, the holes may not be perfectly round. The accurate adjustment of the engagement of pins in holes leaves some dimensional tolerances. These, in turn, can change the size of the perforating hole.

In these examples of varying hole sizes, the distance from one hole centre to the next hole centre remains the same. Only if the perforating and hole wheels are changed is there a new perforation variety.

In many older stamps, such as the Canadian Queen Victoria issues, the setting of the pins on the wheels was not as precise as modern perforating systems. This resulted in differences that are small, but measurable. Of course, the wheels with the holes had to accommodate slight variations in setting to avoid jamming. Because of the abrasiveness of the paper, gum, and ink, the pins of the wheel would wear. Consequently, pins had to be replaced, or new wheels had to be installed on the shaft. Spacing between wheels may vary if they are not set accurately. This is the cause of the so-called large and small stamps on some older issues.

The use of vertical perforating machines was limited because of reduced speed of operation. But such machines could make use of tighter tolerances or pins and holes, and did not need to take into account the curvature of pins entering the holes, as was the case with rotary machines. Stamps perforated on these machines would show clear, sharply cut round holes. The contrast between rotary and vertical perforations can be seen on the German inflation stamps that exist in both flat-bed and rotary press versions.

1953 KING GEORGE VI ISSUE

A new set of King George VI Canadian definitive stamps was planned for 1953. The design is shown above. This set was to replace the 1949–50 definitive series, but when the King died work on the project was discontinued.
**PHILATELIC TERMS TRANSLATED**

We often receive catalogues from other countries, written in German, French, or Italian. Not everyone is familiar with the philatelic terms in them. Users of these catalogues, as well as other collectors, may find following list useful. It contains a number of these terms in German, with their English, French and Italian equivalents.

<table>
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<tr>
<th>German</th>
<th>English</th>
<th>French</th>
<th>Italian</th>
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<tr>
<td>Abart</td>
<td>variety</td>
<td>variété</td>
<td>varietà</td>
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<tr>
<td>Abstempelung</td>
<td>cancellation</td>
<td>oblitération</td>
<td>annullo</td>
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<td>insignifiant</td>
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<td>block</td>
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<tr>
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<td>sheet</td>
<td>feuille</td>
<td>foglio</td>
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<td>bord de feuille</td>
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<td>large</td>
<td>largo</td>
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<tr>
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<td>letter, cover</td>
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<td>lettera</td>
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<td>Bruch (Spur)</td>
<td>crease, creased</td>
<td>pil, trace de pil</td>
<td>piega, traccia di piega</td>
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<tr>
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<td>breast, shield</td>
<td>écusson</td>
<td>stemma</td>
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<tr>
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<td>typography</td>
<td>typographie</td>
<td>tipografia</td>
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<tr>
<td>Bug</td>
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<td>légèrement plié</td>
<td>piega leggera</td>
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<td>off centre</td>
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<td>mal centratato</td>
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<tr>
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<td>official stamp</td>
<td>timbre de service</td>
<td>francobollo di servizio</td>
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<tr>
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<td>double impression</td>
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<td>Dreierstreifen</td>
<td>strip of three</td>
<td>bande de trois</td>
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<td>fiscale</td>
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<td>used</td>
<td>usé, oblitéré</td>
<td>usato, annullato</td>
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<td>imperforate, cut id., same lot</td>
<td>non dentelé</td>
<td>non dentellato</td>
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<td>perforated</td>
<td>id., même lot</td>
<td>id., loto analogo</td>
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<td>gezäähnt</td>
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<td>Gummi</td>
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<td>Kupferdruck</td>
<td>horizontal</td>
<td>impression en taille douche</td>
<td>stampa in caligrafia</td>
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<tr>
<td>liegend</td>
<td>local issue</td>
<td>horizontal</td>
<td>orizzontale</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lokalausgabe</td>
<td>very close margin</td>
<td>émission locale</td>
<td>emissione locale</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lupenrand</td>
<td>fault</td>
<td>marge très étroite</td>
<td>margine molto stretto</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mangel</td>
<td>pin hole</td>
<td>défaut</td>
<td>difetto</td>
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<tr>
<td>Nadelstich</td>
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<td>trou d'épingle</td>
<td>foro di spillo</td>
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EXPERTIZATION

Many European auction catalogues indicate that stamps previously expertized and been re-expertized, with new photos. This applies to stamps of all countries, including Canada. When asked why this was done, one auction house replied as follows. A stamp that had been expertized several years ago may have been in a number of collections during the time since the expertization. Over time, changes or damage may have occurred. For example, a Three-Penny Beaver was listed in a catalogue with a new certificate and photo. The auction house noted a small tear that was not mentioned in the original certificate.

In one recent auction catalogue, 63% of previously expertized stamps had new certificates. Could it be that the European expertizers want a little more business?

MISPLACED ENTRY ON 2¢ ARCH

Illustrated above is an interesting misplaced entry on Canada Scott No. 165, the 2¢ Arch stamp of 1930, with doubling at the top of the left side. This is the first misplaced entry reported on this stamp.
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GST #R106386139
THE WHITE HOUSE

A few years ago, on a trip to Washington, D.C., I had a tour of the Naval Academy. The tour guide stated that the U.S.A. had never lost a war or even a minor battle. I questioned this, first thinking of Pearl Harbor, and then the War of 1812. I pointed out that the Americans not only lost the War of 1812, failing to take over Canada, but they withdrew and negotiated a peace treaty after the British burned the White House. I felt sorry for the young man. He didn’t know his history, and tried to claim that the White House was never burned.

The truth is that the Americans invaded Canada, captured Fort York, and burned the Governor’s residence in what is now Toronto. In retaliation, the British sent a fleet to Washington to teach the Americans a lesson. They set fire to the presidential residence. The building was gutted, although the outer walls were saved, mainly due to a severe rain storm. President James Madison did not want the general population to know the extent of the damage, so he ordered that the building be immediately whitewashed to hide the black fire damage. The fire occurred on 24 August 1814.

It took three years for the building to be rebuilt, but almost 100 years until it was officially named The White House by President Teddy Roosevelt. Originally it was a neoclassical mansion, the largest in America. After the fire it continued as a great home and residence, but it retained James Madison’s deception: the colour white. When Teddy Roosevelt ordered a major expansion in 1902, white limestone was used and so the name was literally cast in stone.

The first president to occupy the residence was John Adams. In November 1800, on his second day there, he wrote, “I pray Heaven to bestow the best of blessings on this house and all that shall hereafter inhabit it. May none but honest and wise men ever rule under this roof.”

Any house will hold many secrets. For example, the cornerstone of The White House is missing. Harry Truman discovered this fact, but the stone has never been found. No woman has ever been president, but Edith Wilson, wife of Woodrow Wilson, effectively ran the government from The White House for 17 months after her husband suffered a paralyzing stroke.

Franklin D. Roosevelt, who became president in 1933, was in awe of this magnificent building and the Oval Office. When he first walked into the office he was alone. He sat behind the big old desk and his mind went blank. The room was silent, and there was no one there but him. Suddenly he shouted. The spell was broken. People appeared and he set to work tackling the problems of the day. FDR, as he was affectionately known, was the longest serving tenant, holding the office for over 12 years. The Constitution now imposes term limits.

The first stamp showing The White House was issued in 1938, during FDR’s term of office, and the second as part of a set to honour FDR after he died. Today it is well established as a symbol of the American presidency and has appeared on a number of American and foreign issues. Perhaps the U.S. will issue a stamp in 2014 to mark the 200th anniversary of the burning of The White House.
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La Société royale de philatélie du Canada
P.O. BOX / C.P. 929
STN / SUCC. ‘Q’
TORONTO, Ontario
M4T 2P1 CANADA

Tel. 416/979-7474 Fax. 416-979-1144

Management services provided by Parr & Associates
The most recent sessions of The Ron Leith Philatelic Auctions, held on October 18–19, 1996, contained many nice and unusual items for collectors' albums. Although specialists in worldwide postal history, many fine stamps have been added to these sales, so the firm caters to many facets of philately. The public auction contained 750 stamp lots and over 1,900 postal history lots. Almost all the lots were illustrated for the bidder.

Interesting stamps were the order of the day within this sale. Lot 2, a Canadian 1851 12p Black plate proof, with the red vertical "SPECIMEN" overprint and a light hinge thin, was estimated at $300–$500. It sold for $467.50 (including the 10% buyer's fee). A Great Britain 1929 £1 St. George U.P.U. used single, featured in colour on the catalogue cover, was offered as lot 60. It sold above the quoted catalogue value of $575, and went to a new home for $660. A 1949 mint LH Berlin Währungsgeschäftigen Sonderpost semi-postal souvenir sheet (lot 623) sold for $487.50 against a catalogue of $800.

Postal history and covers are the firm's strong suit, and those offered in this sale were exceptional. Lot 1620 contained a Canadian 1876 5c Small Queen single paying the U.P.U. letter rate from Toronto to Tokyo (dated 1888). The cover was routed via Montreal to London, England. Estimated at $500–$750, the lot sold for $495 (covers had a 50% reserve of estimate). A rare Canadian flag cancel (used only six days) was found in lot 1922. The example of a Montreal Bickerdike Flag No. 9–2 on a postal card, used April 6, 1896 was estimated at $400–$500. It went to a fortunate buyer for $880! Certainly, for those types of Canadian postal history special rarities is high. An unreported splitting cancel in lot 2031, from Green-Point-Rapids, B.C. (open from 1914–1921) was another special item. Contained on a Great War–related registered cover, the estimate for this scarce cancel was $800–$1,000. It sold for an amazing $1,430!

A rare and unusual 1933 Balboa Canadian despatch airmail cover (American Airmail Catalogue No. 1179g) from Italy to the Chicago World's Fair and with a Shediac, N.B. cancel, was found in lot 2668. It sold for $660 against an estimate of $750–$1,000. A superb collection of British Commonwealth airmail rate covers, from 1939 to 1952, was offered in lots 3199–3203. Each contained a fabulous array of interesting and scarce King George VI era air covers. Rare destinations, rates, military-related and airmailers, were found throughout each of these lots. Lot 3199 sold for $2,310 ($2,500–$3,000 estimate, 123 items); lot 3200 went for $1,100 ($1,500–$2,000 estimate, 104 items); lot 3201 went to a new home for $2,090 ($3,000–$4,000, 242 items); lot 3202 sold for $2,200 ($2,500–$3,000, 182 items); and lot 3203 found a buyer at $1,650 ($2,000–$2,500, 130 items).

Ron Leith Auctions usually hold two sales each year. The next sale is scheduled for February 1997. The firm can be contacted at Box 430, Abbotsford, BC V2S 5Z5; phone (604) 795–2240; fax (604) 795–2324.

Until next time, good bidding!
**CANADA, F/VF, NH**

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A GLARING ERROR

Back in 1981 Harold Gosney and I were elected Fellows of the Royal Philatelic Society of Canada. I had already known him for many years. Since then, we have addressed one another as “Fellow Fellow” whenever we met. Imagine my shock when I discovered a glaring error in his article on Yonge Street in the Nov–Dec. issue. I immediately sat down and penned as follows:

Dear Fellow Fellow,

It is with a heavy heart that I feel compelled to write to you, more in sorrow than in anger. You just can’t possibly imagine the pain it causes me to have to be the bearer of the dreadful news that I FOUND AN ERROR in your Yonge Street article in the November–December issue. I ask myself, how can this be? How can my Fellow Fellow who always checks and double checks his facts—not to mention his figures—be so negligent as to be guilty of the gross historical malfeasance that Norman Bethune was born in the Methodist Church manse in Gravenhurst?

Tell it not in Gath, nor even in Muskoka! Certainly tell it not in the Peoples Republic of China whose government advanced a significant quantity of specie—not to mention dollars—towards the renovations of the former Presbyterian Church manse in Gravenhurst.

This venerable building is stated—and verily believed—to be the birthplace of the esteemed hero of the Chinese in general and bosom companion to Chairman Mao in particular.

My finely tuned sense as a Presbyterian historian was outraged at this calumny. How ever, being of a charitable—not to mention mendicant—disposition, I felt there was a faint possibility that my first reaction when I read the word Methodist was wrong. I repaired to my library and with shaking hand took down Acts & Proceedings of the 18th General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church in Canada, held in Bank Street Church, Ottawa from the 11th to the 20th of June 1890. I turned to Appendix 25, the lists of the Presbyteries, Presbytery 25—Presbytery of Ottawa. And there it was in black and white on page xiv: “Minister at Gravenhurst, M.N. Bethune, ordained 10 June 1889.” Wanting to be sure, I went still deeper into my library and consulted The Kirk in Glengarry by Rev. Dr. Donald MacMillan, Glengarry’s leading church historian. There it was again in black and white on page 27: “Malcolm Nicholson Bethune, (1857 – 1932), became a Presbyterian minister, and his first charge was at Gravenhurst, Ontario. In the manse there, in June 1899, was born John Bethune’s great–great–grandson, Norman.” Dr. MacMillan has the date wrong: it should be 1890.

What will the Moderator of the General Assembly say when she learns that a learned article in Canada’s leading philatelic publication is putting it abroad that Norman Bethune, son of a respected Presbyterian minister, great–great–grandson of the first Church of Scotland minister in Upper Canada, was born in a Methodist manse?

Closer to home, what will that respected Presbyterian Church Elder, Harry Sutherland, QC, RDP, FRPSL, FRPSC, say?

They may conclude, with I feel, some justification that it is nothing but another United Church plot to piffle some more of our proud Presbyterian heritage and spread further desola tion and despair throughout the land. Fellow Fellow, you are in BIG trouble! I may not know much—or even care—about Canadian plate blocks, but I know my Presbyterian history and can state without any hesitation—or even equivocation—that Norman Bethune was born in the Presbyterian manse in Gravenhurst—Nec Tamen Consumbatur!
This symbol is your assurance that a dealer has met the high standards of the Canadian Stamp Dealer’s Association. Look for the dealer displaying the Beaver! Whether buying or selling, this is the person you should be dealing with. We are the Association to which they belong.

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P.O. Box 1123R, Adelaide St. P.O., Toronto, Ontario, Canada M5C 2K5

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November 14, 15, 16
Queen Elizabeth Building
Exhibition Place

**Montreal:**
April 11, 12, 13
November 28, 29, 30
Place Bonaventure

**Toronto SHOW HOURS**
Friday 10 a.m. to 7 p.m.
Saturday 10 a.m. - 6 p.m.
Sunday 10 a.m. - 5 p.m.

**Montreal**
Friday 11 a.m. to 8 p.m.
Saturday 10 a.m. - 6 p.m.
Sunday 10 a.m. - 5 p.m.

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For further information contact the CSDA at the address above.
Vignettes of Early British North American Postal History
by J.C. Arnell, F.R.P.S.C.

XLVII. Missent Letters

Occasionally a letter is found that has been missorted by a post office along the way. The first one (shown below) was mailed in Philadelphia on 29 December 1842 with 183/4 cents postage prepaid to Boston. At Boston, the Halifax address was mistaken to be the Nova Scotia port, so the letter was put in the mail bag for there, instead of that for Liverpool. It was carried by the Britannia from Boston on 1 January 1843 and landed at Halifax, Nova Scotia two days later.
When the Nova Scotia mail was being sorted, the error was discovered. The letter was backstamped and put in the Liverpool bag before the Britannia sailed a few hours later. It arrived in Liverpool on 16 January, where it was rated 1s. 0d. Stg. postage due. It was backstamped at Halifax, England two days later.

A second example (shown below) was mailed at Dundas, U.C. on 21 January 1857 with the postage charged to Box 86, as shown at the upper left corner. As a double weight letter, it was marked “Above 1/2 oz.” and “PAID 2/4 stg. 2/8 cy.”, and in the same hand, “48 cts”—the U.S. equivalent of the 2s. 0d. Stg. double packet postage.

Having been marked “Via New York” by the sender, this appears to have caused some confusion, for the letter was put in the open U.S. mail, instead of a closed bag for Liverpool. The “19”, which is in red, is believed to be the New York handstamp used under the 1848 U.K.—U.S. Postal Convention to show a credit due the receiving post office for a single weight letter from the U.S. carried by a Cunard steamer. In this case, it was incorrectly used.

The letter was carried by the America from Boston on 29 January and arrived at Liverpool on 11 February, where it was backstamped with a circular “AMERICA/LIVERPOOL” and, being improperly marked under the Convention, was rated 1s. 0d. Stg. postage due. It was backstamped at Maryport on the following day.

A third example, in the opposite direction, was a letter from London, England dated 12 February 1858 and mailed on the same day with the postage unpaid. It was correctly rated with 6d. Stg. postage due at Bermuda, with the British debit of 5d. Stg. being marked also.

It was then incorrectly placed in the Hamilton, U.C. closed bag via Boston, instead of the Bermuda bag via Halifax. It was carried from Liverpool by the America on 13 February and arrived at Boston on 1 March. At Hamilton, U.C. it was backstamped the following day and rated 10d. Cy. [8d. Stg.] postage due on a Cunard packet letter through the United States, using the D.28 handstamp.
When the error was recognized, the "10" was deleted and the letter sent to Quebec for onward transmission. It was backstamped at Quebec on 5 March and presumably forwarded to Halifax. If so, it was probably carried by the Cunard mail steamer Delta from there on 11 March and arrived at Bermuda on 17 March. There is no Bermuda marking to confirm the arrival date.

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R.F. Narbonne
216 Mailey Drive, Carleton Place, ON K7C 3X9
by/par James E. Kraemer

UNIDENTIFIED MEMBER

The RPSC Philatelic Research Foundation signed up many members during CAPEX 96 in Toronto. One of the new members paid his three-year membership of $35.00 in cash. We have no record of his name and address and ask that if he reads this column to please get in touch with the National Office so that we can forward his tax receipt, membership certificate, and card.

OPUSCULUM I and II

Articles for Opusculum II are being assembled for editing preparatory to publication. Opusculum I sold well during CAPEX 96. The volume was awarded a silver medal at CAPEX 96 and a vermeil medal at ISTANBUL 96, in the literature class.

HELP WANTED

We have on hand an interesting article written in Japanese by a prominent Japanese philatelist and author for Opusculum II. The article is partly translated. The Foundation is seeking a volunteer who could help us with the task of translating the article from Japanese to English. If you believe that you can help please contact the National Office.

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NORTHERN GOLD:
The Post Offices of the Yukon and Northwestern British Columbia

by William G. Robinson, FRPSC

One of the themes of CAPEX '96 was the Centennial of the famous 1897 Gold Rush to the Klondike region of the Yukon Territory. The editor of The Canadian Philatelist knew that I proposed to enter a competitive exhibit on the subject, so he asked for a story about the postal history of the Gold Rush and later events, based on the exhibit, for the entertainment and education of our readers.

POST OFFICES OPENED FROM 1894 TO 1905

Much Yukon postal history concerns mail service to and from Dawson City—the commercial centre of the central Yukon. For a few years it was the largest Canadian city west of Winnipeg, and the hub of everything which occurred in the Territory. Later, it was eclipsed by Whitehorse, the present capitol of the Territory, and the northern terminus of the White Pass and Yukon Railway from the Alaskan port of Skagway. Most Yukon covers originate in either Dawson or Whitehorse, but the real gems are from the small Post Offices scattered throughout the Territory or in the mining area of northern British Columbia. This collection showed almost all of these rarities.

The earliest post office in the Yukon was established by the Americans under the name of Mitchell, Alaska—but it was actually within the Yukon Territory at Forty Mile, on the Yukon River, northwest of Dawson. The Alaska Commercial Company provided steamer service from St. Michael, Alaska, near the mouth of the Yukon River. The office operated from 1890 to 1895.

Canadian Offices were established in the Yukon as follows.

Fort Cudahy, Yukon

Fort Cudahy opened in 1894 and closed December 1, 1903, when the office name changed to Forty Mile. The first mail contract was awarded in 1896 for service between Juneau, Alaska, and Fort Cudahy, and one cover is known from this service. Only a few covers are known during the life of the office, and a registered example from 1901 is shown at the top of the opposite page. The back of this cover is sealed with the first reported impression of the bag seal supplied to this office.
Two split circle cancel types are known for Fort Cudahy—one with the designation “B.C.” in error, proofed on May 19, 1894; the other with “N.W.T.”, proofed on April 26, 1895.

Forty Mile, Yukon

Forty Mile was open from December 1, 1903 to July 31, 1950. The cover shown below was mailed December 31, 1903, and is currently the earliest reported marking.

It is addressed to Bishop Bompas, Anglican Bishop of the Yukon, who had recently moved his headquarters and the Indian School from Forty Mile to Caribou Crossing. Arrival is shown by a backstamp dated January 8, 1904.
En route to Dawson: the vast majority of gold seekers travelled to Skagway (top) by ship, then travelled overland via the Chilkoot Pass (centre) or the White Pass to Lake Bennett (bottom), then down the Yukon River to Dawson.
On August 16, 1896, large quantities of placer gold were discovered on Rabbit, or Bonanza Creek, a tributary of the Yukon River, by George Carmack, Skookum Jim Mason, and Tagish Charlie.

News of the discovery reached Portland and San Francisco in July, 1897, and the rush was on. Most gold seekers travelled by ship to Skagway, thence over the Chilkoot Pass or White Pass to Lake Bennett, and down the Yukon River to Dawson. A few with money went via St. Michael and up the Yukon River by steamer, while a few hardy souls travelled via Fort Wrangell, the Stikine River, Telegraph Creek, Teslin Lake, and then down the Yukon River to Dawson. Very few of the gold seekers who started in 1897 arrived before the spring break-up of the Yukon River in June, 1898.

There is some evidence that a few persons went overland from Ashcroft or Edmonton, but no postal artifacts exist.

**Dawson, Yukon**

The post office at Dawson was officially opened September 1, 1897, with Inspector Frank Harper of the North-West Mounted Police as Postmaster. Cancelling equipment did not arrive until February 28, 1898. A cover is known with manuscript date 16/12/97.

Below is a bird’s eye view of Dawson. The December 1897 manuscript postmark is reproduced in the insert at the upper right.

The first home-made boats from Lake Bennett arrived on June 8, 1898, and the population soon reached 18,000. Despite this, only about 35 covers are known from Dawson in 1898. The first split circle canceller read “DAWSON/N.W.T.” A second hammer was soon in service; it reads “DAWSON/N.W.T. CANADA”. Numerous full-circle and duplex markings were soon placed in use. The most unusual marking, a triplex, was made for the Yukon Exposition, August 14-17, 1912.
October 25, 1898. Middle: the second Dawson split circle, with "N.W.T. CANADA" at the bottom, dated March 30, 1898. Bottom: one of the five surviving examples of the Dawson triplex cancel, made for the Yukon Exposition, August 14, 17, 1912.

The Canadian Philatelist
A new permanent post office building (illustrated above) was erected in 1900. This office is still open, despite the great reduction in amount of mail over the years.

Summer mail was generally carried by steamer from Dawson to Lake Bennett, or to White Horse after completion of the railway. Some of these steamers are shown in the view below, docked at White Horse. Illustrated at left is one of two known markings from the S.S. Columbian, operated by the Canadian Development Co.
These steamers ran until the 1950s, and the pursers carried some mail placed on board outside the postal system. Above is an example of a mailing from the steamer Dawson, June 26, 1917. Below left is an oval marking from the steamer Victorian, dated September 18, 1902. All such legitimate early ship markings are rare. After about 1920, these markings were applied by favour, and are fairly common. A postcard showing the Dawson is at bottom right.
During 1897 and 1898 winter mail travelled by contractors' or N.W.M.P. dog teams, while later mail was carried mostly by horse-drawn sleighs, as shown above.

Tagish Lake

Tagish Lake was opened September 1, 1897, at the N.W.M.P. post between Lake Bennett and the Yukon River. All boats passed through the narrows here, and were registered by the Police. The office remained open only until September 30, 1901. By then, travellers used the White Pass & Yukon Railway to White Horse, and steamers to Dawson, so the police post was closed. A letter dated April 26, 1898, with a transit backstamp of Dyea, Alaska, May 2, 1898, is shown below.

Pelly, Yukon

Pelly was opened September 9, 1899, at the junction of the Pelly and Yukon Rivers, roughly midway between White Horse and Dawson. The name of the Office was changed to Fort Selkirk on September 21, 1939. It closed December 31, 1952. An example of mail to Prince Edward Island dated January 21, 1900, is shown at the top of the opposite page.
Bonanza, Yukon

Bonanza was established October 1, 1899, at the Grand Forks of Bonanza and Eldorado Creeks, some 15 miles south of Dawson. An example of mail to Ontario with a split-circle marking dated March 24, 1902, is shown opposite, second from top. Immediately below it is an example of the full-circle marking that was used from 1903 to 1908. The item shown went to Great Britain, and is dated September 1, 1908. The office closed June 10, 1921.

Dominion, Yukon

Dominion opened November 1, 1899, in a placer mining camp at the junction of Dominion and Caribou Creeks, fifty miles south-east of Dawson. The earliest reported marking, January 27, 1901, is shown at the bottom of the opposite page. The office closed August 1, 1917. Robert Woodall, in his Postal History of the Yukon Territory, published in 1976, comments, “Early covers are rare.”

Hunker, Yukon

Hunker was named for a prospector, Andrew Hunker. This office was opened November 1, 1899, at the junction of Gold Bottom Creek and Hunker Creek, about twenty miles southeast of Dawson. Below are stikes of the Hunker split circle, as an arrival marking dated January 3, 1902, and as a postmark on July 5, 1905. Also shown is a straight-line re-direction marking, probably applied at Dawson.
W. S. Nansen

YUKON

POST CARD

DOMINION
JAN 27
01

Mlle. Jessie Thomas
Laënnec
Washington

14 North 5 St.
White Horse, Yukon

White Horse opened June 1, 1900 at the head of navigation on the Yukon River, and the northern terminus of the White Pass and Yukon Railway. It is now the capital of the Yukon Territory. The name was altered to Whitehorse in 1957.

Examples of the first and second split circle hammers, both dated November 3, 1903, are illustrated below. Shown are the front and back of a White Pass & Yukon Route postcard reporting the arrival by rail of 107 packages of pipe fittings and hardware destined for the Klondike Thawing Machine Co. of Dawson. The marking at lower left is the latest reported date of Hammer 1, with 2 1/2mm side bars, while that cancelling the stamp impression is Hammer 2, with 4 1/2mm side bars.
Numerous full circle, duplex, oval and machine markings were used later. An early oval marking is shown above.

The first official train into White Horse on the White Pass and Yukon Railway arrived on June 8, 1900. Mail service improved dramatically. The narrow gauge railway faced many obstacles during construction of the 110 mile line from Skagway. The view below typifies the terrain encountered.

Lake Bennett, B.C.

Lake Bennett, B.C. opened May 1, 1898, to serve the gold seekers coming over the Chilkoot and White Passes, and was the railhead from July 6, 1899, until the railway was completed to White Horse in June, 1900. The office closed November 1, 1901, as it was no longer required.
Above is a bank cover mailed June 23, 1899 by the local branch of the Merchants Bank of Halifax at Lake Bennett to the branch at Victoria, B.C. An arrival backstamp is dated August 1, 1899. Railway construction from Skagway reached Lake Bennett on July 6, 1899, so this letter probably travelled by courier to the end of steel, thence by train to Skagway, and steamer to Victoria.

Log Cabin, B.C.

Log Cabin, B.C. was the second office along the White Pass & Yukon Railway in British Columbia. It operated from May 1, 1899 to August 1, 1909. Mail to the Atlin mining area was carried from here by courier. An example of mail to Stockton, California (re-addressed) dated September 3, 1906, is shown below. Mail from this office is rare.
Atlin, B.C.

Atlin, B.C., the third Office in north-western British Columbia, was opened on May 1, 1899. It is still open on the east side of Atlin Lake (above), sixty-five miles south of White Horse.

An example of the split-circle marking used on the opening date, May 1, 1899, is shown below. Later, a full-circle marking was used. An example dated August 12, 1899, is the lower item shown below.
Discovery, B.C.

Discovery, B.C. was the fourth B.C. post office established on Pine Creek, seven miles east of Atlin. It opened on June 26, 1899, and closed December 18, 1930. Below is an October 27, 1899 postcard to Seattle. The interesting message says, “Will probably have to walk to Skagway, Alaska, as the boats quit running tomorrow.”

Last Chance, Yukon

Last Chance, the ninth Yukon office, opened at a road house on Hunker Creek, ten miles southeast of Dawson, June 10, 1902. Woodall comments in his 1976 book, “No postmarks reported.” Since then, a few examples have appeared. Below is a cover dated January 13, 1904.

Caribou Crossing, Yukon

Caribou Crossing, the tenth Yukon office opened June 12, 1902, where the White Pass & Yukon Railway crosses the narrows between Lake Bennett and Tagish
Lake, forty miles south of White Horse. The postcard above shows the site. Few examples of markings are known in private hands. One is shown at left, dated January 14, 1904.

The name was changed to Carcross on October 1, 1904. This office is still open. Below is an example of the first split circle hammer with 6 and 5mm side bars, dated September 19, 1907, and also the second hammer with 5 and 3mm side bars, dated August 3, 1911.
Stewart River, Yukon

Stewart River, the eleventh Yukon office, was opened at the N.W.M.P. post, at the junction of the Stewart and Yukon Rivers, seventy-five miles south-east of Dawson, on June 20, 1902. An arrival marking dated July 23, 1903 is shown below. This office remained open until September 14, 1967.

Granville, Yukon

The Granville office opened on Dominion Creek, sixty miles southeast of Dawson, June 30, 1903. It was named for Lord Granville, the British Colonial Secretary, and remained open until 1966. A December 20, 1907 example to Tacoma, Washington, is shown at below. Note the transit marking through Dawson on December 21, 1907.

Gold Run, Yukon

The office at Gold Run, fifty-five miles southeast of Dawson, opened on October 28, 1903. As it closed October 1, 1907, markings from this office, as shown at right, are very scarce. This date, November 8, 1906, is the latest date of use reported from this office.
Sulphur, Yukon

The Sulphur office opened on Sulphur Creek, 25 miles southeast of Dawson, on October 28, 1903, and closed July 7, 1922. There were hot springs at the headwaters of Sulphur Creek. Below is the latest reported date: December 9, 1907.

Bullion Creek, Yukon

Kluane, Yukon

Gold was discovered in 1903, 140 miles west of White Horse, near Kluane Lake, and an post office was opened October 1, 1904. No markings have been reported from this office. A proof strike dated December 19, 1904, is shown below left. The name was changed to Kluane on March 1, 1905. One marking, dated October 8, 1906, has been reported, and it was displayed at CAPEX '96 in the Northern Canada Study Group exhibit. It closed January 1, 1910, reopened June 1, 1913, and finally closed for good December 31, 1920. The proof strike dated May 2, 1913, of the hammer for this second opening is shown at right, below.

Paris, Yukon

The Paris office opened at the junction of Dominion and Portland Creeks, thirty miles southeast of Dawson, on October 1, 1904. An example mailed to Pictou, N.S. on October 31, 1924, is shown at the top of the next page. The Paris office closed February 5, 1943.
Lower Dominion, Yukon

Located on Dominion Creek—above Granville, and below Paris—Lower Dominion opened October 1, 1904, and closed July 31, 1918. Shown below is the earliest example reported, mailed to Dawson on August 28, 1908. Woodall commented in 1976, “No postmarks reported.” Two examples are now known.

Radford, Yukon

Radford, on Quartz Creek, sixty-five miles southeast of Dawson, opened August 19, 1905. The name was changed to Readford on September 1, 1934, and the office closed permanently November 21, 1951. A light strike of the arrival marking around can be seen around the top of the Drill Hall on the postcard illustrated at the top of the opposite page. It is dated December 8, 1907. This is the earliest report. Few markings are known.
This completes the roster of post offices opened in the Yukon Territory and northern British Columbia during the classic gold rush period, up to 1905. A second spurt of mining activity occurred later, scattered around the Territory, and not confined to placer gold, or to the Klondike region. The post offices opened during this later period will be discussed in the next installment of the Yukon Gold story, in the March-April issue.
SOLIDARITY AND PHILATELTY:
AN UPDATE

by Boleslaw Czernewcan

Each year, Christmas brings people a lot of joy and happiness. For many Polish people it also brings some sad memories of the worst time in post-war Polish history. Fifteen years ago, during the night of December 12-13, 1981, the Polish nation, striving for freedom, was brutally suppressed by the communist-military coup d'etat and by the declaration of martial law over the entire area of Poland. This time of war officially ended with the new national agreement at the Round Table in April 1989. During this period, the Polish nation created a parallel of community life totally independent from the communist-military regime.

In various ways and methods used by the underground fighters, a philatelic phenomenon was born and developed successfully. Millions of copies of illegal stamps appeared during those seven years.

In the November-December 1993 issue of The Canadian Philatelist, I had the opportunity to introduce this philatelic phenomenon and share my knowledge about it. I would like to do this again for three reasons. First, the sad 15th anniversary of the imposition of martial law. Second, to answer a number of readers who responded to the original article. Thirdly, a couple of months ago I received (after a three year delay, six pages from Magazyn Gazety, a Polish periodical, two pages of which deal with the phenomenon of underground philately in Poland during the 1980s.

I want to thank all those who responded to my original article and wrote letters to me or to the editor of this magazine. Most of them included offers to trade the illegal stamps. I must explain that in my collection I do not have any material available for sale or trade. Nevertheless, I always welcome any photocopies (I do not dare ask for originals) of illegal stamps or any information on this topic that can enrich my knowledge.

I would particularly like to acknowledge publicly the letter from Mr. Edward T. Superson in the January-February 1996 issue of The Canadian Philatelist, which was published along with a cover bearing an illegal stamp. Thank you, sir. In your letter you are fully correct that this "is just the tip of an iceberg." This philatelic phenomenon is still under research and study, and most likely will continue to be for some time to come.
My original article was intended to introduce the subject to readers of this magazine. At the same time I wanted to share as much information about it as I could, based on the first issues of the Underground Post Society (TPP) bulletins and my own involvement in Solidarity between 1982 and 1987.

Items like the one submitted by Mr. Superson are rare in the phenomenon of Solidarity philately, particularly those you can identify right away by the proper sign on the stamp. Mr. Superson's cover (shown at right) does indeed have an illegal stamp placed between other legal stamps, but one cannot recognize it immediately. This particular stamp does not have a proper identification to indicate its nature, but it does have what legal stamps—the name of the country and the face value. So how can one tell that this stamp is an illegal one? You won't find this stamp in the major stamp catalogues, but you can find it in catalogues of underground stamps in Poland.

I have this particular stamp in my collection. It is part of a miniature sheet containing two stamps, shown below. Only the central portion, between the stamps, includes the Solidarity insignia by which one can recognize its nature. The two stamps on the sheet are very like legitimate stamps, indicating a face value and the name of the country. The stamp on the left side of the sheet is the same as the one used on the envelope above.
Why were these stamps issued this way? The censorship bureaucrats of that time surely were not philatelic experts, and could not tell the difference between legitimate stamps and the illegal ones unless there was an evident sign of the outlawed organization on them. On the other hand, when most postal workers recognized an illegal stamp on a mail item, they would let it pass through as their expression of approval of the underground activities. Many of them were active members of Solidarity or other organizations.

Therefore, it was not too difficult to send this letter with the illegal stamp on it. Whether this stamp was cut out from a miniature sheet such as that shown, or was from a printing in a different format does not matter to the significance of Mr. Superson’s cover. It is an artifact of the philatelic phenomenon that occurred in Poland in the 1980s.

The previously mentioned article from Magazyn Gazety deals with that same issue. Joanna Szczesna, author of the article entitled “About Underground Philately—Some Craziness Story,” describes her involvement in this field, and gives more information about the topic. Much of the article corresponds with my own experiences. There is also a fair bit of new information. I could not agree more with the title of her article. In the conditions and circumstances of that time, to create and to develop successfully the idea of underground, illegal stamps really has to be a little short of craziness.

According to an unnamed philatelic expert quoted by Joanna Szczesna, the phenomenon of an underground post is nothing special. He says, “Every group of people, which has a limited form of expression begins to produce stamps
and cancels. They were issued in Warsaw’s ghetto, in P.O.W. camps, during the Warsaw insurrection of 1944, on the Polish ships blocked on the Red Sea during the Arab-Israeli War. Polar expeditions isolated from the world for long months do the same thing.” So the limited opportunities for free expression is the philatelic diagnosis for the state of the Polish national spirit of the 1980s.

Joanna Szczesna’s article contained some information that caused me to change the description of an item in my own collection. Shown below, it is a six-stamp miniature sheet dedicated to the Czechoslovakian organization Karta 77 (Card 77). I had described the item as from Czechoslovakia. In fact, these stamps were printed secretly in Poland, and then were smuggled into Prague, where they were distributed clandestinely. This I did not know until now. It proves that there are still facts awaiting discovery and clarification in this very exciting topic.

Joanna Szczesna shyly mentions having her own personal stamp produced—in very small numbers—by the internees in the Goldapia’s camp (North Poland) during the first months of martial law. The stamp has a dedication which reads, “Roza dla Joanny” (Rose for Joanna). It was presented
as a gift to her mother who was one of the internees in that camp. Unfortunately, she does not have a copy of this stamp in her enormous collection. Living in Warsaw and being close to the sources, she was able to collect a huge number of illegal stamps that now fill 12 thick albums and includes over 2,000 separate issues. Her collection contains some "double-illegal" stamps. This means stamps that were issued by unknown sources, or were printed in secret by printers totally on their own initiative as an additional source of income. Some were issues that disappeared from clandestine printing houses before the gum was put on them. Any appeals in the underground newspapers pleading with people to not buy or to return these issues were of course useless. Where the collecting passion is first, nothing else counts, concludes Joanna Szczesna, especially when the trade is totally forbidden.

Joanna Szczesna also considers the financial aspects of issuing the illegal stamps by providing some calculations. In the underground editorial market, one could earn three to five Polish zloty per page of a printed book. On the same page one could print a block of stamps valued at a few hundred Polish zloty or so. This could therefore be a lucrative business and it seems to be a miracle that anything else was printed at all. There were some ambitious printers and editors. One of them, in the city of Szczecin in northwestern Poland, after estimating the loss of confiscated underground bulletins asked his regional leaders for permission to issue some stamps as a way to make up the loss. When he was allowed to do so, his ambition took over. He could have made a couple of designs of stamps in a few colours and with a large number of copies. Instead, he diligently prepared 77 stamp designs, showing battles of World War II, with a value of 30 zl per stamp. He printed only a few hundred copies of each. That is how the longest set of illegal stamps came into the world.

_above and below: high quality underground stamps, dedicated to scout’s services in fighting detachments in the Warsaw insurrection against German Nazis in 1944._

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The Canadian Philatelist
One of the mysteries of the Solidarity years is revealed. Joanna Szczesna is a known source of illegal stamps in the British Royal philatelic collection. She motivated herself by thinking, "As stamps from P.O.W. camps are shown in London's museums, and stamps from Upper Silesia's Insurrection or Lodz's Ghetto are in the catalogues of Zumstein, and stamps of AK's field post are on the world philatelic market, there is nothing in the way of Solidarity's stamps from breaking through into world philately."

Then she learned that the Queen of England had a huge stamp collection. Thus convinced, Joanna Szczesna got the idea of promoting Polish underground stamps. She called upon a group of collector friends, and explained her concept to them. They understood her concept, and agreed to assist with the project. She bought a thick album and some of the most prestigious and beautiful illegal stamps, and put them together. She wrote a letter to Her Majesty, The Queen, but thought it awkward to sign the letter with her name only. She called her group of friends together, presented them with what she had prepared, and announced, "We are the Independent Association of Philatelists and I just became the president of it." They agreed and the letter was signed, "President of the Independent Association of Philatelists." A British journalist friend delivered the package to the British embassy in Warsaw. For safety reasons, there was no return address or receipt. Now we know how the Polish illegal stamps got into the British Royal collection.

A little later Joanna Szczesna did a similar thing with two albums of illegal stamps, dedicating them to Pope John Paul II. One of her friends played the role of courier. We know now that the illegal stamps are in the Vatican's collection, too.

I shared with Joanna Szczesna her fear and feelings of being a collector of the illegal stamps in the 1980s. It was a high-risk hobby at that time. Arrest, confiscation, fines, or even jail could have been the consequences of being caught by police or the special security service. She recounts one incident that took place in my city of origin, Wroclaw. In 1985 a court martial sentenced two company sergeants, who were also ordinary, every day stamp collectors, to jail for possession of illegal stamps, thus creating the basis for oppressing philatelists in Poland.

Joanna Szczesna's passion brought her to a decision to compile a real catalogue of the underground stamps. She got the idea when she found a friendly soul, a new neighbour in her apartment building who agreed to keep her collection at his place in a specially built hiding place. He was also a professional photographer, and took a large number of pictures of some of the largest collections in Warsaw while she collected and compiled all the necessary information about the stamps: producers, printers, number of copies, place of issue, and other data. The breaking point came when she learned that in real catalogues a perforation number is included. She said, "Maybe I am crazy, but not crazy enough to count the perforation on each stamp." Because of that, they did not complete the project. After the communist system totally collapsed in Poland and the TPP (Underground Post Society) was organized, Joanna Szczesna passed over all the documentation she had been able to collect for further study and work. Her work will likely be included in the catalogues of underground stamps published by the TPP in Poland.

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A veteran of the Solidarity movement, Bolesław Czernecki now lives and works in Kitchener, Ontario. He is an active member of the Kitchener-Waterloo Philatelic Society.
GUIDE LINES AND GUIDE DOTS

by Hans Reiche, FRPSC

Most philatelists are familiar with the guide lines and guide dots that can be found on some stamps. No doubt there are some collectors who would like to know a little more about these guides. With modern methods of stamp design and production, these guides have fallen into disuse, but on early Canadian stamps, beginning right with Number 1, such guides were required to prepare the designs for production. The terms “guide lines” and “guide dots” may be defined as: features for the purpose of preparing a stamp design and the printing plate for production.

A number of factors would lead a security printer to employ guide dots and lines for the goal of producing a perfect stamp. When laying out the die or plate it is difficult to make sure that the design fits exactly the dimensions and the specific location that is desired. A design that is even a fraction too large or too small is not acceptable. Nor can the location of the design be in the wrong place. Examples of such mistakes exist. Therefore, guide lines and dots must be planned prior to the design of the die or plate. These guides may indicate the following:

— the exact location of the stamp design
— the place where the engraver must place his design features
— the correct entry location of one subject so that it is in proper alignment
— the spacing required from one stamp subject to the next
— the location of marginal inscriptions in relation to the stamps
— the place where the sheet is to be cut into individual panes
— the exact location for a row of perforations

It is easy to see why these guides are important to the stamp printer. Why do we see these guides on stamps? Actually, such guides should have been erased prior to printing and should not appear on the printed stamps. Often, the guides are covered by the actual design of the stamp and fall directly on the stamp design lines. Such guides cannot be seen unless there has been some misalignment during the preparation process. Guide dots may be merged into the design on some stamps, but if they are not, and have not been erased, they will appear on the final printed stamp.

In some instances a guide line may be very close to the design, and thus may lead some collectors to believe that a doubling of the design has occurred, or that the stamp is a re-entry. Certain issues are full of such varieties. For example, they can be found readily on the Canadian Queen Victoria Numeral and Leaf issues.

Unlike the guides that are associated with stamp design and the plate layout, guides located in the selvedge usually were intended to be seen after printing. Cutting and perforation guides fall into this category. In the case of multi-colour stamps, there are often marginal registration guides to help keep the plates printing each colour in proper alignment. A few examples of guides follow.
Figure 1 shows a guide line that is to prevent the designer from going past the frame.

Figure 2 shows a guide line with dots on a plate to allow proper alignment of the transfer from the transfer roll to each plate position. The dot must match a mark or pin on the transfer roll.

Figure 3, dots connected by a line, may indicate a cutting line.

Figure 4, with five dots, may be located in the centre of a sheet. This is where the cutting lines cross to separate the sheet into individual panes of, say, 100 stamps. These guides may be found on the stamp from the UL position 100, UR position 91, LL position 10, or LR position 1. When they can be found, these are very nice items for plating purposes.

Figure 5 shows a guide line to guide the left frame line of the stamp.

Figure 6 is another guide with a centre dot to show the exact centre of the design.

Figure 7 is a guide arrow that may be placed where the sheet must be cut into panes.

Figure 8 is a so-called pyramid guide that is for centering perforations.

What happened if the guides were not used properly? Single or multiple stamps exist occasionally on one pane that are not aligned properly with other stamps. Skewed entries of one stamp on the printing plate with some older issues. Multiples, showing one misaligned stamp, are desirable additions to a collection. Misperforated stamps are another fault that may have occurred due to using the wrong guide line, or ignoring them altogether.

All such varieties are interesting, though they may not be of great monetary value. Have fun and build up a collection of guide lines and dots.
Catalogo Historico Postal de Cuba: 1855-1898. Author: José Ignacio Abreu Peréz. Publisher: Federacion Española de Sociedades Filatélicas, Felipe III, 6, 28012 Madrid, Spain. 251 pages, card cover, 30 colour photographs plus hundreds of illustrations in black and white.

This book, by the well known philatelist, postal historian, and international jurist, José I. Abreu of Matanzas, Cuba is a catalogue of Cuban postal history from 1855 to 1898. Profusely illustrated and printed on a high grade glossy paper, the book is No. 7 of a series published by the Spanish Federation of Philatelic Societies.

Sr. Abreu has assembled information on Cuba's postal history that was authored from 1945 to 1992, and has added to it. Some of Cuba's outstanding postal historians such as Ramón Cortes de Haro, Ángel Torrademé Balado, and the great José Luis Guerra Aguiar are only some of the contributors to this compendium of Cuban postal history. The late José Luis Guerra Aguiar, whose research was published from 1957 to 1995, was by far the leading researcher of Cuba's rich postal history.

The book begins with the stamps and postal history of Isabel II in 1855 and continues through the republic of 1870-1874. The reigns of Alfonso XII and Alfonso XIII follow until 1898. The material is contained in more than 40 chapters or sections. The cancellations and covers are reproduced with clarity.

Sr. Abreu is to be commended for assembling, adding to, and making Cuba's postal history available in a single volume for postal history students. Although written in Spanish, the countless illustrations and the writing style make it easy for anyone to follow the text. All postal historians interested in Cuba's postal history will need this volume.
Since the cost of this book, which this reviewer believes is modest, is not available, it is suggested that potential purchasers write to the publisher for further particulars.

Jay J. Edward


Military postal history is a popular specialty, and this volume helps make a portion of it easier to collect. This is the second volume of information by these authors on the postal operations of the Royal Canadian Navy in World War II.

The bulk of the contents contain listings and illustrations of rubber handstamps. There are sections for these used at shore establishments, shore bases, and on ships. An introductory chapter gives brief descriptions of the postal facilities at the various bases and shore establishments. There is a lengthy listing of miscellaneous covers. This suggests that there is a still large potential for further research and study with this subject.

The material is made easier to understand by the inclusion of several maps. There are also excellent photographs of postal personnel at work at the various postal facilities. Obviously, there is a rich social history to the subject.

The information in this book complements that in Volume I, issued previously. As well, there is a supplementary volume, updating the information in the first two volumes.

The compiling of this work involved countless hours on the part of the authors, and the willing cooperation of many collectors. The result is a guide that is a ready reference to the long time collector of this material, and an inviting introduction to the novice.

- Steve Thoming

Briefly Noted:

PEI specialists will take delight at the appearance of Doug Murray's new book, 2000 Postmarks of Prince Edward Island, 1814-1995. Based on more than 20 years of personal research, this book lists all known postmarks since the first one went into use at the sole post office on the island in 1814. All known datestamps are included. They are classified according to 14 standard types, and are listed in the order they were used by each post office. Many are previously unreported, and are not recorded in proof books. It is available for $30 postpaid from Retrospect Publishing, Box 693, Charlottetown, PEI C1A 7L3.

Erasmo Oneglia was an Italian stamp forger whose life and dubious accomplishments have been largely forgotten. A new book by Robson Lowe and Carl Walske, The Oneglia Engraved Forgeries, turns the spotlight on the man who was, in his day, perhaps the most active philatelic forger. Oneglia forged stamps of the Australian States, BNA, BWI, Cape of Good Hope, Ceylon, Chile, the Italian States, US, and others. These are all illustrated and described in this volume. It is available for $44.50 postpaid from James Bendon Ltd., Box 6484, 3307 Limassol, Cyprus.

Our friends at Saskatoon Stamp Centre have recently issued a 10-page list of philatelic literature, containing both new and older titles, some of them quite scarce. They would be pleased to send you a copy. Write to Box 1870, Saskatoon, SK S7K 3S2, or call 1-800-205-8814.

The Philatelic Music Circle recently published A Checklist of Postage Stamps About Music - 1997. Compiled by Dr. Johann A. Norstedt, it lists stamps related to music by country and according to year of issue. Both Scott and Stanley Gibbons numbers are provided. The book is spiral bound; its 270 pages list several thousand stamps. It supersedes older checklists. Copies may be obtained for $28 US postpaid from Johann A. Norstedt, Box 11817, Blacksburg, VA 24062-1817 USA.

The new Canadian airmail catalogue was to have been issued at CAPEX 96. A number of production difficulties prevented its appearance. It is now scheduled to appear at the PACIFIC 97 show in San Francisco on June 6.
On January 7 Canada Post Corporation issues its first stamp for 1997. The commemorative celebrates Chinese New Year and the Year of the Ox. The stamp will be issued in panes of 25 and souvenir sheets of two.

The stamp was designed by Ivy Li, Coordinator of the Graphic Design Program at Sheridan College. The illustration and calligraphy are by Liu Xiang-Ping, who illustrated the 1990 Bethune stamps, and formerly designed stamps for the Chinese post office.

**Specifications:**
- **Date of Issue:** 7 January 1997
- **Last Day of Sale:** 6 January 1998
- **Denomination:** 45c
- **Printer:** Ashton-Potter Canada Ltd.
- **Quantity:** 16,000,000
  - (12,000,000 in panes; 4,000,000 in souvenir sheets)
- **Dimensions:** 27.5 mm x 40 mm (vertical)
- **Perforation:** 13+
- **Paper:** Peterborough
- **Gum:** P.V.A.
- **Printing Process:** six-colour lithography
- **Pane Layout:** pane of 25 stamps
  - souvenir sheet of 2 stamps
general tagged, four sides
- **Tagging:**
- **First Day:** Vancouver, BC

**COLLECTION CANADA 96**

Canada Post Corporation has issued the latest of its annual volumes, *Collection Canada 96*. It is in hardcover, coffee table format, and includes mint copies of 79 stamps issued in 1996. The collection sells for $39.95 plus taxes at selected postal outlets across the country.

La Société canadienne des postes a annoncé l’émission, le 7 janvier 1997, d’un timbre soulignant le Nouvel An chinois. L’année du Buffle sera le premier du cycle de douze ans à être commémoré par un timbre. Le timbre sera offert en feuillets de 25 ainsi qu’en feuillets souvenirs de deux vignettes postales.

Le concepteur du timbre, Ivy Li, est coordinateur de conception graphique au collège Sheridan. L’illustration et la calligraphie sont l’œuvre de Liu Xiang-Ping.

**Spécifications techniques:**
- **Date d’émission:** 7 janvier 1997
- **Dernier jour de vente:** 6 janvier 1998
- **Valeur:** 0.45 $
- **Imprimé par:** Ashton-Potter Canada Ltd.
- **Tirage:** 16 000 000
  - (feuillets: 12 000 000
  - feuillet-souvenir: 4 000 000)
- **Format:** 27.5 mm x 40 mm (vertical)
- **Dentelure:** 13+
- **Papier:** Peterborough
- **Gomme:** A.P.V.
- **Procédé d’impression:** lithographie (six couleurs)
- **Présentation de feuillets:** feuillet de 25 timbres
  - feuillet-souvenir de 2 timbres
- **Marquage:** procédé général, sur les quatre côtés
- **Premier jour:** Vancouver (C.-B.)

Society Reports / Rapports de la Société

From Hugh Wood, RPSC Insurance Program Administrator.

RATE REDUCTIONS

At this time of year, we discuss with Lloyd's Underwriters the rates which are to be charged for the coming year, and I am pleased to say that these negotiations have been very successful.

The result of a review of the rates offered under the Royal Philatelic Society of Canada's program has been to see most rates reduced by nearly 7%, and for collectors who have central station alarms and home safes, the basic rates could have reduced as much as 26%! These rates go against the current trend in North American stamp collectors' insurances, where others have recently recommended rate increases.

The greatest reductions have been reserved for those members who have good security at their homes. This reflects the investment they have made in security and will, hopefully, encourage other members to ensure that their security is as good as possible to qualify for the best rates.

The new premiums will apply to all renewal insurances covered through Hugh Wood Canada Ltd. from 1 January 1997. However, these special rates will be available immediately to new participants in the Insurance Program.

I would also stress that the Program now offers the members automatic exhibition cover for up to $50,000, with additional coverage above this level being available at a cost of only $0.75 per each extra $1,000 of insurance.

We have also particularly responded to the needs of members for exhibition coverage. Such insurance is available for events anywhere in the world, and Hugh Wood Canada Ltd. offer a unique experience in dealing with special insurance requirements for particular areas. Our international group offices all place philatelic insurances with Lloyd's Underwriters, and we are therefore available to provide any extra assistance which may be required. At the major AMPHILEX exhibition at the Waldorf Astoria in New York (November 28 to December 2) we provided not only coverage for exhibitors but also the insurance for most of the trade standholders of $100 million US. If members have any questions regarding coverage for international events, we would welcome their enquiries.

Exhibitions, both major events like CAPEX and local shows, form a very important part of philately. The Lloyd's coverage commences from the time your exhibit leaves your home or bank vault and all of the incidental transits and temporary storage arising out of the event are fully covered. The general principle is that your exhibit is insured even when it is out of your direct control. Lloyd's provides members with the broadest insurance available and therefore the greatest level of comfort to exhibitors who are naturally concerned at the potential risk of financial loss.

The experience of providing insurance at the last three CAPEX exhibitions, AMERIPEX, the LONDON INTERNATIONAL exhibitions in 1980 and 1990, and many other international events has helped us develop exactly what exhibitors need in the form of insurance protection. Even in the best run exhibitions problems can, and sometimes do, occur and this is the moment that very many alternative insurance policies do not fully cover.

Members visiting exhibitions, large or small, may apply for cover even if they do not have annual insurance in the RPSC Insurance Plan. Such enquiries can be directed to:

Darlene Lawson
Hugh Wood Canada Limited
Suite 300, 2040 Yonge Street
Toronto, ON M4S 1Z9
Telephone (416) 481-4211; fax (416) 481-9132
From Molly Krajewski, Sales Circuit Manager....

DISPOSING OF COLLECTIONS

Many of us have snow on the roof these days, and as we get older we should consider what will happen to our stamps when we have gone. Our best collections can be left to the estate, although we must be sure that our executors know our wishes.

But, what about the accumulations of duplicates and smaller abandoned collections? Why don’t you put them in the Stamp Circuit? Friends and descendants may not know what to do with them, neither will they realize the potential value. They may not have time.

By putting them in our books and/or nickel boxes now, you will be organizing and harvesting in the most productive way possible, because only you may know what they are worth. As well, stamps you have had in store for many years may now have dramatically increased in value.

The stamp circuit constantly needs good saleable material, so get busy and let us hear from you.

E.M. (Mollie) Krajewski, Manager, Stamp Circuit
Box 10
Ajax, ON L1S 3C3
Phone (905) 663-0240

NOTICE TO MEMBERS

A call for nominations of Directors of The Royal Philatelic Society of Canada is hereby set forth.

Eight (8) Directors will be elected at the annual meeting to be held in Calgary, Alberta at ROYAL 1997 ROYALE on September 20, 1997.

"Nominations must be in writing and be made and seconded by members in good standing of the Corporation. The person nominated must consent to his or her nomination and such nomination to be valid must be received by the National Office or by the President by April 1, 1997. All nominations will be placed before the Nomination Committee who will prepare a slate of Directors of those nominated to ensure national representation based on levels of membership."

The proposed slate of Directors will be published on the May-June 1997 issue of The Canadian Philatelist along with a short biography of each nominee.

Membership Report....

NEW MEMBERS - NOUVEAUX MEMBRES

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

* requests address not be published (M) minor - activity guaranteed by parent or guardian (D) dealer

Les demandes d’adhésion ci-dessous ont été reçues et sont publiées en conformité avec la constitution. Si aucun commentaire adverse est reçu dans les trente jours qui suivent les postulants deviendront membres. Toute objection devra être communiquée à la C.P. 929, Succursale Q, Toronto (Ontario) M4T 2P1.

* demande que son adresse ne soit pas publiée (m) mineur - activités philatéliques garanties par un parent ou un tuteur (M) marchand

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SEPTEMBER 19 – 21
CALGARY

The Organizing Committee is planning the Royal's 1997 National Show and Annual Convention. Make plans now to attend a great show with plenty of that famous western hospitality. Watch for details in forthcoming issues, or contact:
Hugh Delaney, Chairman, Box 1478, Calgary, AB T2P 2L6
Phone: (403) 255-0422 Fax: (403) 255-2984

72 / January - February 1997
The Canadian Philatelist
Exchanges Wanted / Demandes d’échange

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

La Société royale de philatélie du Canada ne s’occupe pas normalement des échanges entre philatélistes, mais comme elle est la société philatélique nationale du Canada, ou lui transmet de nombreuses demandes de philatélistes désireux de trouver des correspondants pour échanger des timbres. Ainsi atelle décidé, pour rendre service à ses membres, de publier les noms intéressés d’outremer, afin que ceux qui désirent établir des rapports avec eux puissent la faire. Je vous signale toutefois que nous ne savons rien des personnes qui nous demandent de publier leur nom, c’est pourquoi je vous conseille d’être prudent en répondant à ces demandes d’échange.

Jan Swej
ul Kühna 39
42-256 Olsztyn
woj Czestochowa, POLAND
"I am interested in exchange of stamps. I offer mint complete sets from: Poland, Czechoslovakia, Bulgaria, Romania, Hungary, Cuba, Mongolia, Red Korea, Vietnam, USSR, and all ex-USSR countries. I use Scott and Michel. Mainly I want mint Canada, sheets, panes and booklets. All letters answered."

Ronny Luypaert
Kerkomstraat 18
3300 Kuntich, BELGIUM
Professional man, interested in corresponding with Canadian collectors. Writes in English; collects the stamps of Canada.

Constantin Grimchenko
P.O. Box 3285
Kharkov - 141
310141 UKRAINE
A long time philatelist wishes to contact Canadian collectors. Writes in English.

Du Yang Jie
Huadian Nxineun 22-401

Jinhua
Pr. of Zhejiang 321027, P.R. of CHINA
Collector wishes to exchange stamps with collectors in North America. Writes in English.

Ben Brahim Abderrahmane
B.P. 215 Star Melouk
07005 Biskra, ALGERIA
Collector wishes to contact Canadian collectors. Writes in French only.

Sung-woo Hur
785-12, 3Do 1Dong
Cheju-City Cheju-Do
690-031 SOUTH KOREA
"My Christian name is Stephan. I am a student. I prepare for the judicial exam. My hobby is collecting stamps, especially first day covers. Would you exchange with me?"

Stanislaw Rytko
ul. Prusa 3
58-300 Wielbrycz, POLAND
Long time collector would like to exchange correspondence and stamps with Canadian collectors. Writes in English and French.

COMING EVENTS / CALENDRIER

1997

JANUARY 10-12: PHIL-EX, at Metro Toronto Convention Centre, 255 Front Street West, Toronto. Information: Suite 116, Box 120, 65 Front St. W., Toronto, ON M5J 1E8.

JANUARY 17-18: CATHEX 97, annual exhibition and bourse of the St. Catharines Stamp Club, at Fairview Mall, Geneva St., St. Catharines. Noon to 9 pm Friday, 9 am to 5 pm Saturday. Free admission; 14 dealers, silent auction.

FEBRUARY 8: BURLPEX '97, the 16th annual exhibition and bourse sponsored by the Burlington Stamp Club, at Appleby Mall (corner of Appleby Line and New Street, Burlington). 9:30 am to 5:30 pm. Information: Frank Haller, 430 Belvenia Road, Burlington, ON L7L 2G6.
NATIONAL EXHIBITIONS

1997

MARCH 14 - 16: EDMONTON SPRING NATIONAL AND REGIONAL SHOW ’97, hosted by the Edmonton Stamp Club at the Conference Centre, Fantasyland Hotel, West Edmonton Mall, Edmonton. Open exhibits, bourse, and seminars. Information: Keith Spencer or John Powell, Box 399, Edmonton, AB T5J 2J6; phone (403) 437-1787 or (403) 435-7006.

APRIL 26 - 27: GRAPEX 1997, the 36th Annual RA Stamp Club Exhibition and Bourse, plus Canada’s Fourth National Philatelic Literature Exhibition, at the Curling Rink, RA Centre, 2451 Riverside Drive, Ottawa, Ontario. Hours: Sat. 10 am to 5 pm; Sun. 10 am to 4 pm. Information: Paul Burega, 16 Aldgate Cres., Barrhaven, Nepean, ON K2J 2G4; (613) 825-8105.

SEPTEMBER 19 - 21: ROYAL 97 ROYALE, annual exhibition and convention of the Royal Philatelic Society of Canada, hosted by the Calgary Philatelic Society, at the Coast Plaza Hotel, 1316-33 Street NE, Calgary. Show Chairman: Hugh Delaney, Box 1478, Calgary, AB T2P 2L6; phone (403) 255-0422, fax (403) 255-2984.

1998

MARCH 20 - 22: EDMONTON SPRING NATIONAL AND REGIONAL SHOW ’97, hosted by the Edmonton Stamp Club at the Conference Centre, Fantasyland Hotel, West Edmonton Mall, Edmonton. Open exhibits, bourse, and seminars. Information: Keith Spencer or John Powell, Box 399, Edmonton, AB T5J 2J6; phone (403) 437-1787 or (403) 435-7006.

MAY 29. - 31: ROYAL 98 ROYALE, annual exhibition and convention of the RPSC, hosted by the Hamilton Philatelic Society, at the Hamilton Convention Centre. Details to be announced.

FEBRUARY 15 - 16: NIPEX 97, Exhibition and Bourse sponsored by the Niagara Philatelic Society, at the Stamford Lions Club Hall, 3846 Portage Rd., Niagara Falls, Ont. 10 am to 5 pm. Information: Ed Yonelin, RR 1, Niagara-on-the-Lake, ON L0S 1J0.

FEBRUARY 22: APEX ’97, 17th annual exhibition and bourse of the Ajax Philatelic Society, at Anandale Golf and Curling Club, Church St. and Bayly St. W., Ajax, Ont. 10 am to 4 pm. Free admission, 15 dealers, exhibits, youth booth, snack bar, door prizes, table auction, Canada Post. Information: Sam Calnek, Box 107, Ajax, ON L1S 3C2; (905) 831-9886.

FEBRUARY 22 - 23: Regina Philatelic Club’s 17th annual Stamp Exhibition and sale of stamps, coins and sports cards, at Best Western Seven Oaks Inn, 777 Albert St., Regina, Sask. Sat. 10 am to 5 pm; Sun. 11 am to 5 pm. Admission $2 per day, under 12 free. 15 dealers, show cover, draw and special prizes. Information: Ken Arndt, 586-3152; or Jim Cooper, 543-2341.

FEBRUARY 22 - 23: VICTOPICAL 1997, at the Holiday Inn, 3020 Blanshard St., Victoria. Exhibition and bourse sponsored by the Greater Victoria Philatelic Society, The Vancouver Island Philatelic Society, and the Victoria Junior Stamp Club. Admission by donation. Show cancel; numerous door prizes. Entry fees: 15-page frames at $5.00 per frame; juniors $1.00 per exhibit. Information and prospectus: Box 5164, Station B, Victoria, BC; (604) 721-1940 evenings.

MARCH 1: MILTON STAMP FAIR, at Milton Senior Activities Centre. 9 am to 5 pm. Information: (905) 878-1533 or (905) 878-9076.

MARCH 15: OXPEX 97 and OTEx 97 (Oxford Philatelic Society Annual Exhibition and Ontario Topical Exhibition) at John Knox Christian School, 800 Juliana Dr., Woodstock, Ont. 10 am to 5 pm. Show features 180 frames of competitive exhibits, displays, super prize draws, youth booth, judges critique, refreshments. Free admission and parking. Information from: Gls Stephens, Box 20113, Woodstock, ON N4S 8X8.

MARCH 8: OAKPEX ’97, show and bourse of the Oakville Stamp Club, at Glen Abbey Recreational Centre, Oakville (Third Line, south of Upper Middle Road). 10 am to 5 pm. Information: Jim Stanley, Box 69643, Oakville, ON L6J 7R4.

MARCH 15 - 16: NORTH TORONTO STAMP CLUB’S 54th Annual Exhibition & Bourse, at the Civic Garden Centre, Edwards Gardens,
777 Lawrence Ave. E. at Leslie St., Toronto. Hours: 10 am to 6 pm Saturday, 10 am to 5 pm Sunday. Ample parking, free admission, wheelchair access, competitive exhibits, 22 dealers, refreshments. Information: Ben Marier, (416) 492-9311.

MARCH 22: NYPEX 97, annual show of the North York Philatelic Society, at Goulding Community Centre, Lariviiree Rd. and Goulding Ave. (3 blocks south of Steeles, west of Yonge). TTC stop nearby. Dealers, exhibits, sales circuit, and bid board. Free admission and parking. 10 am to 5 pm Information: Show Chairman, 34 Seaton Dr., Aurora, ON L4G 2K1; (905) 727-6993.

APRIL 5: LONPEX 105, exhibition and bourse of the London Philatelic Society, at South London Community Centre (west of White Oaks Mall), 1119 Jalna Blvd., London, Ont. 10 am to 5 pm. 25th anniversary meeting of the Postal History Society of Canada.


APRIL 25-26: SPRINGPEX, a stamp show hosted by the Hamilton Philatelic Society, at Bishop Ryan Secondary School, Quigley Rd. at Albright, Hamilton, Ont. Open Friday 5 pm to 10 pm for sales circuit and auction only. Full show open Saturday, with free admission, 18 dealers, sales circuit, youth booth, exhibits, and Canada Post.

MAY 9 - 11: The Nova Scotia Stamp Club will proudly celebrate the 75th Anniversary of its 1922 founding by staging NOVAPEX 97 at the Dartmouth Sportsplex, Wyse Road, Dartmouth. Philatelic societies from all of Nova Scotia will be participating. Information: George A. Mackenzie, Apl. 175, 1333 South Park Street, Halifax, NS B3J 2K9. Dealer enquiries invited.


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**International Exhibitions**

**1997**

APR. 16 - 21: NORWEX '97, Oslo, Norway, an FIP sponsored World Stamp Exhibition, limited to Postal History, Aerophilately, and Thematics. Canadian Commissioner: Denis Hamel, 795 rue Savard, Ville de Brossard, QC J0X 1X9; (514) 466-7108.

MAY 29 - JUNE 8: PACIFIC 97, an FIP WORLD PHILATELIC EXHIBITION at Moscone Convention Center, in San Francisco. Commissioners: Canada-East: Mr. Clifford R. Guile, 342 St. Clair Ave. E., Toronto, ON M4T 1P4; Canada-West: Mr. William G. Robinson, 5830 Cartier St., Vancouver, BC V6M 3A7.

AUG. 30 - SEPT. 8: MOSCOW '97, an FIP sponsored World Philatelic Exhibition, celebrating the 850th anniversary of the founding of Moscow. Canadian commissioner: James E. Kraemer, 17 Commanche Dr., Ottawa, ON K2E 6E8.

DEC. 8 - DEC. 14: INDEPEX '97, New Delhi, India. Canadian commissioner: Charles J.G. Verge, Box 2788, Stn. D, Ottawa, ON K1P 5W8; (613) 988-9809; fax (613) 988-8620.

**1998**

MAY 13 - 21: ISRAEL '98, International Show held under FIP patronage in Tel Aviv, Israel. Information from the Canadian commissioner: Mr. Wm. G. Robinson, 5830 Cartier St., Vancouver, BC V6M 3A7.

JUNE 18 - 21: JUVALUX '98, an FIP Sponsored Youth Show to be held in Luxembourg. Canadian commissioner: Father Jean-Claude Laffleur, 4900 rue St-Felix, St-Augustine, QC G3A 1X3.

JULY 25 - AUG. 2: PORTUGAL '98, FIP sponsored show in Lisbon, Portugal. Information from the Canadian commissioner: Mr. J.J. Danielski, 50 Blackwell Ave., Unit 21, Scarborough, ON M1B 1K2.

OCT. 20 - 25: ISPEX '98, FIP sponsored show at Gallagher's Estate Exhibition Centre, 20 minutes from Johannesburg, South Africa. Information from the Canadian commissioner: Mr. William G. Robinson, 5830 Cartier St., Vancouver, BC V6M 3A7; (604) 261-1953; fax (604) 736-5097.

OCT. 23 - NOV. 1: ITALIA '98, FIP sponsored show in Milan, Italy. Classes will be Postal History, Aerophilately, Thematic Philately, and Literature. Information from the Canadian commissioner: Mr. PeterMaciej, 30 Ormskirk Court, Toronto, ON M6S 1B1.

**1999**

CHAPTER MEETINGS
RÉUNIONS DES CLUBS MEMBRES

AJAX PHILATELIC SOCIETY
RPSC Chapter 163 meets 2nd and 4th Wednesday of each month, September to June at Ajax Public Library, 65 Harwood Ave. S., from 6pm to 9pm. All new members and visitors are welcome. Address: PO Box 107, Ajax, ON L1S 3C3.

AMICALE des PHILATÉLISTES des l'OUTAOUAIS
L'APO, chapitre 190 de la SRPC, se réunit tous les jeudis de septembre à fin avril, de 18h30 à 21h00. Les réunions ont lieu au Centre Communautaire Têteau Parc Moussette, Boul. Brunet, Hull. Les visiteurs et les nouveaux membres seront toujours les bienvenus. Visitors and new members are welcome. Information: P. Sarault, 82 rue Kent, Hull QC J8X 3K4.

CLUB PHILATÉLIQUE ARGENTEUIL STAMP CLUB
Chapter 118 meets 2nd Wednesdays of each month (except July and August) at 7:30 pm. Bilingual and bilingual meetings in Hawkesbury ON and Lachute PQ. Information: Yves Lemay, 452 Cécile, Hawkesbury ON K6A 1N9 phone (613) 632-3779.

BARRIE DISTRICT STAMP CLUB
RPSC Chapter 73 meets second Wednesday of each month except July and August at 7:30 pm. at Parkview Centre, 189 Blake St., Barrie. Fall Auction at every meeting. Visitors welcome. Contact: Sec.-Treas. Lew Metzger, Box 1113, Barrie ON L4M 5E2.

BRAMALEA STAMP CLUB
RPSC Chapter 144 meets 1st Sunday October to June inclusive (1:30-4:00 pm) and 3rd Sunday year round (7:30-9:30 pm) at Terry Miller Recreation Complex, Meeting Room 2, Williams Parkside (between Dixon Rd. and Bramalea Rd.) Bramalea, Ont. Visitors Welcome. Correspondence: Bramalea Stamp Club, Box 92531, Bramalea ON L6V 4R1.

BRANTFORD STAMP CLUB
RPSC Chapter 1 meets on the 1st and 3rd Tuesdays of the month, September to May, and the first Tuesday in June, at the Woodman Community Centre, 491 Grey St., Brantford, Ont. Doors open at 7 pm, short business meeting at 8 pm, followed by a program. Circuit books, 6 dealers. Visitors welcome. Information: Secretary, Box 25003, 119 Colborne St. W., Brantford ON N3T 6K5; (519) 753-9425.

BRITISH COLUMBIA PHILATELIC SOCIETY
The British Columbia Philatelic Society meets every Wednesday, September to June at 7:30 pm in the Amenity Room, Grosvenor Building, 1040 W. Georgia St. Information: B.C.P.S., 2855 West 36th Avenue, Vancouver BC V6N 2X2.

CALGARY PHILATELIC SOCIETY
(Chapter 66) Regular meeting: First Wednesday of month, 7 pm. Auctions on third Wednesday of month, 7:30 pm. Kerby Centre, 1130 7 Ave. SW. No meetings July and August; no auction December. Correspondence to Calgary Philatelic Society, P.O. Box 1478, Station "M", Calgary AB T2P 2L6.

CANADIAN AEROPHILATELIC SOCIETY
RPSC Chapter 157, The Canadian Aerophilatelic Society (CAS) welcomes anyone interested in aerophilately or astrophilately, worldwide. Yearly membership $15. No formal meetings; several members meet at the RA Stamp Club meetings at the RA Centre, 2451 Riverside Dr., Ottawa, Ont. 7:30 pm every Monday except June, July and August. Information: Ron Miyashita, 124 Gamble Ave., Toronto ON M4J 2P3.

CANADIAN ASSOCIATION FOR ISRAEL PHILATELY (CAIFP)
Chapter 76, Jan Bart Judaica Study Group, meets 2nd Wednesday of each month (except July and August) at 7:30 pm, at Shaves Shomayim Synagogue, 470 Giencair Ave., Toronto. Contact: Joseph Berkovits, York Toronto P.O. Box 33, 260 Adelaide St. E., Toronto ON (416) 635-1749.

COLDON STAMP CLUB
Chapter 205 meets on the second and fourth Tuesday, September to May inclusive at 7 pm in the Drop-in Centre, Victoria Square, Colborne, Ont. All stamp collectors welcome. Information: Mary Jackson, Box 33, Castleton, Ont., K0K 1M0, phone (905) 344-7882.

CREDIT VALLEY PHILATELIC SOCIETY - MISSISSAUGA
Chapter 67 meets 2nd and 4th Monday of every month (except on holidays and in July and August) at 7:30 pm at Forest Avenue Public School, 20 Forest Ave., Port Credit. Visitors always welcome. Contact Bob Laker, (905) 279-8607.

DELTA STAMP CLUB
Chapter 138 meets 2nd and 4th Tuesdays (except June through August) at 8 pm at the Phoenix Club, 6062 - 16th Ave., Delta, BC. Visitors are always welcome. For more information call 943-5738.

EAST TORONTO STAMP CLUB
Chapter 12 meets 1st and 3rd Wednesdays (except July and August) at Stan Wadlow Clubhouse, Cedarvale Ave. (first east of Woodbine, at Cosburn) north of arena. Visitors welcome. Sec: Raymond Reakes, 188 Woodmount Ave., Toronto ON M4C 3Z4.

EDMONTON STAMP CLUB
Touring stampers, new members and guests are welcome to visit Edmonton's R.P.S.C. Chapter 6. Meetings every Monday, September through June, 6:30 pm, at St. Joseph High School, 4th floor cafeteria, 109 St. and 108 Ave. Correspondence: Edmonton Stamp Club, Box 399, Edmonton AB T5J 2L6. Information: Keith Spencer (403) 437-1787.

ESSEX COUNTY STAMP CLUB (WINDBOR)R
RPSC Chapter 154 meets on the 2nd and 4th Wednesday of the month (4th Wednesday in July and August) at
the Teutonia Club, 55 Edinborough, Windsor, Ont. Meetings start at 7 pm, program at 8 pm. Lots of parking; all visitors are welcome. Information: Essex Count Stamp Club, 2975 Clemenceau Blvd., Windsor ON N8T 2R2; (519) 974-2390.

ETOBICOKE PHILATELIC SOCIETY
R.P.S.C. Chapter 78 meets at Fairfield Centre, 80 Lothian Way, Etiobicoke at 7:30 pm, 1st Wednesday of every month except July and August. Visitors always welcome. Information: C.E. Allen, 5 Aintree Court, Etobicoke ON M8W 2E1. Phone 251-3425.

FENELON STAMP CLUB
R.P.S.C. Chapter 176 meets 2nd Monday of each month in the Fenelon Falls Community Hall behind the Village Office on Market Street at 7:30 pm. Visitors always welcome. Information from the President: Margaret Allen, R R 1, Fenelon Falls, ON KOM 1N0.

GREATER VICTORIA PHILATELIC SOCIETY
Chapter 32 meets on the third Friday of each month at 7:30 pm at the Windsor Park Pavilion in Oak Bay. Circuit books, auction and special programmes prevail. Membership $8 per year. Visitors welcome. Information: Don Dundee, 928 Claremont Ave., Victoria, BC V8Y 1K3; (604) 658-8458.

HAMILTON PHILATELIC SOCIETY
R.P.S.C. Chapter 51 meets at 6 pm on 2nd, 4th and 5th Mondays, Sept. to June except holidays, and 2nd Mondays July and August, at Bishop Ryan Secondary School, Quigley Rd. and Albert, in east-end Hamilton. 10 dealers, extensive sales circuit, youth booth, library, auctions at each meeting, slide shows and speakers periodically. Nominal door fee. Free coffee. Visitors and juniors welcome. Information: H.P.S.C., Box 60510, 673 Upper James St., Hamilton ON L9C 7N7.

KAWARTHA PHILATELIC SOCIETY
Chapter 58, R.P.S.C. Meetings 2nd and 4th Tuesdays September through June (excluding 4th Tuesdays in December and June). Meetings 7 pm at S. Peters High School. Information: Lloyd Mosher, 1265 Royal Drive, Peterborough, ON K9H 6R6.

KELOWNA & DISTRICT STAMP CLUB
Chapter 90 meets monthly, 2nd Wednesday, September to June from 7 to 10 pm at Dr. Knox Middle School Cafeteria, 1555 Burch Ave. Business meeting at 8 pm followed by an auction. Visitors welcome. Information: Box 1185, Kelowna, BC V1Y 7P8; (604) 765-6174.

KENT COUNTY STAMP CLUB (CHATHAM, ON)
Chapter 7 meets 4th Wednesday of each month (except July, August, and December) in the cafeteria of John McGregor Secondary School, 300 Cecile at 7:30 pm. Visitors always welcome. Sec.: Ailsa Heersma, 73 Jasper, Chatham ON N7M 4C1.

KINGSTON STAMP CLUB
Chapter 49 meets 2nd Monday, Sept.-May and 4th Monday, Sept.-Nov. and Jan.-Apr., at 8 pm, St. Thomas Angli-}

KITCHENER-WATERLOO PHILATELIC SOCIETY
Chapter 13 meets 2nd Thursday every month (except July and August) at Rink in the Park, Seagram Drive, Waterloo. Visitors welcome. Information: Betty J. Martin, P.O. Box 43007, Eastwood Square Post Office, Kitchener ON N2H 6S9; 578-7782.

LAKEHEAD STAMP CLUB
Chapter 33 meets 2nd Wednesday and last Friday each month. September to June at the Herb Carroll Centre, 1100 Lincoln St., Thunder Bay ON. Meetings start at 8:00; visitors welcome. Sec.: D. Lein, 232 Dease St., Thunder Bay ON P7C 2H8.

LAKESHORE STAMP CLUB
Chapter 84 meets at Karnak Hall, 3350 Boulevard des Sources, Dollard des Ormeaux, QC on the 2nd and 4th Thursdays, September to June at 7:30 pm. Information: David Nickson, President, P.O. Box 1, Pointe-Claire, PQ H9R 4N5.

MILTON STAMP CLUB
Chapter 180 meets last Monday of each month (except December), from 7:00 pm at Hugh Foster Hall (next to Town Hall) in Milton, Ont. Silent auction every meeting. For information: Milton Stamp Club, 425 Valleyview Cres., Milton ON L9T 3K9; Phone (905) 878-1533 or (905) 878-9076.

NORTH BAY & DISTRICT STAMP CLUB
Chapter 44 meets on the 2nd and 4th Tuesday of the month, September to May, at the Casselholme Home for the Aged, 400 Olive Street, North Bay ON at 7 pm. (Basement meeting room) Table auction and sales circuit. Visitors are always welcome. Information: John Fretwell, RR 1, Callander ON P0H 1H0; (705) 752-1364.

NORTH SHORE STAMP CLUB
Chapter 198 meets on alternate Tuesdays, September through June, at North Vancouver City Library, 121 West 14th Street, North Vancouver BC. Visitors are always welcome. For the current meeting schedule and information, call Ema Krische at 965-2581.

NORTH YORK PHILATELIC SOCIETY
Chapter 21 meets 1st and 3rd Wednesdays of each month (except July and August) at 7 pm in the lounge of Centennial Arena, north side of Finch Ave. W., west of Bathurst. Sales circuit, auctions, speakers, lectures. Visitors welcome. Information: John DeGroot, Box 62, Willowdale ON M2N 5S7; (416) 493-1008.

NOVA SCOTIA STAMP CLUB
The first affiliate of the RPSC, est. 1922, meets 2nd Tuesday of each month, September to June at the Nova Scotia Museum. Visitors welcome. Information: E. Sodaro, 831 Tower Rd., Halifax NS B3H 2Y1.
OAKVILLE STAMP CLUB
Chapter 135 meets 2nd and 4th Tuesdays of each month at 7 pm in the Cafeteria, St. Thomas Aquinas Secondary School (formerly Perdue High School), 124 Margaret Drive (Lakeshore West/Donoval Drive), Oakville. Visitors welcome. Information: Oakville Stamp Club, Box 69543, Oakville ON L6J 7R4.

OTTAWA PHILATELIC SOCIETY
Chapter 16 meets every Thursday at 7:30 pm, September through May, at the Hintonburg Community Centre, 1064 Wellington St., Ottawa ON. Visitors are always welcome. Information: Pres. Mitch Gosselin, (613) 682-6277; P.O. Box 65085, Merivale Postal Outlet, Nepean, ON K2G 5Y3.

OXFORD PHILATELIC SOCIETY
Chapter 65 meets on the 1st and 3rd Thursdays, September to May, at Woodstock Collegiate Institute Cafeteria, Ridell St., Woodstock, Ont. Trading at 7 pm, program at 7:30 pm. Speakers, mini auctions, draw prizes, contests, dealers. Information: Gib Stephens, P.O. Box 20113, Woodstock ON N4S 8X8.

PENTICTON AND DISTRICT STAMP CLUB
Chapter 127 meets the first Sunday of each month at 2 pm at the United Church Hall, 696 Main St., Penticton, B.C. A short business meeting is followed by circuit books every month and four slide shows in the year. Visitors always welcome. Information: 217 Redwing Pl., Penticton BC V2A 8K6; phone (604) 493-0188.

R.A. STAMP CLUB - OTTAWA
Chapter 41 meets every Monday (except June, July and August) at 7:30 pm at the R.A. Centre, 2451 Riverside Dr., Ottawa ON, K1H 7X7. Visitors welcome. Information: (613) 733-5100.

REGINA PHILATELIC CLUB
Chapter 10 meets 1st and 3rd Wednesdays of each month, September through May, from 7 -10 pm at Sheldon-Williams Collegiate Library, 2601 Coronation St., Regina. Visitors are always welcome. Information: Box 1891, Regina SK S4P 3E1.

ROYAL CITY STAMP CLUB
Chapter 104 meets 3rd Thursday of each month (except July and August), 7:30 pm at Community Centre, 65 East Sixth Ave., by Canada Game Pool, corner of McBride, New Westminster BC. Information: Box 145, Milner BC V0X 1T0. Phone 534-1884.

SAINT JOHN STAMP CLUB
Meets 2nd and 4th Wednesdays (except July and August), 7 pm at the Saint John High School, Canterbury St., Saint John, NB. Visitors and new members welcome. Information: Saint John Stamp Club, 185 Princess Street, Saint John NB E2L 1K8.

ST. JOHN’S PHILATELIC SOCIETY
Meets 2nd and 4th Wednesdays (except July and August), 8 pm at Cabot Institute. Visitors welcome. Information: J. Don Wilson, 11 Elm Place, St. John’s, NF A1B 2S4; (709) 726-2741.

SASKATOON STAMP CLUB
Chapter 80 meets second and fourth Mondays September through May, between 7 to 9 pm at the Saskatoon Field House, 2020 College Drive, Saskatoon, Sask. Visitors always welcome. Information from the secretary; Doug Smith, (306) 249-3092; e-mail: AE245@SMTP.SASKATOON.SK.CA

SOUTH CARIBOO COIN AND STAMP CLUB
100 MILE HOUSE, B.C. – The club meets 3rd Mondays of each month at the 100 Mile House Elementary School Library. For information, contact Horst Stock, 395-4497.

SUDBURY STAMP CLUB
Meets 2nd Tuesday of each month, September to June, in the library. LaSalle Secondary School at 7:30 pm. Meetings include slide shows, presentations, and an auction. New members are welcome. Information: Dan McInnes, Box 2063, Sault, S. Sudbury ON P3A 1L8.

TORONTO HARMONIE STAMP CLUB

UNION PHILATÉLIQUE de MONTREAL
Chapter 3 meets 2nd and 4th Tuesdays, September to June at 7 pm, 7110 8th Ave., Montreal (St-Michel) PQ. Visitors always welcome. Information: 9170 Millen St., Montreal PQ H2M 1W7.

WEST TORONTO STAMP CLUB
Chapter 14 meets second and fourth Tuesdays (except July and August), 7:30 pm at Fairfield Seniors’ Centre, 80 Lothian Ave., Etobicoke. Visitors always welcome. Information: 331 Rathburn Rd., Islington ON M9B 2L9.

WINNIPEG PHILATELIC SOCIETY
Meetings 1st and 3rd Thursdays (except July and August), 7 pm in Room 308, Union Centre, 275 Broadway Ave. (corner of Broadway and Smith St.). Visitors always welcome. Information: P.O. Box 1425, Winnipeg, MB R3C 2Z1.

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NOVAPEX 97
MAY 9 - 10 - 11
75th anniversary of the Nova Scotia Stamp Club

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