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Le philatéliste canadien / The Canadian Philatelist
This article discusses the forgeries of British stamps produced by the German propaganda machine during the Second World War.

In 1943, Germany began producing forged banknotes for use in many parts of the world especially those used in Britain, the USA, and in the former Yugoslavia. What was unusual about these banknotes was that they were being produced at the Sachsenhausen Concentration Camp (also known as Oranienburg-Sachsenhausen), located on the outskirts of Berlin. It was the prisoners who were forced to do all the work in producing these banknotes from the initial design right through to the printing of the forged notes. These banknotes would have continued to be produced unhindered had it not been for the forged German postage stamps that were being dropped over the Ruhr district of Germany.

Besides the dropped stamps, a number of them were spotted used on covers arriving at addresses within Germany. These forged stamps had the same design as the ‘Hitler Head’ stamps except that they portrayed Himmler’s head instead. They caused quite a furore and Himmler was given an order direct from Hitler that he was in charge of retaliation for this action. To this end Himmler designated Bernhard Kruger (a major in the SS) to initiate these retaliatory measures. Figure 1. It was decided to find out what stamps were in general use and forge these because this would cause more confusion and economic problems than the rarely used higher value stamps. The banknotes continued to be produced until the end of the war.

Inside the Sachsenhausen Concentration Camp there were two huts that housed the printing works used for the production of these banknotes. Figure 2. They were referred to within the camp as the ‘Golden Cages’ but became known after the war as ‘The Devil’s Workshop’. The prisoners were housed in these two huts and due to their special skills were kept separate from the other inmates. These prisoners were allowed extra food and privileges over and above what the other prisoners received. The huts were laid out as follows:

1. Numbering machine
2. Printing Press
3. Block Leader’s room
4. Drying stands
5. Printing presses for British banknotes
6. Stove (for heating)
7. Electrical generator
8. Shelves to store counterfeit money
9. Preparatory worktables
10. Sorting table
11. Worktables
12. Engraving machine
13. Glass-topped table
14. Centrifuge
15. Cleaning bowl

Once the banknote production was well under way it was a simple matter to use the designers, engravers, and printers to produce the postage stamps. The chief printer was Adolf Burger (Prisoner number 79161) shown in Figure 3, sketched by Salamon Smolianoff, who was himself a prisoner. Smolianoff was a prolific forger but listed in the camp records as an engineer. The main artists used for producing both the banknotes and the new stamps were Salamon Smolianoff and Leo Haas, with Peter Edel and Andre Betr as the engravers. A total of 141 prisoners were employed in the production of these counterfeit items.

USS Sturmbannfuhrer (Major) Bernhard Kruger was in charge of the forgery unit from its inception to the end of the
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Such was the urgency for the first order of postage stamps that he had the first production run ready for printing within a few weeks of receipt of the original order. The stamps to be printed were to based on the 1935 – ½d Silver Jubilee, Figure 4, the 1937-1½d Coronation, Figure 5, and the six lowest denominations of the 1937 definitives Figure 6-11.

The foregoing introduction provides a brief history of the background to these forgeries and allows us to discuss the individual stamps.

Each stamp was printed, using an offset printing press, onto wavy-line watermarked unguummed paper, perforated 11½ with inter-pane margins. The Germans supplied pots of glue at their post offices because their stamps were usually issued without gum. Although some of the portraits were replaced, it was decreed that the portrait of King George VI was not to be denigrated. This order was strictly enforced. The very first trial printing was sent to Heinrich Himmler for final approval. One of the stamps complete with selvedge from this initial sheet, shown in Figure 12, was signed by Major Kruger. Once Himmler had agreed to the scheme it was given the code name ‘UNTERNEHMEN WASSERWELLE.’ This translates literally as Operation Water Wave, but because the Germans intended to flood Britain with these counterfeit notes and stamps it is considered that it was really meant to translate as Operation Tidal Wave. This act was intended to bring economic disaster to Britain and cause its downfall.

The paper was produced from the forged ration cards that were dropped over Germany by the Americans. The definitive stamps were printed on these sheets in two panes of 96 stamps (12 rows of eight columns), and the larger commemoratives in a single pane of 120 stamps (10 rows of 12 columns). On each sheet, except for the ‘Coronation’ forgery, a graduated colour band was printed in the bottom right-hand edge of the selvedge. This band was about 50mm. long and graduated from light (right) to dark (left). The letters ‘TSG’ for the ‘Coronation’ forgery replaced this colour band.

It was intended to drop these stamps over both major concentrations of British troops and large towns in Britain. Supplies of these stamps were sent to airfields in Germany, Switzerland, Turkey, and Sweden, but the order to despatch them was never given and they were returned to Berlin. Some of these propa-
ganda stamps were distributed to agents in Britain. A few were posted in the usual way to test the British postal authorities; some were delivered without being detected. Such covers are extremely scarce. It has been calculated that about one million of these stamps were not destroyed at the end of the war.

The stamps (with normal issues for comparison) are discussed below:

**1935 Silver Jubilee: Figure 4**

The 1935 Silver Jubilee issue was reproduced with the following five differences from the normal (Figure 4a):

1. The top and bottom panels were changed to read ‘THIS IS A/ JEWSH WAR’. The printing of the word ‘JEWSH’ was a mis-spelling of the word Jewish that went unnoticed by the checkers. There are no known examples with the correct spelling.
2. The Star of David has been inserted on the extreme ends of the upper panel and on top of the crown in the left hand panel.
3. The years in the left and right hand panels were changed to ‘1939’ and ‘1944’ respectively.
4. A portrait of Stalin replaces the one of King George V in the central panel.
5. Both the Soviet star and the Hammer & Sickle emblems were included in the right hand panel. Also included was the ‘d’ symbol, indicating pence, made up of a stylised Hammer and Sickle, which did not appear on the original.

The colour of this stamp was printed in a green shade similar to the original.

**1937 Coronation: Figure 5**

Similar changes were made to the 1937, 1½d Coronation issue, and the main six differences from the normal (Figure 5a) are:

1. Instead of the ‘POSTAGE REVENUE’, in the top panel, it reads ‘SSSR BRITANNIA.’ The Star of David was placed at the extreme ends of the top panel.
2. The right-hand side of the central crown was styled using the Hammer and Sickle.
3. The monogram in the middle was changed to ‘SSSR.’
4. The portrait of Queen Elizabeth was replaced by one of Stalin.
5. The bottom panel had the date changed and now reads ‘TEHRAN 28.11.1943.’
6. A Soviet star with the Hammer and Sickle inside appears in the right hand panel.

This stamp, as the original, was printed in brown.

**1937 Definitives: Figure 6 – 11**

A more subtle approach was adopted for the definitive issues and the differences are not that easy to discern without the help of magnification. The stamps shown as Figure 6-11 were very similar to the original design with the following exceptions:

1. The flower (rose) in the top left hand corner has a Hammer and Sickle at its centre. (Figure 13).
2. The top of the crown was replaced with the Star of David (Figure 14).
3. The bulb of the thistle has the Star of David (Figure 15).
4. The ‘d’ (pence sign) is a stylised Hammer and Sickle (Figure 16).

Once again the colours of these definitive stamps were very similar to the originals.

**Overprints:**

A number of the definitive forgeries were overprinted as shown in Figure 17, to demoralize the troops on whom they were intended to be dropped. These overprints comprise the following designs:

I. Murder Ruin. Only 30 sets are known. Overprints are black, except for the ½d and 3d which are in red. Examples A-F.
II. Extremes in World Politics. Only 30 sets are known. All overprints are in black, except for the 3d, which is in red. Examples A-F. Figure 18.
III. AAAO – INVASION. Rarest of all, with only 6 sets known. All overprints were in black except for the ½d and 3d which were in red. Examples A-F.

IV. Liquidation of Empire. 400 sets are known. All the overprints were black except for the ½d and 2½d, which were in red. Examples A-H.

V. Liquidation of Empire. 400 sets are known. As with groups 1 and 3, all the overprints were black except for the ½d and 3d which were red. Examples A-F.

When the overprinted stamps were ready for distribution in 1944, the Japanese already occupied Hong Kong and Singapore. As a result the overprints were retained in storage, and most were destroyed at the end of the war.

There were two ‘cancellations’ used to cancel these stamps. One was a rubber stamp and the other a steel handstamp. Both have the same design but the steel impression (Figure 19) is crisper and the one that is more sought after.

Souvenir Sheets:

Besides the above-mentioned stamps, three souvenir sheets are known to have been produced with philatelists in mind.

One included both the commemorative-sized stamps of the Silver Jubilee and the Coronation issues, the second includes the full definitive set, and the third, which is extremely rare, was printed with the single country set of the overprinted stamps listed in group V. None of the other overprinted stamps are recorded on souvenir sheets. These sheets can be found with or without the stamps cancelled. The inscription at the top of the sheet reads ‘SPECIAL-STAMP IN MEMORY OF THE FIRST DAY OF INVASION’ in both English and Russian, and printed in either blue or black. This inscription is flanked by the British GPO symbol on the left, and the Russian Hammer, Sickle, and Star on the right.
Conclusion:

The engraving was good but the paper quality, watermark, and perforations were quite different from the genuine stamps. This meant that philatelists could spot the differences quite easily but a member of the general public could be fooled into thinking they were genuine.

This material is not seen often and prices tend to exceed the values given in specialized German catalogues. Prices for the commemorative-sized stamps and the definitive series start at catalogue prices, whereas the overprinted stamps very rarely change hands at less than twice the catalogue value.

It is quite probable that some of these definitive stamps could have been unknowingly used to send genuine mail within Britain and to other parts of the Commonwealth. There is a chance that some of these forgeries may be found on items being sold in bundles or in bags of kiloware at stamp fairs and the like at a very cheap price. It is very worthwhile looking out for them, especially on cover.

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Introduction

Tagging on Canadian stamps is often a neglected aspect of philately. This is unfortunate as tagging is one of the dimensions used to classify stamps that have made philately a more interesting hobby. Stamps with different types of tagging material used on them are classified as different varieties. Stamps with tagging applied differently also result in different varieties. Omitting the tagging on stamps that have to be tagged creates a tagging error. If part of the tagging is omitted it also creates a tagging error. In addition, tagging enables philatelists to use this dimension to adopt a more educational approach to philately. It enables philatelists to theorize about the format in which stamps are printed or about the nature of the error that has occurred in the case of certain error types.

In this article we will first examine what tagging is, why it is done, how it originated in Canada, and why philatelists should be interested in it. Second, Winnipeg tagging and the types of Winnipeg tagging errors will be examined briefly. Third, Ottawa tagging and the types of Ottawa tagging errors will also be examined in considerable detail. Fourth, the reasons for tagging errors and how tagging can provide a more educational approach to philately will be examined. Finally, a few concluding remarks will be made.

Tagging

What is tagging? Tagging generally refers to the application of a luminescent (phosphorescent or fluorescent) substance to the printed surface, or on the stamp paper. The luminescent substance may be a phosphor compound, various forms of zinc sulfide or silicate, calcium silicate, or any number of organic polymers. Tagging has also taken the form of graphite lines before the application of the gum (in the U.K. in 1957). Tagging may appear as vertical and/or horizontal bars on the stamp in the case of Canada, or it may cover a large block, a portion of the printed image, or the entire stamp in the case of stamps from the USA.

Why is tagging applied? Millions of pieces of mail have to be sorted and delivered each day in Canada and physical handling of mail is a near impossible task. The only way to overcome this difficulty was through electronic means which would not only sort the mail for cancellation but would also ensure that it had the right postage. But how should such a machine be developed? An inventor discovered that the use of tagging on a stamp was one way around this difficulty, as it would enable the machine to detect whether a stamp was used on the envelope and where. Because the Post Office installed electronic machinery, tagging became necessary.

How did tagging originate in Canada? Canadian tagged stamps made their debut on January 13, 1962 as a result of tagging experiments carried out in Winnipeg, Canada. This experimentation led to the installation of equipment in Winnipeg consisting of three basic units: segregator, facer and canceller. The machinery performs the following functions: Mail is conveyed to the segregator by the conveyor belt. Only letters that can receive automatic cancels are stacked. These letters are then fed into the facer-canceler unit which scans each letter in turn. When each letter is sent through the scanner it is exposed to ultra-violet light. This excites the phosphorescent tagging, causing it to glow and enabling the machine to recognize the stamp and determine its location on the envelope. The envelopes are aligned in the right position with the stamp at the upper right corner and the stamps are then cancelled.[1] It is worthwhile noting that Canada is not the first country to use tagging on stamps. Tagged stamps made their debut in the United Kingdom in November 1959 and in the USA in the early 1950s.[2] Further, different countries have various ways of tagging their stamps.

Why should philatelists be interested in tagging? First, the most important reason for philatelists to consider tagging is that it provides one more dimension to classify and distinguish between many varieties of stamps and it greatly adds to the pleasure and enjoyment of philatelists at reasonable costs. For example, the tagging substance may be different or the width of the tagging may be different, or the placement of the tag on the stamps may be different. Second, the application of tagging on stamps leads to the creation of a new field or class of errors: tagging errors. In fact, books have been written specifically devoted to the study of tagging errors! One such publication and authority is Canadian Tagged Error and Tagged Perfins by Ken Rose. Third, tagging is also useful in identifying the type of error on a stamp; namely whether the cause of the misperforation is a result of a print shift or a shift of the perforations.

Winnipeg Tagging

The name Winnipeg tagging is probably attributable to the fact that the automatic facer-cancellation was first installed in the City of Winnipeg in 1962. Winnipeg tagging is easily recognizable because this tagging has an “afterglow” after the UV light on the stamp is turned off. This type of tagging is phosphorescent. The phosphorescent property may be lost if the stamps are not stored in the dark, or if they are overexposed, or if used stamps are overly soaked in water. Winnipeg tagging does not migrate to other parts of the stamp, or to other materials it comes into contact with. Winnipeg tagging may be visible under ordinary light if the stamps are held at a certain angle to the light but it is difficult to tell whether this is Winnipeg tagging or another type.
Winnipeg tagging was applied in either 4 mm or 8 mm wide bars (4 mm bars down the centre of the stamp, or 8 mm bars down the vertical perforation)\[3\]. For a short period, a 5mm tagging bar was used on the side of the stamps. These three types of tagging are described as: Type W1 (Winnipeg 1-bar); Type W2 (Winnipeg 2-bar); and Type W3 (Winnipeg 5mm bar, split). These three types of Winnipeg tagging have resulted in three basic types of Winnipeg tagging errors. These errors are explained below. A fourth type of Winnipeg tagging (Type W4) is similar to the Type W3, except that it is a 6 mm bar, split. Finally, a fifth type of Winnipeg tagging is a single tag bar on a stamp that has only been used on the 4-cent Cameo definitive.

**The types of Winnipeg tagging errors:** The 4mm Winnipeg tagging (Type W1) down the centre of the stamp can result in two basic types of tagging errors. First, the tagging bar can have shifted to the sides of the stamp, appearing as 2mm tag bars on the sides of the stamp. Second, the tagging can appear at the sides together with the normal tagging in the centre. This is illustrated in the following diagrams and a few examples of such errors are shown in Table 1.

![Normal 4mm Winnipeg (W1) tagging down the centre of a pair of stamps](image)
![Type W1a error](image)
![Type W1b error](image)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Scott No.</th>
<th>Value</th>
<th>Prtr.</th>
<th>Type of Tagging</th>
<th>Type of Error</th>
<th>Description on Tagging Error</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>454pi</td>
<td>1c</td>
<td>CBN</td>
<td>Centre</td>
<td>W1a</td>
<td>Shifted to the sides</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>502p</td>
<td>5c</td>
<td>CBN</td>
<td>Centre</td>
<td>W1a</td>
<td>Shifted to the sides</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>458pi</td>
<td>5c</td>
<td>CBN</td>
<td>Centre</td>
<td>W1b</td>
<td>Normal tagging and W1a</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*Prtr.=Printer. CBN=Canadian Bank Note.*

The 8 mm tagging (Type W2) at the sides of the two adjacent stamps (4 mm tagging on the sides of the two stamps) can result in five basic types of tagging errors. First, the tagging bar could have shifted to the left of the stamp; second, the tagging bar could have shifted to the centre of the stamp; and third, the tagging bar could have shifted to the right of the stamp; fourth, the tagging could have appeared in the centre of the stamp, with the normal tagging; and finally, the tagging could appear missing on either the right or left side of the stamp. These are illustrated in the following diagrams.

![Normal Winnipeg (W2) 8mm tagging on the sides of a pair of stamps](image)

![Type W2 error](image)

![Tagging shifted to the right (W2aL)](image)
![Tag shift to the centre (W2aC)](image)
![Tagging shifted to the left (W2aR)](image)

![Tagging missing on one side of a stamp (W2bR and W2bL)](image)

The 5 mm split Winnipeg tagging (W3) is split between a pair of stamps, resulting in only one 2.5 mm tag at the side. This type of tagging can result in one basic type of tagging error. The tagging appears in the middle of the stamp rather than split between the stamp on one side. One variation of this error is, of course, the width of the tagging bar where it is less than 2.5 mm or more than 2.5 mm. These types of tagging errors have not attracted the attention of philatelists. The 6 mm split Winnipeg tagging (W4) is similar to W3, except that it is a 6mm bar. It also results in errors similar to the above. Examples of the above W2, W3 and W4 errors are shown in Table 2.

Winnipeg tagging is no longer used on Canadian stamps. It was replaced by a tagging called Ottawa tagging.

**Ottawa Tagging**

**Ottawa tagging:** The name Ottawa tagging, or General tagging, so named because this type of tagging was first used in Ottawa. Ottawa tagging is easily recognizable under a UV light where it fluoresces bright green, yellow green or yellow. There is no “after-
“glow” as the chemical used in the tagging is not phosphorescent. This chemical is manufactured by the General Electric Company in the USA. Generally, under normal light, Ottawa tagging is not easily visible.

Two types of Ottawa tagging have generally been used. One is the two-side tagging; that is, tagging on the edges of the stamp about 1.5 mm to 2 mm. This type of tagging was later replaced by the four-side tagging; that is, tagging appears on the edges of four sides of the stamp about 1.5 mm to 2 mm. A third type of tagging used in the late 1990s is tagging on two sides with a third bar of tagging in the middle of the stamp. The reason for its use according to Canada Post is to improve the efficiency of the scanning and sorting machinery on first class international mail. It consists of a three-bar, 5 mm vertical tagging with one bar in the centre and two, 2.5 mm bars on the sides. Other types of tagging, or a variation of the above three types of tagging, have occasionally been used.

Initially, Ottawa tagging like Winnipeg tagging also went through various stages of development largely as a result of different chemicals used by different companies. This resulted in two types of Ottawa tagging: 1) Ottawa Migrating tagging (OP-4), and 2) Ottawa non-migrating tagging (OP-2).

The OP-4 tagging is apple green in color under the UV light. It was applied in widths of 4mm on some of the Centennial stamps and Landscape stamps. It migrates onto anything it comes into contact with. The OP-4 was used by British American Bank Note Company but later Canada Post discontinued its use at the request of philatelists. The OP-2 tagging is generally yellow-green in color under the UV light. The OP-2 is used in the same way as other powdered dyes in inks which are mixed with a group of chemicals. In the final stages it is a heavy, greyish paste. It can appear in widely different shades, from a full, rather deep yellow to light yellow to cream and to ivory. The edges of OP-2 bars appear straight and clear cut, whereas the edges of OP-4 bars are blurred. OP-2 has been applied in various bar widths, as well as on all four sides of the stamp.

The OP-2 tagging used by the two printers is different. The CBN tagging is of a yellowish color, clearly visible to the naked eye. The British American Bank Note Company tagging is white, and is not visible unless one is specifically looking for it. Further, the British American Bank Note Company tagging consists of two types: irregular with jagged sides (initially found on some stamps); and smooth sides that appear regular and solid where the bars are 4.2 mm wide. The OP-2 tagging has also appeared in various widths, as well as on all four sides of the stamp.

**Types Of Ottawa tagging errors**: Ottawa tagging can result in three major types of tagging errors. The first is the absence of all tagging; the second is shifted tags; and the third is missing tags or absence of some tags. To these latter two groups, one can possibly add part or half tags. The last two groups will be further classified and discussed below.

**Tag Bar Errors on Stamps Tagged on Two Sides**: In the case of stamps that are tagged on two sides, the shifted tags (or misplaced tags or errors) can take one of three basic forms where the 3 mm to 4 mm tag bar can appear shifted as follows: to the right side of the stamp.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Scott No.</th>
<th>Value</th>
<th>Prtr.</th>
<th>Type of Tagging</th>
<th>Type of Tagging Error</th>
<th>Description on Tagging Error</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>524p</td>
<td>6c</td>
<td>CBN</td>
<td>W2</td>
<td>W2aL</td>
<td>Vertical tag shifted to the left</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>525p</td>
<td>6c</td>
<td>CBN</td>
<td>W2</td>
<td>W2aL</td>
<td>Vertical tag shifted to the left</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>555p</td>
<td>7c</td>
<td>CBN</td>
<td>W2</td>
<td>W2aC</td>
<td>Vertical tag shifted to the centre</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>541p</td>
<td>15c</td>
<td>CBN</td>
<td>W2</td>
<td>W2aC</td>
<td>Vertical tag shifted to the centre</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>453p</td>
<td>5c</td>
<td>CBN</td>
<td>W2</td>
<td>W2AR</td>
<td>Vertical tag shifted to the right</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>444p</td>
<td>5c</td>
<td>CBN</td>
<td>W2</td>
<td>W2AR</td>
<td>Vertical tag shifted to the right</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>451p</td>
<td>3c</td>
<td>CBN</td>
<td>W2</td>
<td>W2c</td>
<td>W2 with tagging in centre</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>544pii</td>
<td>8c</td>
<td>CBN</td>
<td>W2</td>
<td>W2bR</td>
<td>Vertical tag missing on the left</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>544piii</td>
<td>8c</td>
<td>CBN</td>
<td>W2</td>
<td>W2bR</td>
<td>Vertical tag missing on the left</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>454p</td>
<td>1c</td>
<td>CBN</td>
<td>W2</td>
<td>W2bL</td>
<td>Vertical tag missing on the right</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>544piii</td>
<td>10c</td>
<td>CBN</td>
<td>W2</td>
<td>W2bL</td>
<td>Vertical tag missing on the right</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>403p</td>
<td>3c</td>
<td>CBN</td>
<td>W2</td>
<td>W3a</td>
<td>Vertical 5mm tag shifted to the centre</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>404p</td>
<td>4c</td>
<td>CBN</td>
<td>W2</td>
<td>W3a</td>
<td>Vertical 5mm tag shifted to the centre</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>404p</td>
<td>4c</td>
<td>CBN</td>
<td>W2</td>
<td>W4</td>
<td>Vertical 6mm tag shifted to the centre</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*Prtr.=Printer. CBN=Canadian Bank Note.*

Le philatéliste canadien / The Canadian Philatelist  
Janvier - Février 2002 / 15
When the tagging is partly missing, the tags (or errors) can take one of three basic forms: 1) the 1.5-mm to 2-mm tag bar can appear missing on one of the four sides of the stamp (on the bottom, top, right, or left); 2) the 1.5-mm to 2-mm tag bar can appear missing on two of the adjacent four sides of the stamp; that is, on the right and bottom; on the right and top; on the left and bottom; and on the left and top; and 3) tagging in 1) appears shifted in the middle of the stamp. As a result there is no tagging on one side of the stamp and half of the other sides have no tagging. These combinations are shown in the diagrams hereafter and several examples are shown in Table 4.

### Table 3 - Examples of G1a-G1e - Ottawa Tagging Errors

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Scott No.</th>
<th>Value</th>
<th>Prtr.</th>
<th>Type of Tagging</th>
<th>Type of Tagging Error</th>
<th>Description on Tagging Error</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>599</td>
<td>$1</td>
<td>CBN</td>
<td>Two sides</td>
<td>G1aL</td>
<td>Shifted to the left</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>606</td>
<td>6c</td>
<td>CBN</td>
<td>Two sides</td>
<td>G1aL</td>
<td>Shifted to the left</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>643</td>
<td>8c</td>
<td>CBN</td>
<td>Two sides</td>
<td>G1aC</td>
<td>Shifted to the centre</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>641</td>
<td>8c</td>
<td>CBN</td>
<td>Two sides</td>
<td>G1aC</td>
<td>Shifted to the centre</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>634</td>
<td>8c</td>
<td>CBN</td>
<td>Two sides</td>
<td>G1aR</td>
<td>Shifted to the right</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>635</td>
<td>8c</td>
<td>CBN</td>
<td>Two sides</td>
<td>G1aR</td>
<td>Shifted to the right</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>716</td>
<td>14c</td>
<td>CBN</td>
<td>Two sides</td>
<td>G1cL</td>
<td>Missing tag on the left</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>723A</td>
<td>50c</td>
<td>CBN</td>
<td>Two sides</td>
<td>G1cL</td>
<td>Missing tag on the left</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>621</td>
<td>15c</td>
<td>CBN</td>
<td>Two sides</td>
<td>G1cR</td>
<td>Missing tag on the right</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>958</td>
<td>30c</td>
<td>CBN</td>
<td>Two sides</td>
<td>G1cR</td>
<td>Missing tag on the right</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>460pi</td>
<td>6c</td>
<td>CBN</td>
<td>Two sides</td>
<td>G1e</td>
<td>Additional centre tag</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>641</td>
<td>8c</td>
<td>CBN</td>
<td>Two sides</td>
<td>G1e</td>
<td>Additional centre tag</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>719</td>
<td>25c</td>
<td>CBN</td>
<td>Two sides</td>
<td>G1bT</td>
<td>Half tag at the top</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>719</td>
<td>25c</td>
<td>CBN</td>
<td>Two sides</td>
<td>G1bB</td>
<td>Half tag at the bottom</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1045</td>
<td>32c</td>
<td>CBN</td>
<td>Two sides</td>
<td>G1d</td>
<td>Half tag at the centre</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Prtr.=Printer. CBN=Canadian Bank Note.

### Tag Bar Errors on Stamps Tagged on Four Sides:

In the case of stamps that are tagged on four sides, the shifted tags (or errors) can take one of three basic forms: 1) the 3 mm to 4 mm tag bar appears horizontally in the middle of the stamp with the vertical tagging unaffected; 2) the 3 mm to 4 mm tag bar appears vertically in the centre of the stamp with the horizontal tagging unaffected; and 3) the 3 mm to 4 mm tag bar appears vertically and horizontally in the middle of the stamp as shown in the following diagrams.

When the tagging is partly missing, the tags (or errors) can take one of three basic forms: 1) the 1.5-mm to 2-mm tag bar can appear missing on one of the four sides of the stamp (on the bottom, top, right, or left); 2) the 1.5-mm to 2-mm tag bar can appear missing on two of the adjacent four sides of the stamp; that is, on the right and bottom; on the right and top; on the left and bottom; and on the left and top; and 3) tagging in 1) appears shifted in the middle of the stamp. As a result there is no tagging on one side of the stamp and half of the other sides have no tagging. These combinations are shown in the diagrams hereafter and several examples are shown in Table 4.
Half Tags on vertical or horizontal sides

Table 4 – Examples of G2a-G2d/G3a/G4a – Ottawa Tagging Errors

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Scott No.</th>
<th>Value</th>
<th>Prtr.</th>
<th>Type of Tagging</th>
<th>Type of Tagging Error</th>
<th>Description on Tagging Error</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1165</td>
<td>38c</td>
<td>CBN</td>
<td>Four sides</td>
<td>G2dH</td>
<td>Horizontal tag shifted to the centre</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1361</td>
<td>48c</td>
<td>CBN</td>
<td>Four sides</td>
<td>G2dV</td>
<td>Vertical tag shifted to the centre</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1194</td>
<td>37c</td>
<td>CBN</td>
<td>Four sides</td>
<td>G2a</td>
<td>Horizontal and vertical tags shifted to the centre</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1122</td>
<td>34c</td>
<td>CBN</td>
<td>Four sides</td>
<td>G2aT</td>
<td>Tagging missing at the bottom</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1162</td>
<td>37c</td>
<td>CBN</td>
<td>Four sides</td>
<td>G2aB</td>
<td>Tagging missing at the top</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1162</td>
<td>37c</td>
<td>CBN</td>
<td>Four sides</td>
<td>G2aL</td>
<td>Tagging missing on the right</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1373</td>
<td>88c</td>
<td>CBN</td>
<td>Four sides</td>
<td>G2aR</td>
<td>Tagging missing at the left</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>952</td>
<td>34c</td>
<td>CBN</td>
<td>Four sides</td>
<td>G2bTL</td>
<td>Tagging missing at the bottom and right</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1012</td>
<td>32c</td>
<td>CBN</td>
<td>Four sides</td>
<td>G2bBL</td>
<td>Tagging missing at the top and on the right</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1195</td>
<td>37c</td>
<td>CBN</td>
<td>Four sides</td>
<td>G2bTR</td>
<td>Tagging missing at the left and bottom</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1187</td>
<td>37c</td>
<td>CBN</td>
<td>Four sides</td>
<td>G2cL</td>
<td>Tagging shifted to the left</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>947</td>
<td>34c</td>
<td>CBN</td>
<td>Four sides</td>
<td>G2cR</td>
<td>Tagging shifted to the right</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1011</td>
<td>32c</td>
<td>CBN</td>
<td>Four sides</td>
<td>G4a</td>
<td>Tag shifted to the left</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1011</td>
<td>32c</td>
<td>CBN</td>
<td>Four sides</td>
<td>G4b</td>
<td>Normal tag and G4a</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1011</td>
<td>32c</td>
<td>CBN</td>
<td>Four sides</td>
<td>G4c</td>
<td>Tag missing on the left</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>909</td>
<td>30c</td>
<td>CBN</td>
<td>Four sides</td>
<td>G3a</td>
<td>Tag over entire stamp</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Prtr.=Printer. CBN=Canadian Bank Note.

Tag Bar Errors on Stamps with Three Tags: In the case of stamps that have three tags (the tagging has recently been used on the 88-cent and 90-cent Tree definitives), the shifted tags (or errors) can take one of two basic forms: 1) two 5 mm bars on the stamp with one bar missing on the left (i.e. with the bar shifted to the right creating a 5 mm tag bar); 2) two 5 mm bars on the stamp with one bar missing on the right (i.e. with the bar shifted to the left creating a 5 mm tag bar).

Variations of this error can also exist with the bottom part of the tagging missing or with the top part of the tagging missing on correctly tagged stamps and on errors of this tagged stamps. This is shown in the diagrams with the bottom part of the tagging missing.
Other Tag Bar Errors: Before concluding this description on the types of tagging errors, perhaps mention should be made of a fourth, fifth, sixth and seventh type of Ottawa tagging. (Please refer to the numbered diagrams.) The fourth type was used on only the 32-cent Jacques Cartier stamp issued in 1984. The tagging consisted of two tag bars on the stamp towards the sides. This tagging has resulted in tagging errors with the two bars near to each other on the left or the right side, and tagging errors with only one tagging error.

The fifth type is very similar to the third type, except that the tagging bars are shorter. It has only been used on the Canadian stamps from the Canada ‘82 Exhibition. The tagging error resulted in the stamp being covered with a pale fluorescent wash.

The sixth type of tagging, a variation of the fifth, is where the tagging is not on the four borders of the stamp but on the inside. This can be found on the Arts stamps (issued after the Owl design), the Pierre Elliot Trudeau stamp, and the recent circular hockey stamps. Tagging errors of this type are generally in the form of missing tags or as a result of misperforation.

The seventh type of tagging is on the 1994 Olympic stamps where stamps were tagged only on half of the side and the tags touch each other at the corners. Tagging errors of this type will be left to the readers to imagine and will likely consist of tags on three sides or missing tags.

Finally, it should be remembered that there are also freak displacements of tagging bars. For example, a stamp was found with a regular phosphor bar on the left side and a complete bar well away from the perforations on the right which stops about 1mm from the top of the stamp [4].

The Reasons for Tagging Errors
Several reasons have been offered for tagging errors and these are not the same for the three major types of tagging errors.

In the first case, where all the tagging is missing, the tagging error could have been caused by one of the following reasons: 1) the sheets may have by-passed the tagging process; i.e., a sheet or sheets of stamps may have been taken for examination before receiving the tagging and accidentally placed with sheets that were already tagged and as a result the tagging is missing; 2) one or more sheets may have been stuck together when the tagging was being placed on the stamps and as a result the sheet at the bottom missed the tagging; and 3) the machine may have run out of tagging ink.

In the second and third cases, where the tagging is missing or is shifted, the tagging error could have been due to one of the following: 1) improper feeding of sheets; 2) sheets improperly cut; 3) misperforated sheets; 4) sheets printed with a shift; 5) miscut booklets; 6) folded sheet or paper foldovers; and 7) paper creases.

Does Tagging Enable Philatelists to Adopt a More Learned Approach to Philately?
Tagging enables philatelists to adopt a more educated approach to philately for several reasons.

First, tagging results in different varieties of stamps. Tagging on stamps is a distinct dimension like perforations on stamps. Stamps with tagging are different from stamps without tagging. Stamps with a 2 mm wide tag bar are different from stamps with a 3-mm wide tag bar. Stamps with one tag are different from stamps with two or more tags. Stamps with tagging produced with certain chemicals are different from stamps produced with other types of chemicals. These and other differences result in different varieties of stamps and make philately a richer and a more enjoyable hobby.

Second, tagging errors can sometimes be used to identify the format in which stamps are printed. An example will clarify what I mean. The Parliament 50-cents booklet contained six stamps (three 2-cent, two 5-cent, and one 34-cent) with only the bottom right stamp (i.e. 34-cent) being tagged on all four sides. Varieties of the booklet were found with the vertical tag on the right of the 34-cents stamp missing. However, the two-cent stamp in the booklet (that was on the left of the 34-cent stamp) contained a tag on the left. This suggests that the stamps of the booklet sheet were printed in several consecutive panes and then cut. If it were otherwise one would not find the tag on the left of the two-cent stamp (with the exception of the first pane from the sheet).
Third, other types of tagging errors that could exist can also be explained. In the above case, suppose the tagging on the 34-cent stamps was shifted upward. If it was shifted 2 mm higher the tagging would not appear at the top of the 34-cent stamp but on the five-cent stamp above it. This can explain why the 34-cent stamp does not have any tagging at the top, and the five-cent stamp above it has a tag at the bottom where tagging should not exist. Other examples exist if the tagging was shifted on the left rather than on the right.

Fourth, tagging errors can sometimes be used to identify how the stamps were printed. For a while it was not known whether certain booklet stamps were printed in normal panes of stamps or were printed in tête-a-bèche format. If they were printed in a tête-a-bèche format and the tagging was shifted to the right causing a tagging in the top pane, then in the reverse pane the tagging error should appear on the left. If both these tagging errors occur one can conclude that the stamps were printed in a tête-a-bèche format. But is it not possible that two separate tagging errors could occur on normally printed panes, one with the tagging shifted to the right and one with the tagging shifted to the left. It could occur. But suppose now these tagging errors occurred on misperforated stamps. If one finds the exact mirror errors of the tagging error and the misperforated error, then there is a very strong probability that the stamps were printed in a tête-a-bèche format. Remember that the probability of finding one error on a pane is very small; the likelihood of two errors being nearly zero.[9]

Fifth, tagging can be used to identify whether certain types of errors on stamp are a misperforation or a print shift. Often one sees misperforated stamps. But are these errors the result of a malfunction of the perforator or are they because the stamps were printed on the sheet with a print shift? One way to identify the cause of this error is to examine the tagging of the stamps. If the stamps are correctly tagged (as exists on the normal stamps), the misperforation is generally a result of a malfunction of the perforator. The reason is that one error is more likely to occur than two errors on the same stamp. One cannot use this identification technique to identify the cause of the error if the tagging is not parallel to the misperforation in case of tagging on two sides.

Sixth, tagging sometimes helps to suggest the cause of some errors. Often one obtains stamps with part of the inscription missing. Sometimes these errors have the tagging on them and sometimes they do not. When they do not have any tagging on them, it suggests that after the stamps received part of the printing they were taken away and not placed with the rest of the sheets to receive the remaining printing and tagging. If they do have the tagging, the errors suggest that one sheet may have been stuck to another when it received the second impression so that the bottom sheet did not get the inscription. However, later these sheets could have became unstuck when receiving the tagging.

Seventh, tagging or its absence can sometimes be used to determine whether a stamp is a forgery. A few years ago forgeries of the flag coil stamps were printed. To a casual observer it is difficult to distinguish these stamps from the genuine stamps. However, if these forgeries are examined under a UV light the absence of any tagging is evident. This is a tip-off that the stamps could have been

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forged as most forgery experts usually find it difficult to tag stamps. This does not imply that all stamps with the tagging missing are forgeries. Sometimes these errors are caused by the printer applying the tagging ink or sometimes they are caused because the printer may have run out of the tagging ink.

Concluding Remarks

The purpose of this article is to describe the various types of tagging that have been used on Canadian stamps. I have described what tagging is, why it is used on stamps, and its origin in Canada. In addition, various types of tagging used in Canada were described such as Winnipeg and Ottawa tagging together with the various types of Ottawa tagging.

I have also indicated that tagging can be used to further classify stamps. I have indicated in the past that stamps have various dimensions (for example, paper, gum, perforations, etc.) which enable philatelists to classify stamps. Once we classify these stamps our theoretical body of knowledge of perforators or stamp printing can be used to analyze these varieties and errors. This is similar to a technique used in abstract algebra where we do not study each number (or error) in isolation but use our body of theoretical knowledge to generalize about groups or types of numbers that have common characteristics.

I have also attempted to describe various types of tagging errors that can possibly occur based on the types of tagging. For example, if the stamps are tagged on two sides, one can expect certain types of tagging errors. If the stamps are tagged on four sides certain other types of tagging errors can occur. Further, I have explained the reasons for these tagging errors.

Finally, an attempt has been made to indicate how tagging can be used as an educational device in philately. It helps us to enrich the study of philately and to make it a more enjoyable hobby.

Bibliography

1. Hansen, Glen F., “The tagged stamps of Winnipeg,” The Canadian Philatelist, Volume 18, Number 4, July-August 1967, p. 188.
Canada/BNA Literature

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SOLDIER’S LETTER RATE

British Soldiers in Canada

By George B. Arfken

In 1795 A British Act of Parliament granted soldiers and seamen a special letter rate of 1d. The basic features of this act were:

1. Postage of one penny prepaid and limitation of half ounce weight, on letters to or from soldiers and seamen;
2. Certification by commanding officer on letters from soldiers or seamen; and
3. Commissioned officers were NOT eligible for this rate.

The 1852 Canadian Postal Guide accepted this special rate for British soldiers and seamen with the words:

Non-Commissioned Officers, Embodied Pensioners, Seamen and Soldiers, while they are employed in Her Majesty’s Service, can send and receive letters at the rate of 1d each.

During the Pence Era there were perhaps 1,500 to 2,000 British soldiers stationed in Canada to maintain the peace and ensure that Canada remained British.

Only one pence-franked soldier’s letter has survived \(^1\). Shown in Figure 1, this letter was from Pte. James Hall to Staff Sgt. Robert Bottomly. Addressed to Tralee, Ireland, it was mailed in Montreal on September 29, 1857. The letter was sent overland to Halifax and carried from there by the Cunard Canada. The letter took the difficult overland route to Halifax because Canada was not about to pay the 1d U.S. transit fee for a 1d Soldier’s Letter going via New York or Boston.

In 1861, with the U.S. Civil War raging, the United States removed two Confederate commissioners from the British mail packet Trent. Britain’s reaction was to send about 10,000 British soldiers to Canada. The result was a major surge in Soldier’s Letters.

Firby’s Recording \(^2\) lists 34 decimal-franked Soldier’s Letters mailed to the United Kingdom. Four of these letters are illustrated in Canada’s Decimal Era.\(^3\) One of the Soldier’s Letters was registered. The two-cent postage and eight-cent registration were paid with a 10 Prince Consort. This unique cover is shown in Figure 2. When sold in the Nickle sale of January 16, 1996, this cover realized $15,400 U.S.

There was one other very special Soldier’s Letter from the Decimal Era. This was a cover mailed in London, C.W. on June 20, 1867 addressed to Bombay, East Indies. The cover was franked with a two-cent Decimal.

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Footnotes:
1. Shown in Figure 1, this letter was from Pte. James Hall to Staff Sgt. Robert Bottomly. Addressed to Tralee, Ireland, it was mailed in Montreal on September 29, 1857.

2. Firby’s Recording lists 34 decimal-franked Soldier’s Letters mailed to the United Kingdom.

3. One of the Soldier’s Letters was registered. The two-cent postage and eight-cent registration were paid with a 10 Prince Consort. This unique cover is shown in Figure 2. When sold in the Nickle sale of January 16, 1996, this cover realized $15,400 U.S.
Large Queens, 1868-1897. Cover photograph courtesy of Charles G. Firby Auctions.

One of two recorded Large Queen Soldier’s Letter. The cover was posted in Ottawa, August 6, 1868 and addressed to England. It is currently displayed in the Brigham collection’s International Large Gold Medal winning display: The Dominion of Canada: The Large Queens, 1868-1897. Cover photograph courtesy of Charles G. Firby Auctions.

Indeed, one of the reasons for issuing the two-cent Decimal was to pay the postage on Soldier’s Letters. It could also pay the two-cent registry fee in domestic letters.

As tensions between Britain and the United States eased, most of the British soldiers in Canada were withdrawn by 1864 and the number of Soldier’s Letters dropped.

We do have two examples of Soldier’s Letters addressed to the United Kingdom and franked with two Large Queens. One of these is illustrated in Duckworths’ Canada’s Small Queen Era, Arfken, Leggett, Firby and Steinhardt.

No Small Queen-franked Soldier’s Letters to the U.K. have been reported but two Small Queen-franked Seaman’s Letters are known.

Sources
[1] Canada’s Pence Era, Arfken, Leggett, Firby and Steinhardt
[2] A Recording, privately printed, 1984, Charles G. Firby, auctioneer. This is an extensive list of pence and decimal covers.
[3] Canada’s Decimal Era, Arfken, Leggett
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Fantasyland Hotel is located within the Mall complex – no need to brave the weather. Convention rates (double occupancy) are $99 standard, $119 executive and $139 for a theme room (plus GST and 5% Alberta hotel room tax). For reservations call toll free 1-800-RESERVE, or book through the hotel web site: http://www.fantasylandhotel.com.

Rates at West Edmonton Mall Inn, a five-minute walk across the street, are $89 for a superior room (double occupancy, plus GST and hotel tax). Telephone 780-444-9378 or e-mail weminn@westedmontonmall.com for reservations.

To take advantage of these special conference rates, you must book before February 24, 2002 and ask for the Edmonton Stamp Club / Royal 2002 rate. There is shuttle service from the Edmonton International Airport to the Mall every half hour.

For information on other hotels in Edmonton (there are several about ten blocks north of the Mall), consult www.tourism.ede.org/pages/accommodations.asp, or information is available from the Edmonton Stamp Club.

Attractions / Attractions

The city has many attractions including the newly renovated Odysseum (science centre), the Muttart Conservatory (plants from four climatic zones in four pavilions), the Edmonton Art Gallery, the Provincial Museum of Alberta, and the Edmonton Air Museum.

For general tourist information see www.tourism.ede.org

La ville offre de nombreuses attractions parmi lesquelles l’Odysseum (centre des sciences) récemment rénové, le Conservatoire Muttart (abritant des plantes de quatre zones climatiques dans quatre pavillons), la galerie des Beaux-Arts d’Edmonton, le Musée provincial d’Alberta et le Musée de l’Air d’Edmonton.

Pour obtenir des renseignements touristiques généraux, consultez le site www.tourism.ede.org.

Companion’s Program / Programme des accompagnateurs

Several special events will be arranged for companions, depending upon whether sufficient interest is shown. Please indicate your interest in any of the following:

1. Muttart Conservatory (four different climates under four glass pyramids)
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3. Guided tour of West Edmonton Mall attractions

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1. Conservatoire Muttart (quatre différents climats sous quatre pyramides en verre)
2. Musée provincial
3. Visite guidée des attractions du centre commercial West Edmonton Mall
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Friday, March 22 – President’s Reception at Alberta Aviation Museum (transport included)
Saturday, March 23 – Cocktails and Awards Banquet, Fantasyland Hotel

MAIL:
2002 Committee
Edmonton Stamp Club
P.O. Box 399
Edmonton, AB T6J 2J6

DEALERS CONTACT:
Keith Spencer
krs2@ualberta.ca
780-437-1787

EXHIBITORS CONTACT:
John Powell
mpowel3@attglobal.net
780-435-7006

FOR EVERYTHING ELSE CONTACT:
Alan Meech
ameech@telusplanet.net
780-466-9967

Registration Form / Formulaire d’inscription :

Full Registration/Inscription complète: $60 ____
Fri. Reception only/Réception du vendredi seulement $25 ____
Sat. Banquet only/Banquet du samedi seulement $35 ____

Companion Program interest/Intérêt de l’accompagnateur :
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2. Provincial Museum/Musée provincial ____
3. Guided tour of West Edmonton Mall/Visite guidée du centre West Edmonton Mall ____

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2002 Committee, Edmonton Stamp Club, Box 399, Edmonton, AB T5J 2J6 Canada.

Chèques à libeller à l’ordre de «Edmonton Stamp Club Royal 2002» et à envoyer à :
The undersigned member of The Royal Philatelic Society of Canada hereby appoints J. Edward Nixon of Toronto, Ontario, or John Keenlyside of Vancouver, British Columbia, or they failing, Harry Sutherland of Toronto, Ontario, as the Proxy of the undersigned to attend and act for and on behalf and in the name of the undersigned at the Annual General Meeting of the Society to be held in Edmonton, Alberta, at the hour of 10:00 a.m. on Saturday March 23, 2002 upon any and all matters that may properly come before said meeting, or any adjournments thereof, the undersigned hereby ratifying and confirming all that the said Proxy may do by virtue thereof.

The Proxy will vote:

1. To approve the election of eight (8) Directors, each of whom has been properly nominated according to the Society’s by-laws, and as selected by the Nominating Committee, to serve a two-year term of office ending at the annual meeting in 2004:

   - BALIAN, Leon
   - MAGEE, Kenneth
   - MCCLEAVE, Graham
   - PENKO, Rick
   - PEPALL, George
   - POWELL, John
   - ROBINSON, William
   - VERGE, Charles

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

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

You may vote for a maximum of eight (8) from the candidates listed above by marking an “X” in the box next to their names.

Mail or fax, no later than 5:00 p.m. EST on March 8, 2002, to: RPSC National Office, P.O. Box 929, Station Q, Toronto, ON, M4T 2P1; Fax: (416) 979-1144

Dated this / Datée le ________________________ day of / jour de ________________________, 2002.

RPSC Member Number / Numéro de membre de La SRPC_____________________________

____________________________________
Signature of Member / Signature du membre

Instructions / Instructions

You can vote for a maximum of eight (8) from the candidates listed above by marking an “X” in the box next to their names.

Postez ou envoyez par fax, au plus tard le 8 mars, 2002 (17 heures HSE), à: Bureau national de La SRPC, CP 929, Succ. ‘Q’, Toronto, ON, M4T 2P1; Télécopieur : (416) 979-1144
PLEASE TAKE NOTICE that the Annual Meeting of the Members of THE ROYAL PHILATELIC SOCIETY OF CANADA (hereinafter called the “Society”) will be held at the Europa Conference Centre, in Edmonton, Alberta, on Saturday, the 23rd day of March, 2002, at the hour of 10:00 o’clock in the forenoon (local time) for the purpose of:

1. Receiving and considering the financial statements of the Society as at December 31, 2001 and the reports of the Directors and auditors thereon;
2. The Election of Directors and the appointment of auditors;
3. Considering, and if approved, ratifying, sanctioning and confirming all by-laws, contracts, acts and proceedings of the Board of Directors of the Society enacted, made, done or taken since the last annual meeting of Members of the Society; and
4. The transaction of such further and other business as may properly come before the meeting or any adjournment thereof.

DATED this 15th day of December, 2001.
By Order,
H. Sutherland
Secretary

Nomination of Directors / La nomination des directeurs

The following members of The Royal Philatelic Society of Canada have been nominated to serve as Directors for a two-year period, from 2002 to 2004. Nominees are listed in alphabetical order. In compliance with the by-laws of the Society, short biographies of the nominees are included. A proxy form is included in this issue for the use of those unable to attend the Annual General Meeting.

Leon Balian Dollard
Des Ormeaux, QC

Leon Balian was born in Cairo, Egypt. He began collecting stamps when he was 13 years old. He never exhibited his stamps as a junior, but he was the proud possessor of the Stamp Collector proficiency badge at his local Boys Scout troop.

In 1964 he joined the Philatelic Society of Egypt, and is now the editor of the L’Orient Philatelic the quarterly magazine of the society. His first ever exhibition was London 1970 where he met his friends and colleagues of the Egypt Study Circle, and has since rarely missed attending any stamp show. Residing in Canada since 1988, he has become an active member of the Lakeshore Stamp Club, and has been selected as an apprentice judge, national level.

With a wide variety of interests particularly in the classic issues of Great Britain, France and Greece, he is currently specializing in the classical period of Egypt. His collections have been exhibited with much success in several National and International Exhibitions, including CAPEX, and very lately he was awarded a Gold Medal at HAFNIA 2001 at Denmark.

He is the author of the highly specialized Stamps of Egypt catalogue, which earned him a gold medal at the APS Stampshow 1999 and several more since. He is now preparing a sequel to his book in not only updating the previous issue but also dealing with his in-depth study of the plate varieties of the stamps of Egypt.
Le philatéliste canadien / The Canadian Philatelist

Ken Magee is standing for re-election to a third term as a Director of The RPSC. He retired in 1996 after more than 31 years as an elementary school teacher. Since then he has become more active in stamp club activities.

His father introduced him to collecting when Ken was six. Ken later specialized in Ireland, Aden, the Faroes, Greenland, and several small British colonies. He has continued his late father’s collections of Canada and Scouts on Stamps. He has recently developed national level exhibits of Mesopotamia, the Palestine Mandate and the Gerl definitives of Ireland.

Ken is a member of many local, national and international stamp clubs. He is currently a director of the Stratford Stamp Club and is one of their representatives to the Grand River Valley Philatelic Association executive meetings. As co-Chairman, he is actively involved in the planning for ROYAL * 2003 * ROYALE to be held in Hanover, ON, on May 30 – June 1, 2003, hosted by the Saugeen Stamp Club.

Ken has been an accredited RPSC local/regional judge since 1995, gaining his national level judging certification in 1999. He believes there has to be more aid and encouragement for exhibitors at the local level, especially for novices.

He continues to show several different exhibits at each of the local and national levels. His traditional exhibit, IRELAND, 1840 – 1901, received gold in Korea in 1994, and in several international shows since then.

His non-philatelic interests include his computer, crossword puzzles, music, photography, reading, walking and cross-country skiing.

Graham McCleave is a life member of The RPSC and BNAPS.

Graham began collecting stamps in school in Digby, NS. He graduated from Dalhousie University in 1963 with an MD and did General Practice for six years before returning to Dal.U. for a fellowship in Radiology, finishing in 1973. He, his wife Louise and family settled in Fredericton, NB and now is semi-retired.

Graham still collects: stampless and cents issues of NS and NB as well as early Canada. He has exhibited at the NS Stamp Club and Royal Conventions. He is the Convention Chairman for the Royal and is always looking for clubs interested in holding this annual convention. He is a member of many stamp clubs and associations: Fredericton District and NS Stamp Clubs, APS, CPS of GB, Postal History of Canada, and a life member of The RPSC and BNAPS.

Rick Penko is a life member (L26953) of RPSC and a member of BNAPS and is active in the local study group. Rick is the Past President of the Winnipeg Philatelic Society. He joined WPS as a junior in 1966. He has been Chairman of the local and national WPS annual shows for the past nine years.

Rick has been a leader in re-vitalizing the stamp collecting community in Winnipeg. As president of WPS he has encouraged co-operation between WPS and The Seniors’ Stamp Club, the Scandinavian Collectors’ Club of Manitoba, and the Junior Stamp Club of Winnipeg.

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

Rick’s collecting interests are extensive. Beside Canada, Rick specializes in the stamps of the United States, Great Britain, Germany and Bangladesh. He is also a member of the APS and has built up an extensive library of material related to his collecting interests.

Rick is an accredited RPSC judge and has exhibited locally. He has several years of judging experience and was an apprentice member of the judges at the Edmonton National Show in 1998 & 1999.

He is a member of the Stamp Advisory Committee of Canada Post and brings to that body his graphic skills knowledge gained from his association with his own business. Rick has over twenty-eight years experience in the Graphic Arts field. He is married and the father of two children.

Rick Penko

George Pepall

I can recall collecting stamps under the influence of both my parents from about the age of five. The first stamps that I can remember owning were the 3c Jefferson violets from the U.S. Presidential series of the 1940’s. I glued a quantity of them into a calendar planner book with Lepage’s mucilage!

In time I was given the collections of both my parents, the bulk of which I have today; but before that happened I became a traditional, pre-printed album collector and spacefiller. I had a Minkus U.S album, a Jarrett Canada and three Stanley Gibbons Commonwealth albums, each for a different reign. I still enjoy them all to this day.

After a typical furlough from stamps in my late teens, I returned to them with a vengeance once I had some disposable income, here in my role as a high school Latin and English teacher in Kitchener. I soon discovered the K-W Philatelic Society, got involved in the Executive and became President for five years in the mid ’90’s.

One early role I had filled for my club was as Secretary for the Grand River Philatelic Association’s bimonthly publication, The
Grand News. I also started an annual youth night at the K-W Philatelic Society, which continues still. When I turned those functions over to eager replacements, I took up writing a general stamp chat column for the same journal, which I have done now for nine years.

Meanwhile I had taken up the challenge of exhibiting, motivated both by the stunning beauty and richness of the world’s first commemoratives and by the fact that their centennials were coming up: i.e., the U.S Columbians of 1893, and then the Trans-Mississippi of 1898, of the same nation. Modest exhibiting successes led to apprentice judging, and I am now deemed to be qualified as a judge for local level show exhibits.

I was appointed by President Verge to fill an RPSC director’s vacancy for 16 months back in January of 2001. In that role I attended Royal/Royale 2001 in Dorval, and have since been writing biographical profiles of Fellows of the Society for the Canadian Philatelist.

I have recently enrolled at the Alliance Francaise in Toronto to rediscover my high school French, which I find important to have in my role as President of the Canadian Student Debating Federation.

John M. Powell, FRPSC, Ph.D.

Edmonton, AB

John was born and raised in the London, England area, and emigrated to Canada in 1956 to do graduate work at McGill University, and later at University of British Columbia. Married in 1962 in Calgary to Margaret and has three daughters, all who exhibited before he did! John is a retired (1991) federal forestry research scientist/manager who lived in Calgary from 1959 to 1970 when his forestry laboratory moved to Edmonton. John began collecting stamps as a 5 year old under the tutoring of his father, a GB King Edward VII specialist.

John has been active with the Edmonton Stamp Club for over 20 years, and spent five years as President. Has been Exhibits Chairman of the Edmonton Spring National show for 16 years and has also hosted ROYAL, PIPEX and BNAPS conventions during this period. Is a strong advocate of youth philately, was Youth Coordinator for The RPSC (1992-4), still serves as their Western Youth Officer. Was Western Canadian Commissioner for the Youth International in Montreal (1992), and for many years has helped run junior clubs in Edmonton. A National accredited judge who has judged in three countries, and has six exhibits in the areas of traditional, postal history and revenues, qualified for international exhibitions. Currently he is a Director and Fellow of the Society, Chairperson of The RPSC Judging Program, and ex-officio member of American Philatelic Society’s Committee on Accreditation of National Exhibitions and Judges. John is a member of over 20 philatelic societies or study groups, including in North America the American Philatelic Society, British North America Philatelic Society, Postal History Society of Canada, American Revenue Association, American Topical Association, American Association of Philatelic Exhibitors, Ottoman & Near East Philatelic Society, Great Britain Collectors Club, The Perfin Club, and American Society of Polar Philatelists. He was recently invited to join the Philatelic Specialists Society of Canada.

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

William George Robinson, FRPSL, FRPSC, OTB

Vancouver, BC

Collector since 1935, has formed collections of Canada, Great Britain, Commonwealth, Western Europe. Now mainly interested in Canadian Postal History – western and northern Canada, Railways and Steamships, Military. He has exhibited locally, nationally and internationally and written, edited and published several philatelic books and many postal history articles.


Life Member, Postal History Society of Canada, 1975 to date, Director 1982-88, President 1988-90, Director 1991 to date. Author of numerous articles, and sponsor, Saskatchewan Study Group.


Life Member, Northwest Federation of Stamp Clubs, 1985-86, member of Executive Committee 1987-93, Distinguished Philatelist, 1980.


prove both its membership and the services we provide to our members. With your help, your support and your vote, I will be able to continue in the path that we have followed for the last two years, including settling our finances in order, providing a bigger and better Canadian Philatelist and improving our linkages with local clubs and our sister federations throughout the continent.

Charles J.G. Verge, FRPSC
Ottawa, ON

I have been President of The RPSC since June 2000 and I hope that you will re-elect me as a Director of the Society so that I can continue to help our Society grow and prosper.

For those who know me, here is a refresher of who I am and for those who have yet to meet me here is a short biography. I was born in Montreal in 1947, educated in French through the old Collège classique system and worked on my MA degree at the University of Ottawa. I am a historian by training but never practised as a teacher or researcher until I started writing philatelic articles. My whole career was with the Federal Government in many capacities culminating with being responsible for the Contracting, Material and Facility Management for Transport Canada. I am married and have three adult daughters. I have lived in Ottawa since 1976 and I am a member of local clubs in Ottawa and Montreal. I am currently completing my last term as President of the American Association of Philatelic Exhibitors (AAPE) and have held many other positions within organized philately including that of President of the Eire Philatelic Association. I am an international judge and exhibitor and I am experienced in organizing local, national and international stamp shows. I write a regular column in The Ottawa Citizen, Scott's Stamp Monthly and have started a new Canadian column in The American Philatelist. I have also written articles for many other publications including The Canadian Philatelist.

Soyez assurer que mon expérience dans le domaine public et dans la philatélie me permet de mener à bien mes tâches de Président de votre Société. Sous ma présidence, nous avons réussi à régler nos problèmes financiers, rendre notre magazine plus intéressant et améliorer nos contacts avec les clubs locaux et les autres Fédérations philatéliques de notre Continent. Il reste beaucoup à faire, incluant augmenter le nombre d'adhérents à la Société et assurer la mise en place de services solides et appropriés pour nos membres.

Rest assured that I wish to continue to serve our Society and continue to imp...

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"Come for the stamps; stay for the party."

Le philatéliste canadien / The Canadian Philatelist
High-Value Stamps  
Canada’s Reluctance

by Jay. J. Edward

Queen Victoria celebrated her Diamond Jubilee in 1897. It was a time when “the sun never set on the British Empire.” Canada was infatuated with the empire and the monarchy. Loyalty to Britain and love for the Queen, created a spontaneous desire among Canadians to be a part of the celebrations and share in this joyous occasion. The Canada Post Office Department issued a set of 16 stamps to honour the Queen’s Jubilee. Among the values issued were the first $2, $3, $4 and $5 stamps (Figure 1) issued to that date. Perhaps there was a thought that the Jubilee celebrations would result in stamp sales and provide extra revenue to the post office but it is also possible that the Department wanted to show its loyalty to the Queen and participate in the celebrations in a major way. In any event, any thoughts of a profit evaporated when the public purchased only meager numbers of the high value stamps. As a result Jubilee stamps were available at the Philatelic Agency for many years.

Over the next 75 years the idea that Canada should issue a denomination higher than $1 came up quite often but it was always felt that the need did not justify printing a higher value. During this period there were many requests from postmasters in the larger cities for higher denominated stamps. Increasing requests prompted the Post Office Department to take some action. As a result, a test was conducted in March 1947 at the 27 largest post offices in Canada. The test showed that 8-1/2 per cent of all parcels mailed required more than $1 in postage; five per cent required more than $2 in postage. In 1948-49, (the fiscal year ended March 31st) there were 6,412,150 parcels mailed of which five per cent required more than $1 in postage. Half of the parcels posted used stamps rather than postage meters. After a few months of consideration the matter was dropped.

C.W. Heisler, postmaster at Winnipeg, Manitoba, complained about the fact that denominations higher than $1 were not available. In his letter to the Director of Financial Services, dated March 15, 1951, Mr. Heisler wrote: “...now that Airmail Parcel Post was being introduced, possibly the Department would consider the issue of postage stamps of higher denominations than those in use.” As had so often happened on similar previous occasions, the Department advised Mr. Heisler that they would give the matter serious consideration. In 1951 J.R. Carpenter, Superintendent Postage Stamp Division ascertained that there was a potential for 1,706,620, $2 stamps per year and for 50,700, $5 stamps. On the basis of his determination Mr. Carpenter sent a memorandum to his Director, L.J. Mills on March 22, 1951 recommending that a $5 stamp be printed. Mills replied that he felt a $5 stamp would not improve service and therefore was not justified. As requested Mr. Carpenter sent a letter to the Deputy Postmaster General on October 3, 1951, stating that since parcels using postage of $5 or more were from commercial houses that generally used meters there appeared to be no need for a postage stamp higher than $1. Over the next 10 years more requests were received. They were all “pigeon-holed.” Post Office authorities seemed to be at an impasse. It was suggested that post office authorities were concerned that the public would be critical if high-value stamps were issued. More pressure from the public and from the country’s postmasters finally resulted in the decision to print a $2 stamp. The decision was made that when a new issue of pictorials were issued the set would include a $2 stamp.

When the new issue appeared on March 17, 1972 it included a $2 stamp (Figure 2) showing a view of Quebec City. The stamp was perforated 11 x 11 and was designed by Reinhard Derreth. Three years later on March 14, 1975 another $2 (Figure 3) stamp was issued. It was part of a set of two stamps issued to publicize and assist the Olympic Games scheduled to be held in Montreal in 1976. The design shows a sculpture titled “The Diver” by Robert Tait Mackenzie (1867-1938) of Almonte, Ontario. The late Allan Fleming of Toronto was the designer.
Canada Post printed 10,320,000 of the $2 Diver stamp. It was a huge quantity, and the number of unsold stamps destroyed by the authorities has never been released. Some idea of the over-run can be ascertained when we note that the next Olympic $2 stamp (Figure 4), was issued the following year with a printing of 4,120,000 stamps. Politics and lobbying for more assistance to help finance the Olympic Games resulted in another $2 stamp being issued on March 12, 1976. The stamp depicted the Olympic Stadium and the Velodrome in Montreal. Jean and Pierre Mercier were the designers.

Now that a $2 stamp was readily accepted by the public, it became a standard item. The National Parks definitive issue of April 27, 1979 included a $2 stamp showing Kluane National Park (Figure 5) located in the isolated region of southeast Yukon. A painting by Allan C. Collier was the subject for the design. A total of 77,150,000 stamps perforated 13.5 x 13.5 were received from the printers.

By 1980 the escalating Canadian postal rates resulted in extensive usage of the high value stamps. As a result, when the new Parks of Canada series was released in 1982-85 there were four different dollar values (Figure 6). The first Canadian $1.50 stamp showing Waterton Lakes was released on June 18, 1982. A painting by Brent Laycock was said to have inspired the designer. The number of stamps received from the printer was 23,600,000, all perforated 13.5 x 13.5. Finally, after a wait of 85 years, when Canada’s first $5 stamp was printed during the 1897 Jubilee of Queen Victoria, a new $5 stamp was issued on January 10, 1983. Point Pelee National Park was the subject used by the designer. It was from a modified painting by Wayne Terry. The printing was 19,675,000. The usual $1 stamp was released on August 15, 1984. This stamp showing Glacier National Park was designed by Brent Laycock. A large quantity of 47,747,500 stamps was received from the Canadian Banknote Company, who printed the stamps. A further printing of 50,550,000 stamps were received from the British America Banknote Company in September 1986.

The $2 stamp in the Parks of Canada series appeared on June 21, 1985. It was designed by George Weber and depicts Banff National Park, Canada’s first national park. It was named a National Park in 1885. The Canadian Banknote Company printed 26,650,000 stamps. In September 1986 a further 50,050,000 were received from the British America Banknote Company.

Meanwhile a large oversize $2 stamp (Figure 7) perforated 12 x 12.5 showing a global map of the 47 countries making up the British Commonwealth was released on March 14, 1983. It marked Commonwealth Day. The designer was a Montrealer named Rolf Harder.

The Point Pelee $5 stamp had a relatively short life and was replaced on March 14, 1986 by a new design showing La Mauricie National Park (Figure 8). The park is located north of Shawinigan, Quebec. The lake shown on the stamp is one of many in the park and is known as Lake Wapezagonke. Designers were Laurent Marois and William Tibbles and Canadian Banknote Company delivered 9,000,000 stamps to Canada Post. In June 1987, the British American Banknote Company printed another 26,870,000 stamps.

New $1 and $2 stamps appeared at regular intervals but another $5 stamp did not appear until May 28, 1990, when the new release depicted Montreal’s famous Bonsecours Market (Figure 9). The market was built with additions made over a 12-year period from 1842-
1854. The stamp designer was Raymond Bellemare.

Six years passed before another $5 stamp appeared (Figure 10). This time the definitive stamp illustrated the Andrew Carnegie public library in Victoria, British Columbia. The library noted for its architectural design was built in 1904. The architects were Thomas Hooper (1857-1935) and C. Elwood Watkins (1875-1942). The designer of the stamp was Raymond Bellemare.

During the 1980s it was apparent that Canada needed a higher denomination than the $5 stamp. The Honourable Rene Marin, when he was Chairman of the Board at Canada Post Corporation, floated the idea among his associates and others that it was time that Canada issued a $10 stamp. He suggested that it should show the Royal Family. Post office officials listened but took no action.

Finally on October 15, 1997 Canada Post issued its highest value stamp to date. It was a large oversized stamp with a hidden date and value. The $8 engraved stamp featured a Grizzly Bear (Figure 11). Was the stamp issued as a compromise and a $10 stamp appeared to be too much of a leap forward? Or did Canada Post do a study and find that the number of parcels, registered and other mail that could use an $8 stamp was greater than the need for a $10 stamp? The latter would seem to be the case.

With postage rates relentlessly increasing, and business in general expanding, the need for a $10 stamp becomes ever more evident. The author is of the opinion that we will soon have a $10 stamp and the $10 barrier will finally be broken.

References:
P.O. Files – Airmail stamps – #13-23-16 (National Postal Archives)
Records of the P.O. Dept. RG-3 (National Postal Archives)
The Canadian Philatelist, Canada Stamps – Quantities Received, P. 403, Vol. 42, No. 5, Whole No. 246
Unitrade Specialized Catalogue of Canadian Stamps
Darnell. BNA / Canada catalogue, Stamps of Canada

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– Since 1962 –
By now my readers will have sensed that I have something about small islands and odd, out-of-the-way places. So for this, and the next 10 issues, I’ll get Pitcairn island out of my system! (This story is not so ‘Short,’ hence the 11 installments! But I trust that you will find them to be enjoyable reading.)

If you check out their stamps you’ll notice the name is spelt in the plural; that is because there are four islands in the group: Pitcairn, Oeno, Henderson and Ducie. But only Pitcairn is inhabited.

This tiny, rugged island of volcanic origin, is about two miles long by one mile wide; it was discovered by Capt. Carteret of H.M.S. Swallow on July 2, 1767. He recorded it in his log as Pitcairn’s Island, naming it after the young Midshipman who had spotted it from the observation platform high up on the foremast.

Carteret made no attempt to land; the entire coastline was craggy and raging seas were breaking against the rocks. He recorded its co-ordinates in his log and sailed on. But his co-ordinates were very much out of whack and it was years later before the Admiralty charts were corrected to show the correct location which is 25º 04’ S. latitude, 130º 06’ W. longitude or some 188 nautical miles east of where he thought he was.

The island was chosen in 1790 as a refuge by nine of the mutineers of the Bounty.

But now let us put the clock back a little and have a look at how all of that came about.

Feeding the slaves became a serious problem…

An urgent appeal for help was made to England.

Sir Joseph Banks, President of the Royal Society, had accompanied Capt. James Cook on his first voyage to Tahiti in 1768-1771 where he became acquainted with the nutritional properties of the Artocarpus communis (a member of the mulberry family, native to Polynesia,) which is lingua franca became known as “breadfruit.”

He noted this to be a staple diet of the natives. So, he surmised, why could it not serve as such for the Negro slaves in the West Indies?

Sir Joseph, having interests in the West Indies, prevailed upon King George III to authorize a naval expedition to Tahiti to gather breadfruit saplings for transplanting in the West Indies. Cheap food for the slaves!

Voilà! Victualling problem solved! (Or so everyone thought at the time! The problem was the slaves refused to eat the breadfruit!)

On May 15, 1787, the King signed the order for the voyage to the South Pacific and the Navy Board acquired a small (91 foot long) three-masted, two and a half year old coastal transport, Bethia, to be outfitted for the journey.

The American Revolution caused many United Empire Loyalists to flee to the West Indies with their slaves. Their influx was an added strain which taxed the already meagre food supplies available.

Her total refit, at Deptford Naval Yard, for this special mission included rows of built-in benches with holes in them to hold the hundreds of pots needed to house the breadfruit saplings. Even the Great Cabin was converted into a greenhouse.

The outfitting completed, she was re-christened His Majesty’s Armed Vessel “Bounty.”

In spite of the peaceful nature of her mission she was still outfitted with ordnance.
Lieut. William Bligh was placed in command of the Bounty; he was also made leader of the expedition.

His first major appointment in the Royal Navy had been as Master on H.M.S. Resolution on Cook’s third and last voyage to the Pacific. So he was no stranger to the territory where the expedition was headed.

One of Bligh’s two Master’s Mates was Fletcher Christian. He was soon made second-in-command.

Bligh joined his ship on August 20, 1787 but his sailing orders did not come through until three months later. Finally, on November 28th, the Bounty, with a crew of 45, sailed out of Deptford Harbour. But fierce gales soon made her seek the haven of Spithead.

It was not until December 23rd that the foul weather abated sufficiently for the Bounty to venture out into the Channel once more to continue her epic voyage.

Twelve days later she put in at Teneriffe, in the Canary Islands, for revictualing. Bligh’s orders were to sail to Oceania via Cape Horn, although he was given leeway to sail eastward via the Cape of Good Hope and across the Indian Ocean if need be.

Choosing the Horn route, he ran into impossible weather conditions, against which he fought unsuccessfully for 25 days.

Finally, accepting defeat, he turned eastward and reached Cape Town, South Africa, on May 23, 1788. Once the storm damage had been repaired he departed on July 1st.

After crossing the Indian Ocean he arrived in Van Deeman’s land (known as Tasmania today) on Aug. 19th.

He left there on September 4th and eventually dropped anchor in Matavai Bay, Tahiti, on October 25th – 10 months and 27,000 miles of ocean travel away from England.

...to be continued

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BNAPS – The Society for Canadian Philately
Those who read the Canadian Philatelist’s series on French cancellations saw a lot of information on cancellations, many of which carried no noticeable value premium. But printing varieties usually do sell for more than the basic stamp. This article is a chance to read about French varieties and their values. As it’s easier to spot a variety if one has seen a copy of the stamp, this article illustrates early French varieties using images of actual stamps, accumulated from various sources. To the reader with lots of early French stamps, I wish you good hunting!

The price multiples given for each stamp are the price of the variety divided by the price of the normal stamp, using prices from the 1997 Yvert et Tellier™ Volume 1 catalog. This is a basic French catalog, not a specialized version. With one exception, all stamps shown were available for sale at a normal discount from Scott’s Standard Postage Stamp Catalog™ prices.

The first variety is on the 20 centime blue from the 1853 imperforate Emperor Louis Napoleon stamps. In the variation, the “E” in “POSTES” is missing the bottom bar and looks like an “F” (Figure 1). The variation only exists on Type I (in which the two lines in the hair curl below the “R” of “EMPIRE” are so close they appear to be one line).

The ordinary stamp catalogues at 7 francs used. The variety’s catalogue price is 500 francs, a multiple of seventy! The large price multiple does not carry over to the unused stamp where the multiple is only 5.4. The price differential between the unused normal stamp and the variety is, however, a large amount—5,900 francs.

In 1863, Emperor Louis Napoleon is given a laurel wreath on a new issue, and a cigarette on some copies of the 1 centime stamp. The variation looks like a cigarette in Louis’ mouth and smoke drifting across the bottom of his beard (Figure 2). The used stamp multiple on this variety is sixty, with the ordinary stamp being 100 francs. The dealer with the stamp had marked it as being the variety but priced for only the value created by the red “printed matter” cancellation. The multiple for the unused stamp is 100, and the difference in price between the ordinary stamp and the variety is 17,325 francs, a tidy sum at the current exchange rate!

In 1863, Emperor Louis Napoleon is given a laurel wreath on a new issue, and a cigarette on some copies of the 1 centime stamp. The variation looks like a cigarette in Louis’ mouth and smoke drifting across the bottom of his beard (Figure 2). The used stamp multiple on this variety is sixty, with the ordinary stamp being 100 francs. The dealer with the stamp had marked it as being the variety but priced for only the value created by the red “printed matter” cancellation. The multiple for the unused stamp is 100, and the difference in price between the ordinary stamp and the variety is 17,325 francs, a tidy sum at the current exchange rate!

In 1871, France continued the perforated Head of Ceres stamps first issued in 1870. These were new values to complete replacement of the Napoleon-with-laurel-wreath stamps whose removal was delayed by the Franco-Prussian War. The 1 centime olive green occurs with a large break in the bottom frame line (Figure 4).
On a used stamp this break carries a modest multiple of about four with the multiple for the unused stamps about 2.5.

Several denominations of this set come with a thin line below the bottom frame line. On an unused 5 centime green stamp, the variety is about twelve times the price of the normal stamp (Figure 5). The multiple for the unused variety is only 1.5.

The 25 centime blue stamp comes in three types. One has a horizontal blue bar across the white border between the top center panel and the upper right corner ornament (Figure 6). The used stamp is 6 francs, while the used variety is 175 francs, a multiple of almost 30. The multiple for the unused stamp is less than two.

There are three major varieties of the 40c orange perforated Ceres stamp. In two plate positions, the number “4” was damaged and retouched. As this variety is listed in Scott’s, there is no reason to expect to obtain the variety inexpensively. But there is a variety missing the bottom frame line, and this catalogues at ten times the value of the basic used stamp (Figure 7). The multiple for the unused stamp is below two. (This variety is not catalogued in the basic Yvert et Tellier™ but is listed in the specialized edition.) The third variety lacks the lower left corner of the design (Figure 8). The multiple for the used stamp is ten and the unused one is just over one.

The first French issue of the 20th century shows Liberty, Equality, and Fraternity. One of the more interesting variations is on the four centime brown (Figure 9). During the 19th century, AF-FRANCHISSEMENTS appears in circular date stamps when a stamp pays a fee for a special mail service. In the 20th century, the same term, as AF-FRANCHTS, becomes the usual pre-cancelation. The Liberty, Equality, Fraternity issue itself comes in two types. Type I has only one line of shading in the gown below the “E” of FRAN-
The 1902 issue’s variety is a long tail on the numeral “5” (Figure 10b). The tail curves up and reaches the frame line of the shield which serves as background for the denomination. The used multiple is forty; the unused multiple is a similar sixty.

Also in 1900, France issued the first of the Liberty and Peace stamps designed by Merson. A variety occurring on several denominations is the absence of the center color (Figure 11). For the 50 centime brown and gray stamp (Figure 11a), the used variation catalogues at 750 francs, while the ordinary stamp is 10 francs, yielding a nice multiple of 75. The multiple for the unused stamp is about 4.5, but the differential between normal and variety still is high—2,550 francs.

Only one Liberty and Peace denomination was issued as a precancel. While there is no plate flaw or difference in type, the AFFRANCHISSEMENTS precancellation itself carries a large multiple for a used stamp. The pre-canceled 45 centime green and blue has a multiple of twenty-six (10 francs normal, 260 francs variation) used, but less than 1.5 unused (150 francs normal, 275 francs variation).

Issued along with the 45 centime, the 2 franc orange and blue has a variety priced at 2,000 francs, well above the three franc value of the normal stamp. The variation is a break in the lower right corner of the shield-shaped background for the denomination (Figure 12, 12a). The multiple for the unused stamp is only twenty-five and pales in comparison with the used-stamp multiple of almost seven hundred. This is another variety, however, with a large price differential between the unused basic stamp and the variety – 7,675 francs!

In 1903, France issued the first of its lined-sower stamps. The design has a background of horizontal lines and a foreground of a woman sowing seeds. The 75 centime lilac-rose stamp comes in the normal design with only one horizontal white line between the bottom of the fold of the gown and the top of the “c” of “75 c” (three francs used) and a redesign with two white lines between (1,000 francs used) (Figure 13, 13a). The unused multiple is a healthy 145 with a differential of almost 5,700 francs.

Soon after release of the lined-sower stamps, France released similar stamps with a solid-color background. The 35 centime violet with thick letters and numerals (Scott Type II), comes with both the first and last “S” in “POSTES” the same (6 francs used) and with the first S retouched such that the bottom loop extends distinctly upward (260 francs used, Figure 14). The multiple for the unused stamp is seven, with the variety priced at 425 francs.

In 1930, France honored the centenary of its conquest of Algeria with a stamp. On some of the stamps, the French word “ALGERIE” appears to be “ALCERIE” (Figure 15). The normal used stamp is three francs, while the variety is 450. The unused numbers are 30 francs for the normal stamp and 1,000 for the variety. Both the used multiple (150) and the unused multiple (33) make this stamp some hunting.

We will close with the first French Colonies general issue. The 5 centime green eagle stamp normally has parentheses around the “5” in the lower right of the circular band of text. This stamp is priced at 100 francs used and 160 francs unused. There is, however, a variety without the parentheses (Figure 16, 16a). The variety is priced at 750 francs used and 1,000 francs unused, creating multiples of 7.5 used and 6.25 unused.

You would have to find many copies of most of these stamps to pay for a world cruise, but the fun is in the hunt. If you are going to be looking at early French stamps anyway, you might as well keep your eye out for bargains. But remember the CP articles on French cancellations – the postal marking seems always to sit on the spot you need to see to find a variety.

As a reminder, only four of the varieties shown have as high multiples for unused stamps as for used ones. With five of the stamps, the unused multiple is so low as to have little real significance.

napoleon@voyager.net
Snowbird flown and autographed covers

Snowbird-flown covers autographed by the pilots on 16 June 2001 over Hamilton, Ontario, and cancelled in Nepean/Ottawa Ontario on 1 July 2001, are available from the Canadian Aerophilatelic Society (CAS).

These covers salute the 150th anniversary of postage stamps in Canada with the 47-cent commemorative stamp showing the Three Pence Beaver. The covers were flown five days before an accident involving aircrafts No. 1 and No. 5 over Lake Erie near London, Ontario on 21 June 2001. No 1 aircraft crashed into the lake but the two occupants parachuted to safety. Aircraft No. 5 landed safely. The covers were not aboard the aircraft. To recognize the cancelled annual flight over Ottawa on Canada Day, the envelopes are dated 1 July 2001.

For the first time, a female pilot flew as part of the Snowbird team. Captain Maryse Carmichael flew position three inner left wing. Sets on nine individually autographed envelopes or one envelope with all nine pilot signatures are available along with a magnificent coloured Snowbird brochure depicting all the Snowbird team and the nine aircraft in an aerobatic formation.

These covers are available from Major Dick Malott, CD, Retired, FRPSC, AHF, President of the Canadian Aerophilatelic Society, 16 Harwick Crescent, Nepean, Ontario K2H 6R1.

The Panama Canal Story

With the 3rd quarter Philatelist, the Canal Zone Study Group (CZSG) will distribute a copy of Raymond Ireson’s exhibit: “The Panama Canal Story” on CD. The work is a highly acclaimed 8-frame philatelic exhibit. It spans the history of the Isthmus of Panama from the time of early explorations through the conception and construction of the Panama Canal, up to 1979 when the Panamanians regained full sovereignty. The exhibit has won 15 national and international awards in the past 10 years, including nine Gold Medals and four Best in Show awards. The edition illustrated on the CD is the June 2000 version, which was displayed in the Court of Honour at the APS Stampshow 2000 in Providence, RI.

This publication by the CZSG is a radical departure from the norm. CZSG publications are usually in philatelic handbook format and restricted to Canal Zone stamps. The other novel feature is that this is the first CZSG publication on a CD. This new medium permits high-resolution colour images of entire pages and allows viewing of part of any page stamp, cover, signatures, etc. in detail. From the Index, clicking on individual pages immediately accesses them. On each open page, the viewer can click forward, back, or return to the index, as well as click to an enlarged image.

The exhibit includes over 20 rare philatelic materials, including die proofs, specimens, rare letters from the 1840s-60s, and other items. Included is a balloon post letter sent by De Lesseps during a siege of Paris by the Prussians in 1870. It is sprinkled throughout with little-known interesting tidbits about people and places. For example, it is well known that Gaugin lived on Taboga Island, but not that he worked on the canal. Johann W. von Goethe, the German poet and dramatist, expressed a prophetic opinion in 1827 that the United States would be involved. Also, nearly lost in the many tributes to the “opening” of the Panama Canal with the first commercial transit in 1914, is the fact that the formal proclamation of the opening was not declared until July 12, 1920 by President Wilson.

We are grateful to Raymond Ireson for allowing us access to his valuable exhibit in order to scan its pages. We are indebted to Joe Kirkup for scanning, formatting and preparing the CD that will be usable on both PC and MacIntosh computers.

It is our fervent hope that people will find this an exciting way to view the material, and that they will learn much about the history of the Canal Zone and Panama from the philatelic evolution from stampless covers to modern stamps.

Corgi Times

John Wynns reported a distinct small shift (left) on the new 47-cent Beaver 3p stamp. This was received on a cover from Vancouver, BC but further efforts to find more in Vancouver have been unsuccessful. John attended the recent PIPEX in Spokane and was kind enough to provide a copy of the pane of eight of the 3p. The on-cover shifted stamp is shown below – 2.8 mm from the right frame line. The normal from the pane of eight is shown right – 2.2 mm from the right frame line.
Collecting varieties has become an increasingly popular philatelic specialty. The catalogue values of some well-known varieties has added the spark that ignited this particular collecting area. Many dealers and auctioneers sell the expensive, major varieties but these are not the only places to find them.

The highlight (and the beginning) of my variety collection is a mint, perfectly centered “man on the mast” fifty-cent Bluenose (Darnell #153b) that turned up in an old family collection. Since then, I have focused on modern flyspeck varieties. So far, I have either found or acquired more than 100 varieties. I believe that is a good start for someone only seventeen years old.

Collecting varieties is a very enjoyable field of philately, but requires much patience. One way to collect varieties is to go through dealers’ stocks and bins or other places where there are large quantities of Canadian stamps. Digging through a box of unsoaked stamps purchased at auction, or 400 bundles of the same definitive is time consuming, but usually yields positive results. Many collectors do not watch for varieties so they are often “lost in the shuffle.”

Collecting varieties can also be relatively inexpensive. The most I have paid for any variety in my collection is $50 for the Missing Bird on the Totem (Darnell #672c, catalogue value $110). Most of the varieties I have collected come from searching though thousands of stamps purchased at auctions or from dealers.

Another key ingredient to collecting Canadian varieties comes from the philatelic bookshelf. I am a loyal user of the Darnell Catalogue of Canadian Stamps. This book uses a Canadian numbering system, and shows many varieties in great detail. The images provided are an invaluable tool in the search for varieties. Also, the definitive series books by D. Robin Harris are excellent. If someone collects varieties in some form, investing in these books is essential. The information and detail that these books contain is amazing. No collector should be without them.

What should you do if you find an unlisted variety? If it is a major variety (missing color, invert, etc.), then it is recommended that it be authenticated. This may be done through a dealer or organization such as the Vincent Graves Greene, or APS, expertizing committees. Expertizing committees will usually issue a certificate of authenticity; a dealer may also give you an estimate of its value.

In dealing with flyspeck varieties, every collector will encounter “doughnuts.” The “doughnut” results when a particle of dust gets onto the printing plate during the printing of the stamp. This often results in a small halo-shaped circle appearing on the stamp. Because a “doughnut” will never occur in the same place twice, they are not “constant” or listed varieties and usually sell for around $3 to $4.

Collecting varieties can be very enjoyable and not cost a small fortune. With the use of a strong magnifying glass, a Darnell catalogue, patience, and time to search through stamps, collecting varieties can be rewarding. If you are willing to invest the time in the pursuit of what can be a fascinating philatelic sideline, you might just fine that major variety lurking where you least expect it to enhance your collection.

Happy collecting.

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Left Darnell #672, Right Darnell #672c

Darnell 153 above, #153b below

Above Darnell #545

Below The “Halo” doughnut

Variety collecting can be very enjoyable and not cost a small fortune. With the use of a strong magnifying glass, a Darnell catalogue, patience, and time to search through stamps, collecting varieties can be rewarding. If you are willing to invest the time in the pursuit of what can be a fascinating philatelic sideline, you might just fine that major variety lurking where you least expect it to enhance your collection.

Happy collecting.
Peter Mann

“Rumours of my recent death have been greatly exaggerated.”

So wrote the great American humourist Mark Twain, but these words might also have been uttered by Peter Mann, a Fellow of the Royal since 1988. Peter was mistakenly sent to a very premature grave in a recent issue of The Canadian Philatelist. To profile Peter as a Fellow of the Royal and to recognize his contributions to philately, TCP is pleased to honour him at this time, and not at all posthumously!

Born in London, Ontario, Peter McGeary Mann was schooled in that city. After service in the Canadian Army towards the end of World War II he completed undergraduate and graduate degrees in zoology at the University of Western Ontario.

He worked in many capacities throughout Ontario, as well as in the Yukon and the Northwest Territories. However, in 1953 he joined the faculty of animal physiology at the Ontario Veterinary College, Guelph, Ontario. He stayed with that employer until retirement in 1987 with the title of Associate Professor. In that lengthy career he taught embryology, comparative anatomy, histology and gross anatomy.

Peter’s interest in philately began in 1936 when his maternal uncle in England sent his brother and him mint Edward VIII stamps, some FDCs and advice on starting a collection. His stamp interest was short-lived because he traded his collection to his brother for his Meccano sets, and forgot about stamps for the next 25 years! Those stamp collections eventually returned to him through his brother-in-law.

At that time he started to build and eventually fly model airplanes, an interest which continues to this day. In fact, he now collects stamps which depict those same model planes. More recently Peter has become archivist for the National Association for Model Airplanes.

While doing graduate work at the University of Toronto he encountered a technician who watched for any foreign stamps on incoming mail at the zoology department there. This habit proved contagious, to the point where Peter was soon hooked on the hobby again.

In 1957 he joined the Guelph Stamp Club, and The Royal Philatelic Society of Canada around the same time. He has since become a Life Member of the Society. Peter served as a director of the Royal for several years, retiring in 1987.

Peter has held all executive positions in the Guelph Club, including RPSC chapter representative and delegate to the Grand River Philatelic Association. He has also been a director, secretary-treasurer and president of that association, and first editor of its newsletter, The Grand News, whose origin had been in the newsletter of the Guelph Club.

In 1964 Peter had taken over the editing, publishing and distribution of the Guelph Stamp Club newsletter, increasing its frequency to nine issues annually. In 1969, in order to help the GRVPA clubs, he converted that newsletter into one that went to all the members of all clubs in the Grand Association, also nine times a year. He saw a parallel with similar newsletters that held together networks of stamp clubs in the North West USA, in the Okanagan Valley around Penticton, British Columbia, and in the Buffalo, N.Y. area. The well known Winnipeg newsletter, The Buffalo, was a prototype for Peter in designing The Grand News.

In 1975 Dr. Fred Stulberg, then editor of The Canadian Philatelist, asked Peter to join him as co-editor. Eventually Peter resigned from The Grand News and became editor-in-chief of CTC. He continued in that role until Ron Richards took over in 1982. However, Peter had more in common with Dr. Stulberg than editing TCP. Apparently he was regularly mistaken for Fred, and was sometimes referred to as his son!

Before Peter’s time as editor, the TCP had not been entered in international competitions for philatelic newsletters or magazines. Under his editorship, however, the TCP won Silver and Large Silver Awards in international competitions for philatelic literature in such countries as Switzerland, Taiwan, Bulgaria and Argentina.

Peter acted as Canadian Commissioner for a major international show at Stockholm in 1986, although he has not been very eager about studying stamp issues or exhibiting competitively. However, he did once show a small display of Antarctic Territories at the Guelph fall show. He prefers simply to collect attractively engraved stamps, particularly from British Commonwealth countries which issue few stamps. That way, like so many of us now, he can avoid being overwhelmed by the challenge of completing a country. He picks up stamps of any country if the designs are attractive and the engraving pleasing.

Though currently not very active in stamps, he lets his collecting instinct surface by acquiring classical and jazz music CDs. Somewhat like those recordings that have stood the test of time, he expects the classic pre-1950’s stamps to last in popularity throughout posterity.

Peter and Marian have three daughters, and continue to live in Guelph.

Peter Mann

Le philatéliste canadien / The Canadian Philatelist Janvier - Février 2002 / 43
I first met Paul Fiocca when I started organizing stamp shows in Ottawa in the late 1980s. At the same time he and his two partners, Paul Winkler and Anderson Charters, took over Trajan Publishing when Trajan had only two publications to its name: Canadian Stamp News and Canadian Coin News. Under Paul’s able and hands-on leadership the stable of publications grew to include Collector’s Guide, Antiques Showcase Collectibles Canada, Canadian Sports Collectors and Non-Sport Report. Over the years, he and Trajan Publishing were always there to support budding and long-established national and regional shows by either taking up a booth or sending complimentary copies of Canadian Stamp News and Collector’s Guide to be distributed to show-goers or making sure that proper show advertising was available.

In 1998, when I wanted to propose to the Board of Directors of The RPSC that we revamp The Canadian Philatelist, I approached Paul to ask him to help me put a credible idea together for a new-look magazine. The look and layout of The Canadian Philatelist you hold in your hands today are in large measure the result of his sage recommendations and proactive ideas.

Paul, while retaining his partnership in Trajan Publishing, is leaving the day-to-day operations after thirteen years to seek other challenges in Lighthouse Cove near Windsor, Ontario. On your behalf I wish him well in his new ventures and I thank him from the bottom of our collective heart for his support and help in making The Canadian Philatelist better and for his unstinting support for The RPSC and Canadian philately. To his replacement as publisher, his partner Paul Winkler, I bid welcome and good luck in taking over the daily grind at Trajan and I offer him our support in his new functions.

John Jamieson, a Fellow of our Society, his wife Susan and his staff at Saskatoon Stamp Centre (SSC) celebrated the 35th anniversary of the firm in 2001. SSC, from humble beginnings as a stamp and coin shop at street level in Saskatoon, has become one of Canada’s most visible specialized stamp businesses not only in Canada but internationally as well. Wherever there is a serious Canadian collector in this world, I am sure they have heard of SSC. Who would have thought that a mail-order company out of Saskatoon, specializing in Canada and BNA exclusively, would become such an important feature on the Canadian collecting scene. Credit for this success goes to John and Susan and the staff of SSC. Happy Anniversary and many more in the future.

The ballot for the election of directors of The RPSC is in this issue of The Canadian Philatelist. At the time of writing I do not know if we will have more candidates than we need to fill the eight slots, but I encourage you to vote, one way or the other. Your participation is important in the life of the Society. We appreciate it.


En 1998, lorsque j’ai voulu proposer au Comité de Direction de La SRPC que nous changions l’apparence et la teneur du Philatéliste canadien, j’ai approché Paul pour avoir son aide pour mettre ensemble une proposition solide qui donnerait une nouvelle allure au magazine. Le “look” et la mise-en-page du Philatéliste canadien que vous tenez dans vos mains aujourd’hui est, en grande mesure, le résultat de ses bonnes recommandations et de ses idées proactives.

Quoique Paul demeure un partenaire de Trajan Publishing, il quitte les opérations journalières après treize pour de nouveaux défis à Lighthouse Cove près de Windsor, Ontario. En votre nom, je lui souhaite mes meilleurs voeux de succès dans ses nouvelles aventures et je le remercie du fond de notre cœur collectif pour son support et son aide pour l’amélioration du Philatéliste canadien et pour son support constant pour La SRPC et la philatélie canadienne. À Paul Winkler, son remplaçant comme rédacteur, je souhaite la bienvenue et bonne chance dans sa relève des opérations journalières de Trajan et nous lui offrons notre support dans ses nouvelles tâches.

John Jamieson, un Fellow de notre Société, son épouse Susan et son personnel à Saskatoon Stamp Centre (SSC) ont célébré le 35e anniversaire de la firme en 2001. SSC a eu un humble début comme magasin de timbres et monnaies avec pignon sur rue. Depuis, SSC est devenu une des firmes philatéliques spécialisées les plus en vue non seulement au Canada mais aussi à l’échelle internationale. Je suis assuré qu’il n’y a pas un collectionneur sérieux de matériel canadien dans ce monde qui n’a pas entendu parler de SSC. Qui aurait cru qu’une compagnie de ventes par la poste de Saskatoon, spécialisant exclusivement dans la philatélie du Canada et de l’ANB deviendrait un élément si important sur la scène philatélique canadienne. Le crédit pour ce succès revient à John et à Susan et le personnel de SSC. Bon anniversaire et encore un autre 35 ans de succès.

Ce numéro du Philatéliste canadien contient le bulletin de vote pour les Directeurs de La SRPC. Au moment où j’écris, je ne sais pas si nous avons plus de candidats que nous avons de postes, mais, quoiqu’il en soit, je vous enjoins à voter. Votre participation est importante dans la vie de la Société. Nous l’apprécions.
Dear Editor:

I am writing in support of Ross Irwin’s Letter to the Editor. While there may be copyright issues to address, I believe that we are failing to provide the service that we could if we don’t reprint suitable items that would be of interest to our members.

Many articles in TCP are the results of extensive research, this is also true of articles in other publications. If a person doesn’t subscribe to all publications he may miss the one that relates to his own area of interest. As an example; I collect the 1d Universals and 1d Dominions of New Zealand, I do not collect USA. I therefore am a member of The RPSC and RPSNZ but not APS. In June 1999 APS published in their version of our magazine, The American Philatelist, the best article that I have ever seen on the 1d Universal Coils. As a member of The RPSC and RPSNZ I would never have seen this until a friend loaned me the APS magazine. The Canadian Philatelist could be proud to reprint this, and similar articles, for our members with interests in this area. This would be even more compelling an argument for The RPSC when the topic relates directly to Canadian philately. Similarly articles such as Murray Heifetz’s article on O.A.T. Markings, in the last issue of TCP, would be of interest to many members of other societies. All this suggests that we need an exchange agreement with other societies, and their editors, around the world.

In a different vein; I have for many years written a stamps column that has appeared in local newspapers, club newsletters and magazines (including Canadian Stamp News and TCP) in at least four countries. Since my audience is usually either a novice or non-collector it is quiet different to most of what you publish in TCP. My focus is usually on the stories behind the stamps, e.g., the first Christmas stamp, the abdication of King Edward VII, and the Lunar new year story. If The RPSC wants to appeal to the novice collector as well as the “expert” or “specialist” then these stories would be suitable for TCP. However, they have all been told and retold numerous times yet every time I retell them I believe that someone is reading them for the first time. If you want to use any of my columns, I would be happy to offer them to you to use whenever you choose, but they would not qualify if we adhere to the “Only original articles will be considered” policy.

In summary, I will say that the basic question is: do we want The RPSC to be an exclusive Society for advanced philatelists or an inclusive Society for all stamp collectors in Canada? If the former, tighten up the “Only original” policy; if the latter, expand the horizons and seek out a greater variety of quality material from whatever source.

Yours in the interest of our mutual hobby;

D.J. (Jim) Measures
RPSC #L – 1042

Dear Editor:

I was surprised to learn of The RPSC policy of only publishing original articles. I think this is short sighted and results in the members missing out on a lot of good information. I have always believed that the purpose of philatelic societies is to disseminate information. We should always be aware that an article has been published previously, but if the audience is quite different from our journal’s audience, why should we deny our members? It is interesting that on page 229 we have a member asking if they could reprint an article for the German Philatelic Society – he makes my point.

J. Alex Hadden
#2619

Dear Editor:


Reprinting articles from other sources may be duplicating information for those who receive other publications. I receive The Canadian Philatelist, BNA Topics, BNA Portraits, Canadian Stamp News, and study group newsletters. I feel it would be a misuse of valuable space in The Canadian Philatelist to reprint any previously published articles. Many, if not all, philatelic publications are now available through the National Postal Archives at Virtual Archives located at www.archives.ca . If one does not have access to the web sites in their home, the local library in their community does.

A method I use to preserve newspaper clippings is photocopying. It ensures longer shelf life. The photocopies are of a uniform size, 8½ by 11, and are easy to file in three ring binders.

In One Last Word, Tony Shaman, stated Professor Ross Irwin “lists some compelling reasons for making a change.” The above may suggest differently.

Regards,

Bruce Holmes
3170 Dutch Village Road #7
Halifax, NS B3L 4G1

Dear Editor:

I received my copy of the above issue in today’s mail and you are to be congratulated on at least two counts. It’s a pleasure to actually get the magazine in November, and the extra eight pages are going to be an ongoing pleasure.

However I do take umbrage with a statement by your columnist George Pepall in his “Fellows of the Society” article on Dr. Robert Chaplin. (pp. 283). I have no desire to take away from Dr. Chaplin’s deserved recognition, but Pepall’s statement “Like most true philatelists Bob took the natural step of exhibiting” deserves comment.

I have been collecting stamps for 25 years, and I suspect that by the time I reach Dr. Chaplin’s age I too can say I’ve spent a virtual lifetime in the hobby, but like probably 90 per cent of the membership in The Royal, I don’t exhibit. I share my “knowledge and pleasure in the hobby” by doing Internet web sites devoted to stamps, as do a fair number of other RPSC members. Yet by your standards we are not true philatelists. I belong to four major philatelic societies and several others besides, as I’m sure many of your members also do; I’ve had several articles printed; I volunteer many hours a year to one of the societies I belong to, as do many other of your membership. But by your...
Most Requested Sales Circuit Books:
Canada, all periods—especially early, mint & used, nice cancels, BOB, recent used, precancels, souvenir sheets, postal stationery
Provinces; all, esp. harder to find material
British Commonwealth—early, recent used
George VI used & mint
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New Zealand
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The “Saints” (Lucia, Vincent, Kitts)
Saint Pierre & Miquelon
Scandinavia—earlier
Seychelles
Turks & Caicos
TOPICS IN DEMAND
Minerals, Birds, ships etc

Greetings
All the best for 2002
Joyeux Fêtes
et bonne année . . .

and a healthy, happy year,
with lots of great stamp collecting!

Thanks to all of you who have helped us get the Circuits moving, with your ideas, suggestions, comments and great patience!!! If you still haven’t heard from us- do remind us. It may be you requested material we don’t have!

It may be that you live outside Canada and with “free trade”, we have some challenges when we ship across borders!

We have demand for lots more good Circuit books - and thanks for keeping the damaged stamps out of those books!!

Special thanks to Calgary volunteer, Marge Hunt, who helps regularly in

Want to buy stamps at reasonable prices?
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Fax: (403) 932-2947
E-mail: rpscsale@cadvision.com

See us at the shows
Regina
Seven Oaks Inn, Feb.15-16
Edmonton
Royale, March 22-24
To have your event listed in this section of *The Canadian Philatelist*, please send all details to The RPSC National Office, P.O. Box 929, Station Q, Toronto, ON M4T 2P1. Details may be faxed to (416) 979-1144 or e-mail to info@rpsc.org. Information will not be accepted by telephone. **THIS IS A FREE SERVICE OF THE RPSC.**

Pour que votre événement soit listé dans cette section du *Philatéliste canadien* veuillez envoyer tous les détails au Bureau national de la SRPC, C.P. 929, Succ. ‘Q’, Toronto, ON M4T 2P1. Les détails peuvent être faxés au (416) 979-1144 ou par poste-electronique à info@rpsc.org. Aucune information ne sera acceptée par téléphone. **CECI EST UN SERVICE GRATUIT DE LA SRPC.**

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**LOCAL EVENTS / ÉVÉNEMENTS LOCAUX**

The following is a list of dates for upcoming Stamp Shows in Southwestern and Central Ontario. More information will follow in upcoming issues.

Voici la liste des dates des prochaines expositions philatéliques dans le sud-ouest de l'Ontario. De plus amples détails figurent dans de prochains numéros.

**Jan.** 5, 2002: Stoney Creek Stamp Show, Stoney Creek, ON  
Jan. 19, 2002: St. Catharines Stamp Show, St. Catharines, ON  
Feb. 2, 2002: Bramalea Stamp Show, Bramalea, ON  
Feb. 23, 2002: St. Thomas Stamp Show, St. Thomas, ON  
March 9, 2002: Oakville Stamp Show, Oakville, ON  
March 23, 2002: North Toronto Stamp Show, North Bay, and Sudbury  
April 6, 2002: London Philatelic Stamp Show, London, ON  
April 13, 2002: Kitchener-Waterloo Stamp Show  
April 20, 2002: Peterborough, ON  
April 27, 2002: Hamilton Stamp Show, Hamilton, ON  
May 4, 2002: Hanover and Simia Stamp Shows  
May 5, 2002: Stratford Stamp Show, Stratford, ON  
May 11, 2002: Windsor and Scarborough Stamp Shows  
May 25, 2002: Owen Sound Stamp Show  
June 8, 2002: North York Stamp Show  
June 18, 2002: West Toronto Stamp Show  
Aug. 10, 2002: Fenelon Falls, ON  
Aug. 17, 2002: Collingwood Stamp and Coin Show  
Sept. 21, 2002: Cobourg, ON  
Sept. 28, 2002: Milton, ON  
Sept. 29, 2002: GRVPA Stamp Fair, Cambridge  
Oct. 12, 2002: Guelph: Kincardine: Bracebridge  
Nov. 2, 2002: Chatham; Hamilton; North Toronto: Trenton  
Nov. 3, 2002: Stratford  
Nov. 9, 2002: Cambridge

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**REGIONAL EVENTS / ÉVÉNEMENTS RÉGIONAUX**

Feb. 9, 2002: BURLPEX 2002, sponsored by the Burlington Stamp Club, will be held at the Appleby Mall (corner of Appleby Line and New St.), Burlington, ON. Hours: 9:30 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. Contact Norm Macneal at 2020 coral Cr., Burlington, ON L7P 3K5.  
Feb. 16-17, 2002: NIPEX 2002 Exhibition and Bourse sponsored by the Niagara Philatelic Society will be held at the Stamford Lions Club Hall, 3846 Portage Rd., Niagara Falls, ON. Hours: 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Closed exhibition. Contact Ed Yonelinas, R.R. 1, Niagara-on-the-Lake, ON L0S 1J0, or e-mail mastamps@computan.on.ca.  
Feb. 23, 2002: APEX 2002, sponsored by the Ajax Philatelic Society, will be held at the Ajax Community Centre, H.M.S. Ajax Room, 75 Centennial Rd. Ajax, ON. Hours: 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Free admission and parking. Exhibits and 20 dealers. Contact P.O. Box 107, Ajax, ON L1S 3C2, or e-mail dfw1947@aol.com  
March 1, 2002: MILTON STAMP FAIR, will be held at the Milton Seniors Activity Centre, 500 Childs Dr. in Milton, ON. E-mail almanj@globalserve.net or phone (905) 878-1533 or (905) 878-9076.

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**NATIONAL EXHIBITIONS / EXPOSITIONS NATIONALES**

Feb. 8-10, 2002: American Philatelic Society AmeriStamp Expo 2002 will be held in Riverside, CA. Proposals are currently being accepted to present seminars during the show. Seminars are an important educational component of the show, which also serves as the winter meeting of the American Philatelic Society. Interested individuals should contact APS Director of Shows and Exhibitions Ken Martin with a proposed title, preferred date and time, suggested room set up, and required audiovisual needs. Phone (814) 237-3803 ext. 218, fax (814) 237-6128; e-mail stampshow@stamps.org; or mail to P.O. Box 8000, State College, PA 16801 USA.  
March 22-24, 2002: ROYAL *2002 *ROYALE, the annual national level exhibition and convention of The Royal Philatelic Society of Canada will be hosted by the Edmonton Stamp Club at the West Edmonton Mall Conference Centre and Fantasyland Hotel in Edmonton, AB. Contact the 2002 Committee at Box 399, Edmonton, AB T6B 2W6; phone (780) 466-9967 (evenings), or e-mail amnech@telusplanet.net.  
May 4-5, 2002: ORAPEX 2002, Ottawa’s National Stamp Exhibition and the 41st Annual RA Stamp Club Exhibition and Bourse, will be held in the Curling Rink of the RA Centre, 2451 Riverside Dr., Ottawa. Free admission and parking. Competitive exhibits, 25 plus bourse dealers, lectures, judging critique, and social activities. Hours; Sat. 10 a.m. to 6 p.m.; Sun. 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Contact Dick Malott, Publicity Officer, ORAPEX 2002, 16 Harwick Cres., Nepean, ON K2H 6R1, (613) 829-0280, fax (613) 829-7673, e-mail rmalott@magma.ca.  
Sept. 20-22, 2002: PIFEX 2002, sponsored by the Northwest Federation of Stamp Clubs (in this case also hosted by the NFWSFC), a joint Royal Philatelic Society of Canada / American Philatelic Society national-level show, will be held at the Convention Centre, Best Western Richmond Inn, Richmond, BC. Contact Chairman Gray Scrimgeour, #570-188 Douglas St., Victoria, BC V8V 2P1, or e-mail gray@scrimgeour.ca.  
**ROYAL *ROYALE:** The Royal Philatelic Society of Canada’s annual exhibition and convention. Dates and locations for forthcoming years are:  
May 30-June 1, 2003 in Hanover, Ontario;  
May 28-30, 2004 in Halifax, Nova Scotia;  
2005 in London, Ontario (dates TBD);  
June 20-25, 2006 in St. John’s, Newfoundland.

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**INTERNATIONAL EXHIBITIONS / EXPOSITIONS INTERNATIONALES**

Aug. 2-11, 2002: PHILAKOREA 2002 World Stamp Exhibition will be held in Seoul, Republic of Korea. The Canadian Commissioner is Charles J.G. Verge, e-mail vergce@sympstico.ca. (Entries closed.)

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LAKEHEAD STAMP CLUB
Chapter 33 meets the 2nd Wed. and last Fri. to June at the Herb Carroll Centre, 1100 Lincoln St., Thunder Bay, ON, at 7:30 p.m. Contact: Secretary D. Lein, 232 Dease St., Thunder Bay, ON P7C 2H8.

LAKESHORE STAMP CLUB – CLUB PHILATÉLIQUE DE LAKESHORE
Chapter 54 meets at Dorval Strathmore United Church, 310 Brookhaven Ave., Dorval, QC, on the 2nd and 4th Thurs. Sept. to June at 7:30 p.m. Contact: Oleg Podomyow, President, P.O. Box 1, Pointe Claire/Dorval, QC HR 4N5.

Chapter 55, le chapitre 55, a lieu le 2e et 4e mardi de chaque mois à partir de mi-septembre jusqu’au 2e lundi de juin. Contact: Ben Marcier, (416) 492-9311.

NORTH YORK PHILATELIC SOCIETY
Chapter 21 meets the 1st and 3rd Wed. except July and Aug. when meetings are held on only the 3rd Wed., at 6:30 p.m. in the lounge of the Centennial Arena, north side of Finch Ave. W., west of Bathurst. Sales circuit, auctions, speakers. Contact: John Moffatt, Box 62, Willowdale, ON M2N 5S7. (905) 889-8729.

NOVA SCOTIA STAMP CLUB
The 1st affiliate of the RPSC, est. 1922, meets the 2nd Tues. Sept. to June at the Nova Scotia Museum. Contact: E. Sodero, 831 Tower Rd., Halifax, NS B3H 2Y1.

OAKVILLE STAMP CLUB
Chapter 135 meets the 2nd and 4th Thurs. at 7:30 p.m. in the cafeteria, St. Thomas Aquinas Secondary School, 124 Margaret Dr., Contact: Oakville Stamp Club, Box 69643, Oakville, ON L6J 7R4.

OTTAWA PHILATELIC SOCIETY
Chapter 16 meets every Thurs. at 7:45 p.m. Sept. to May at the Hintonburg Community Centre, 1064 Wellington St., Ottawa. Contact: OPS Merivale P.O. Box 69050, Nepean, ON K2G 4L5.

OWEN SOUND STAMP CLUB
Chapter 191 meets the 3rd Wed. at 7 p.m. at St. George’s Anglican Church, 194 4th Ave. E. Trading, auctions, circuit books. Contact Robert J. Ford, 721 8th Ave. E., Owen Sound, ON N4K 3A4.

OXFORD PHILATELIC SOCIETY
Chapter 65 meets 1st and 3rd Thurs. Sept. to May, at Knights of Columbus Hall, behind St. Rita’s Catholic Church (Dundas St. E.) Woodstock, ON. Trading and junior program at 7 p.m., regular meeting at 7:30 p.m. Speakers, mini auctions, prizes, contests, dealers. Contact: Gib Stephens, P.O. Box 20113, Woodstock, ON N4S 8X8.

PENTICTON AND DISTRICT STAMP CLUB
Chapter 127 meets the 1st Sun. 2-4 p.m. at the Okanagan University College Training Centre, 100 Warren Ave. E. Contact: E.M. Proctor (Secretary), RR#4 887 C9, Summerland, BC V0H 1Z0. (250) 494-4055.

PERTH STAMP CLUB
Chapter 245 meets the 2nd and 4th Wed. Sept. to June, 7:30 p.m. in McMartin House, Gore Street, Contact Gus Quattrocchi (A.J.), 69 Harvey St., Perth, ON K7H 1X1.

R.A. STAMP CLUB – OTTAWA
Chapter 41 meets every Mon., except June to Aug. at 7:30 p.m. at the R.A. Centre, 2451 Riverside Dr., Ottawa, ON K1H 7X7. Contact: (613) 733-5100.

REGINA PHILATELIC CLUB
Chapter 10 meets the 1st and 3rd Wed. Sept. to May, 7-10 p.m. at Sheldon-Williams Collegiate Library, 2601 Coronation St., Contact: Box 1891, Regina, SK S4P 3E1.

ROYAL CITY STAMP CLUB
Chapter 104 meets on the 3rd Thurs. except July and Aug., 7:30 p.m. at Community Centre, 65 East Sixth Ave., New West- minster, BC. Contact: Box 145, Milner, BC VOX 1TD. (604) 534-1884.

SAINT JOHN STAMP CLUB
Meets the 2nd Wed. except July and Aug., 7 p.m. at the Saint John High School, Canterbury Street, Saint John, NB. Contact: James Young, Sec.-Treas., 2278 Rothesay Rd., Rothesay, NB E2H 2K5.

ST. CATHARINES STAMP CLUB
Meets on the 1st and 3rd Tues. Sept. to June at Holy Cross secondary, St. Catharines, ON. Contact: Stuart Keeley, 15 Baxter Cres., Thorold, ON L2V 4S1, (905) 227-9251, stuart.keeeley@sympatico.ca.

ST. JOHN’S PHILATELIC SOCIETY
Meets 2nd and 4th Wed., except July and Aug., at 8 p.m. at Marine Institute. Contact: J. Don Wilson, 11 Elm Place, St. John’s, NF A1B 2S4, (709) 726-2741.

SASKATOON STAMP CLUB
Chapter 80 meets the 2nd and 4th Mon. Sept. to May, 7-9 p.m. at the Saskatoon Field House, 2020 College Dr., Saskatoon, SK. Contact: secretary: Doug Smith, (306) 240-3092; e-mail: avc20@s.nf.saskatoon.sk.ca.

SCARBOROUGH STAMP CLUB
Chapter 27315 meets the 1st and 3rd Tues. Sept. to June at 7 p.m. at Cedarbrook Community Centre, Contact Peter Butler, 143 Glenmore Rd., Toronto, ON M4L 3M2.

SIDNEY STAMP CLUB (SIDIEN, BC)
The Sidney Stamp Club meets the 2nd Sat. except July and Aug., at the Sidney Regional Library, Nell Northroom, at 7:30 p.m. Sales circuit, presentations, and auctions. Contact: (250) 479-6513.

LA SOCIÉTÉ PHILATELIQUE DE QUÉBEC
La S.P.Q. tient ses réunions régulières les 2e et 4e lundis, débutant en septembre pour se terminer le 2e lundi de juin à 7 h. Contact: President Frank Alusio, (416) 621-8232.

LA SOCIÉTÉ PHILATELIQUE DE LA RIVE SUD
Société membre No. 19. Réunions régulières tenues les 2e et 4e lundis débutant en septembre pour se terminer le 2e lundi de juin. De 19h30 à 21h00. Centre culturel, 100 ouest, rue St-Laurent, Longueuil, QC. Secrétaire BernardDanseur.

SAUGEEN STAMP CLUB
Chapter 4 meets on the 2nd Thurs. Sept. to June at the Yorkminster Park Community Centre, 65 East Sixth Ave., New Westminster, BC. Regular meetings at 7:30 p.m. Contact: Stratford Stamp Club, 273-356 Ontario St., Stratford, ON N5A 7X6.

SOUTHERN STAMP CLUB
Chapter 85 meets the 2nd Tues. Sept. to June, in the St. Raphael school library, 109 Dublin St., at 7:30 p.m. Show slides, presentations and auctions. Contact: Richard Vincor, Box 2211, Stn. A, Sudbury, ON P3A 4S1; (705) 983-1952.

SOUTH BRITISH COLUMBIA SOCIETY
Meets the 2nd Mon. Sept. to June at the British Columbia Stamp Club, 190 St. James St., Vancouver, BC, at 7:30 p.m. General business meeting followed by program and auction.

VANCOUVER ISLAND PHILATELIC SOCIETY
Chapter 52, meets at 7:30 p.m. on the 4th Thurs. at St. Aidan’s Church Hall, 3707 St. Aidan’s St., Victoria, BC. Contact R. Clarke, Sec., Vancouver Island Philatelic Society, P.O. Box 6351, Postal Station “C”, Victoria, BC V8P 5M3.

WEST TORONTO STAMP CLUB
Chapter 14 meets 2nd, 3rd and 4th Tues. except July and Aug., 7:30 p.m. at Fairfield Seniors’ Centre, 80 Lathane Ave., Etobicoke, Auctions, dealers, speakers, study group, annual exhibition. Contact: 331 Rathburn Rd., Etobicoke, ON M9B 2L9. Frank Alusio, (416) 621-8232.

WINNEPEG PHILATELIC SOCIETY
Meets at 7 p.m. on the 1st and 3rd Thurs. except July and Aug. Defeat Centre of Manitoba, Meeting Room, 285 Pembina Hwy. Contact: Rick Penko, 3793 Vilalou Dr., Winnipeg, MB R3J 0A5, e-mail rpenko@escape.ca.
NEW MEMBERS / NOUVEAUX MEMBRES
The following applications were received and are herewith published in accordance with the Constitution. If no adverse reports are received within 30 days of publication, applicants will be accepted into full membership. Any objections should be sent to the National Office, P.O. Box 929, Station Q, Toronto, ON, M4T 2P1.

Les demandes d’admission ci-dessous ont été reçues et sont publiées en conformité avec la constitution. Si aucun commentaire n’est communiqué au Bureau national, (C.P. 929, Succursale Q, Toronto, ON, M4T 2P1) d’ici 30 jours, les adhérents seront acceptés comme membres.

* requests address not be published / demande que son adresse ne soit pas publiée.
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I-27333 Markku Peltoniemi *
I-27334 John Casson *
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I-27345 Henry Druce

I-27346 Allan Sandler *
I-27347 Anthony E. Doughty
PO Box 376, 690 Natal Rd.
Elkford, BC V0B 1H0
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Penticton, BC V2A 5Y7

I-27349 Aubrey H. Levine
117 Westgate Blvd
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Laubitz, Gisela (I-26957)
Legati, Sergio (I-10910)
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Radvonausky, Harold R. (I-24170)
Trefry, Aubrey F. (I-26032)
Wilkie, Russell G. (I-23066)

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Surrey Public Library (I-24140)
15105 - 105th Avenue
Surrey, BC V3R 7G8
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Watt, Peter N. (I-22199)
601 - 4788 Hazel Street
Burnaby, BC V5H 4V9
Wolters, Dirk P. (I-23276)

Letters/Lettres continued from page 45

standards we are not true philatelists. I had the pleasure of being in attendance at both Capex ’87 and Capex ’96, as were thousands of other stamp collectors as opposed to “true philatelists.” I think I make my point.

How in the world are we ever going to promote our hobby to anybody when even our own national society takes the elitist view that if you don’t exhibit you’re some sort of second-class stamp collector and not a “true philatelist”.

Paul den Ouden I-2670
6904 Fairmont St.
Powell River, BC V8A 1T3
Do you know a non-member who is looking for lower stamp insurance rates? Tell them our plan will save them over 30% on premiums!

Non-members may not know of the substantial benefits of membership in The Royal Philatelic Society of Canada (RPSC). In addition to receiving our bi-monthly prize winning magazine - The Canadian Philatelist - and being entitled to use the sales circuits, our members also enjoy the possibility of very preferential insurance premiums through our group policy administered by Hugh Wood Canada Ltd.

For example a floater insurance policy on the contents of your household has a limit of between $1,000 and $5,000 for stamps depending upon your particular insurance policy. If your collection is worth more than this you should seriously consider insuring it for its replacement value.

A collection insured for $10,000 would ordinarily cost $50.00 in annual premiums but as a member of The RPSC you would receive the same amount of insurance for $29.00. Other examples:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Insurance Amounts</th>
<th>Ordinary Premium</th>
<th>RPSC Group Premium</th>
</tr>
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<tr>
<td>$100,000</td>
<td>$475.00</td>
<td>$290.00</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Other amounts of insurance will also produce similar levels of savings for RPSC members.

When you consider that the annual dues of The RPSC are $35.00 in the first year and $30.00 per year thereafter you can see that a substantial saving may result from an RPSC membership. Why don’t you tell them about this RPSC service to its members?

For an application form for membership in The RPSC write to:

The Royal Philatelic Society of Canada
Dept. I
Box 929, Station Q
Toronto, Canada, M4T 2P1

or visit our Website at www.rpsc.org

Connaissiez-vous un non-membre qui cherche à assurer ses timbres à meilleur marché? Dites-lui que notre programme lui fera économiser plus de 30 % sur sa prime d’assurance!

Les personnes non membres ne connaissent pas toujours les avantages importants qu’offre l’adhésion à La Société royale de philatélie du Canada (SRPC). En plus de recevoir notre magazine bi-mensuel primé - Le philatéliste canadien - et de pouvoir recourir aux circuits de vente, nos membres profitent également de tarifs d’assurance très préférentiels par le biais de notre police d’assurance collective gérée par Hugh Wood Canada Ltd.

Par exemple, une police flottante sur le contenu de votre maison comporte une limite située entre 1 000 $ et 5 000 $ pour les timbres, en fonction de votre police d’assurance particulière. Si votre collection vaut davantage, il vous est vivement recommandé de l’assurer pour sa valeur de remplacement.

Une collection assurée pour une valeur de 10 000 $ coûte normalement 50 $ en prime d’assurance annuelle mais, en tant que membre de La SRPC, vous pouvez bénéficier de cette même valeur assurée en ne payant que 29 $ par an.

D’autres montants de valeur assurée produiront des économies proportionnellement similaires pour les membres de La SRPC.

Si l’on considère que la cotisation annuelle d’adhésion à La SRPC est de 35 $ la première année et de 30 $ les années suivantes, il est aisé de voir que l’on peut réaliser d’intéressantes économies en étant membre. Pourquoi ne pas parler à ces personnes non membres de ce service de La SRPC envers ses adhérents?

Pour obtenir un formulaire d’adhésion à La SRPC, écrivez à :

La Société royale de philatélie du Canada
Dept. I
C.P. 929, Succ. "Q"
Toronto, ON
M4T 2P1  Canada

ou consultez notre site Web www.rpsc.org.
To remain relevant in today’s marketplace, a business must understand its customers’ needs. It must also be able to deliver what its clients want, when they want it. But the really successful businesses take that next step; they anticipate their clients’ future needs and implement the necessary steps to meet those potential needs. Just what does all that have to do with The Canadian Philatelist?

You may have heard that our journal is now being sold at Chapters and in other leading book and magazine stores nationwide. The directors of our Society took this initiative in an effort to expose more collectors to the many benefits that we offer. The Canadian Philatelist competes for shelf space with all the other magazines that are for sale in these stores and that makes us a business. If our journal does not sell, it will not accomplish its intended purpose, which is to attract new members to our Society.

Before people buy a magazine, they must be convinced that it will benefit them in some way. Our job is to make that decision easier for them by including in the magazine the type of content that will make them want to buy and read the magazine. Just what that content is, is the $64,000 question.

Large businesses have the financial resources to conduct professional surveys and run focus groups. The Royal probably does not have that kind of money to spend but that does not mean that we should do nothing.

Our readers know what they like and dislike about the journal. Consequently, there is really no need to design and conduct a formal reader survey or go to the expense of setting up focus groups. Why not just drop your editor a line and outline what you like or do not like about the magazine’s appearance and content and what you would do to make it more appealing to readers. Chances are that your opinion is shared by at least some of the potential collectors who peruse The Canadian Philatelist on newsstands and in bookstores.

If you prefer that your letter or e-mail not be printed, your wishes will be respected. Simply add to your communication that it is not for publication.

This issue we will introduce the first instalment of the ever-fascinating “Mutiny on the Bounty” story by “Raconteur.” Due to the length of the profusely illustrated piece, it will be serialized over several months. Stay tuned for the exciting episodes of Captain Bligh and his not-so-merry band of sailors.

Regular contributor Joseph Monteiro has penned an in-depth article on Canada’s tagged stamps. His accompanying illustrations and tables are a great help in explaining a complex topic.

We are also happy to introduce a young, new writer, David Johnston. He writes about his collection of Canadian stamp varieties. David is a high school student, the 2002 Young Canadian Philatelist, and is a current member of the Stamp Advisory Committee.

Long-time readers will be happy to see George B. Arfken’s byline back on the pages of our journal after an absence of several years. His current piece entitled, “Soldier’s Letter Rate – British Soldiers in Canada” will introduce George to a new generation of readers. His tightly written monographs will be featured in a regular column.

J.J. Edward is back with his thoughts on Canada’s High Value issues. “Napoleon” continues to enlighten and educate...
us with his deductions and observations about the stamps and cancellations of the various issues of France. And Ken Lewis tells the story of philatelic forgeries, aptly illustrated with an abundance of relevant material, issued by the Nazi war machine during World War II.

We have attempted to include a mix of long and short articles with an eye towards a balance of light and more complex subjects. Each of our authors has a worthwhile story to tell and tells it in a fast-moving fashion that will keep readers turning the pages.

Exchanges Wanted / Demandes d’échange

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

La Société royale de philatélie du Canada ne s’occupe pas normalement des échanges entre philatélistes, mais comme elle est la société philatélique nationale du Canada, on lui transmet de nombreuses demandes de philatélistes désireux de trouver des correspondants pour échanger des timbres. Ainsi a-t-elle décidé, pour rendre service à ses membres, de publier les noms intéressés d’autrement, 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.

João Roberto Akel
P.O. Box 2851
Manaus Amazonas Brazil
nono@internext.com.br

I am a longtime stamp collector from Manaus Amazonas Brazil. I saw your address on the internet and would like to exchange stamps with fellow collectors in Canada. I will send Brazilian stamps in exchange for Canadian.

João Roberto Akel
P.O. Box 2851
Manaus Amazonas Brazil
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I am a 52-year-old philatelist from Lithuania looking to exchange Baltic countries – Lithuania, Latvia, Estonia – mint or used stamps for stamps from your country. Apart from Lithuania stamps, FDC, covers, special cancels, I have many stamps, FDC from USSR.

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