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FEATURE ARTICLES / ARTICLES DE FOND

The Queen Mum, Queen Elizabeth the Queen Mother
by George Pepall 174

Double Print Errors on Canadian Stamps
by Joseph Monteiro 177

The Sea Floor Post Office
by Ken Lewis 182

The Date of Issue of the Two-Cent Registered Letter Stamp
by George B. Arfken and Horace W. Harrison 184

The Early History of Envelopes
by Dale Speirs 185

Blueberries and Mail by Sea
by Captain Thomas Killam 188

The Surprises of Philately
by Kimber A. Wald 190

Canada’s 1937 George VI Issue
by J.J. Edward 193

Jamaican Jottings
by “Busha” 197

The Short Story Column
by “Raconteur” 200

Guidelines for Judging Youth Exhibits
Directives pour Juger les Collections Jeunesse 202

Early German Cancels
by “Napoleon” 207

In Memoriam – Harold Beaupre 209
Le philatéliste canadien / The Canadian Philatelist
Juillet - Août 2002 / 173

The Cover / Page couverture:
Elizabeth Bowes-Lyon, a commoner, did not expect to become Queen when she married the Duke of York in 1923. That all changed in 1936 when King Edward VIII abdicated to marry, as he announced to the world, “the woman I love” and his younger brother, the Duke of York, became King George VI.

Elizabeth Bowes-Lyon, une roturière, ne s’attendait certes pas à devenir reine lorsqu’elle épousa le duc d’York en 1923. C’est pourtant ce qui arriva en 1936, alors que le roi Edouard VIII abdiqua, annonçant au monde qu’il marierait celle qu’il aimait, cédant ainsi le trône à son jeune frère, le duc d’York, qui devint le roi George VI.

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THE QUEEN MUM
Queen Elizabeth, the Queen Mother

By George Pepall

The year 2002 is bound to linger in the memories of the members of the Royal Family as a mix of “delight and dole”, as Claudius put it in Shakespeare’s Hamlet. The joy of the Commonwealth-wide celebration of Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II’s Golden Jubilee has already been sharply tempered by the loss of her sister, Princess Margaret Rose. Now her 101-year-old mother, Elizabeth The Queen Mother, is gone. The popular press and electronic media had a field day in reviewing the life and times of the Queen Mother and her subsequent funeral. It is worth noting that no death of any individual in recent memory, commoner or royal, has occasioned such a worldwide outpouring of affection tinged with heartfelt grief as that expressed over the last weeks and months since the Queen Mum’s death on March 30, 2002.

“When she was young,” wrote royal biographer Hector Bolitho, “the horizon of the Queen’s life was not wide. The story of a charming girl: human, prone to mischief, neither an intellectual nor a dunce. From the days when she played cricket with her brothers at Glamis to when she was no longer impish enough to climb to the roof and pour water on guests as they arrived at the castle, her life moved towards a quiet, untroubled ideal: seriousness and balance leavened by a quick sense of humour. There lies her appeal to the women of Great Britain (and the world).”

Few stamps portrayed the Duchess of York before her ascent to the throne with her husband King George VI when his older brother, the enigmatic King Edward VIII, abdicated the throne in 1936. An exceptional example is Newfoundland Scott #208, a rich brown stamp that uses the same image of the young duchess as that shown in the Coronation stamps of May 12, 1937. Illustrated more frequently as Queen to her kingly husband, she appeared in the Silver Wedding omnibus issue of January, 1949 in front of her consort, not behind him, a most unusual positioning in any example of royal portraiture. This arrangement is seen as his tribute to her importance to him in sharing what suddenly became the heavy burden of office on the throne of Great Britain and her Empire.

She made no recorded indication of an interest in the royal stamp collection, begun under the zealous influence of her father-in-law, King George V. However, Elizabeth Bowes-Lyon, later the Duchess of York, then Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth, and most recently the Queen Mother, was known to have a collector’s instinct, acquired as a result of the British inclination toward salvaging any and all forms of scrap during World War II. It was during those dark years that she and her husband, the reluctant King George VI, earned the devotion of their subjects for their refusal to leave London during the worst days of The Blitz. Allegedly the Queen “pounced on a piece of bone left by a fox, fragments of old iron, bottles galore, tins and wire and shards of china.” The story goes that she returned in triumph one day, dragging behind her a large piece of rusty old iron to add to the royal dump. It turned out to be a plough belonging to a neighbouring farmer: “and will Your Majesty graciously give it back to him, please, at once, as he can’t get on without it. “The alternate version is that the plough was quietly returned to its owner without the Queen’s knowledge, which seems rather more likely.” (Mortimer, p.197) If a modern-day topical collector were to try to assemble stamps that depict the interests and hobbies of the Queen Mum, he would have plenty to choose from: Maybe a depiction of modern art, or landscapes and portraits in general. How about antiques, the collectible of the rich and famous? Then there are always the royal dogs. They would have to be of the domestic variety to suit her, despite her interest in the hunt. Likely Welsh Corgis. Do representations of picnics, fishing expeditions and the out-of-doors exist on stamps? If so, they would have a place in her collection. This was a pleasure acquired, no doubt, at Glamis Castle, her ancestral home in Scotland. Even less likely to be found on stamps would be scenes of acting and charades, or word games and crossword puzzles, those most British of pastimes! (Do they exist on stamps?) Hard to imagine, perhaps, but The Queen Mother would have enjoyed a postage re- minder of pianos, and songs sung to piano accompaniment. Apparently she was not shy about raising her voice in song, under
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the right circumstances. Then there is that most royal of associations and pastimes, even obsessions: horses, horse-racing and horse-breeding. She is known to have attended The Queen’s Plate in Toronto more often than any royal before or since. The horse auctions at breeding ranches as far from England as Lexington, Kentucky, were known to have had royal agents present to make bids.

One of her many biographers anticipated the passing of The Queen Mum in poetic terms: It may be increasingly difficult for a centenarian to climb into a helicopter, but once airborne the flight is effortless, skimming over empty spaces and uneasy silences, over neglect and indifference, landing only where the lights shine and the climate is entirely dependable. One day she will simply spin out of sight, emerging God knows where to carry on with the angels. (Mortimer, p. 267)

**Bibliography**


In 1980, many British Commonwealth countries issued stamps marking the Queen Mother’s 80th birthday.

**Intriguing Cinderella**

The intriguing cinderella item submitted by Dave Cooper, Sr., through the courtesy of Jane Davies of the Fort Erie Historical Museum merits further research. Does any reader have any information about this 10-stamp pane?
Double Print Errors on Canadian Stamps

By Joseph Monteiro

Introduction

Double, or more numerous, print errors are a distinct variety of printing errors. These types of printing errors on Canadian stamps became popular with collectors with the discovery of the two 8-cent Royal Military College stamps because the doubling had a remarkable visual effect. Canadian philatelists knew of the existence of these types of errors long before the discovery of the above examples from the double and/or triple surcharges that were discovered on the King George V Admiral stamps of 1926, and on the first Canadian air mail stamp of 1932.

This article examines double or more (referred to as double) print errors. First to be reviewed are the causes of double print errors; second, we will review the types of double print errors that have occurred; and third, we will indicate the well-known double print errors that occurred in the Queen Elizabeth II era (i.e., 1953 to-date). Several concluding remarks will summarize our findings.

Before proceeding, we should define a double print error: It is a doubling of a surcharge, an overprint, a design, or part of a design or attachment, or perforated initials. Included in this group are also stamps with a print of another stamp or when it results in parts of the stamp being cut-off. The requirement of the use of some type of attachment on the plate can also result in double-print errors. The reason is the failure of the double precancelled overprint to show up clearly on the tagging.

Causes of Double Print Errors

Single Printing Process Using Multiple Plates: The origin of double print errors first occurred on Canadian stamps when they were printed with a surcharge or pre-cancel overprint. During this early period, stamps were still printed using a single printing process (engraving) however a second plate was needed to surcharge, or overprint, the stamp. The simplest explanation for the double print is that the plate making the surcharge or overprint made a second impression.

But this explanation need not always be accepted as can be seen from the controversy surrounding the double print of the precancelled bars on the 6-cent Prime Minister Lester B. Pearson stamp. The Canadian Bank Note Company (CBNC) believed that this doubling resulted from an offset, rather than a double printing. CBNC in a letter to Canada Post stated: “Our Research and Development Department has done extensive investigation and concludes that the doubling of the image was caused by the transfer of ink from an improperly dried waste sheet onto the printing blanket. The blanket was subsequently transferred to the production sheet. This type of defect is rare and would be limited to a very few sheets. Our Litho Department is aware of this problem and, with the procedures now used, it is unlikely to recur.”

Philatelists have been a bit skeptical about the above explanation. They contend, as a result of further analysis, that it resulted from a double printing. The reason is the failure of the double precancelled overprint to show up clearly on the tagging. It is believed that the precancelled overprinted stamps were tagged and then fed into the machines for a second precancel overprint. Why the stamps did not receive a second tagging remains unanswered.

Single Printing Process Using a Single Plate but Requiring Attachments: A single printing process using a single plate can also occur when a single printing process is used with a single plate. This means that it can occur regardless of whether the stamps were printed by engraving or by some other method such as lithography. The simplest explanation for the double print is that the printing plate made a second impression. As a result there is a distinct visible effect on the design of the stamp. In the case of engraved or embossed stamps, there is also a distinct effect on the reverse or gum side of the stamp. A second explanation is that there was a slight movement of the paper during the printing process that then touched the engraved plate. In such cases, the engraving effect will not be visible on the reverse or gum side. A third possible reason is because the paper or the repellent fluid used in the lithographic process created a smudge or spread the ink as on blotting paper. A fourth possible explanation of double print errors was provided by the Director of Retail Marketing at Canada Post, Mr. R. W. Eyre in the case of the 8-cent Royal Military Stamp issue. “Regarding the 1976 8c Royal Military Stamp issue, it is the opinion of the printer, Canadian Bank Note Company, from an examination of the photocopy you supplied, that the stamps have a ghost or double impression. They feel this double impression was caused by a wet waste sheet put through the press a second time. This sheet could have gone through off register and transferred some of its ink to the blanket so that when the regular postage paper was put through, it picked up the wet image.”

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Single Printing Process Using a Single Plate but Requiring Attachments: A single printing process using a single plate can also result in double-print errors when the production of the stamp requires the use of some type of attachment on the stamp or when it results in parts of the stamp being cut-off. The requirement of an attachment during the printing process or after can cause a double or even triple placement of the attachment such as a hologram. The reason is that the machine applying the hologram or attachment may have been repeated because of some malfunction. In the case of a cut-off, it could have occurred two or more times on the
Multiple Printing Processes: Multiple printing processes also result in double print errors. Most of the double print errors found today fall into this group. The multiple printing process (engraving and lithography, embossing and lithography, etc.) requires the use of more than one plate. The double print can occur with any of the plates. It can also occur from both plates but such errors are unusual as it would really involve not one but two errors: once from the first plate and once from the second plate. The reason for this error is similar to the explanation provided for such errors resulting in a single printing process.

Types of Double Print Errors

There are five basic types of double print errors:

i) A double print of a surcharge or inscription or design or non scratch-off surface on the stamp;

ii) A double print of another stamp design or surcharge;

iii) A double attachment of a hologram or glued attachment;

iv) A double application of scratch-off surface; and

v) A double cut-off or perfin on a stamp.

We will briefly describe each one.

i) A double print of a surcharge or inscription or design on the stamp

To date, a number of double print errors have been discovered. Some are quite impressive; others less so. These double print errors largely followed the development of printing technology. The first group of double print errors results from overprints or surcharges. The double print errors in this group for the Queen Elizabeth II era are not numerous as very few Canadian stamps have appeared with surcharges or overprints. However, a few from this era that have attracted the attention of collectors are those with overprints for government use or those that were precancelled such as the 1-cent Cameo for government use such as the precancelled 6-cent Pearson, for example.

The second group of well-known double print errors results from a single printing process using a single plate. Such print errors include the 15-cent R.C.M.P. stamp, the two 8-cent Royal Military College stamps, the 38-cent Parliament Building stamp, the 43-cent Canadian Flag stamp and 45-cent Canadian Flag stamp. A third group of double print errors results from a multiple printing processes. In this group are included stamps such as the $1 Fundy stamp and the $2 Klune stamp. A table following this section will include more examples that I have seen or heard about. One or two stamps from each of these sub-groups will be described in greater detail as follows.

In the first sub-group, the two well-known double print errors to be described are: a) the 1-cent Cameo overprinted ‘G’ stamp; and, b) the 6-cent Prime Minister Pearson stamp. The 1-cent Cameo overprinted ‘G’ stamp was found with a double overprint of the ‘G’ by K. Bileski of Winnipeg. He found these errors when he purchased part of a pane of 100 stamps (i.e., 80 stamps) from the Post Office. Though the stamps were overprinted in sheets of 6 panes of 100, there has never been any acknowledgment of the whereabouts of the other panes. Mr. Bileski claims that they could have been destroyed by the Post Office. The 6-cent Prime Minister Pearson stamp consists of a double overprint of the precancelled bars. It is not easily noticeable with the naked eye, but can be seen under a magnifying glass. Since the stamps were overprinted in sheets of 600 stamps, it is believed that at least one sheet of 600 stamps (or 6 panes of 100 stamps) was found.

In the second sub-group, the two well-known double print errors that will be described are: a) the 15-cent R.C.M.P. stamp; and, b) the two 8-cent Royal Military College stamps. The 15-cent R.C.M.P. stamp consists of a double print of the entire design of the stamp. This stamp was printed using lithography and the double design is quite distinct. It was found on imperforate stamps and its discovery led to quite a stir as it was reported that “the R.C.M.P. are investigating the existence of these errors and an arrest is imminent.” The two 8-cent Royal Military College stamps consists of the doubling of the entire lithographic designs and its discovery also led to quite a stir as the doubling was truly remarkable. These errors were found in

Québec and four panes of 50 or 200 stamps in total (or 100 stamps of each of the se-tenant stamps) are known to exists. The numbers agree as the stamps were printed in sheets of four panes of fifty stamps.

In the third sub-group, the two well-known double print errors that will be described are: a) the 50-cent Prairie Street Scene stamp; and, b) the $1 Glacier stamp. The 50-cent Prairie Street Scene error can be described as the inscription of the stamp printed twice. The design of this stamp was printed by lithography and the inscription by steel engraving. The double printing was caused by the steel engraving. The doubling caused by the steel engraving appears below the normal inscription. Since the inscription appears not only at the top but also at the bottom of the stamp (and elsewhere) the doubling also appears in the white border.
of the stamp at the bottom. The $1 Glacier double inscription appears with the inscription shifted a few millimetres apart. The doubling is quite apparent and distinct. The design of this stamp was printed by photogravure and the inscription by steel engraving. The double printing was caused by the steel engraving process.

ii) A double print of another stamp design, or surcharge

Stamps with the design of a second additional stamp printed on it is an unusual occurrence. There has been only one Canadian stamp that has been reported with a double print from another stamp design. It is the 15-cent RCMP stamp with the 10-cent design overprinted on it. This double design was found on imperforate stamps and as indicated earlier, its discovery led to quite a stir. This error was never sold over the post office counter. As indicated by one source, “Imperfs with the design doubled or with the 10c design printed on top of the 15c are probably printer’s waste which were never sold over the post office counter.” While it was reported that the R.C.M.P. was investigating the matter in 1973, no reports of arrests have been brought to my attention. Thus, the old adage that the Mounties always get their man may not always be true. Caution should always be exercised in the purchase of these type of errors.

iii) A double attachment of holograms or glued attachments

A stamp with a hologram or a glued attachment may also be found with an additional application of a hologram or attachment. The additional hologram or attachment may be shifted substantially from the original or may be just marginally shifted. To date, I have not seen such an error but I believe that they can occur and would fall into this group of double prints. Holograms that have been applied on the stamp in the wrong position have been offered for sale by a leading auctioneer.

iv) A double application of a scratch-off surface or a non-scratch-off surface

A double application of a scratch-off surface on a stamp would result in a double print. The scratch-off surface instead of being applied once could have been applied twice causing the double error. I have not seen such errors on Canadian stamps as none has been produced with a scratch-off or non-scratch-off surface. The only application of a non-scratch-off surface in Canada to collectibles was to the $20, $50, $100 and $1000 currency bills of the 1980s and 1990s. A number of countries such as Finland and Hong Kong have printed stamps with such scratch-off or non-scratch-off surfaces.

v) A double cut-off or double perfins on a stamp

The application of perforated initials on a stamp twice can also be considered a double print. The double perforated initials may appear either as elongated perforations reflecting the second strike or the strike may be a few millimetres apart creating a distinct double impression. I am not aware of any stamps with double perforated initials that have been issued for the use of the Canadian federal government. However, these errors do exist in the case of Australian stamps. Perfins have also been used by a number of private companies or bodies of the provincial governments.

Well-Known Double Print Errors of the Queen Elizabeth II Era (1953-2001)

Some well-known major double print errors that I am aware of are listed below. It should be emphasized that this table is by no means complete. Minor double print errors are not reported nor are double print errors due to plate flaws.

### Table 1 – Double Print Errors of the Queen Elizabeth II Era (1953-2001)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Cat. No.</th>
<th>Value</th>
<th>Prtr.</th>
<th>Perf.</th>
<th>Method</th>
<th>Form</th>
<th>FDI</th>
<th>Type of tagging</th>
<th>Plate No.</th>
<th>Type of error</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>387a</td>
<td>5c Seaway</td>
<td>CBN</td>
<td>12x12</td>
<td>Steel Eng.</td>
<td>Pane (50)</td>
<td>June 26, 1959</td>
<td>Untagged</td>
<td>BC</td>
<td>Double print Insc.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>046i</td>
<td>1c Cameo</td>
<td>CBN</td>
<td>12x12</td>
<td>Steel Eng.</td>
<td>Pane (100)</td>
<td>1963</td>
<td>Untagged</td>
<td>BC</td>
<td>Double 'G overprint</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>422</td>
<td>5c Manitoba</td>
<td>CBN</td>
<td>12x12</td>
<td>Steel Eng.</td>
<td>Pan (50)</td>
<td>April 28, 1965</td>
<td>Untagged</td>
<td>BC</td>
<td>Double print</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>463</td>
<td>15c Bylot Is.</td>
<td>CBN</td>
<td>12x12</td>
<td>Steel Eng.</td>
<td>Pane (50)</td>
<td>Feb. 8, 1967</td>
<td>Untagged</td>
<td>P1, P2</td>
<td>Double print Insc.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>539i</td>
<td>6c Papineau</td>
<td>CBN</td>
<td>12x12.5</td>
<td>Steel Eng.</td>
<td>Pane (50)</td>
<td>May 7, 1971</td>
<td>Tagged two sides</td>
<td>BC</td>
<td>Double print</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>540i</td>
<td>6c Hearne</td>
<td>CBN</td>
<td>12x12.5</td>
<td>Steel Eng.</td>
<td>Pane (50)</td>
<td>May 7, 1971</td>
<td>Tagged two sides</td>
<td>BC</td>
<td>Double print</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>614</td>
<td>10c on 15c RCMP</td>
<td>AP</td>
<td>11x11</td>
<td>Litho.</td>
<td>Pane (50)</td>
<td>March 9, 1973</td>
<td>Tagged two sides</td>
<td>BC</td>
<td>Double print</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>614</td>
<td>15c on 15c RCMP</td>
<td>AP</td>
<td>11x11</td>
<td>Litho.</td>
<td>Pane (50)</td>
<td>March 9, 1973</td>
<td>Tagged two sides</td>
<td>BC</td>
<td>Double print</td>
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</tbody>
</table>
Concluding Remarks

We have looked at double print errors as one type of printing error in this article. The causes of double print errors and the types of double print errors were also examined. In addition we also documented a list of the well-known double print errors in the Queen Elizabeth II Era.

In a past article I also indicated that there are various major types of printing errors, inverts, design errors, colour errors, print shift errors, printing on gum side errors, tagging errors, and other printing errors. One of the basic purposes for this article is to examine one type of printing error: the double print errors. In an earlier article, I described how one can study philately in a more logical and analytical manner so as to place it on a sound foundation. The above description is part of the structure that we outlined. By concentrating on such sub-groups in a logical a fashion as possible we can make philately a more interesting hobby especially for those wishing to study the subject further. This will enable philatelists to enrich the study of philately, make it a more enjoyable hobby, and stimulate further research. It could also encourage philatelists to specialize by collecting a specific sub-group of printing errors.

Bibliography and Endnotes

1. “It is possible that the 6c double precancelled sheets which had already been precancelled and tagged could have been fed again into the machine for a second overprint. They received a proper impression where there was no tagging. Where there was tagging, the overprint did not take or showed up very faintly.” See Walburn, H. G., et al., Canada Precancel Handbook, The Unitrade Press, Chapter 28, p. 145.

2. See Bileski, Kasimir, “The 1976 Royal Military College Double Print error,” in Some Canadian Stamp Errors, 1982, p. 15. It should be noted that since this publication appeared double print errors have appeared on stamps of UK.

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– Since 1962 –
The Sea Floor Post Office

By Ken Lewis

This unusual event started out in 1939 as part of the expedition organized by the Bahamian Government and the American Field Museum. Its main intention was to record and study the natural environment of the undersea world surrounding the Bahamas.

It was thought that it would be in the public interest to record the various forms of life for cinemas throughout the world. The leader of the expedition was to be John Ernest Williamson from Norfolk, Virginia, USA. Mr. Williamson had proven himself worthy of the task, being a noted author, explorer, and a pioneer of undersea photography. The expedition was to last three years, until 1942.

Mr. Williamson left his position as a cartoonist for the Virginian Pilot to work full-time on the design of the apparatus that he would use for the expedition. His idea was to use the flexible tube, invented by his father Charles Williamson, which was originally designed for deep-sea salvage and submarine engineering. It consisted of a tube with an observation sphere at one end. The Photosphere, as this observation sphere became known, consisted of a steel container with one very large glass window. From this window an uninterrupted view of the undersea world could be seen due to it being able to rotate 360° about the base of the tube. The anticipated view is illustrated on the left of the cover shown in Figure 1. The tube was about four feet in diameter and could be lengthened or shortened like an accordion. Being flexible it would absorb the movement of the waves and currents without disturbing the sphere at its base. The tube would connect this sphere (used to photograph the undersea scenes) to a surface vessel. An illustration showing the operation of this invention in use can be seen on the left of the cover in Figure 2. One benefit of the tube was that everyone visiting the Photosphere could do so without experiencing any pressure change. Even when the Photosphere was many hundreds of feet below the surface no discomfort would be experienced. The expedition was given the nickname of The Hole in the Sea. There were banks of lights used to illuminate great areas of the undersea world and make viewing appear to be in natural light.

Before this expedition could become a reality it had to raise funds from private sources, and to this end the following names were active sponsors of the historic event:

Sir Francis Peek, Bt.; The Hon. Sir Harry Oakes, Bt., MLC; Hon H. G. Christie, MEC, MHA; Mr. R. T. Symonette, MHA; Mr. Sidney Farington, JP, and Mr. A. Wenner-Green.

Fortunately the money did materialise and the project was born.

Within the Photosphere was to be a post office, overseen by Mr. J. H. Peet, the Bahamian Postmaster General, who made Mr. Williamson the honorary postmaster of the Photosphere. Both the post office and the interior dimensions of the Photosphere measured 6 feet by 10 feet and, therefore, limited the number of visitors.

Because of its unusual position a special postmark was created for the post office at the bottom of the sea. The design had two concentric oval lines (the outer one being the thicker of the two) containing around the inner edge the words SEA FLOOR/Bahamas and the date across the centre using the month/day/year format. The restriction imposed on the use of this post office was that only visitors to the Photosphere were allowed to use the facility. This was strictly enforced because Mr. Peet had been inundated with requests from people all over the world for First Day Covers from this post office. As this regulation also applied to the Postmaster General his secretary worked full-time returning the money and requests that kept pouring in.

The post office was officially open for only two days during the whole three years. The first occasion was on 16th August 1939, when the post office was inau-
gurated, and the second was on the 100th anniversary of the official issue of the Penny Black on 6th May 1940. Other than these two dates the post office was available for use by any visitors permitted to enter the Photosphere and a number of covers bearing these extra dates are known. Visitors were discouraged due to the interruption it would cause to the research, but a few were permitted to visit the Photosphere on some days. As a result of these extra visits a number of covers are known with different dates other than the two official times.

The two covers illustrated in this article were posted at this sea floor post office on the official opening dates, Figs. 1 & 2. Miss Myrtle Kerr posted the First Day Cover, shown in Fig. 1, to one of her relatives, while visiting the Photosphere. This cover is illustrated with the artist’s impression of visitors and what could be seen through the giant viewing window. Above this illustration is the inscription FIRST DAY COVER and below it are the words Looking into a Nassau, Bahamas marine garden from the Williamson Photosphere/where the first Undersea Post Office/in history was established today. To the right is a rubber stamp cachet reading Posted in Williamson Photosphere. The addressee is Mrs. Frederick Teller, 15 Clinton Ave., Maplewood, N.J., USA. On the back of this cover are two transit marks, one receiver, and a straight-line cachet, which reads Bahamas Williamson Undersea Expedition. Both the Nassau transit mark and the cachet are in black whereas the Maplewood registered and the Miami, Florida marks are in magenta (Figure 3).

At the outset this expedition was expected to last five years, but due to the escalation of the Second World War spreading across the Atlantic the project ceased in 1942. This expedition greatly advanced the scientific knowledge of the sea floor by about 10 to 20 years. The public as well as scientists enjoyed the spectacles screened at cinemas across the world showing a panoramic view of what life was like 100s of feet under the sea.

In conclusion, it should be noted that these covers are very collectable today, but not many philatelists know much about the event, and this article is meant to give an introduction into the history of the World’s only Undersea Post Office. 🌍.
The Date of Issue of the Two-Cent Registered Letter Stamp

By George B. Arfken and Horace W. Harrison

Essays for a distinctive stamp that would identify registered letters were developed by Postal Inspector John Dewe in March 1865 [1,2]. For a decade, nothing happened and then in 1875, postal officials revived Dewe’s concepts and Canada’s Registered Letter Stamps (RLS) were designed. We are concerned here with showing the earliest dated 2¢RLS and the earliest dated 2¢RLS cover and approximating the date of issue of the 2¢RLS.

The first Official Postal Guide issued under the authority of the Postmaster General was dated October 1875. On page xvii, it declared that:

1. On every letter and packet posted for registration, should be affixed, in addition to a stamp or stamps defining the postage, a registered letter stamp as follows:
2. On a letter addressed to any place in Canada, a registered letter stamp of the value of two cents.

Despite the announcement in the Postal Guide, it is highly unlikely that any registered letter stamps of any value were available in October 1875. Boggs (p. 469) estimated that “...special stamps for registration made their appearance on Nov. 15, 1875.”

There was no post office announcement of issuing these unique stamps. So, we turn to philatelic evidence – the earliest dated stamps and covers. The earliest known dated registered letter stamp was cancelled by the circular date stamp of Craigvale, C.W. on Dec. 13, 1875. Unfortunately for this article, the date stamp does not show up well in photographs. The earliest on cover usage of a two cent RLS was dated at Newmarket, Ont. on Dec. 15, 1875. This cover, addressed to Armadale P.O., is shown in Figure 1.

The second earliest cover, dated DE 18 75, went from Upper Gasperaux, N.B. to Gagetown. This cover is shown in Figure 2.

The table lists the two cent RLS domestic covers (reported so far) for the first three months of usage.

From the earliest dates, December 13 and 15, and the pattern of two more covers in December 1875 and then five 2¢RLS covers in January 1876, we believe that Canadians started to use the 2¢RLS fairly soon after it was issued. We estimate the date of issue of the 2¢RLS to be early December 1875.

Early Two Cent RLS Domestic Covers, December 1875 – February 1876

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Postmark</th>
<th>Origin</th>
<th>Destination</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>DE 15 75</td>
<td>New Market, Ont.</td>
<td>Armadale, P.O.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>DE 18 75</td>
<td>Upper Gasperaux, N.B.</td>
<td>Gagetown</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>DE 31 75</td>
<td>Clarksburg, C.W.</td>
<td>Collingwood</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>JA 13 76</td>
<td>Perth</td>
<td>Toronto</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>JA 17 76</td>
<td>Bobcaygeon, Ont.</td>
<td>Toronto</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>JA 19 76</td>
<td>St. Jacobs, C.W.</td>
<td>Waterloo</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>JA 27 76</td>
<td>Stouffville, Ont.</td>
<td>Armadale</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>JA 31 76</td>
<td>Newington, C.W.</td>
<td>Dickinson’s Landing</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>FE 12 76</td>
<td>Millbrook, Ont.</td>
<td>Brougham</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Several of these early covers are illustrated in references 3-4.

The early history of envelopes

by Dale Speirs

The following article first appeared as a two-part series, Volumes 50 and 51, in the Calgary Philatelist.

In the Beginning

Envelopes were invented thousands of years ago but inexpensive, mass-produced envelopes date only from Rowland Hill’s postal reforms of 1840. Philatelists tend to look at the Penny Black as Hill’s major accomplishment in life but, in fact, the postage stamp was only a minor part of his reforms. His greatest effect on the postal system was to prove that postal rates depend on how many times a letter is handled en route, not the distance. Hill showed that counting sheets of paper to calculate postage was inefficient, and that standardizing weight increments was the better method of charging fees.

Envelopes were invented not long after clay tablets. Such tablets were baked inside a clay wrapper and the wrapper inscribed on the surface as to its contents. It was a rather bulky method of record keeping and not exactly conducive to displaying them in standard exhibition frames at a stamp show. Paper was very expensive and difficult to come by until a few centuries ago and, combined with widespread illiteracy, was in little demand. Communications were almost entirely restricted to government officials and nobility. Paper envelopes were, therefore, rare. As long as letters were assessed on the number of sheets of paper envelopes were seldom used as the envelope constituted a sheet in its own right and bumped up the postage required.

Before the Envelope, there Was Sealing Wax

Sealing wax is known at least as far back as ancient Egypt.[1] Although wax was the most common method of sealing a letter sheet, other alternatives were occasionally used. The Chinese used rice paste, for example.[2] Sealing wax was usually red, but other colours are known. Black wax dates from as early as 1556 for use as mourning.[3]

Just why sealing wax was needed was illustrated by a famous painting of a maid servant peeking into a folded letter [see Figure 1]. For this reason, anyone writing a folded letter without an envelope would first fold in the vertical edges to cover the text, then fold it horizontally to produce the cover.[4] The advent of mass-produced envelopes after 1840 quickly finished off the sealing wax industry, which dwindled to no more than a minor specialty. By 1872, a correspondent was lamenting: “Can anyone inform me why no good sealing wax is to be had anywhere nowadays for love or money, with the exception perhaps of what is called ‘India sealing wax’? I say perhaps, because even that is not easily worked. ... I have letters of the seventeenth, eighteenth, and nineteenth centuries with bright red wax seals, the coats of arms on which have maintained to this day as sharp edges as though the impression had only just been taken, whereas now, after enclosing a letter but a short time in a portfolio or autograph book, the seal will soon get obliterated. Fifty years ago good solid sealing wax could still be procured.”[5]

This did not stop an 1890 etiquette book[6] from snobbishly remarking: “The gummed envelope without a seal is perfectly correct, but a neat seal of red sealing-wax always gives a refined look to a letter and is a desirable adjunct thereto. Every one should have an engraved seal containing the initial letter of his surname, his monogram, or if he be so fortunate as to own one, his crest, and should use it with red sealing wax on ceremonial notes and letters. If the writer is in mourning, black sealing wax should, of course, be used, but no other colours except black and red are good form. “To get a good impression from your seal,” says Mrs. Sherwood, “you may first rub it with linseed oil, then dust it with a little rough powder, and then press it quickly and firmly on the wax.” Every lady’s desk should have on it a wax taper, a seal, and a large stick of red or black sealing wax. The impression must not be made with anything save a proper seal. When finished the seal should show neatness and care.”

By 1930, an editorial in The Times was reduced to grumbling that, much to the editor’s regret, use of sealing wax had died out.[7] But never entirely so because in 1916 a New York City woman died of sealing wax. Miss Mabel Elliott died of blood poisoning ten days after burning her index finger with hot sealing wax.[8] I have not found any statistics comparing sealing wax burns to paper cuts from envelopes. One would expect that out of all the millions of paper cuts sustained since 1840 from opening an envelope by running the finger under the flap, there would have been at least one septic case. But this takes us into realms of invisible postal history that are essentially not researchable.

The Mulready Disaster

In our time, we had the Ford Edsel, and New Coke, ideas that seemed good at the time but subsequently were laughed or shouted out of the marketplace. The story of the Mulready prepaid envelopes, issued at the same time as the Penny Blacks, has been well told elsewhere.[9,10,11] Their reception by the British public was not favourable. A May 2, 1840 editorial in The Times commented that “We have been favoured with a sight of one of the new stamp covers, and we must say we never beheld anything more ludicrous than the figures or allegorical device by which it is marked with its official character. ... Britannia is seated in the centre, with the lion couchant (Whigish) at her feet. Her arms are distended, scattering little flying children to some elephants on the left, and on the right to a group of gentlemen, some of whom at all events are not enclosed in envelopes, writing on their knees, evidently on account of a paucity of tables. There are, besides sundry figures who, if they were to appear in the streets of London or any of our highways, would be liable to the penal-
ties of the Vagrant Act for indecent exposure...”[12]

The Mulready envelope wasn’t universally panned however. The Mirror commented favourably on the design.[13] An editorial published just before the release of the envelope said: “As a work of art it reflects the highest credit on the British school”.

An 1891 commentator suggested the reason for the Mulready disaster was that: “Unfortunately, this design, however beautiful as a work of art, was altogether unsuited to the prosaic purpose for which it was intended.”[14]

Matters were not helped by a monopoly dispute involving John Dickinson & Co., which had an exclusive patent on thread paper. Coloured threads were embedded in straight lines in the paper used to manufacture the Mulready envelopes as an anti-forgery measure. It was effective but expensive, and Dickinson lost the paper supply contract for postal stationery by 1859. De La Rue took over as the new monopoly, using ordinary paper for postal stationery.[15]

Another difficulty that the British Post Office experienced was the preference by the general public for privately made envelopes rather than stamped envelopes. From 1846 to the middle of 1849, sales of unstamped envelopes more than doubled while the volume of stamped envelopes declined by about 20%. The reason was that unstamped envelopes were made of better paper and had gummed flaps. The Post Office finally took note of this and in 1850 introduced the new style envelopes.[16] It was also a fact that some etiquette guides sniffed at using stamped envelopes for personal use.[17]

**By Gum, What Will They Think of Next**

We take pre-gummed flaps on envelopes for granted, but it was not an obvious thing back then. As with all successes, there are several claimants to paternity (no one ever wants to take credit for failures such as the infamous Mulreadys). Henry Dobb of England was named as one father of mass-produced envelopes with gummed flaps. But then again, so was a J. Smith, who sold the Smith’s Patent Adhesive Envelopes, “requiring neither wax nor wafer” circa May 1847. Just as the first postage stamps included instructions on how to use them, so it was that Smith had to instruct his customers as follows: “These Envelopes are made perfectly safe in an instant; the flap of the Envelope being prepared with a strong cement renders it more secure than those which are fastened in the usual manner, the cement only requiring to be dampened and the flap pressed down, after which it becomes dry and firm in seconds.”[18]

The original mass-produced envelopes had ungummed flaps, since people still used sealing wax. An intermediate step to the gummed flap was to seal the flap with gummed labels, cut off from sheets with scissors as required. The labels could be privately produced, such as Isaac Pitman’s labels with shorthand mottos on them.[19] A more obvious method was to put the postage stamp on the flap to seal the envelope, with the address obviously being written on the flap side as well.[20] Actually, even today, that makes more sense as it would provide a better method of tamper-proofing a letter but, of course, the universal practice is to keep the flap on the reverse side.

One minor bit of envelope silliness was recorded in the British postal system in the 1930s when a Scotsman sent a letter to his young lady and sealed the flap with the stamp. Next to the stamp he wrote “Hi diddle diddle, the stamp’s in the middle.” This was a mistake, as it attracted the attention of a postal official who noticed the letter was under paid and, therefore, assessed postage due with the equally cheerful, “Hi diddle day, there’s twopence to pay.”[21]

Gumming envelope flaps was an inconsistent operation at first, leading an 1871 writer to complain: “Who has not been annoyed again and again at the difficulty of opening letters with envelopes gummed up all along the top, as if they were never to be opened.” One method of overcoming this problem was for the manufacturer to run a thread inside the flap and leave one end dangling outside the envelope.[22] The recipient then took hold of the thread end and pulled it on to neatly tear open the envelope. Although this type of envelope is still available today, its additional manufacturing cost has always kept it a specialty item. Tear strips, however, are more common on express document packages.

**Mass Production of Envelopes**

Envelopes were not a new invention in Rowland Hill’s time. There are occasional breathless reports in the philatelic literature announcing the discovery of ‘the earliest known envelope’, such as one that detailed an 1833 envelope.[23] In actual fact occasional use of envelopes is as old as paper with examples known, for instance, from England in the 1500s[24] and 1600s,[25] and France in the late 1600s and early 1700s.[26, 27] General use of envelopes was known in France by the early 1700s but not in England until the 1840s.[28]

Mass production of envelopes cut the cost considerably from pre-Hill days. In 1832, common envelopes were sold at one shilling per dozen, but by 1844 the wholesale rate had dropped to half a farthing each.[29] In 1837, envelopes sold at ¾ per hundred but this was as flat and ungummed paper not a finished envelope. After preparing the enclosure, the corners were brought together under the seal.[30] In the transitional stage between handmade and mass production, it was common to have cardboard templates for individuals to cut and fold their own envelopes.[31]

There was no one single manufacturer or person who can be considered as the father of the envelope. Prior to 1840, envelopes were carried by stationers as a specialty item. When the demand increased after 1840, many people simultaneously went into the business of manufacturing them.[32] All manner of patented envelopes were created, and this would be a full-line philatelic collection in its own right.[33] By 1851, machines were in use that could cut 480 envelopes at one stroke, then automatically fold and gum them. De La Rue, better known to philatelists as a stamp printer, could manufacture 396,000 envelopes in a day.[34]
You Have Nothing to Lose but Your Wax

As with any new invention, there was always a vulnerable faction who felt that nothing would come of the new-fangled idea. An indignant letter to The Times in 1842 said that: “... the envelopes are pretty play-things and convenient enough for invitation circulars, but they should never be used by the merchant or lawyer.”[35] Long before Rowland Hill, the author Charles Lamb was fulminating against the use of envelopes. In August 1825, he wrote: “You’ll know who this letter comes from by opening slap dash upon the text, as in the good old times. I never could come into the custom of envelopes. ’Tis a modern foppery.”[36] In March 1826, he was still ranting that: “I never enclosed one bit of paper in another, nor understood the rationale of it.”[37]

The acceptance of envelopes with gummed flaps was quick among the general public. As early as 1845, an American etiquette book advised that “A lady’s letter should always be enclosed in an envelope, unless it is going some distance, and the postage would be increased by the extra sheet. ... All notes should be enclosed in envelopes. ... Wafers are of course never used; a large seal to a lady’s letter is in bad taste.”[38]

Envelope Oddities

In our time, the Internet has raised questions on points of law such as copyright infringement and cross-border taxation which will take a number of years to settle in the courts and legislatures. Rowland Hill’s postal reforms stirred up many such issues as well as libels on postcards and illegible postmarks allowing murderers to go free (the infamous Madeline Smith of Glasgow). The advent of mass-production envelopes caused at least one concern in evidence law in 1842: “... the postage stamp attached to an envelope in which a letter is merely enclosed will not qualify that letter to be read as evidence in a court of law, the postage stamp being required to be attached to the letter itself.”[39] This matter has long since resolved itself in courts, but in the early years of Hill’s reforms it did not appear as simple as might be.

During the 1800s, it was the custom of American railroads to fire employees by sending them a blue envelope containing a letter of dismissal and their final pay-cheque.[40] No pink slips in those days. What happened on one railroad was that the company president began using blue envelopes for ordinary correspondence, sowing unnecessary alarm among his minions.

One conductor who received a blue envelope with a routine letter had to go home and change his uniform!

Paper, at one time scarce and valuable, is now so cheap that we have to be reminded to recycle it. In modern times, before the growth of the recycling industry in the late 1970s, wars provided a rare impetus to save paper. Envelopes in particular are obvious targets to be reused. Perhaps a record was the envelope that was re-sent 59 times between two boys in England during World War II.[41] Each time they pasted a new address label over the old one. It failed on the 59th round when the weight of the labels pushed the envelope into the next increment of postage, and postage due was assessed.

References

14. E.B. Evans, A Description of the Mulready Envelope and of Various Imitations and Caricatures of Its Designs..
19. Anonymous (as A.S.) Bag Envelopes, Note & Queries, Series 11, 6 (1912), p. 53
Blueberries and Mail by Sea
from Yarmouth to Boston in the Mid-19th Century

By Captain Thomas Killam

My name is Captain Thomas Killam. (Figure 1) The title Captain is honorary because I really did not have a seafaring career. However, I was familiar with ships as many were built in my father’s shipyard.

I was born in 1802, the third son of John Killam II and Sarah Allen. In 1823, I married Sophia Corning. From that union was born a son in 1824 whom we named George. Sadly, Sophia passed away in 1839. That same year I founded the firm of Thomas Killam and I named the first ship I built Sophia in memory of my deceased wife. Shortly thereafter, I married Elizabeth Gale Dudman who bore me eight children.

By the time I died, I had owned or partly owned 57 ships with one named after me. (Figure 2) My company’s name underwent several name changes depending on whom I took in as partners. In 1849, the company was renamed Thomas Killam and Company when my brother-in-law, William K. Dudman and my eldest son George became my associates. (Figure 3) That partnership was dissolved in 1862 when my sons Frank and John H. joined the firm.

Frank was elected to the House of Commons to fill the vacancy as a result of my death on my way home from Parliament, on December 15, 1868. I had only been in the House of Commons since Confederation but I had served twenty years in the Nova Scotia Legislature before that. Poor Frank lost his left arm in 1867 when a cannon prematurely discharged during the celebration of the Nova Scotia election victory.

Well, you say, what has all this got to do with postage stamps? I am getting to that, but before I get there let me tell you about the blueberries.

With my brother-in-law and other well-known Yarmouth residents, Thomas Allen, Stanley Brown, John Lovitt (Figure 4) and W. H. Townsend, I owned the Eastern State which was built in Philadelphia in 1851 for the Yarmouth Steam Navigation Company. She was the first steamer to run between Yarmouth and Boston beginning in 1855 with weekly runs starting in 1857. One of her most famous skippers was Amos Crosby of Marco Polo fame. (Figures 5 and 6) She was replaced, in succession, by the Relief in 1862, the Scotia around 1864 and, temporarily, by the Palmyra and the Prometheus in 1866. By mid-summer 1866, the Linda became her permanent replacement. But more about her later.

The new and speedy modes of sea transport that my partners and I built were instrumental in the development of the economy of Yarmouth County. We had gotten rid of the wooden ships as steam travel became faster and allowed our vessels to carry more cargo. In addition, because they were faster, the cargo could be diversified and perishables added. Our Yarmouth Steam Navigation Company was able to provide an outlet, first to Boston and then later to New York, for the Yarmouth blueberry producers.

But blueberries weren’t the only cargo we carried. We also carried the mail. Now we are getting to something you are more interested in, dear readers. So here is where we come back to the good old Linda. She was a 500-ton steamer com-
manded by Captain Oliver Hale when she was put on the St. John-Boston run with a stopover in Yarmouth. In addition to mail service to the U.S. from Yarmouth, the St. John to Yarmouth leg provided my hometown with an important mail link to the rest of Canada. My partners and I received the "ship letter" rate of two cents for each letter we carried. This arrangement lasted until April 20, 1871 when the port-of-call was changed from Boston to Portland, Maine. From that time on my sons, now owners of the company, received half the postage collected by the sending country, the same fee as the big players such as Inman and Cunard.

I illustrate one of the envelopes carried by the Linda on a weekly trip to Boston in July 1869. (Figure 7) The letter it contained was written at Beaver River, Nova Scotia on or about July 3. It could have been written by one of my first wife’s relatives as four of the six land petitioners in 1814 were all named Corning and the envelope is addressed to a Joseph Corning at Danvers Point, Massachusetts. But how could I know this as I had been dead for six months when this letter was mailed. Although Beaver River is closer to Yarmouth than it is to Digby, Nova Scotia, the postmaster was well aware that the letter had to be sent to St. John. In the middle part of the 19th century, mail despatches were quicker if they were sent by ship as opposed to overland. So it was with this letter. It was posted on Saturday, July 3 (Figure 8) and carried either by land or by ship to Weymouth as shown on the backstamp and forwarded to Digby on Monday, July 5 as shown by another backstamp. A few hours layover and it was on its way on another boat for the Bay of Fundy crossing to St. John, as shown on a third backstamp, where it was received late that same day. It was put into a closed bag for the trip to Boston aboard the Linda.

On August 27, 1871, the Linda sank off High Head in Yarmouth County. (Figure 9) She was refloated the next year and repaired in my sons’ shipyard. They changed her name to Dominion and she resumed trips to Boston in April 1873. She carried passengers and goods, blueberries in season, but never again the mail on a regular basis. An indication of her importance to the blueberry industry is shown when in 1885 the Yarmouth markets were flooded with blueberries and the price plummeted. You might well ask, why? The reason was because the Dominion was laid up for repairs and there was no other way of shipping the berries to the Boston and New York markets.

I hope you liked my little story of the envelope that was carried aboard the Linda and that you didn’t mind all my extraneous family history. When you are next in Yarmouth, remember me. Many of the town’s landmarks are named after my family.

Figure 7. A letter carried aboard the Linda from St. John to Boston in July 1869.
By Kimber A. Wald

One of the nice things about our great hobby is the unanticipated surprise. For example, you go to a stamp show, examine dealers’ material relating to your collecting interests, find something that looks run-of-the-mill but because you need it, you purchase it. Later, you discover that it will become a philatelic memory to be forever treasured.

Canadian philately offers many wonderful opportunities to explore. Recently, I have been working on the formation of a used collection to 1990 and also a specialized study of Special Deliveries. Lurking in the background has been an interest in Ontario postal history and Toronto in particular. Toronto is my favorite “north of the border” spot for visiting.

At an American national show last year I purchased a modest looking 1885 Toronto duplex cover (Figure 1). It is a little tattered at the left side and the cancel is slightly off at the right, but as I needed it, $15.00 changed hands for this “space filler.”

Imagine my surprise when I got home and found a letter inside addressed to the writer’s friend, Ella, back in Shelbyville, Indiana.

The letter was carefully pulled out, unfolded, and there, at the top, was an engraving of the City of Toronto that looked as if someone landing in a seaplane along the shore had crafted it (Figure 2).

I scanned the drawing with a magnifying glass for some landmarks I know, such as the Old City Hall and the tower of the 150 year-old-church on Bond Street were I like to worship when I’m in town.

Just about as interesting as this “graphic tour” was the author’s personal description of sailing on the lake by steamboat and visits to several other places in Ontario besides Toronto.

Alice was the kind of person who would make any travel agent delighted they did not select some other career.

Thanks to this letter, Alice leaps to life after 117 years as we read her comments written in Toronto on Friday, August 28, 1885:

Figure 2. An engraving of the City of Toronto that looked as if someone landing in a seaplane along the shore had crafted it.

Figure 1. This cover was mailed August 29, 1885 from Toronto to Shelbyville, Indiana. It is backstamped in Shelbyville August 31. It is franked with the three cent surface letter rate for a half ounce to the United States.
“Dear Ella:

“I received your letter a long, long time ago and answered it once but did not send it. I am now visiting in Canada. I came across the Lake from Port de Lucy* to Toronto today and had a lovely ride on the steamboat (The Empress).

“Toronto is the ‘loveliest’ city I ever saw. The exposition grounds are magnificent. I also saw the Crystal Palace and the ‘Castle’ where the Prince of Wales and the Princess Louise stay when here. Of course, it is very grand. I have been here visiting for some time among our relatives. I came with my aunt. Her health is very poor and she could not come alone. I was at Niagara Falls too and took several nice, long walks all by myself over the city. We were also in Buffalo and Cleveland, Ohio.

“I was at the skating rink last night. Had a nice fellow. He is going to take us for a drive all over Niagara and the adjoining places of interest. He lives in St. Catherine’s, Canada, where we have been most of the time. Riding on a steamboat is lovely.

“We expect to return to Indianapolis some time next week. I am invited to visit a friend in Louisville, Kentucky, during the exposition there and a conductor who boards at our house runs from Indianapolis to Louisville and I think he will give me a pass. Carrie is going too. If I take in Louisville I think I have gone enough for one summer and will not hardly get to go to Shelbyville although I promised faithfully that I would. Do you ever come to Indianapolis? I would be pleased to see you any time you may feel disposed to come.

“No indeed we are not thinking of going to Kansas. We bought a farm near Frankfort, Indiana, and also a house and lab in Frankfort and it may be possible that we will move there sometime but not soon, I think.

“How is Ina Thomas? Are you and her as intimate as you once were? Well, I suppose by the time you answer I will be at home as we expect to return next week. Sunday I expect a grand time. Saturday I am going on an excursion. I have been to one party since I came. I am 13 miles north of Toronto tonight. Will return to Toronto tomorrow and go on an excursion on the Lake tomorrow night.

“Goodbye,

“Alice”

The next time you are looking through some covers in a dealer’s stock, check them for chubbiness as well as postal markings. You may be quite surprised and pleased with what has been waiting inside for you over the decades!

Bibliography


* A misspelling for Port Dalhousie located just west of St-Catharines.
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Canada’s 1937 George VI Issue

By J.J. Edward

When King Edward VIII abdicated on December 11, 1936, Canada’s postal authorities were thrown into a state of bewilderment followed by frantic activity to produce King George VI postage stamps. The public expressed its concerns and inquired about the Post Office Department’s intentions and plans for the needed new stamps. It was a period when the King George V stamps of 1935 were current, new designs for King Edward VIII stamps were being printed when suddenly a new king, George VI (1895 – 1962) was thrust on the scene.

Post Office files at the Postal Archives in Ottawa shed some light on activities during that hectic period. James Montagnes of the Canadian Central Press, Toronto, Ontario (on December 12, 1936) wrote to H.E. Atwater, Financial Superintendent, Philatelic Section, Post Office Department, asking the following:

- Would George V stamps be withdrawn by the year end?
- Will any King Edward VIII stamps be printed?
- Are the King Edward VIII printing plates to be retained or will they be destroyed?
- Will the 2c Duke of York stamps issued for the 25th anniversary of King George V’s accession to the throne be reprinted?
- When will the George VI stamps appear?
- Will there be consultation among the Dominions concerning the Edward VIII stamps that are ready for distribution?

On December 14, 1936 Mr. Atwater noted that the Postmaster General, the Honourable John Campbell Elliot, requested the Canadian High Commissioner in London, England, to obtain two authorized photos of King George VI in profile, one facing right and one facing left for use on Canada’s new stamps. On the same date the Associated Press in England reported that the King Edward VIII stamps were selling in England in excess of 20 million a day and that these stamps would continue to be printed until King George VI stamps were ready for distribution.

The following day, Atwater sent a memorandum to the Postmaster General in which he recommended that due to insufficient time, a George VI coronation stamp for May 12, 1937 be issued as such but rather incorporate the design of the new, regular 3-cent George VI stamp. He pointed out that since it was determined that no King Edward VIII stamps, then in preparation, would be issued, it was necessary to issue a complete series of “King’s Head” stamps. If the suggestion met with the P.M.G.’s approval, Atwater advised that the new designs for the King’s Head issue and the Coronation stamp would be submitted for approval as soon as the Banknote Company had them ready.

One week after Montagnes wrote to Atwater, the latter provided the following details:

- a) George V stamps would only be withdrawn when the new issue replaced them.
- b) There was no knowledge as to whether there will be any King Edward VIII stamps.
- c) All plates and dies of Canadian stamps no longer issued are destroyed.
- d) The Post Office Department never reprints an obsolete stamp.
- e) He has no idea when a King George VI stamp will appear.
- f) The Postmaster General has sole responsibility for disposal of Canadian postage stamps. As to King Edward VIII stamps, see (b) above —

(It is interesting to note the ambiguity that although some King Edward VIII stamps were already printed and the public knew about the printing, the Department denied knowing whether there would be any.)

Noting the urgency that existed, the Canadian Banknote Company advised Atwater on December 18 that the schedule for the new King George VI stamps would be as follows:

- Proofs of the 3c would be ready 3 weeks after the model was approved.
- Proofs of the 1c and 2c would be ready 4 weeks after the model was approved.
- Delivery of the 3c stamps would be 10 days after the approval of the proofs at the rate of 3 million per day.
- Delivery of the 1c stamp would be 15 days after approval of the proofs at the same rate.
- Delivery of the 2c stamp, 20 days after approval of the proofs at the same rate.

The Canadian Banknote Company noted that it expected reimbursement for overtime since the Post Office Department requested urgency. They quoted on the basis of working overtime 10 cents per thousand for printing 35 million 3-cent stamps and 11-cent per thousand for printing 15 million stamps of each 1-cent and 2-cent values. (The regular price was 8c and 8.5c respectively.)

On the day before Christmas 1936, the Canadian Banknote Company received a request from the Post Office Department to prepare an ornamental frame so that the authorized portrait of the King could be inserted as soon as it was received. Atwater advised the Postmaster General that an authorized portrait of King George VI was expected by December 28. He also stated that the model would be prepared by the Banknote Company in three or four days and that the earliest date for release of the stamps would not be earlier than March 1, 1937.

At year’s end (December 30), Atwater delivered a letter to Dr. O.D. Skelton, Undersecretary of State for External Affairs, suggesting that in the event that an official portrait or photo of King George VI was not available, that perhaps the 2-cent Silver Jubilee stamp portrait of the Duke of York could be used. He enquired if it would be practical to wire London for permission. The following telegram from the Secretary of State was sent to The Honorable Vincent Massey, High Commissioner for Canada in Great Britain, London.
The Secretary of State for External Affairs received the following reply by telegram from the High Commissioner for Canada in Great Britain.

Massey

Mr. N.H. MacDonald, secretary to the Postmaster General received a memorandum from Mr.Atwater advising that if the same border authorized for the King Edward VIII stamps could be used, one week would be saved in production time. The Postmaster General considered the idea and on January 11, 1937 requested to see the King Edward VIII proofs.

Finally on January 16 the Deputy Master of the Mint in Ottawa received three official portraits. One showed His Majesty the King facing left, one facing right, and one a full face. They had been sent via the Aquitania that sailed January 5 and docked in New York on January 12. It was immediately noted that the King was in civilian dress, a departure from precedent.

The Secretary of State for External Affairs received the following reply by telegram from the High Commissioner for Canada in Great Britain.

Code No. 2

London, 5th January, 1937

No. 2. Your telegram of the 12th of December No. 363 and your telegram of the 30th December No. 376. Have now received from Royal Mint two profile photographs of His Majesty. These are official photographs taken strictly for the Mint and postage stamp purposes only. I am sending these per “Aquitania” tonight Deputy Master of the Mint informs me that Mr. Paget, the artist who did the King’s Head of which a plaster model was sent to the Canadian Postmaster General, November 13, is at work upon head of the new King. He states that this is as good and perhaps better than his effigy of former King and he enquires whether the Postmaster General might find this more useful to him than photograph and if this is the case he would be pleased to supply a model which would probably be ready by middle of February.

King George VI 1937 three-cent Carmine Large Die Proof on India paper sunk on card.

Mr. P.J. Wood, President of the Canadian Bank Note Company acknowledged on the same day, January 29, that he received the photograph by Bertram Park of His Majesty King George VI to be used for the new stamps. In the same memorandum to Atwater, Wood acknowledged receipt of a model containing three subjects prepared for the King Edward VIII stamps approved by the Postmaster General on September 12, 1936 and also three die proofs of the King Edward VIII stamp in 2c denomination in colours red, green, and brown, approved on November 27, 1936. Promptly on the following day, January 30, the model showing the Bertram Park photograph was submitted by the Canadian Banknote Company to the Post Office Department for approval. Also included was a model showing His Majesty as the Duke of York as used on the 1935, 2-cent Jubilee stamp.

The model using the Park photograph was approved by the Department on January 23 when it was returned to the Canadian Banknote Company. A few days later, the Duke of York model was rejected. It, along with five other models, were sent to the banknote company who acknowledged receipt and stated that all models would be destroyed. On February 5, photos for the Coro-
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nation stamps were sent by General George P. Vanier of the High Commissioner’s Office, London. There were two photos of the King, two of Queen Elizabeth, and one of Princess Elizabeth. In mid-February, the Banknote Company reminded the Post Office Department that it should arrange for release of copyright of photograph #05260-C of His Majesty King George VI by Bertram Park, 43 Dover St., London W.1, England. The Department asked External Affairs to secure copyright release. The proofs of the King George VI, 3-cent stamp was approved by the Post Office department on February 22, 1937.

The Honourable Vincent Massy, Canadian High Commissioner in London, England, contacted the postal authorities advising them that there would be no charge for the photograph except 3 guineas for the use of the portrait. (A guinea was a British gold coin used in stating professional fees for photographs, pictures etc.) General George P. Vanier on behalf of the High Commissioner’s Office, London, wrote on February 25 to External Affairs confirming an earlier telegram that Bertram Park was pleased that the photo would be used for stamp purposes. Peter North Ltd. stated that the Park photo was one of those supplied to the Royal Mint and they therefore asked for their usual fee of £3-3-0 (3 guineas), which they charge for copies.

The Post Office Department acknowledge receipt of the 1c, 2c, 4c, 5c, and 8c, King George VI proofs from the Canadian Banknote Company on March 5, 1937. The Honourable J.C. Elliot, Postmaster General approved them on the same date. Also on March 5, the model for the 3-cent Coronation stamp was delivered to Mr. P.T. Coolican, Assistant Deputy Postmaster General. On March 8, 1937, Postmaster General Elliot approved an imperforate sheet of 100 of the 3-cent denomination for colour.

Under the date of March 15, 1937 the following press release was approved by the Postmaster General.

Press Item

“Hon. J.C. Elliot, Postmaster General, announces that on the 1st of April the Post Office Department will issue three postage stamps bearing the portrait of His Majesty King George VI. The values will be one cent green, two cents brown, and three cents red. Other denominations will appear at a later date. This is not a Coronation commemorative issue, but a regular “King’s Head” series, showing His Majesty in mufti. It is expected that the stamps will be on sale at all post offices throughout Canada on April 1st. Definite announcement as to the remaining values of this King’s Head series, and the special Coronation stamps will be made shortly.”

Before the press release went out, Atwater noted in a memorandum to Mr. A. Stanley Deaville, Officer in Charge, Philatelic Division, that the Ottawa Morning Citizen had already published the announcement in its early edition. In the same memo he confirmed that he had informed Deaville by telephone that the Postmaster General had given approval to the release. The following day Deaville informed Atwater that he had handed a copy of the release to Mr. Carnegie of the Canadian Press with the understanding that it would appear in the evening papers.

Atwater, in a letter dated March 16th to Mr. W. Mactavish, Toronto, Secretary of the Canadian Philatelic Society, confirmed that the 1c, 2c, and 3c values would be available at all post offices until April 1st. (The 4c, 5c, and 8c definitives did not go on sale until May 10, 1937, the same day as the 3c Coronation stamp.)

On May 6, 1937 the Post Office Department returned the Bertram Park photos of His Majesty King George VI facing left and right to Peter North Studio Ltd., London. The Department retained the full-face photo used for the King George VI, 1937 definitive issues. Also retained was the photo of King George VI #4876-5, by Captain Peter North, and the photo of Queen Elizabeth #01953G by Bertram Park, both of which were used for the 1937 Coronation stamp.

As with most new stamps issued by the Post Office Department, many accolades and criticisms were received for the 1937 King George VI definitives. More complaints than usual were received about this series principally because many people did not like to see the King in civilian clothes. Among the letters received was one from the I.O.D.E., (Independent Order Daughters of the Empire), who wrote that the King should have been shown in military uniform.
Jamaican Jottings

By "Busha"

If you check with your catalogue (no matter whether it be Gibbons or Scott), you will note there is no 6d value in the 1919-1921 Pictorial Set recess printed by De La Rue on Multiple Crown CA paper. Both catalogues add a footnote at the end of the set's listing to the effect that a 6d value, depicting the reading of the Declaration of Freedom from Slavery in 1838, was prepared and sent out to the colony in April of 1921, but was never issued. The stamp had been distributed to all post offices preparatory to its release, but, in the event, it was recalled and the stocks destroyed.

Imperforate printer's sample in blue-green and violet on unwatermarked paper, horizontally overprinted "SPECIMEN." (From the Swarbrick Collection of Jamaica, auctioned by Cavendish Philatelic Auctions, Derby, in September 1995.)

This set was reprinted on Multiple Script CA paper and released over the years of 1921 to 1929. The previously missing 6d value was now replaced with one depicting a lovely view of Port Royal Harbour in 1853, from a photograph taken by Adolphe Duperly, a famous photographer of his day.

But now, harping back to the recalled 6d value of the original set... (incidentally: the view on that stamp was also taken from a photograph by Adolphe Duperly) ...

There are "SPECIMEN" copies known of both the Multiple Crown CA... AND... Multiple Script CA printings.

(Just why there should have been a printing on the Script CA paper, when the Multiple Crown CA issue had been scrapped is something that I have not been able to fathom!)

Anyhow, the Multiple Crown CA has the word "SPECIMEN" printed in black vertically reading up.

The Multiple Script CA "SPECIMEN" overprint is also vertical, but reading down.

Gibbons prices both specimen overprints at £5.00 each and the Script CA without the overprint at £14,000.

But WHY was the original issue aborted? Well, it seems that there was some internal unrest in the Island during the years of the First World War and with the return of the Jamaican Contingent in 1919 there was anxiety among them about finding employment. The sugar industry had on the whole been prosperous, but the war's end had caused a slump in prices. Some rioting had taken place, and for some reason difficult to understand nowadays, the government felt that the picture on this stamp would add further instability to an already unstable situation. So, the stamp was withdrawn!

However, the design was resurrected for the top value of the Tercentenary Issue released on May 10, 1955.

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The Story of Pitcairn Island ...continued...
(Part 4)

After setting Captain Bligh and his men adrift, the first thing the mutineers did was to throw all the potted breadfruit trees overboard.

Fletcher Christian reportedly led the mutiny, but that is now a matter of dispute. However, as navigator, the destiny of the ship was, without question, in his hands and as a matter of course he assumed the role of leader of the group.

The mutineers set sail for Tubuai, a desolate island south of Tahiti. They arrived there on August 28, 1789, but met with hostility from the natives. Eventually, they sailed back to Tahiti to pick up the women they had dallied with during the breadfruit gathering expedition, then they loaded hogs, goats, fowl and got on board and returned to Tubuai. Their stay was cut short when the natives attacked, and they returned to Tahiti where 16 of the mutineers decided to remain.

Christian and the remaining eight mutineers were determined to find an isolated asylum where R.M. Royal Navy would not find them. They sailed on the Bounty on September 23, 1789, with six Polynesian men and nineteen women [seven of whom later escaped on a small atoll].

Everyone mobilized to convey ashore everything that was moveable. The ship was stripped of her sails and ropes and all useable wood and metal fittings were taken ashore.

Once the stripping was completed, the Bounty was set afire. There was no turning back now!

Before long the remains of the Bounty sank beneath the waves and all traces of her vanished from possible prying eyes aboard any passing ship. The mutineers now felt safe in their new haven. They could build a community for their children which were already on their way.

The first birth was the son of Fletcher Christian and his wife Mauatua (he called her Isabella). As he was born on a Thursday, they named him Thursday October Christian. Actually, there had been some doubt about the day because of the International Date-line, and in some records he is referred to as Friday October Christian. Take your pick...

Fletcher recalled reading in Bligh's papers about Captain Carteret’s discovery of a small island, which he had named Pitcairn (after the look-out who first spotted it), and he set about finding it. As recounted early on in this story, Carteret’s coordinates were wrong and Christian spent nearly four months and over 3,000 miles of travel before he finally reached his objective on January 15, 1790.

A search party took the cutter and landed at the only possible approach to shore, which they named Bounty Bay.

After exploring the tiny island, the search party returned to report that it was uninhabited but heavily wooded and even had a variety of fruit trees. The terrain was hilly but relatively flat area some 300 feet above sea-level would make a suitable place for their encampment.

Fletcher recalled reading in Bligh’s papers about Captain Carteret’s discovery of a small island, which he had named Pitcairn (after the look-out who first spotted it), and he set about finding it. As recounted early on in this story, Carteret’s coordinates were wrong and Christian spent nearly four months and
As the Pitcairners (as I shall now call them) explored their new home, they found evidence of a previous human presence. They came across stone idols, wall carvings and stone implements.

Archeologists have found similarities between these artifacts and those found on Easter Island, which strongly suggests that western-bound floating communities, migrating from Central and South America, may have travelled directly along the 25th parallel (following currents and winds), reaching this tiny island as long ago as 600 A.D.

The Norwegian explorer Thor Heyerdahl sailed his raft, Kon Tiki, from Peru to Polynesia in 1947 to prove this theory.

In time a village took shape, sheltered from view from the ocean by trees. Land was cleared to plant yams and banana palms which they had brought with them – many other vegetables and fruits were growing wild – and with the barn yard animals they had also brought (which multiplied rapidly), they had a good supply of meat, milk and eggs. The sea provided an ample supply of fish, easily caught from the shore.

The land had been divided equally between the white men, and the Polynesians resented their exclusion. And when one of the white man’s wife died he demanded that he be given the wife of one of the Polynesians. Its not hard to figure out what happened then!

Towards the end of 1793 the Polynesian men slew four of the mutineers and injured two more. But the women then stepped in and killed the Polynesian men. That sad period of Pitcairn’s history is referred to as “the massacre”.

Eventually, the number of mutineers was down to two: Edward Young (who is now believed to have been the real instigator of the mutiny), and Alexander Smith.

One of the items brought ashore from the Bounty was Christian’s Bible, given to him by his mother. It was apparently not used by the community at large until only Young and Smith were left. At that point Young used it to teach illiterate Smith to read and write.

When Young eventually died in 1800, Smith got “religion” and started to give religious instruction to the women and 20 children, using the Bible as his tool. At that time he reverted back to his true name: John Adams. Why he signed on the Bounty manifest as Alexander Smith is not known.

But he was now the benign patriarch of all the island’s families, which were multiplying nicely.

...to be continued...
Guidelines for Judging Youth Exhibits
Directives pour Juger les Collections Jeunesse

AGE GROUP REQUIREMENTS
What can be expected from an exhibitor in the different Age Groups in reference to the various criteria.

AGE GROUP “A” (13 to 15 years)
From an exhibitor in this Age Group the following criteria are expected:

A. TREATMENT

I. Plan/Structure
A plan subdividing the exhibit in main points and subdivisions, not an inventory.

II. Explanations
Simple explanations concerning the material (for Thematic exhibits subject bound explanations, for Traditional exhibits philatelic explanations, etc.).

III. Development
The development of the exhibit should be clear from the beginning. The extent of the development is in compliance with the plan.

IV. Proper Classification of Material
The proper classification of the material should be a strengthening factor. Material shown without complying with this condition brings only an extension of the volume of the exhibit and not the quality.

B. KNOWLEDGE/PHILATELIC KNOWLEDGE

I. Philatelic Knowledge
Differentiation of the various kinds of stamps (postage stamps, definitives, commemorative stamps, official stamps, postage due stamps, special delivery stamps, parcel post stamps, etc.).

The exhibit contains some letters, postal stationery, cancellations, coil stamps, multiples, etc.

Explanations of types of separation and perforation as well as watermarks. Explanation of some important postage rates for letters, e.g. registered letters, registered letters with an acknowledgment of receipt, special delivery, insured letters.

Only mail that passed the proper postal stream and has the right postage should be shown.
Postal stationery cuttings should not be used.
Cancellations related to the topic of the exhibit should be built in.

CE QUI EST DEMANDÉ DANS CHAQUE CLASSE D’ÂGE
Que doit-on trouver dans une collection selon le Groupe d’Âge et pour chaque critère ?

GROUPE D’ÂGE “A” (13 à 15 ans)
On attend d’un exposant de cette Classe d’Âge l’application les critères suivants:

A. TRAITEMENT

I. Plan/Structure
Un plan divisant la collection en chapitres essentiels et en sous-chapitres, mais pas un inventaire.

II. Explications
Des explications simples concernant le matériel (pour les collections thématiques, des explications liées au sujet, pour des collections traditionnelles, des explications philatéliques.)

III. Développe
Le développement de la collection doit être clair depuis le début. L’importance du développement est en conformité avec le plan.

IV. Classification Correcte du Matériel
La classification correcte du matériel doit être un facteur fort et important. Le matériel présenté sans remplir cette condition ne peut conduire qu’à une extension en volume de la collection, mais pas en qualité.

B. CONNAISSANCES/CONNAISSANCES PHILATÉLIQUES

I. Connaissances Philatéliques
Différencier les diverses variétés de timbres (timbres-poste, usage courant, commémoratifs, timbres officiels, timbres taxe, timbres de distributions spéciales, timbres pour colis postaux, etc.)

La collection contient quelques lettres, entiers, oblitérations, roulettes, multiples, etc.

Présence d’explications sur les dentelures et les perforations, et aussi sur les filigranes.

Présence d’explications sur quelques tarifs postaux importants tels les lettres recommandées, les lettres recommandées avec accusé de réception, liuraison spéciale, lettres chargées.

Seul le courrier empruntant le système postal normal et affranchi au bon tarif doit être présenté
Les entiers découpés sont à proscrire.
Les oblitérations relatives au sujet doivent être présentées sous fenêtre.
C. MATERIAL
I. Relation Between the Available Stamps and Documents
   The relation between the stamps and documents is to be considered. The exhibit does not contain only stamps or only documents, with the exception of Postal History and Postal Stationery that, by rule, contain only covers and postal documents.

II. Condition of Stamps and Documents
   The stamps must be undamaged and clean (no tears, thin spots, discoloration, etc.).

III. Cleanliness of the Cancellation
   Clean and readable cancellations (not only indefinite parts in a corner of the stamp or black circle segments; the cancellation should be recognizable as a postmark). Cliché obliterations (printed cancellations) are undesirable.

   Date stamps are to be preferred to machine cancellations with lines or slogans. When the motive of the stamp is important, the cancellation should not conceal that part of the stamp; it should nevertheless be readable and recognizable as a postmark.

IV. Existence of Significant Stamps and Documents
   For the definition of significant material we can offer the following comparison:
      Less Significant Material
      Detached stamp
      Cancelled to order
      Cover with usual postage
      Material frequently found
      Cover with mixed postage
      Cover without concorance between stamp and cancellation

     More Significant Material
     Stamp on cover
     Cover having gone through the postal system
     Property stamped cover
     Special sending type
     Rare material
     Cover with a single or more stamps of identical type
     Cover where cancellation and stamp are largely concordant

   The exhibitor also shows stamps on covers, especially on covers having seen normal postal use.

D. PRESENTATION
   Creating an introductory page. Pleasant presentation of the exhibit. Correct arrangement of the material on all sheets Uniform outlining of stamps and documents. Clean and readable writing, without errors, the technique and the type of writing is left at the discretion of the exhibitor. Balanced impression of all sheets

C. MATÉRIEL
I. Rapport Entre les Timbres Disponibles et les Documents
   On doit tenir compte du rapport entre les timbres et les documents. La collection ne doit pas contenir soit uniquement des timbres soit uniquement des documents, à l’exception des collections d’Histoire Postale et d’Entiers qui, par définition ne contiennent que des documents.

II. Condition des Timbres et des Documents
   Les timbres doivent être en bon état et propres (sans déchirures, aminciments, décolorations, etc.)

III. Propreté des Oblitérations
   Les oblitérations doivent être propres et lisibles (et pas seulement un morceau dans le coin du timbre ou un arc de cercle noir. L’oblitération doit être reconnaissable comme une marque postale). Les oblitérations cliché (oblitération imprimées) sont indésirables.

   Les cachets à date sont préférables aux oblitérations mécaniques avec des lignes ou des slogans. Lorsque le motif du timbre est important, l’oblitération ne doit pas cacher cette partie du timbre, mais elle doit être cependant lisible et reconnaissable comme une marque postale

IV. Présence de Timbres et Documents Interessants
   Pour la définition du matériel intéressant, on peut se reporter à la comparaison qui suit :

   Matériel Moins Intéressant
   Timbre détaché
   Oblitéré sur commande
   Courrier suraffranchi
   Courrier normal
   Matériel commun
   Affranchissement mixte
   Enveloppe où le timbre et l’oblitération ne correspondent pas

   Matériel Plus Intéressant
   Timbre sur enveloppe
   Enveloppe voyage par la Poste
   Courrier au tarif
   Courrier particulier
   Matériel rare
   Aff. avec timbres du même type
   Enveloppe où le timbre et l’oblitération sont concordants

   L’exposant peut présenter des timbres sur lettre, et surtout sur des lettres ayant eu une utilisation postale normale.

D. PRÉSENTATION
AGE GROUP “B” (16 to 18 years)
An exhibitor in this Age Group should comply with the following additional conditions:

A. TREATMENT

I. Plan/Structure
   A good development of the Plan with detailed subdivisions.

II. Explanations
   The explanations address both, the philatelic and specialized points of view.

III. Development
   The degree of development is far more advanced concerning the structure as well as the treatment of the exhibit. Knowledge is clearly discernible. The exhibit has matured.

B. KNOWLEDGE/PHILATELIC KNOWLEDGE

I. Philatelic Knowledge
   Flaws in plates, varieties, types of printing, errors in printing, etc. are shown and explained. Absence of cancelled-to-order covers (CTO). Absence of cliché cancellations, printed to order (PTO). Display concordant cancellations on philatelic documents.

II. Utilization of Literature and Research
   The knowledge of philatelic literature should be clearly visible. A philatelist, in this Age Group, has at his/her disposal specialized catalogues, handbooks, manuals and magazines.

C. MATERIAL

I. Relation Between the Available Stamps and Documents
   The arrangement of stamps and documents in the exhibit is well balanced.

II Condition of Stamps and Documents
   Covers must be clean and without folds. An improvement in selection of materials over the previous Age Group is expected.

III. Existence of Important Stamps and Documents
   Exhibitor shows an increase in documents with a variety of postal usages. Documents have proper rates with overfranked covers fully explained.

D. PRESENTATION
   Presentation should compliment the exhibit’s treatment by a general clarity of lay-out.
AGE GROUP “C” (19 to 21 years)
In addition to the preceding criteria the exhibitor, in this Age Group, is expected the following:

A. TREATMENT

I. Plan/Structure
The Plan is constructed, mostly, on the pattern of exhibits in the Senior Classes.

II. Explanations
Detailed and precise explanations; use of literature and research must be obvious.

III. Development
The degree of development of the exhibits emulates and is within reach of an exhibit in Senior Classes.

B. KNOWLEDGE/PHIATELIC KNOWLEDGE

I. Philatelic Knowledge
The exhibit should include all particulars of the chosen subject and present the corresponding explanations.
All documents are precisely and appropriately described, according to the type of the exhibit, topically, philatelically, scientifically, historically, etc.

II. Utilization of Literature and Research
Utilization of the existing specialized literature through books, lectures, libraries, specialized manuals and articles.

C. MATERIAL

I. Relation Between the Available Stamps and Documents
The selection of material is made according to the principles of the formation of exhibits in the different competition classes.

II. Condition of Stamps and Documents
The illustration on a cut stamp should not be touched by the process used in cutting. Bisects and other officially sanctioned alterations to stamps are not affected by this rule. The exhibit contains neither falsifications nor forgeries of stamps, documents or cancellations. It is expected that the exhibitor is informed about these materials and had the opportunity to ascertain the authenticity of the materials personally or by authorized experts.

III. Existence of Significant Stamps and Documents
The exhibitor makes sure that the exhibit has no to-order-cancellations which also applies to First Day Covers (FDCs).
Significant and rare materials are more in evidence with more common materials in the background.

IV. Presentation
Materials are presented on paper whose colour us not distracting. Presentation techniques should be consistent and aiding in the understanding of the exhibit. Display of important items should not obstruct the totality of the exhibit.
This column reports the results of philatelic and literature awards in national exhibitions in Canada and the awards won by Canadian owned exhibits and exhibits of Canadian material in international exhibitions. Results may be sent to: 309-540 Buckland Avenue, Kelowna, BC, V1Y 5Z4.

This chronicle liste les résultats obtenus dans les expositions philatéliques et de littérature nationales ainsi que les résultats obtenus par les Canadiens ou les collections de matériel canadien dans les expositions internationales. Les résultats devraient être envoyés au 309-540 avenue Buckland, Kelowna, BC, V1Y 5Z4.

ROYAL*2002*ROYALE
Jury: Gray Scrimgeour, Chair, Keith Griffiths, Murray Heifetz, Jim Kraemer, Peter McCann and Apprentices: Rob McGuinness, Michael Peach and Joel Weiner

Gold
“Bridgetown” (AB) – Barbados: 1765 to 1882 – Grand Award
Kevin O’Reilly (NT) – The Eastern Arctic Patrol, 1922 – 1965 – Reserve Grand Award
R. G. Armstrong (NZ) – London General Post 1661 – 1839
Jenny Banfield (NZ) – Health. A Common Ground Between Nations
Norman Banfield (NZ) – Russia – Airmails 1922 – 1950
Ron Brigham (ON) – The Dominion of Canada: The Maple Leaves and Numerals, 1897-1902
Richard Fleet (BC) – Province of Canada – 1865 Second Bill Stamp Issue
Horace Harrison (MD) – Canadian Money Letters
Werner Helms (CA) – German North Atlantic Catapult & Feeder Flights 1929-1939
Robert Heasman (BC) – Machine Cancels of Canada 1896 – 1902
Dick Malott (ON) – Canadian Interrupted Covers to, from and within Canada 1918 – 1984
Phil Parker (NY) – Zeppelins: The Portuguese Connection
Bill Pawluk (AB) – Canada: Postal Regulations, Rates and Usages, Domestic and International Mail, 1897 – 1911
“Rockey” (BC) – The First Decimal Issue of Canada 1859 – 1868
Mike Shand (ON) – The Air Mails of New Zeland 1919 – 1940
Susan Sheffield (AB) – Muskoka’s Resort Hotel Post Offices
William Topping (BC) – Yukon Airways – A Pioneer Air Mail Company

Vermeil
Herb McNaught (ON) – Canada 1897 Jubilees
Harry Voss (SK) – Canadian Re-Entries 1852-1953
Peter Jacobi (BC) – Mining – B. C.’s Heritage
Ian McTaggart-Cowan (BC) – Law Stamps of Yukon
Barry Brown (BC) – Canadian Revenues for War: World War I & II
Ed Kroft (BC) – Rishon Le Zion
Rodney Paige (ON) – British Cancels: The Early Years
Francis Au (BC) – International Routes from Hong Kong
Ken Ho (AB) – The Varieties of EFO Elements and Compounds Philately

Silver
George Constantourakis (QC) – History of Maximaphily
Neil Hunter (ON) – Evolution of Air Mail – Toronto, Canada: From Canuck to Concorde
Jim Brown (BC) – Aircraft Overprints Producing Air Mail Postage
Dick Malott (ON) – Armed Forces Air Letters, Forms and Cards
Ted Nixon (ON) – Canada – Airmail Rates & Routes 1937-42

Silver-Bronze
Dean Mario (SK) – Newfoundland in the Second World War, 1939 – 1946
Jim Measures (ON) – Zelandia
Peter Smith (AB) – Vanuatu’s Failed Mail – Where It Went and Why
Bill Bailey (BC) – Gold Coast Airmails
Gordon Mallett (AB) – Three Weeks in December 1928 – Canada’s Experimental Prairie airmails

Bronze
John Rodgers (SK) – Go West Young Man
Marty Zelenietz (NS) – I’ve Got a Little List: My Japanese Birds on Stamps

ONE FRAME

Gold
Jerome Kasper (CA) – SCADTA Postal Stationery

Vermeil
Jerome Kasper (CA) – New Zeland Prisoner of War Aerograms
Rick Oxenham (NZ) – The Pacific Clippers 1935 – 1941
Neil Hunter (ON) – The Mackenzie River Air Mail Route
Bill Bartlet (BC) – LATI: Linee Aeree Transcontinentali Italiane
David Lu (CA) – The International Aerograms of China (1948-9)

Silver
Herb McNaught (ON) – Canada, Toronto Oval Numeral Duplexes, 1881 – 91
Russel Sampson (AB) – A Selection of Perfins on the Edward VII Issue of Canada
Silver-Bronze
Leslie Clinton (SK) – Saskatchewan Military Post Offices
Bill Bailey (BC) – British Togoland Overprints
Leslie Clinton (SK) – Royal Welcome to Canadian Troops, 1939

Bronze
Nino Chiavelli (AB) – Balloon Post Originating in Canada and Some Balloon Flights by Canadian Pilots Outside of Canada

Juniors
Vermeil
Kelly Liisz (AB) – Christmas in Canada

Silver
Kyle Miller (NS) – Helicopters
Kurt Glatzfelder (QC) – Chess: Game of Champions

Randi Gombos (AB) – Angels
Angela Miller (NS) – Ballet
“Max” (QC) – Les Reptiles
James Barron (AB) – Flying Through the 20th Century
Francis King (QC) – Les poissons tropicaux
Francisco Yurich (AB) – Sports played on different surfaces
Orrin Esau (AB) – Track and Field

Silver-Bronze
Orrin Esau (AB) – Travel by Rail, Water and Air
Tatjana Yurick (AB) – Children
Mickey Gombos (AB) – Greek Mythology
Chris Faulkner (NS) – Space
Olivia Thomas (NS) – Dogs

Early German Cancels

Germany 1921 30 pf

One of the more readily recognizable early German varieties occurs on the 30 pf green numeral design from the 1921 definitive set with the lozenges watermark. A green triangle appears in the left loop of the zero, at the bottom of the numeral. The triangle comes in various sizes, two of which are shown in the illustration. Both the small triangle (upper left stamp) and normal triangle (upper right stamp) are seen readily without a magnifying glass.

The ordinary stamp is listed at minimum catalogue value mint hinged (MH), and 2 marks postally used. The variety is 40 marks MH and 125 marks postally used.

The same stamp was released later in 1921 with the network watermark, but the variety is not listed with that watermark. Stamps with the lozenge watermark were surcharged in 1923, during Germany’s period of very high inflation. The normal surcharged stamp is minimum catalogue value if MH and 4 marks postally used. The variety is 40 marks MH and 500 marks used.

While expertization is required to determine postal use, a handy book is Inflation, 1919-1923. The book is in German, but identifies known false cancellations by format and city, meaning no knowledge of German is needed. Finding a cancel in the book strongly suggests that it will be difficult to get the stamp expertized as postally used. Absence of a cancel from the book suggests it might be worth the expertizing fee to see if the stamp was postally used.

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

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e-mail: beaver@telus.net
Web site: http://www.bnaps.org

BNAPS – The Society for Canadian Philately
Scandinavian Collectors
Reformat Posthorn Journal

The Scandinavian Collectors Club (SCC), specializing in the stamps and postal history of the Nordic countries, has changed the size of its quarterly journal for the first time since the publication was launched in 1943. The Posthorn has been printed in a 6x9-inch format until the recent first issue of Vol. 59 dated February 2002, which is printed in the larger 7x10-inch size.

The purpose in making the journal physically larger is to provide improved legibility and better quality illustrations. The change is one of several being implemented in an effort to upgrade the quality of the journal and make it one of the leading specialized society publications.

Beginning with the February 2000 issue, the paper was upgraded to a glossy finish in order to provide improved illustrations.

In the future, experiments will be conducted with implementation of colour.

Further information concerning SCC is available on the Club’s website at www.scc-online.org, or from SCC’s Executive Secretary, PO Box 13196, El Cajon, CA 92022.

APS Assisting with Youth Workshop

As part of the American Philatelic Society’s efforts to promote stamp collecting to young people, the Society’s education department is assisting with the organization of a workshop to be held at Cape Cod, Massachusetts in mid-July.

The workshop will review the resources currently available for philatelic youth programs. Participants will revise and update existing materials and, where necessary, develop new materials which will be easily accessible for anyone interested in working with "stamps and kids." It is expected that the workshop will produce a guide for teachers and youth leaders as well as a new APS Youth Handbook.

In addition to the APS representatives, the workshop will include participants from the Postal History Foundation of Tucson, Arizona, Stamp Camp USA and the Junior Philatelists of America. Participants will travel at their own expense. A generous grant from the World Columbian Expo of Chicago will fund the publication of the materials produced by the workshop.

Any member who wishes to submit ideas or materials for the benefit of the workshop may submit them to Kim Kowalczyk, the Society’s Director of Education. We ask that your contributions be in State College by June 14 in order that they may be reproduced and disseminated to all participants prior to the workshop.

Information on the 50,000+ member American Philatelic Society is available from its website at www.stamps.org or by writing APS, PO Box 8000-N, State College, PA 16803. Membership includes a subscription to the Society’s monthly magazine, The American Philatelist; eligibility to obtain a special stamp insurance policy; the ability to borrow books from the largest public philatelic library; use of the Society’s on-line StampStore and through the mail sales circuits; and discounts on expertizing and Society publications.

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In Memoriam

Harold Beaupre D.F.C.
1918-2002

The philatelic community was saddened to learn of the death of Harold Beaupre at the Kitchener-Waterloo Health Centre on March 26, 2002. Left to mourn are his wife of 57 years, Margaret, two sons, two daughters, six grandchildren and one great-grandchild. He was 83.

Harold, born October 4, 1918, served overseas during World War II with the Royal Canadian Air Force until his plane was shot down in 1943 over enemy territory. The pilot perished in the fiery crash, but somehow Harold and the crew members miraculously survived without serious injuries.

Following his capture by enemy ground troops, he was assigned to Stalag Luft 3, an Air Force prisoner-of-war camp where the first mass-prisoner escape of the war was engineered and executed in 1943. The daring escape inspired the 1963 best-seller, The Great Escape. The book was subsequently made into a hit movie by the same name starring veteran Hollywood actor Steve McQueen.

On his return to Canada following the war, Harold operated an interior decorating business until 1979. Following his retirement as the proprietor of Beaupre’s Interior Limited, Harold took up stamp dealing full time.

At an age when many people his age while away their winters in sunny Florida and their summers at the cottage, Beaupre in his seventies still put in fifty-five-hour weeks in his new business. Wednesdays, the day that his store was closed, he generally drove to Toronto to pick up rush orders for his customers and stock to replace sold-out items.

A member of the leading national philatelic societies, Harold was also a past president of the Canadian Stamp Dealers’ Association (CSDA).

Harold has donated his considerable philatelic literature holdings - handbooks, catalogues, manuals, pamphlets and brochures - to the local stamp club who has arranged that the donated items form the nucleus of what is to be known as the Harold Beaupre Philatelic Library. Envisioned to become a lending library for area collectors, the collection is to be housed in the retail premises of R.J.M. Stamps, Waterloo, the sole surviving retail stamp store in the Twin Cities of Kitchener-Waterloo and surrounding region. John McAndrew, store proprietor, has agreed to administer and maintain the library for the benefit of area philatelists.

Although Harold had not been well during his last few years of life, he continued to work on his stamps whenever possible almost until the day he died. Harold has said many times that he enjoyed the stamp business because of the people. What nobler reason can there be to pursue any business? He will be missed by the many people he served in his lifetime.

Our heartfelt condolences go out to Mrs. Beaupre and to the Beaupre family members.

With his great empathy for young collectors, Beaupre was a dedicated supporter of junior stamp clubs. Not content with merely providing area youngsters with his own stamps, he successfully convinced the CSDA of the need to supply youth clubs with philatelic materials to sustain their interest in the hobby.

His personal collecting interests included Scouts on stamps, Small Queens, and the stamps of Germany. For many years, he was actively involved as a member of the Kitchener-Waterloo based Germany Philatelic Society at one time headed by James E. Kraemer, FRPSC, and a past president of our Society.

Le philatéliste canadien / The Canadian Philatelist
Juillet - Août 2002 / 209
Between May 30 and June 1, 2003, the Saugeen Stamp Club will host the 75th convention of The Royal Philatelic Society of Canada, ROYAL*2003*ROYALE. The convention activities will be held in the Hanover Regional Aquatic Centre and Coliseum, 268 7th Avenue, Hanover, Ontario.

People have asked, "How do I get to Hanover?" Here are some suggestions for the three main routes for driving to Hanover, starting from the east and working west:

1. From Toronto (and points east): Take the 401 then 410 to Brampton. Then drive north on Highway 10, through Orangeville and Shelburne, to Flesherton and the junction with (old) Highway 4. Turn left (west) and continue on (old) Highway 4 to Hanover. From Brampton to Hanover by this route is about 125 km, with an estimated driving time of 1:45 to 1:50.

2. From the Hamilton area (northern New York state, the Niagara peninsula and areas to the east and west of Hamilton): From Hamilton proceed north on Highways 6 and 401 (and 6) to Guelph. Continue through Guelph on Highway 6, then through Fergus, Arthur, and Mount Forest to Durham and the junction with (old) Highway 4. Turn left (west) and continue on (old) Highway 4 to Hanover. From Hamilton to Hanover by this route is about 160 km, with an estimated driving time of 2:05 to 2:10. From Guelph, it is about 107 km, with an estimated driving time of 1:25 to 1:30.

3. From London (and the surrounding area): Drive north on Highway 4 through Exeter, Clinton, and Wingham until it meets with Highway 9. Then turn right (east) and continue on (old) Highway 4 through Walkerton to Hanover. From London to Hanover is about 168 km, with an estimated driving time of 2:05 to 2:10.

Maps showing these routes with more detailed driving instructions will be mailed to the stamp clubs in southern Ontario before the show.

Note: For drivers from outside this part of Ontario, the maintenance of some (formerly) provincial highways has been "downloaded" onto the counties. This map shows the "old" numbers that are still in use on these (now) county roads.
1. INTRODUCTION

This is my second report to you as President of our Society. To work as your President is a rewarding activity; however, being successful at it requires the help and cooperation of many people and organizations. First, let me thank The RPSC’s Executive Committee and its Directors as well as the Society’s Past Presidents who have all been available for help, and advice. I also wish to thank Canada Post, the Officers and Directors of the APS, our sister Society, and the Canadian Stamp Dealers’ Association for their help in making my task easier.

2. THE NATIONAL OFFICE

Our members continue to be served efficiently by the staff at Parr & Associates. Particular mention should be made of Andrew Parr, our Executive Director, and Daryl Oliver, Carol Law and Andrea Quinn. These are the people who are the front line to you, our members. Services to our members seem to run very smoothly as I have had very little need to get involved with the day-to-day activities as I received so few requests to do so.

3. THE CANADIAN PHILATELIST

As I mentioned last year the magazine is the number one service, and for some the only service, the Society offers to its members. The magazine has grown both in the quality and the quantity of its articles. The variety of writers has increased and advertising has almost doubled. This is due in large measure to the excellent editorship of Tony Shaman and our advertising manager Cyndi Hood of Trajan Publications. Virginia St-Denis is our publisher and she had written reports on our Convention for the last two years, and will do so again this year. These reports make the magazine very timely and are appreciated by our members. As a result of the increase in advertising-$2298 for the Jan.-Feb. 2001 issue to $4823 for the Nov.-Dec. issue with a high of $5505 for the Sept.-Oct. issue. The magazine was increased by eight pages, six of which are dedicated to editorial content and two to additional advertising. The 20% sell-through rate of the magazine on the newsstands is within acceptable range and in line with other hobby publications. We averaged 110 copies sold of the 500 put on the newsstands in 2001. This is not a loss leader-the income pays for the additional printing-and there is an increase in visibility for The Canadian Philatelist.

Rapport du Président
Société Royale de Philatélie du Canada
74e Assemblée Générale Annuelle
Centre des Congrès, West Edmonton Mall
Edmonton, Alberta – 23 Mars 2002

1. INTRODUCTION

Voici mon second rapport en tant que président de la Société. Être président n’est pas une tâche ingrate; remplir ce rôle avec succès nécessite cependant l’aide et la coopération de nombreux individus et organismes. Permettez-moi donc tout d’abord de remercier le comité exécutif de La SRPC et ses directeurs, ainsi que les anciens présidents de la Société pour leur disponibilité, leur soutien et leur assistance, ainsi que leurs conseils. J’aimerais également remercier Postes Canada, les dirigeants et administrateurs de l’APS, notre société sœur, et l’Association canadienne des négociants en timbres-poste qui ont contribué à alléger ma tâche.

2. LE BUREAU NATIONAL

Nos membres continuent à être servis de manière très efficace par le personnel de Parr & Associates. J’aimerais citer en particulier Andrew Parr, notre directeur administratif, ainsi que Daryl Oliver, Carol Law et Andrea Quinn. Ils sont tous les quatre en première ligne à votre écoute. Les services aux membres semblent fonctionner de manière parfaite puisque j’ai été peu appelé à me mêler des activités quotidiennes.

3. LE PHILATÉLISTE CANADIEN

Comme je l’ai déjà dit l’an dernier, le magazine constitue le tout premier service aux membres, et pour certains même, le seul et unique service. Il s’est amélioré tant par la qualité que la quantité de ses articles. Le nombre de personnes rédigeant ces articles s’est multiplié et les annonces publicitaires ont pratiquement doublé. Ceci est dû en grande partie aux excellentes qualités de rédaction du Tony Shaman et de notre directrice publicitaire Cyndi Hood de Trajan Publications. Virginia St-Denis, qui est notre éditrice, rédige depuis deux ans des rapports sur notre congrès et sera de nouveau au rendez-vous au congrès de cette année. Ces rapports font du magazine un outil très utile et nos membres les apprécient beaucoup. Suite à l’augmentation des annonces publicitaires (passées de 2 298 $ pour le numéro de janvier-février 2001 à 4 823 $ pour le numéro de novembre-décembre, avec un record de 5 505 $ pour le numéro de septembre-octobre), le magazine compte huit pages supplémentaires, six d’entre elles ayant un contenu rédactionnel et deux consacrées aux publicités supplémentaires. Le taux de vente de 20 % du magazine dans les kiosques à journaux est acceptable et correspond à celui des autres magazines de loisirs. Nous avons vendu en moyenne 110 numéros en kiosque sur les 500 copies disponibles en 2001. Il ne s’agit pas de ventes à perte – le pro-
and for The RPSC. This exposure should help increase the membership numbers. It is interesting to note that the highest seller (150 copies) was the July-Aug. 2001 issue showing the stamp issued to commemorate former Prime Minister Trudeau while the March/April issue, with the 150th anniversary of the 3d Beaver on the cover had the least sales (86). There is therefore a need to look at the cover design of the magazine to see if by choosing it judiciously we can improve sales.

4. THE WEBSITE
Our website, www.rpsc.org, continues to improve and arrangements have been made with Richard Gratton, a Fellow of The RPSC, to translate our site. Once again, thanks to the diligent work of D. Robin Harris, our webmaster, the site maintained its 3-star level in the FIP World Wide Web Site Competition. The site continues to have more timely and detailed information about Canadian new issues than the Canada Post site and major changes were made to the reference section when the Canadian Postal Archives introduced its website.

5. CANADA POST CORPORATION
We continue to cooperate fully with Canada Post on many projects with many of our members sitting on the Stamp Advisory Committee. We respond to many letters received by Canada Post from embassies and consulates abroad, and develop new approaches to enhance our hobby. Fifteen years of successful lobbying by The RPSC will result in the announcement of a major new initiative by Canada Post which should please our members.

6. INTERNATIONAL
The major area of note in this item is the awarding to Ron Brigham of the Grand Prix d’Honneur at BELGICA 2001. Mr. Brigham becomes the first Canadian to win the World Stamp Championship and the first to do so in the third Millenium. Later this year, Harry Sutherland and I will represent Canada at the FIP Congress to be held in Seoul, Korea. The main item on the agenda for Canada will be to successfully shepherd the Single Frame Class through Congress.

7. FINANCES
Our finances are in good shape and our Treasurer, John Keenlyside, will be briefing you shortly on the state of our trea-
sury. At this time, I would like to publicly recognize and thank Mrs. Jacqueline Mitchener, wife of our late Director and Fellow, Ralph Mitchener, and the RPSC Philatelic Research Foundation for their generous financial gifts to the Society. Society renewal forms were redesigned to allow members to make a donation to the Society starting in January 2002. So far we have received $40 in U.S. funds and $70 in Canadian funds from this initiative.

Although not a direct financial benefit to the Society, I would like to thank Ron Brigham for offering to provide, on a long-term basis, the Reserve Grand Award for the Exhibition component of our Conventions. This generous gift has already benefited the Convention organizing committee in Edmonton as it will those which follow. It is a substantial saving to their budget.

8. SOCIETY REJUVENATION

The Board has continued to work towards making changes to the structure and practices of The RPSC with a view to streamlining the operations of the Society. It is the Board’s hope that we will be in a position to present the proposed changes to our members in time for our next Annual General Meeting in Hanover, Ontario.

9. MEMBERSHIP

Membership continues to be a major problem for the Society. Although we have increased our new members by 17.3% (129/110) our overall membership has decreased by 3.7% (2683/2779). Our new membership projects have not been as successful as they could have been. A few new subscriptions or membership applications have resulted from two initiatives tried in 2001: gift subscriptions and "insurance" advertising ads put in philatelic publications. In addition, we are currently unable to tell what new members result from newsstand sales of the magazine. I can only suggest that we will continue to undertake low cost initiatives to see if we can increase our membership. To that end, I have asked Frank Alusio, a Director of the Society, to come up with a proposal to recruit retired or soon-to-be-retired people. Mr. Alusio submitted a proposal to the Board which was considered and he was asked to refine it to see if there are any elements of the proposal that can be jointly undertaken by The RPSC and Canada Post.

10. CLOSING REMARKS

I am pleased with the achievements of the Society and your Board during the past year. I am less pleased with the lack of improvement in our membership numbers and will plead once again to make that my number one priority for next year and the years to come. In closing, I would like to thank Alan Meech and his team on the well organized Convention and Exhibition that we are attending and I invite you all to join us for the 75th Convention in Hanover, Ontario.

Charles J. G. Verge, FRPSC
President
Edmonton, Alberta
March 23, 2002

permit aux membres de verser un don à la Société à partir de janvier 2002. Nous avons reçu à ce jour, grâce à cette initiative, 40 $ US et 70 $ can.

Bien qu’il ne s’agisse pas d’un bénéfice financier direct à la Société, j’aimerais remercier Ron Brigham qui a proposé d’offrir à long terme le Grand Prix de Réserve pour la partie «exposition» de nos congrès. Ce don généreux a déjà profité au comité organisateur du congrès à Edmonton et profitera aux prochains comités organisateurs puisqu’il permet d’importantes économies au budget.

8. RÉGÉNÉRATION DE LA SOCIÉTÉ

Le Conseil continue à se pencher sur les changements possibles dans le cadre de la structure et des pratiques de La RPSC tout en simplifiant les opérations de la Société. Le Conseil espère être en mesure de présenter aux membres les changements proposés avant notre prochaine assemblée générale annuelle de l’an prochain à Hanover (Ontario).

9. MEMBRES

Le taux d’adhésion trop faible continue d’être un problème majeur pour la Société. Bien que nous ayons enregistré une hausse de 17,3 % parmi nos nouveaux membres (129 par rapport à 110), le nombre général de nos adhérents a chuté de 3,7 % (2 683 par rapport à 2 779). Le nombre de nouveaux membres que nous avions projeté aurait pu être bien supérieur. Nous devons quelques-unes des nouvelles inscriptions et des demandes d’adhésions à deux initiatives lancées en 2001 : les abonnements cadeaux et les annonces publicitaires «d’assurance» parues dans des publications philatéliques. Par ailleurs, nous ne sommes pas encore en mesure d’annoncer le nombre de nouveaux membres qui ont rejoint nos rangs par le biais des ventes en kiosque de notre magazine. Je ne puis que suggérer de poursuivre nos initiatives économiques et de voir si nous pouvons augmenter le nombre des membres. À ce sujet, j’ai demandé à Frank Alusio, l’un des administrateurs de la Société, de penser à une proposition de recruter des membres retraités ou bientôt retraités. M. Alusio a présenté une proposition qui a été examinée par le Conseil, et on lui a demandé d’approfondir sa proposition de façon à savoir si certains de ses éléments pouvaient être traités conjointement par La SRPC et Canada Post.

10. CONCLUSION

Je suis enchanté des réalisations de la Société et du Conseil au cours de l’année qui vient de s’écouler. Je me réjouis moins de la non-augmentation du nombre de nos membres et je m’engage une fois encore à faire de ce problème ma première priorité pour l’an prochain et les années à venir. J’aimerais finalement remercier Alan Meech et son équipe de l’excellente organisation du Congrès-Exposition auquel nous participons et j’invite chacun d’entre vous à nous rejoindre lors du 75e congrès à Hanover (Ontario) l’an prochain.

Charles J.G. Verge, FRPSC
Président
Edmonton, Alberta
23 mars 2002
Dear Editor:

I just thought you would like to know that the new issue of *The Canadian Philatelist* arrived yesterday. Once again, you did a fine job. The article on the ROYAL *2002* ROYALE was interesting. I have a suggestion for a possible series. There seems to be quite an interest in exhibiting these days and I noticed correspondence in the current issue discussing the subject. Why not ask the winners of the Grand Awards at Royal/Royale from the past three to five years to submit colour photocopies of two or three pages from their exhibits along with a short text discussing how they write up their exhibits? It might also stimulate interest in attending the annual conventions to some extent.

Talking (writing!) about exhibits, I sent an e-mail to the Hanover 2003 Convention committee indicating I would like to submit an exhibit for the show next year. I received a nice reply and the respondent indicated that there are problems bringing exhibits back and forth across the border of our two countries. They are apparently having someone in Rochester serve as the U.S. representative for bringing exhibits into Canada. I think I will probably skip exhibiting but I will still attend the show.

Best wishes,
Kimber Wald

By all means, exhibitors, send in your comments. And this invitation is NOT restricted to just Grand Award winners.

Editor.

Dear Editor:

Dr. John Milks’ article in the recent issue of this publication is the fourth professional opinion by a chemist regarding the “Muddy Water” variety of Canada’s first Christmas stamp – also referred to in more recent times as the “Map” stamp. Milks also confirms the fact that the “Muddy Water” is a “changeling” due to oxidation (sulphur etting) rather than a colour printing variety. Other professional chemists (Marie-Claude Corbeil, Len Kruczynski, and Francis Au) have similarly confirmed that and other information although the details in each instance vary slightly.

All four chemists seem to agree with previously published information that the change resulted from exposure to sulphur in the atmosphere and that restoration may not be possible in every case. The chemical “why” seems to have been answered. None of the opinions adequately explain what special circumstances existed causing the chemical reaction to take place and why some stamps have changed colour while others still retain their original colour.

Readers are advised that research is being conducted in different parts of the world by a small group of collectors. They are attempting to prove the theory that the change in stamp colours resulted from disinfection methods used to halt the spread of small pox.

Approximately 100 years ago, mail was disinfected by burning sulphur in closed containers and sealed mail cars within North America. Attempts are being made to match town / date cancels on affected covers with recorded small pox outbreaks. The difficulty lies in locating the appropriate records. Conclusive evidence exists in isolated cases. The research process is yet incomplete. Mail disinfection has been a common practice over several centuries in different parts of the world. The most recent example of this process took place during the anthrax threat following the Sept. 11 attacks on New York City and Washington, DC.

Sulphur was also burned in homes where people were infected with small pox. This practice would help to explain why mint and other used stamps were discoloured. If covers existed in the home, one cannot be sure whether the cover was disinfected during the mail process or while it was stored in the home.

There is no doubt that the “Muddy Water” variety is an oxidized stamp. But is it an example of disinfected mail? A more complete answer to that question is still open to research and discussion.

Sincerely,
Bill Pekonen

Dear Editor:

Just read *The Canadian Philatelist* March/April 2002 Vol. 53 No. 2 and it is well presented. I noticed and read the article ‘General Balbo’s Flying Armada’ by James Gray on page 64.

The cover caught my eye and as well the first two lines in the article. You will notice that this cancelled cover does not agree with the date stated in the article. I thought that your readers would be interested in the story of this particular exciting cover.

As you, the editor, state in your ‘One Last Word’ same issue ‘...we have on occasion printed previously published material...’ then may I suggest that the article where this cover originally appeared be reprinted in your journal *The Canadian Philatelist* for the story it contains.

It is found in *BNA Topics* Jan-Feb-Mar 1997, Vol. 54 No. 1 pages 30-37 entitled ‘Finally – Its Discovery in 1997, the 1933 Newfoundland Balbo Airmail First Day Cover.’

Presuming not to be considered bold for this suggestion, I remain.

Yours in philately,
John M. Walsh
St. John’s Nfld.

Thank you for drawing our attention to your cited article in *BNA Topics*.

Editor.
Le philatéliste canadien / The Canadian Philatelist

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-électronique à info@rpsc.org. Aucune information ne sera acceptée par téléphone. CE CI EST UN SERVICE GRATUIT DE LA SRPC.

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.

**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. 5, 2002:** GRVPA Stamp Fair (2002+)
**Oct. 12, 2002:** Guelph
**Oct. 12, 2002:** Kincardine
**Oct. 12, 2002:** Bracebridge
**Oct. 19, 2002:** Kingston
**Oct. 19, 2002:** Barrie
**Oct. 19, 2002:** Essex County Stamp Club Show
**Oct. 26, 2002:** London Middlesex
**Oct. 26, 2002:** Brantford
**Nov. 2, 2002:** Chatham
**Nov. 2, 2002:** Hamilton
**Nov. 2, 2002:** North Toronto
**Nov. 2, 2002:** Trenton
**Nov. 3, 2002:** Strathroy
**Nov. 9, 2002:** Cambridge
**April 12, 2003:** Kitchener-Waterloo

REGIONAL EVENTS / ÉVÉNEMENTS RÉGIONAUX

**Aug. 10, 2002:** Fenelon Stamp Club will hold FENPEX 18 at the Fenelon Falls United Church, 123 Colborne St. in Fenelon, ON. Hours: 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Dealers, exhibits, prizes, Free admission. Lots of parking. Contact Margaret Allen at (705) 887-5386.

**Sept. 14, 2002:** MUSPEX 2002 will be held at the Muskoka Riverside Inn, Eccleston Dr. in Bracebridge, ON. Hours: 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Dealers in attendance, display of Muskoka Postal History. Free parking.

**Sept. 21, 2002:** North Toronto Stamp club 2002 Stamp Show and Bourse will be held at the Civic Garden Centre, Edwards Gardens, 777 Lawrence Ave. E. at Lesley St., Don Mills, ON.

Free parking and admission. Wheelchair access. Hours: 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Contact Herb at (416) 445-7720, fax (416) 444-1273, or e-mail ntstampclub@yahoo.ca.

**Nov. 2, 2002:** North Toronto Stamp club 2002 Stamp Show and Bourse will be held at the Civic Garden Centre, Edwards Gardens, 777 Lawrence Ave. E. at Lesley St. Don Mills, ON. Free parking and admission. Wheelchair access. Hours: 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Contact Herb at (416) 445-7720, fax (416) 444-1273, or e-mail ntstampclub@yahoo.ca.

**March 22-23, 2003:** North Toronto Stamp Club Show and Bourse will be held at the Civic Garden Centre, Edwards Gardens, 777 Lawrence Ave. E. at Lesley St. in Don Mills, ON. Free parking and admission. Wheelchair access. Hours: 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Saturday and 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Sunday. Contact Herb at (416) 445-7720.

NATIONAL EXHIBITIONS / EXPOSITIONS NATIONALES

**Aug. 15-18, 2002:** STAMPSHOW 2002 in Atlantic City, NJ.
**Sept. 20-22, 2002:** PIPEX 2002, sponsored by the Northwest Federation of Stamp Clubs (in this case also hosted by the NWFSC), 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.

**Sept. 26-29, 2002:** BNAPEX 2002, the annual convention/exhibition of The British North America Philatelic Society, will be hosted by the Inland Empire Philatelic Society at the Spokane Convention Center. Competitive member exhibits, dealer bourse, seminars, local tours, and social activities. Contact J.D. Arn at N 17708 Saddle Hill Rd., Colbert, WA 99005 USA, call (509) 467-5521, or e-mail johndarn@aol.com. Also view the Society Web site at www.bnaps.org.

**Feb. 23-March 2, 2003:** AmeriStamp Expo 2003 in Biloxi, Mississippi.

**ROYAL * ROYALE:** The Royal Philatelic Society of Canada’s annual exhibition and convention. Dates and locations for upcoming years:
- May 30-June 1, 2003 in Hanover, Ontario;
- May 28-30, 2004 in Halifax, Nova Scotia;
- May 27-29, 2005 in London, Ontario;
- June 20-25, 2006 in St. John’s, Newfoundland.

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 vergec@sympatico.ca. (Entries closed.)

**Nov. 16-23, 2002:** Exposicion Filatelica España 2002, The World Youth Philatelic Exhibition, has been changed. The show will now be held in Salamanca on Nov. 16-23. 🌿

Coming Events / Calendrier
AJAX PHILATELIC SOCIETY
RPSC Chapter 163 meets the 2nd and 4th Thurs, Sept. to June at the Ajax Public Library, 65 Harwood Ave. S., 6-9 p.m. Contact: Richard Weigand, 6 Carter Cr., Whitby, ON L1N 6C4. (905) 430-2637. E-mail: richard.weigand@sympatico.ca.

AMICALE DES PHILATELISTES DE L’OUTAOUAIS (APO)
Les membres de l’APO, chapitre 190 de la SRPC, se réunissent tous les jeudis de début septembre à fin avril, de 18h30 à 21h00. Les réunions ont lieu au Château Fontaine, 120 rue Charlevoix à Hull (Québec). Carte de membre 20 $ (105$ pour les moins de 16 ans). Vendeurs, encans, exposition.

Members of the APO (Chapter #190) meet every Thurs. from Sept. to the end of April, 6:30 to 9 p.m. in the Château Fontaine, 120 Charlevoix, Hull, Québec. Membership $20 (110$ under 16). Deals, auctions, show and bourse, Contact: A. Bossard, 5-120 Charlevoix, Hull, Québec. Member- ship table, auctions, bourse, OXFAM, and for all other countries $25. No formal meetings, but members join the RA Club stamp meetings at the RA Centre, 2451 Riverside Dr., Ottawa, ON at 7:30 p.m. every Mon. except June to Aug. Contact: Ron Miyashiki, 124 Gamble Ave., Toronto, ON M4J 2P3. (416) 421-5846.

CANADIAN ASSOCIATION FOR ISRAEL PHILATELY
Chapter 76, Jan Bart Judica Judica Group, meets on the 2nd Wed. except July and Aug., 7 p.m., at the Phoenix with parking and wheelchair access. Consignment table, auctions, bourse, OXFAM, and special programs prevail. Contact Don Dundee, 928 Clarendon Ave., Victoria, BC V8Y 1K3, (604) 658-8458.

Canadian Philatelic Society
Greter Victoria Philatelic Society
Chapter 32 meets on the 3rd Fri. at 7:30 p.m. at the Windsor Park Pavilion in Oak Bay. Circuit books, auction and special programs prevail. Contact Don Dundee, 928 Clarendon Ave., Victoria, BC V8Y 1K3, (604) 658-8458.

HAMILTON STAMP CLUB
Chapter 51 meets at 6 p.m. on the 2nd, 4th and 5th Mon., Sept. to June except holidays, and 2nd Mon. of July, at Bishop Ryan secondary school, Quigley Rd. and Albright St. Contact: Claire Mainland (Secretary), Box 60510, 673 Upper James St., Hamilton, ON, L9C 7N7; e-mail: stamps@hwcn.org or online at: www.hwcn.org/~ip029

INSURANCE AND BANKING PHILATELIC SOCIETY
Meets the 3rd Thur. Sept. to June at 6 p.m. on eighth floor, 200 King St. W., Toronto, ON M5H 2Y2. Contact: Herb Kucera, secretary, (416) 494-1428, or e-mail herbkucera@rogers.com.

KAWARTHA PHILATELIC SOCIETY
Chapter 58 meets on the 2nd and 4th Tues. except July and Aug., at 7 p.m. at Riverview Manor, 1155 Water St. N. Peterborough, ON. Contact Marie Olver at (705) 745-4993.

KELOWNA & DISTRICT STAMP CLUB
Chapter 90 meets the 2nd Wed. Sept. to June at 7 p.m., Dr. Knox Middle School Cafeteria, 1555 Burtch Ave. Contact: Box 1185, Kelowna, BC V1Y 7R8.

KENT COUNTY STAMP CLUB
Chapter 7 meets 4th Wed. except July, Aug. and Dec. in the library of John McGregor Secondary School, 300 Cecil, Chatham, ON, at 7:30 p.m. Contact: Secretary, Allan Burd, 43 Sadbury Dr. Chatham, ON N7L 2K1.

KINCARDINE STAMP CLUB
Chapter C-196 meets the 1st Wed. in the back of the Anglican Church on Russell St. at 7:30. Contact the club at Box 192, Kincardine, ON N2Z 2Y7 or call John Cortlan at (519) 395-5819 or e-mail jcorr@huronel.on.ca

KINGSTON STAMP CLUB
Chapter 1 meets the 1st Wed. in the Army Wellness Centre, 191 Portsmouth Ave. Free parking and wheelchair access. Consignment table, auctions, bourse, OPXAM, and trading. Contact President S. Elphick, 905 Ambleside Cres., Kingston, ON K7P 2B2 (613) 389-7030, elphicks@home.com
KITCHENER-WATERLOO PHILATELIC SOCIETY
Chapter 13 meets the 2nd Thurs. Sept. to June at Albert McCormick Arena, Parkside Dr., Waterloo. Contact: Betty J. Martin, P.O. Box 4307, Eastwood Square PO, Kitchener, ON N2H 6S9. (519) 576-7782.

LAKEHEAD STAMP CLUB
Chapter 33 meets the 2nd Wed. and last Fri. Sept. 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 – PHILATELIQUE DE LAKESHORE
Chapter 84 meets at Orval Strathmore United Church, 310 Brookhaven Ave., Orval, ON, on the 2nd and 4th Thurs. Sept. to June at 7:30 p.m. Contact: Oleg Podymow, President, P.O. Box 1, Pointe Claire/Dorval, QC H9R 4N5. Le philatéliste canadien / The Canadian Philatelist Juillet - Août 2002 / 217

LETHBRIDGE PHILATELIC SOCIETY
Chapter 57 meets at the 2nd Thur. at 7 p.m. except June to Aug. at the Canadian Western Natural Gas Co. building at 410 Stafford Dr. N., Lethbridge, AB T1H 2A9.

MEDICINE HAT COIN & STAMP CLUB
Chapter 146 meets the 2nd and 4th Tues. at 7:30 p.m. in the Dot Wilkinson Room (SW door) of Westminster United Church, 101 6th Street SE. Contact: Manfred Sievert, 18 Cochran Dr. NW, Medicine Hat, AB T1A 6Y7.

MIDDLESEX STAMP CLUB
Chapter 204 meets every other Fri. Sept. to May, at 7 p.m. in the basement of St. Martin’s Church, 46 Cathcart St., London. Meeting at 8 p.m. Contact Patrick Delmore at (519) 675-0779.

MILTON STAMP CLUB
Chapter 180 meets on the last Mon., except Dec. at 7 p.m. at Hugh Foster Hall (beside Town Hall) in Milton, ON. Silent auction every meeting. Contact: Milton Stamp Club, 425 Valleyview Crescent, Milton, ON L9T 3K0; (905) 878-1533 or (905) 878-9076, or e-mail: alman@globalserve.net.

MUSKOKA STAMP CLUB
Meets at the Senior Centre on Dominion St. in Bracebridge, ON on the 1st and 3rd Wed. of month, except 3rd Wed. in July, Aug., and Dec. Contact Club President Tom Anderson at (705) 645-3330.

NELSON STAMP CLUB
Meets on the 3rd Thurs. except Dec. at 7 p.m. in 8105-402 W. Beasley, Nelson, BC V1L 5Y4.

NORTH BAY & DISTRICT STAMP CLUB
Chapter 44 meets on the 2nd and 4th Tues. Sept. to May, at the Casselholme Home for the Aged, 400 Olive St., North Bay, ON at 7 p.m. (Basement meeting room.) Table auction and sales circuit. Contact: John Fretwell, R.R. 1, Callander, ON POH H10, (705) 752-1364.

NORTH TORONTO STAMP CLUB
Meets 2nd and 4th Thurs. except July and Aug. 7 p.m. at the Yorkminster Park Baptist Church, 1585 Yonge St., Toronto. Sales circuit, auctions, and lectures. Contact: Ben Marrier. (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, lectures. Contact: Joe Malbouef at (905) 884-5043.

NOVA SCOTIA STAMP CLUB
The 1st affiliate of the RPSG, est. 1922, meets the 2nd Tues. Sept. to June at the Nova Scotia Museum. Contact: E. Sodero, 831 Tower Rd., Halifax, NS B3Y 2H1.

OAKVILLE STAMP CLUB
Chapter 135 meets the 2nd and 4th Thurs. at 7 p.m. in the cafeteria, St. Thomas Aquinas Secondary School, 124 Margaret Dr., Contact: Oakville Stamp Club, Box 69645, Oakville, ON L6L 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: Bernard Dansereau, P.O. Box 65085, Nepean, ON K2G 5Y3.

OWEN SOUND STAMP CLUB
Chapter 191 meets the 3rd Wed. at 7 p.m. at St. George’s Anglican Church, 149 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.) in Woodstock, ON. Trading and junior program 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, 106 Warren Av. E. Contact: E.M. Proctor (Secretary), RR#4 S87 C9, 4055 E. C.P.O. Box 11, Clifford, ON N0G 1M0. E-mail: pkritz@logon.ca, Club President Peter Kritz, RR3, Hanover, ON N4N 3R9. Club Secretary Jim Measures, PO Box 11, Clifford, ON N0G 1M0. Annual Exhibition and show May 5, 2001. (519) 327-8265 or (519) 364-4752.

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.keeley@sympatico.ca.

ST. JOHN STAMP CLUB
Meets the 4th 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 Rosieyh Rd., Rothesay, NB E2H 2K5.

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) 249-3092; e-mail: ac242@sasktel.sask.ca.

SCARBOROUGH STAMP CLUB
Chapter 223 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 (SIDNEY, BC)
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Les demandes d’adhésion ci-dessous ont été reçues et sont publiées en conformité avec la constitution. Si aucun commentaire n’est communiqué au Bureau national, (C.P. 929, Succursale Q, Toronto, ON, M4T 2P1) d’ici 30 jours, les adhérents seront acceptés comme membres.

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Le philatéliste canadien / The Canadian Philatelist
Juillet - Août 2002 / 219
EDITORIAL REPORT 2001 – 2002

I am pleased to submit my first report as editor of The Canadian Philatelist to the Board of Directors of The Royal Philatelic Society of Canada.

That we were able to adhere to the journal’s publishing schedule during the transition from the extant to your new editor is in no small part due to the assistance, advice, and co-operation of Bill Pekonen, my predecessor. Bill made every effort to ensure that the transition was as seamless as possible.

In the 12 months that I have edited our journal, I have attempted to encourage more members of our Society to submit articles for publication. Those efforts have resulted in the addition of several new authors to our line-up of writers. We will continue our efforts to bring fresh ideas and the latest available philatelic news and views to our members.

I believe that members, in general, agree with me that information technology and the Internet in particular continue to have a major impact on our hobby. The new column penned by Robin Harris will go some way in addressing this issue.

Our contributing writers, for the most part, are submitting their copy and artwork electronically. This step has eliminated the need for typesetting. With the elimination of this intermediate step the potential for typographical errors creeping into the final copy has been reduced.

Probably the most significant change introduced during the past 12 months was the addition of eight pages to the magazine. This change has brought a favourable response from members. These additional pages allow us to print material with less delay, as well as help clear up some of the backlog that was beginning to build up. More importantly, they make possible the inclusion of a fair number of philatelic articles even in issues where a substantial part of the journal has to be dedicated to special Society business such as the publication of the biographical sketches of the new slate of directors running for office, entry form applications and instructions for exhibitors, annual convention coverage, and similar items.

Although we have taken some positive steps aimed at improving the quality of the magazine, much remains to be done to make it a truly world-class philatelic publication that will make it more attractive to new readers and, we hope, new members to the Society.

Recruiting new writers for the journal continues to be a challenge but one that, I believe, can be met.

I also believe that Society members deserve greater clarity of our policy dealing with previously published material.

Although the three-way division of editorial duties among National Office, Trajan Publishing, and your editor works well, Étant donné que la plupart de nos membres n’assistent pas à chaque congrès de La SRPC, j’ai cru utile de publier le rapport que j’ai présenté au conseil d’administration à l’assemblée générale de 2002, tenue à Edmonton. Il donne un aperçu des changements, des activités et des réalisations de l’année écoulée. Il fait aussi ressortir les défis à relever pour que notre bulletin atteigne son summum.

Rapport du rédacteur 2001-2002

Je suis heureux de soumettre au conseil d’administration de la Société royale de philatélie du Canada, mon premier rapport en tant que rédacteur du Philatéliste canadien.

C’est en grande partie grâce à l’aide, aux conseils et à la coopération de Bill Pekonen, mon prédécesseur, que les dates de tombée ont pu être respectées durant la période de transition. Il a ainsi fait tout son possible pour que celle-ci s’effectue sans anicroches.

Pendant mes douze mois en tant que rédacteur de notre magazine, je me suis efforcé d’encourager les membres de la Société à être plus nombreux à soumettre des articles pour fin de publication. Le résultat de ces efforts s’est concrétisé en une liste d’auteurs toujours plus longue. Dès lors, nous continuons à essayer d’insuffler des idées nouvelles à nos lecteurs et à leur faire part des dernières nouvelles et réflexions du monde philatélique.

Je crois que la majorité de nos membres, tout comme moi, sont d’avis que la technologie de l’information, et en particulier Internet, continue d’avoir une influence considérable sur notre passé-temps. La nouvelle rubrique de Robin Harris s’en fera l’écho.

La plupart de nos auteurs soumettent leurs textes ou leurs illustrations de façon électronique, ce qui a éliminé l’étape de la composition, réduisant ainsi les chances que ne se glissent des erreurs typographiques dans le manuscrit final.

Le plus grand changement survenu durant les douze derniers mois a été l’ajout de huit pages au magazine. Accueillies favorablement, ces pages supplémentaires nous permettent d’imprimer le matériel reçu dans un délai moindre et même de faire disparaître ce qui s’est accumulé sur les tablettes. Plus important encore, nous pouvons maintenant inclure bon nombre d’articles de philatélie dans les numéros dont une grande partie de l’espace disponible est destinée aux affaires de la Société telles la publication d’une courte biographie des nouveaux candidats aspirant à une fonction de direction, les formulaires de participation et les instructions destinés aux exposants ainsi que la couverture de la convention annuelle ou d’autres articles semblables.

Même si des pas importants ont été faits pour l’amélioration de la qualité de notre magazine, il reste encore beaucoup à faire pour qu’il soit vraiment une publication de niveau international, attrayante pour les nouveaux lecteurs qui, nous l’espérons, deviendront de nouveaux membres de la Société.

Le recrutement de nouveaux auteurs s’avère un défi, mais un défi qui, je crois, peut être relevé.

Je crois aussi que les membres de la Société ont droit à des éclaircissements sur notre politique quant au matériel ayant déjà été publié.

Bien que la division en trois parties des responsabilités de rédac- tion entre le bureau national, Trajan Publishing et votre rédacteur fonctionne bien, leurs tâches spécifiques ne sont pas bien comprises.
In closing, let me apologize to the Board for not having been able to deliver my report in person due to a previous family commitment.

Finally, I would like to thank the staff at National Office and Trajan Publishing for their assistance in getting each issue published in a timely and professional manner. Without their dedicated commitment, our journal would not remain the first-rate publication it has become.

Respectfully submitted,
Tony Shaman
Editor
March 22, 2002

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The Canadian Philatelist / Le philatéliste canadien

Juillet - Août 2002 / 221
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