



Great-granddaughter Shawne Jackson-Troiano stands with her brother Jay Jackson and Lawrence Jackson, letter carrier Albert Jackson's only surviving grandson (right), at the Jan. 24 unveiling of a stamp depicting their ancestor.

Photos by Ian Robertson.

Family cheers stamp honouring likely first Black Canadian letter carrier

By Ian Robertson

A historic Toronto building echoed with applause and music for the launch of a commemorative honouring a man "thought to be Canada's first Black letter carrier," the 10-stamp booklets note.

Albert Calvin Jackson's descendants and four Members of Parliament were among more than 300 people attending the 2019 Black History Month stamp, which was launched Jan. 24. Designed by Andrew Perro and illustrated by Ron Dollekamp, the Permanent commemorative was released the following day and shows Jackson in uniform while holding letters.

"This is like a family reunion," Canada Post communications vice-president Jo-Anne Polak said in her opening address.

"The story of Albert Jackson has been absolute magic," his great-granddaughter, Shawne Jackson-Troiano, said.

Descendants knew little until an archeological dig in 1985 at a Toronto home uncovered artifacts, including birth and marriage certificates of the family, her brother Jay Jackson told *CBC News* two years ago.

A Heritage Toronto plaque where the 1873-1958 Toronto General Post Office building stood recounts his ancestor's struggle to overcome "racial discrimination" that briefly barred him from doing his job.

Continued on page 17

Unissued stamps listed in catalogue draw collector's ire

This is the first story in a two-part series highlighting philatelic catalogue listings.

By Jesse Robitaille

The most basic and widely used form of philatelic literature, reference catalogues are closely held by collectors around the world.

As the most trusted way of identifying and learning about specific philatelic material, catalogues offer in-depth information about printing

methods, perforations, values and more, all of which are vetted by an editorial board.

Among the world's most popular references is the Scott catalogue, which dates back to 1868 – 28 years after Britain's "Penny Black" kicked off the postage stamp era – and is the primary source for many collectors, including those in Canada.

Scott's copyrighted numbering system, however, is licensed by the

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Canada Post's 1994 Christmas stamps were planned amid a proposed rate increase, which was postponed until the following year. This led to the original 52-cent stamp (right) being scrapped and replaced with a 50-cent denomination (left), which was issued Nov. 3, 1994.



Trajan's national show returning this March

The seventh National Postage Stamp and Coin Show is set to return to Mississauga this March 23-24.

Held each spring and fall at the popular Hilton Mississauga, the biannual event features about 50 dealers, a full slate of seminars, a 1,600-lot auction and – for the spring edition – a competitive philatelic exhibition. According to organizers, more than 1,000 people are expected to pass through the doors of the hotel's 9,000-square-foot Graydon Hall that weekend.

Among the highlights of the two-day show is the North Toronto Stamp Club's (NTSC) 76th annual exhibition, which will see about 80 frames of competitive, non-competitive and court of honour exhibits.



SEMINARS

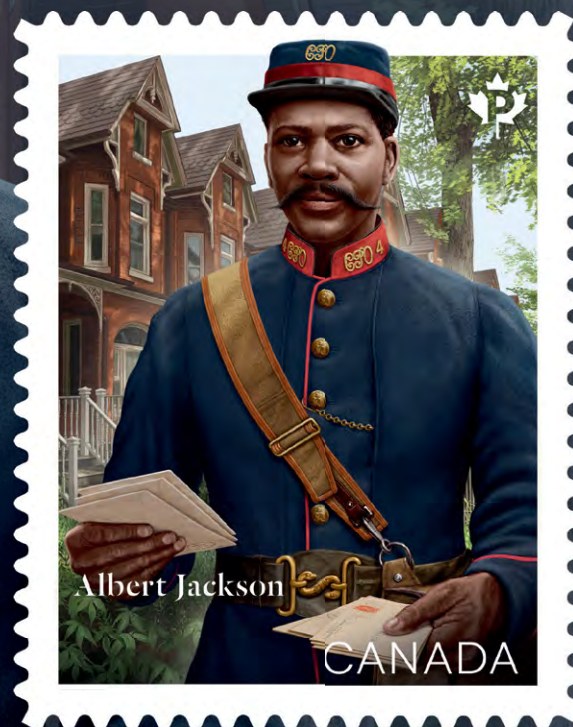
The show this March will also feature three seminars, including one exploring the history and production of Canadian banknotes and another about selling a coin or banknote collection.

Continued on page 19

He carried mail, now he's on it

Black History Month Stamps & Collectibles

Born into slavery in the United States, Albert Jackson was one of seven siblings brought to Canada by their mother via the Underground Railroad in 1858. He grew up in Toronto, attended school, and then applied and won a position as a letter carrier. White co-workers refused to train him, the city's Black community rallied 'round him, and eventually Sir John A. Macdonald intervened to ensure Albert became Toronto's—and possibly Canada's—first black letter carrier. He worked for the post office for 36 years, until his death in 1918. We honour Albert Jackson with this year's Black History Month stamp.



PERMANENT Stamps Booklet

Albert Jackson is shown in his letter carrier uniform delivering mail circa 1890.

414104111

\$ 9



Official First Day Cover

The OFDC carries an illustration of the street marker for Albert Jackson Lane in Toronto, named after Jackson in 2013.

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Guest COMMENTARY

By Jesse Robitaille

RPSC, APS partnership looks promising

A new partnership between the top philatelic organizations in Canada and the U.S. is slated to launch this June, and collectors in both countries should be excited.

I just got off the phone with two prominent proponents of “Organized Philately” – Royal Philatelic Society of Canada (RPSC) President Ed Kroft and American Philatelic Society (APS) Executive Director Scott English – who spoke to me about their plan.

Believe me: the new plan breaks the mold of philatelic outreach and will see much more than the exchange of tables at both societies’ major shows.

English said the plan is to foster a “wholesale partnership to promote the hobby around the world and make as many doors as possible for people to get into the hobby,” and he expects it to be “more comprehensive than anything we’ve done before.”

The partnership also ties into The RPSC’s reinvented strategic initiative, which was unveiled at the 2018 Royal Convention in St. Catharines, Ont.

“We want to appeal to everybody in the broadest way possible,” said Kroft, “and we need to increase our membership because we want to offer more things to more people.”

Also the immediate past president of the Society of Israel Philatelists (SIP), Kroft said these national and international partnerships are vital for the hobby going forward.

“Philatelic organizations need to co-operate with one another in order to keep the hobby strong and attract new members,” said Kroft, who added he’s “very excited about this partnership with the APS because it’s part of The RPSC’s philosophy to partner with different organizations.”

Things will begin later this year at The RPSC’s 91st convention – to be held June 21-23 in Mississauga – and will culminate with a quasi-international show in 2021. As the midpoint between the World Stamp Show in New York three years ago and the one coming to Boston in 2026, this forthcoming international show will be the first APS StampShow “with an international twist,” English said, “and we wanted to include Canada because we have a wealth of members from there.”

Check the next issue of *CSN* for a full story on this exciting, new partnership. 🍁

Oxford club celebrates 70 years

By Henny Uyl

The Oxford Philatelic Society (OPS), which is based in Woodstock, Ont., is celebrating its 70th anniversary this year.

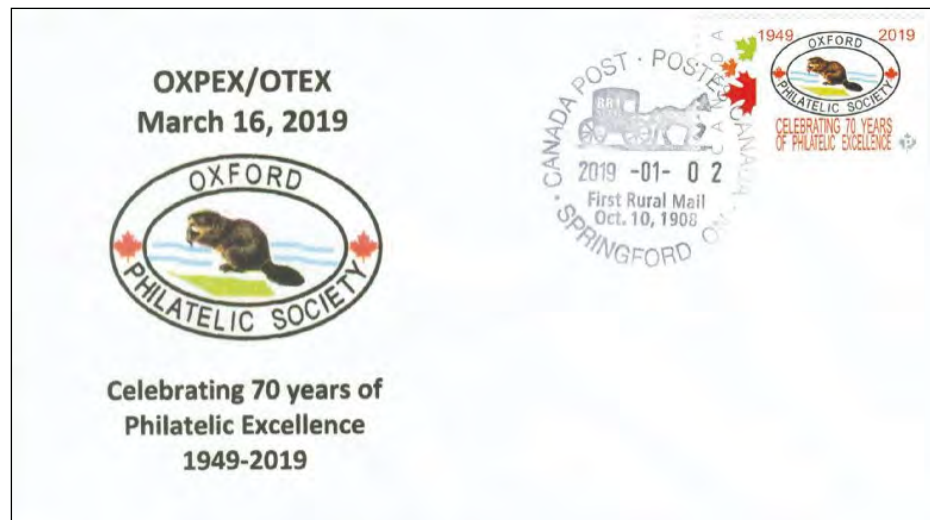
Formed on March 3, 1949, the club held an event on Jan. 9 to honour its decades-long history in Southwestern Ontario.

In 1949, four stamp collectors gathered at the local Young Men’s Christian Association (YMCA) centre to form what was initially called the Woodstock Stamp Club. Within the year, it was renamed the Oxford Philatelic Society to include all members attending from Oxford County, and its first president was Tony Keller.

The first Oxpex – the club’s annual exhibition – was held in May 1951 at the Ingersoll home of a “Mrs. Wolsteholm.” The show consisted of 12 variously sized picture frames, each displaying a separate exhibit.

In 1981, the OPS hosted its first All-Ontario Topical Exhibition, which is called Otex and is now part of every Oxpex show.

Since 1994, John Knox Christian School on Juliana Drive in Woodstock (now Woodstock Christian School) has been the home to the event every March, when about 140



Formed in 1949, the Oxford Philatelic Society produced commemorative covers complete with a Picture Postage stamp for its 70th-anniversary celebration this January.

competitive exhibit frames are displayed.

70TH ANNIVERSARY

OPS founding member John Gruszka was present at the Jan. 9 event marking the club’s 70th anniversary.

He and other attendees enjoyed a presentation on the history of the society, and Gruszka cut the anniversary cake alongside OPS President Henny Uyl.

To commemorate this special event, the club has issued limited-edition Picture Postage stamps featuring the club logo and its anniversary dates. Only 300 of these stamps were printed, and half of them have been used or sold.

Show covers and stamps will be available for sale at this year’s Oxpex/Otex or until they are gone.

Henny Uyl is the president of the Oxford Philatelic Society. For more information, visit oxfordphilsoc.com. 🍁



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NEW CCO AT APS

The American Philatelic Society (APS) has named Mark Kellner as its new chief content officer effective Jan. 7. In this role, Kellner will be responsible for editing the APS' monthly journal, *The American Philatelist*, as well as the quarterly journal of the American Philatelic Research Library, *Philatelic Literature Review*.



He replaces Martin Miller, who began as the APS' chief content officer in October 2017 but will be taking on a new role within the society. Kellner previously worked as an enterprise reporter for the Utah-based *Deseret News* after spending more than 20 years as a contributor and columnist for *The Washington Times*. In the 1990s, he was also the editor of *PC Portables Magazine* and has authored three books, including one in the "For Dummies" series and a 1996 book entitled *God on the Internet*.

'STAMP CLASSICS' ON LATEST BRITISH ISSUE

Royal Mail announced its first 2019 "Special Stamp" issue, a six-piece set dubbed "Stamp Classics," this January. Each of the stamps is a key and admired design from each monarch's reign – from Queen Victoria to Queen Elizabeth II – since Rowland Hill initiated the first postage stamp, the Penny Black, in 1840.

The classic designs featured in the set are:

- the Queen Victoria £1 green of 1891;
- the King Edward VII two-pence Tyrrian plum of 1910;
- the King George V two-shilling, six-pence stamp of 1913;
- the King Edward VIII one-and-a-half-shilling stamp of 1936;
- the King George VI "Penny Black Centenary" half-pence stamp of 1940; and
- the Queen Elizabeth II coronation two-and-a-half-pence stamp of 1953.

The six stamps are printed within a miniature sheet.

CUSTOMIZED STAMP 'TOO RELIGIOUS'

One group is wondering why a seemingly straightforward family vacation photo was deemed too "religious" to print on a personalized stamp in the U.S. The U.S.-based First

Liberty Institute, that country's largest legal organization dedicated exclusively to "defending religious freedom," recently sent a letter to the United States Postal Service (USPS) to seek clarification about its policies regarding custom postage. It follows

have to go to court to send a Christmas card," said Hiram Sasser, general counsel for First Liberty Institute. "USPS policies are so ambiguous and unequally applied that even its approved vendors don't know what is allowed and what isn't. The USPS has made Zazzle and Stamps.com agents of discrimination." Last November, Hunt ordered a personalized stamp through Zazzle, which partners with Stamps.com to print custom postage. The design featured a photo of her family in front of the iconic Cathedral of Vasily the Blessed, commonly known as Saint Basil's Cathedral, in Moscow's Red Square. After initially accepting the order, Zazzle informed Hunt the design was denied because of its "religious" nature – specifically the presence of Saint Basil's Cathedral in the background. Zazzle then indicated Hunt's order would be approved if the photo were cropped to make the cathedral "less obvious." Hunt said: "All I wanted was to add something personal to my family's Christmas cards. I was shocked that a family photo that includes a historic cathedral in the background is considered too religious by the Post Office."



LOST STAMPS' OWNER SOUGHT BY RCMP

Officers with the Royal Canadian Mounted Police (RCMP) in Kelowna are looking for the owner of a stamp collection found in an industrial area in the city's northeast end. Found by a bystander near Adams Road in October, the stamps have nothing to identify their owner, and no one has come forward to claim them. Police added no reports of thefts of a similar collection have been received. "It is obvious to us that this stamp collection took quite some time to assemble, and no doubt is very valuable to its owner," said RCMP Constable Robyn Boffy. "To claim the collection, police are asking its rightful owner to come forward and provide specific details of the collection itself and the item used to cover and encase the collection." Anyone with information is asked to contact Boffy at 250-762-3300.



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Curling a popular game whose much-debated origins are lost in time



Looking BACK

By Ian Robertson

"Reluctantly they think upon their homes,
And now in Flecky's barn they lodge their stones;
Then future matches made — wi' muckle sorrow
They all depart, resolved to meet to-morrow."

six lines:
"When wintry powers the waters bind,
And emulation fires the mind
Of Curlers keen; — a hardy race,
Inhabitants of that loved place
Called Douglasdale, their homes forsake,
To Spend the day on Claydubbs lake."

Printed at the start of a Post Office Department brochure describing Canada's first curling stamp, these four lines end an 1806 poem, *The Douglas Bonspiel*.

"The verses were originally inscribed to George Black," a British officer who died in Madras, India, John Blackwood Greenshields wrote in his book, *Annals of the Parish of Lesmahagow*, published in Edinburgh, Scotland, in 1864.

"The Sequel was written by desire of Alexander Gillespie," who Greenshields described as his best friend.

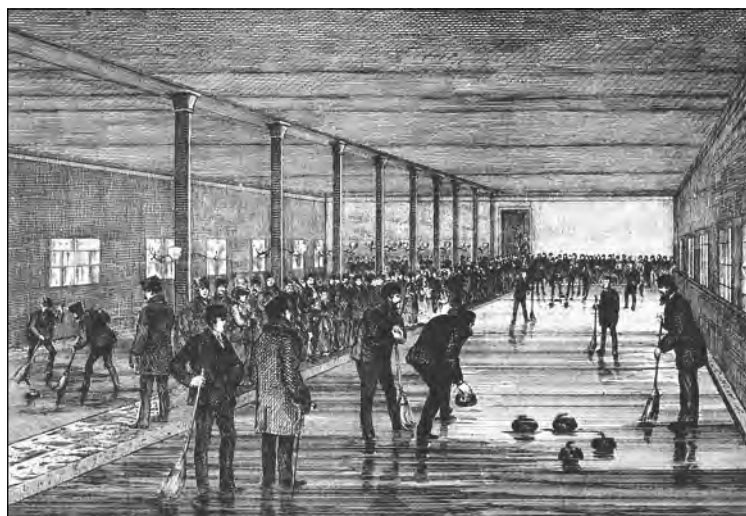
The subject of the poem, which describes in detail the officer's memory of the game being played back home in Scotland, is evident in the opening

Douglasdale refers to the valley of the Douglas Water, a river in Lanarkshire that flows through Douglas, Scotland, a village with just over 1,600 residents today, *Wikipedia* notes.

The brochure illustrates the 40-millimetre-by-24-millimetre six-cent commemorative (Scott #490) and provided some of the shuffleboard-like ice sport's history.

Toronto artist David Eales featured four silhouetted players standing on a traditional target, similar to a bullseye. It is called the "house," with a large dark blue circle surrounding a much smaller white one in the middle, called the "button."

Beside "Le curling/Curling"



in small black bilingual text, "CANADA" in white letters is positioned sideways to the right in a vertical red frame and above an upright white "6" within a square blue frame.

The closing verse "reflects the early mood on cessation of play at the coming of darkness," the brochure notes.

From a time when the game was played on smooth outdoor ice, the friction of which slows the rock, modern indoor artificial surfaces consisting of frozen pebbled water drops let the "hurled" stones spin or "curl," aided by their concave bottoms.

Using long-handled brushes, "sweepers" scuff the surface vigorously as each 20-kilogram stone spins down the "curling sheet" towards the target, which

consists of four concentric circles. Sweeping partially melts the pebbled ice and increases the stone's speed, sometimes causing it to change direction while spinning less, according to "Chess on ice," an article in *The Curling News* in 2007.

Each team of four players has eight stones with the highest points scored by those remaining in or closest to the target's centre during repeated play — a skill that combines the thrower's ability with guiding help from sweeper partners. A rival can start sweeping as a stone approaches the target to take it out of play or prevent it from knocking the opposing team's previously-manoeuvred stone from a strategic position.

When the brochure was written — before the stamp's release 50 years ago — it reported about 500,000 Canadians were curlers, including 100,000 women and 40,588 high-school students.

The number of players across Canada doubled over the last half century to an estimated one million players, according to the International Curling Information Network Group (ICING).

DEBATED ORIGINS

The brochure warns the game's origins are constantly debated.

The early Icelandic term *Knattleikr* "receives its share of attention as an originating contest," it added.

"*Knattleikr*" was described in the *Icelandic-English Dictionary*, published in Oxford, England, in 1874, as "a kind of cricket or trap-ball ... the ice in winter was a favorite play-ground."

Citing specific terms used by players, some proponents consider Continental Europe as the sport's source.

But as Reverend John Kerr wrote in his 1890 book *History of*

The Thistle Curling Club Rink opened in Montréal in 1871. Photo by Library and Archives Canada.

Curling, which celebrated the history of the Royal Caledonian Curling Club in Edinburgh, Scotland, "the conclusion appears certain that many of them do proceed from foreign roots: but the same remark is applicable to almost every word in the English language."

As for Scotland, "concrete evidence does exist that the game was in vogue in Scotland during the very early years of the 16th century," the post office brochure adds.

The earliest-known recorded reference to a game using stones on ice was found in February 1541 church records at Paisley Abbey, in Renfrewshire, Scotland. They recorded a challenge match between a monk and a relative of the abbot, the Sports Heritage Scotland website notes.

Kerr cited sources expressing opinions Flemish immigrants from The Netherlands introduced the game to the Scots while an 1830 author suggested a Scottish traveler encouraged friends to start curling after he witnessed the sport in Europe.

By the 18th century, poetry, prose and songs provide records of Scottish curling clubs and even national-level play with crowds at matches — called "Bonspiels." The first indoor curling rink in Scotland was opened in Glasgow in 1907.

The post office brochure quoted the historian of the Royal Caledonian Curling Club in Scotland — considered the "Mother Club" — noting in 1890 there was no definitive proof of where the game was first played.

Kept at a museum in Stirling, Scotland, a curling stone dated 1511 was discovered eons ago at the bottom of a drained pond in Dunblane along with another stone inscribed 1551. But doubts have been raised about whether the 1511 inscription was inscribed on the ancient stone much later, Kerr wrote.

The first written references to stones played on ice date from early 1540 and 1541, according to several sources.

Concluding "the precise beginnings of curling will always remain a mystery," ICING identified a version of the game originating in Germany — particularly Bavaria — and described an en-

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graving by R. Willemsz de Baoudous (1575-1644) that depicts players apparently "sliding large discs of wood along a frozen water-way."

It noted other sketches from around that time show a Dutch game called "kuting," played with frozen lumps of earth.

ICING credits the Duddington Club in Scotland with recording the first rules in 1804 – similar to those used now.

It notes game records have been kept since 1839, one year after the Grand Caledonian Curling Club was established in Edinburgh. Four years later, the patronage of Prince Albert – Queen Victoria's husband – was granted, with the title "Royal" added to the name of the club, which became the sport's first central association.

That patronage continues with the royal family, ICING added.

CURLING ENTERS CANADA VIA SCOTS

Scottish immigrants are credited with bringing the game to Canada.

"The generally accepted story is that the 78th Fraser Highland Regiment melted cannonballs to make iron curling 'stones' and that they curled at the city of Québec in 1759-1760," *Library and Archives Canada* notes.

"Scottish settlers curled as early as 1805 on the Mill Dam Pond at Beauport Quebec," the post office brochure adds. The first club in North America was started two years later by Montreal merchants, who played on the ice-covered St. Lawrence River.

South of the border, claims are made about Scottish soldiers and settlers introducing curling to the U.S. with a game in Michigan.

A second Canadian club was formed in Quebec city in 1821.

When players from both teams in the future province played 15 years later on the St. Lawrence at Trois-Rivières, the losing Montrealers paid for dinner, "the opposite of the present-day custom, the archives notes. "There was no whisky available and there were complaints about having to drink wine and champagne."

The Montreal and Quebec city clubs were affiliated with the Royal Caledonian Curling Club by the mid-1800s. The Canadian branch remains the game's governing body in eastern Quebec and the Ottawa Valley.

The Montreal Curling Club became the first in British North America to have an in-

door rink in 1838. The club was granted a "Royal" prefix in 1924.

In Ontario, where many Scottish immigrants were stone masons, curling stones were made of granite instead of iron.

The first club in the future province was created in Kingston in 1820. Four years later, Scottish coal miners started a curling club in Halifax, N.S.

By mid-decade, the game was being played in the Town of York, which became the City of Toronto in 1834. The Toronto Curling Club was established two years later, and in 1840, member James Bicket published the first Canadian Manual on Curling.

Within a few years, Quebec and Ontario curlers competed regularly, greatly aided by speedier transportation aboard Grand Trunk Railway coaches instead of using horse-drawn wagons and sleighs.

Since the Quebecers preferred irons and the Ontarians used stones, they played "separate matches using irons against irons and rocks against rocks," ICING notes. "Quebec invariably won the games using irons and Ontario won the games played with rocks."

According to *Library and Archives Canada*, iron curling stones were used in Quebec because there were problems getting granite ones from Scotland.

"Made at a forge in Trois-Rivières," the article quotes Kerr describing the iron stones as tea kettle-shaped, each weighing 20.9 kilograms to 29.5 kilograms.

By the mid-1950s, granite stones were in use throughout Quebec and the Ottawa Valley.

Other Scots took the game to Newfoundland by the 1830s, playing first on Quidi Vidi Lake in St. John's. A curling club was established in that city in 1843.

The St. John's Curling Club, officially called the St. John's Curling Association, was founded in 1910, when the Terra Nova Curling Club and the Mac Curling Club merged, *Wikipedia* notes.

The Fredericton Curling Club was formed in 1854 followed by

other clubs in New Brunswick. On Prince Edward Island, a club for the-then popular game was formed 33 years later.

According to ICING, Scottish settlers used oak blocks for curling games in the future province of Manitoba by the second part of the 19th century.

Winnipeg became the centre for the sport in the-then North West Territories with more clubs than the combined rinks of Ontario and Quebec. The Manitoba branch of the Royal Caledonian Curling Club was launched in 1888.

Earlier that decade, players in the future province of Saskatchewan opened small clubs with many rinks on open ice and near wooden huts providing protection from snow and high winds.

When a Winnipeg team participated in a series of games in eastern Canada, "their visit led to establishment of the 'Brier,' one of Canada's annual sporting classics," the post office brochure notes.

By the late 1800s, most of the games were being played in indoor rinks, ICING notes.

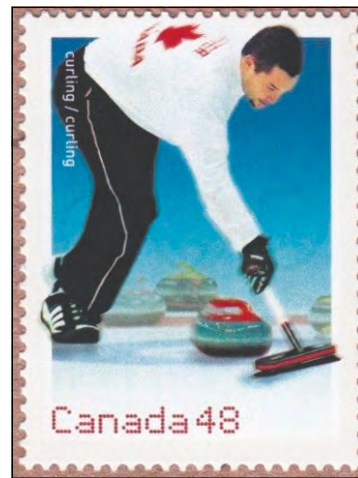
"By 1910, almost every town in the West had an arena," according to the *Canadian Encyclopedia*.

A Canadian umbrella organization, the Dominion Curling Association, was founded in 1935. Its name was changed to the Canadian Curling Association (CCA) in 1990, with amalgamation of Curl Canada, a men's group, and the Canadian Ladies' Curling Association, *Wikipedia* notes.

The CCA, which started national championships for high school players in 1950, for women 11 years later, mixed teams in 1964, senior men's teams in 1965, junior women's teams six years later, and senior women's teams in 1973, was re-branded as Curling Canada on Feb. 27, 2015.

As a sanctioning body across this country, Curling Canada is associated with more than 12 provincial and territorial curling groups, and organizes national championships.

In his thesis, "The Scots and Sport in Nineteenth Century Canada," Gerald Redmond credits the popularity of curling in Canada to our country's "favorable climate, plenty of water, the widespread settlement of enthusiastic Scots, the formation of clubs, the high-class patronage of the sport and the willingness of the Scots to open their sport to other nationalities," *Library and Archives Canada* notes.



A player sweeps the ice surface to guide a curling stone on a 48-cent commemorative issued in 2002 to celebrate that year's Olympic Winter Games in Salt Lake City.

CURLING & WINTER OLYMPICS

Teams from France, Great Britain and Sweden curled during the inaugural Winter Olympics held in Chamonix, France, in 1924 with the British team triumphing. The International Olympic Committee declared the results official in 2006, *Wikipedia* notes.

The sport was included as a demonstration event in the Winter Olympics in Lake Placid, N.Y., in 1932 but not again until the 1988 and 1992 games.

Curling became an official Winter Olympic sport in 1998, when the games were held in Nagano, Japan.

Canada won a silver medal that year. Since then, teams from this country have won curling

gold at the Winter Olympics in 2006, 2010 and 2014 plus silver in 2002 and bronze medals at the 2002 and 2006 games.

The first international bonspiel was held between U.S. and Canadian clubs at Buffalo, N.Y., in 1865, the *Canadian Encyclopedia* notes.

There are now 54 active national curling associations around the world, Sports Heritage Scotland reports.

CURLING ON STAMPS

The British American Bank Note Co. in Ottawa used two photogravure plates and one steel engraving to produce 25.2 million of Canada's first curling commemoratives on Jan. 15, 1969.

Perforated in gauge 10, stamp on the upper row of each pane of 50 lack top horizontal perfs.

The 2019 *Unitrade Specialized Catalogue of Canadian Stamps* lists the regular six-cent commemorative at 25 cents in mint condition, 20 cents used, or \$3 mint and \$1 used if printed on dull paper (SC #490i).

Curling was featured on subsequent Canadian stamps, which were released in varying formats.

In 1974, one of four "Keep Fit" eight-cent commemoratives featuring winter sports shows two curlers on a rink (SC #647).

One of two 37-cent commemoratives issued for the 1988 Olympic Winter Games in Calgary depicts a curler "hurling" a stone (SC #1196).

A player is sweeping the surface as a stone curls towards the target on one of four 48-cent 2002 commemoratives produced

Continued on page 9



A 1969 six-cent stamp commemorates the game of curling in Canada.



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Walsh's Newfoundland catalogue impressive



Philatelic BOOKSHELF

By David Piercey

The recently issued *Walsh Newfoundland Specialized Stamp Catalogue* by pre-eminent Newfoundland expert John M. Walsh is another improvement on his long-running series, and this latest edition is particularly impressive.

Walsh, of St. John's, N.L., has issued his catalogues since 1998. It's been available only electronically since the eighth edition in 2012. Electronic editions afford the author greater latitude to include more information as one is not encumbered with page limits and the increasing cost of printing paper editions.

The 823-page catalogue – almost double the length of the 2012 edition – includes a range of scholarly articles that add depth to the edition and support the many new findings by Walsh and his group of knowledgeable specialists.

His chapters span not only the expected catalogue listing of postal issues but also postal stationery, inland revenues, perfins, tobacco stamps, postal meters and even coinage. Specialist collectors will appreciate the listing of all currently known perforation and watermark varieties that can be found on different issues.

They will similarly appreciate the listing and illustrations of die proofs, plate proofs and other pre-production material that has been recorded, whether in private hands or in archival holdings.

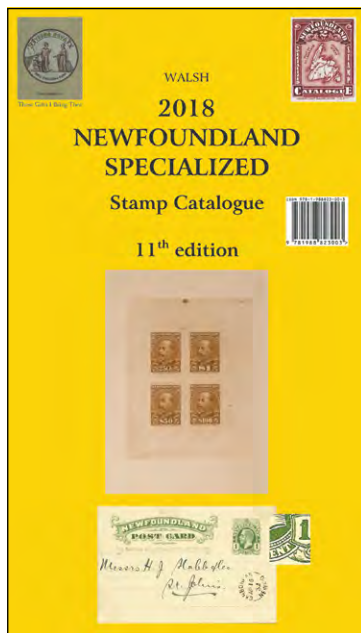
The comprehensive chapter on first flights is appreciated, too.

Add in chapters listing all post office in Newfoundland and Labrador with their types of postmarks known, transportation postmarks and a comprehensive listing of fakes and forgeries, and it can be stated this catalogue provides the most comprehensive and specialized listing and description of Newfoundland philately to be found in one volume.

NUMBERING & PRICING

Pricing is in U.S. dollars for an expected grade of Very Fine material, whether mint or used, and collectors should keep this in mind in estimating the value of their own holdings.

Walsh also uses his own numbering system, preferring to list items by major catalogue numbers for each design originating from a different die – and with sub-listings then by major colour changes or paper types but still using the same die.



Consequently, his numbering system is different than Scott's but is more logical in its attention to different issues by die and design – and less reliant on chronology. Tables comparing his catalogue numbers to Scott and Gibbons numbers are also conveniently provided.

For example, collectors expecting to see separate catalogue numbers for the roulette issue of 1875-1879 (Scott #37-40) will instead find them listed mostly as minor numbers among their same die and colour siblings.

The great value in this catalogue is a number of major chapters addressing the interests of specialist collectors or postal historians. For example, as with many of his previous editions, there are separate chapters on picture post cards and on corner cards, providing an updated listing of the full variety of such

The Walsh 2018 Newfoundland Specialized Stamp Catalogue by St. John's John M. Walsh is a boon to any students of Newfoundland philately.

cards as are known. Although items are not priced, they nevertheless tell us what exists.

There is also a 200-page chapter reproducing and updating the 2004 limited-printing publication by Sammy Whaly, *Newfoundland: The New York Printings 1865-1879 – A Cover Study*, which pictures the roughly 1,000 covers known from this period. It is an invaluable resource for those who collect postal history of this era, and more collectors can now see this material with its inclusion in this catalogue.

There is a major section on stampless letter rates, whether domestic or to the rest of the world, and another section on general postal rates (including airmail rates) throughout the years. This is useful for determining the rates our covers were sent at.

PUBLISHED ARTICLES

Walsh's catalogue also includes several major articles – many previously published in specialist journals – reporting new discoveries.

This takes the latest edition from beyond just a catalogue to more of a reference book for Newfoundland philately.

For example, he includes an article on the discovery of the "tumbling stones," a constant

plate variety on the three-cent Victoria stamps of the 1870s, when a plate flaw resulted in a constant plate variety on one stamp in a sheet.

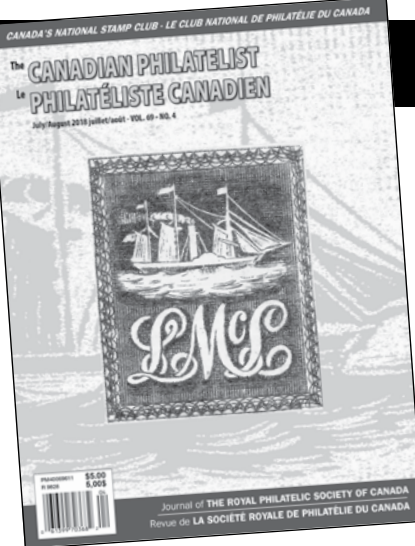
There are three related articles on the one-cent trial-printed red overprint provisional stamp of 1897, which settles the number of overprinted sheets produced and why they should be considered trial printings.

There is also an article on the specimen overprints of the 1897 Royal Family issue describing the different printing orders of these stamps as archived through their "specimen" printer-archived samples. An article on Newfoundland's "Sudan booklet" delves into the controversy behind this booklet.

Another article discusses the 1929 three-cent provisional surcharge; another the 1921 Halifax airmails with inverted surcharge; another the discovery of the 75-cent Labrador airmail with reversed watermark; and more articles on recent discoveries on Newfoundland revenues, one of Walsh's specialties.

To sum up, this is a catalogue that deserves to be read and re-read by any student of Newfoundland philately. Highly recommended!

The *Walsh 2018 Newfoundland Specialized Stamp Catalogue* is available only as an electronic publication from Walsh's Philatelic Services at nfldstamps.com for \$50. Purchasers will receive the publication as a downloadable file that can be saved on one's computer for ongoing reference. 🍁



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BNAPS – The Society for Canadian Philately

Curling...

Continued from page 7

to celebrate the Winter Olympics in Salt Lake City, Utah (SC #1937).

One of five Permanent stamps issued on Jan. 12, 2009 to promote the Vancouver 2010 Olympic Winter Games shows a curler in action. It was on a souvenir sheet and in a different format in booklets (SC #2299a and 2303).

A \$1.18 commemorative released Feb. 12, 2009 on a souvenir sheet, as a coil stamp, and in booklets, shows Sumi, the car-

toon-like 2010 Winter Paralympics mascot and Squamish Nation guardian spirit, maneuvering a stone from a wheelchair (SC #2305d, #2309 and #2312).

One of three "Pioneer of Winter Sports" 63-cent commemoratives on a 2014 souvenir sheet and in a booklet features Sandra Marie Schmirler (1963-2000), a three-time Canadian Curling Champion, who was skipper of a Canadian team, which won the first women's Olympic gold medal in 1998 in Japan (SC #2704b and 2706).

One of four "Women in Winter Sports" Permanent stamps



released on Jan. 24, 2018 on souvenir sheets and in booklets features three-time Paralympic gold medallist curler Sonja Gaudet

A 63-cent commemorative issued in 2014 shows champion curler Sandra Schmirler during a match.

playing from her wheelchair (SC #3079e and #3084).

Lastly, postal agencies in several countries have also issued curling-related stamps, including: Austria, Cambodia, Chad, China, Czech Republic, Djibouti, France, Gambia, Grenada, Republic of Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Guyana, Italy, Japan, Kazakhstan, Korea, Liberia, Lithuania, Maldives, Nevis, New Zealand, Palau, Russia, Rwanda, San Ma-

rino, Sharjah, Sierra Leone, Switzerland, Tanzania, Togo and Ukraine.

A commemorative issued in 2001 by Mozambique to promote the Winter Olympics in Salt Lake City, Utah the following year features Canadian curler Sandra Schmirler being hugged.

Canadian players Brad Jacobs and Lesley Kaitlyn Lawes were featured with two Scottish players on a four-stamp 2016 souvenir sheet issued by the Republic of Madagascar – listed in the Scott catalogue as the Malagasy Republic. It commemorated Olympic champion curlers at the 2014 games in Sochi, Russia. 🍁

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A primer for potential postcard collectors



DELTIOLOGY

By Mike Smith

At the January meeting of the Kitchener-Waterloo Cambridge Regional Post Card Club, I was approached by a gentleman who asked me some basic questions about the history of the hobby, colour printing processes and so on.

This prompted me to come up with a short postcard collecting primer for CSN readers who may be new to the hobby or are thinking of starting a collection.

It's quite understandable for newbie collectors to become overwhelmed with the astounding number and types of antique postcards available. When the private sector wrestled control of the medium from the post office in 1895, the number of players involved and types of cards published rose exponentially until the First World War.

Postcard publishers vying for market share came up with better and better designs to attract customers and introduced some clever marketing gimmicks.

For example, Britain's iconic Raphael Tuck and Sons initiated the first-known postcard competition. Tuck boldly offered prizes of up to £1,000 to the collector who amassed the most Tuck postcards sent through the mail within the following 18 months. Although £1,000 was a colossal sum in 1900, the competition was a stroke of genius in that sales of Tuck postcards (see Figure 1) skyrocketed. For the record, the

£1,000 first prize went to a collector who managed to accumulate more than 20,000 cards.

Canadians were also caught up in the so-called postcard craze.

In the 1919 edition of the *Canadian Almanac*, there's a table showing the estimated number of postcards mailed in Canada from 1881-1915. During the golden age (1900-1914) the number of cards mailed climbed from just over 27 million in 1900 to almost 65 million in 1914. With just under eight million people in Canada in 1914, that's at least eight postcards for every man, woman and child!



Figure 2. A terrific Stedman Bros. novelty postcard features a felt pennant and a real photo of Sault Ste. Marie.

And that just covers the cards mailed by Canadians – not those entering the country from the U.S. and abroad.

So with all the trading and collecting going on during the golden age and beyond, it's

no surprise there's an enormous quantity of antique postcards available to today's collector. This is the reason why most deltiologists end up specializing. In other words, they focus on a particular postcard subject, type, publisher or combinations thereof (see Figure 2).

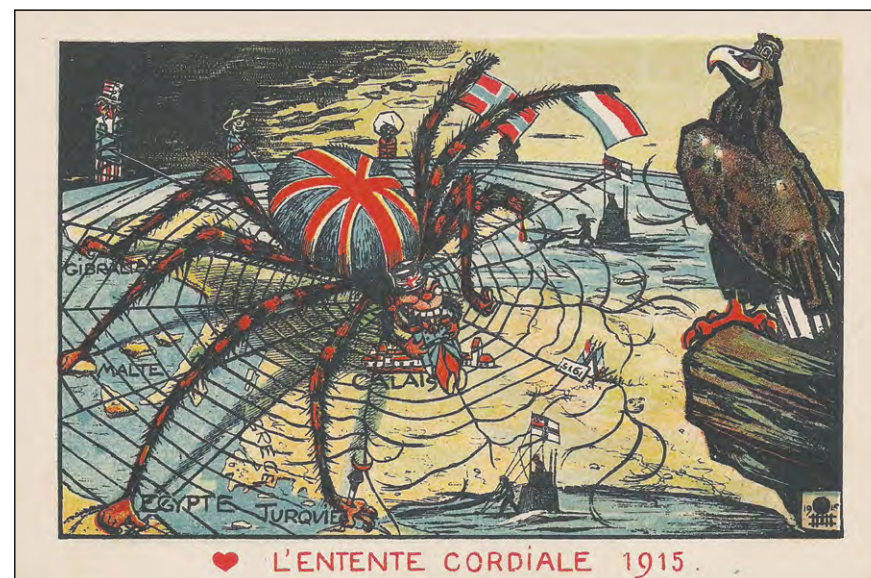


Figure 3. This German-made First World War propaganda postcard was catalogued at £8 (about \$13 Cdn.) in 2007. One sold on eBay for 10 times that amount in 2014.

duced the first postcard photo paper – "Velox" – in 1902 and pretty much dominated the market thereafter.

Understandably, the vast majority of postcards in collectors' albums are the printed versions. Produced in the millions during the golden age via chromolithography and other high-quality processes, printed cards are the mainstay of the hobby today – just as they were more than a century ago.

Novelty postcards, an example of which was shown as Figure 2, are those printed cards that deviate from the norm by having objects applied to them or being made from non-standard materials like leather, wood and aluminum. If you find an antique aluminum card that was franked and mailed, snap it up because after a short period of use, the post office demanded they be put in envelopes before mailing. It seems mailmen cut their hands on uncovered aluminum cards when reaching into their bags – ouch! 🍁

made from early 20th-century posters have really increased in value over the years.

Similarly, in the "M" category's military postcard section, First World War propaganda cards are especially hot these days (see Figure 3).

With respect to postcard types, the two main categories are real photo cards and printed cards.

As discussed in earlier CSN articles, real photo cards were made by developing photographic film directly onto specially marked photo paper. Usually produced locally in photographic studios, real photo cards tend to be much scarcer than their printed cousins (see Figure 4) and have an air of authenticity that actual, unaltered photos always bring to the table.

By the way, it should come as no surprise the Eastman Kodak Co., of Rochester, N.Y., intro-

ENDLESS POSSIBILITIES

Although the number of different subjects portrayed on antique postcards is virtually limitless, a good summary of the most popular subjects can be found in *Britain's Picture Postcard Values* catalogue.

This annual, all-colour handbook groups postcards alphabetically by subject and gives each card an average retail price derived from the market as a whole.

Although card prices in Britain don't necessarily reflect the prices of similar cards in Canada, if you look at enough back issues of these catalogues you can see trends.

In the "A" category, for example, advertising cards



Figure 1. Britain's Raphael Tuck and Sons produced oodles of high-quality cards like this South African War (or Boer War) gem.



Figure 4. A real photo card of Goderich, Ont.'s Eloise Skimings (also known as 'The Poetess of Lake Huron') beside the printed (colour) version.

Unitrade...

Continued from page 1

Toronto-based Unitrade Associates, which publishes its own annual catalogue of Canadian material, *The Unitrade Specialized Catalogue of Canadian Stamps*, edited by Manitoba's Robin Harris.

"As such we list all Scott-numbered varieties," said Harris, who added Unitrade "pays a royalty" to use Scott's system.

Other varieties that exist beyond those listed in Scott can be listed by Unitrade "with or without an appropriate Unitrade-numbered item," Harris said, adding these listings sometimes begin as a footnote until more information becomes available and a specific number is assigned.

"In many cases," and specifically with newly reported missing colours and other similar varieties, Unitrade will list the variety with a Unitrade-numbered listing such as "i" or "ii" before Scott recognizes the variety, he added.

"When that happens, the Unitrade catalogue will re-number our listing to reflect the number assigned by Scott."

This happens "almost annually," said Harris, who was also recently appointed as the editor of *The Canadian Philatelist*, the official bimonthly journal of The Royal Philatelic Society of Canada (RPSC).

"At no time has Scott told us what we can or cannot list in addition to their listings."

SCOTT'S POLICY

Scott's "only strict criteria" for listings is the stamps "be decreed legal for postage by the issuing country and that the issuing country actually have an operating postal system," the company explained in an online tutorial at scottonline.com/ScottCatalogue-Tutorial.pdf, adding its "role is to provide basic comprehensive postage stamp information."

"It is up to each stamp collector to choose which items to include in a collection. It is Scott's objective to seek reasons why a stamp should be listed, rather than why it should not. Nevertheless,



The 90-cent stamp (right) was also replaced with an 88-cent denomination (left); however, the original, unissued stamps are listed in *The Unitrade Specialized Catalogue of Canadian Stamps* – something one expert says is 'misleading' to collectors.

there are certain types of items that will not be listed."

These unlisted items include "unissued items that are not officially distributed or released by the issuing postal authority," according to the tutorial.

"If such items are officially issued at a later date by the country, they will be listed. Unissued items consist of those that have been printed and then held from sale for reasons such as change in government, errors found on stamps or something deemed objectionable about a stamp subject or design."

Harris, who's also The RPSC's webmaster and a member of its finance committee, said Scott might use this policy of forgoing unissued stamps because its catalogues cover the entire world "and need to have all-encompassing rules for every country."

UNITRADE'S POLICY

Unitrade, on the other hand, lists unissued stamps because it believes it's important for Canadian collectors to know exactly what material is available on the market – regardless of how it made its way there, Harris said.

"The Unitrade catalogue tries to list anything of relevance related to Canadian philately. We feel it is important to provide information to collectors so that they can make an informed decision on what they would like to collect or not collect. By not listing these items we would be doing a dis-service to the hobby."

One long-time philatelist disagrees with this policy and cites a pair of unissued varieties – Unitrade's #1534ii and

#1535ii – as "misleading" to collectors, who are "given the mistaken direction that these were released by Canada Post, which is what Scott catalogues say they do."

Making these assertions is John Walsh, who publishes his own catalogues, the *Walsh 2018 Newfoundland Specialized Stamp Catalogue* and *Walsh 2018 British North America Specialized Stamp Catalogue*.

The stamps were nearly issued by Canada Post in 1994, amid a proposed rate increase; however, they were scrapped and replaced by nearly identical issues – but with different denominations – when the increase was postponed.

The unissued stamps have been listed in Unitrade "since at least the 2002 edition," Harris said. One is a 52-cent stamp entitled "Choir" (#1534ii) while the other is a 90-cent stamp called "Outdoor Carolling" (#1535ii).

"As these labeled stamps were never issued by Canada Post, how can they be deliberately listed? This is a deliberate manner of misdirecting stamp collectors," said Walsh.

The stamps that were eventually issued are 50- and 88-cent denominations (#1534 and #1535, respectively), both of which use the same name and design (excluding only the denomination) as the aforementioned unissued "varieties."

RATE INCREASE

Prior to these Christmas stamps being issued in November 1994, Canada Post lobbied the government for a rate increase.

Expecting to receive permission for a two-cent increase to the 43- 50- and 88-cent rates by Christmas, Canada Post planned to issue its 1994 Christmas stamps at the new proposed rates of 45, 52 and 90 cents.

There was, however, public backlash as well as political resistance, and the rate

increase was postponed until August 1995.

Because it takes "many months" of planning to prepare a new stamp issue, the design for the 1994 Christmas stamps would have been finalized early that year, wrote John Jamieson, long-time philatelist and owner of Saskatoon Stamp Centre, on his website saskatoonstamp.com.

By the end of summer, printing plates would have been prepared, and the stamps – slated for release on Nov. 3, 1994 – "would likely have been printed by the end of August," Jamieson added.

"Likely, when the rate increase was turned down, there was a panic re-order for the Christmas series in the old denomination. The original shipment of the 'new' values, was thus of no use. They would have been sent off for destruction. Somewhere along the line the surviving stamps found their way into private hands."

It was the first time an "apparently 'finished stamp'" reached the philatelic market in Canada, Jamieson said. 🍁

See the next issue of CSN for Walsh's request, Unitrade's response and Canada Post's stance on the unissued Christmas stamps of 1994.



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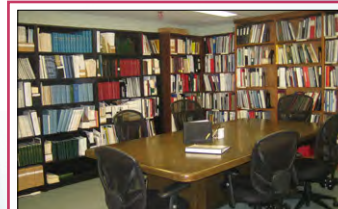


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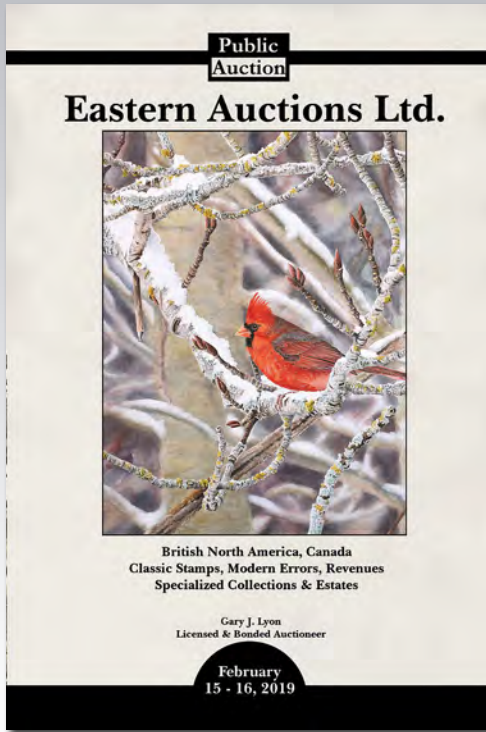


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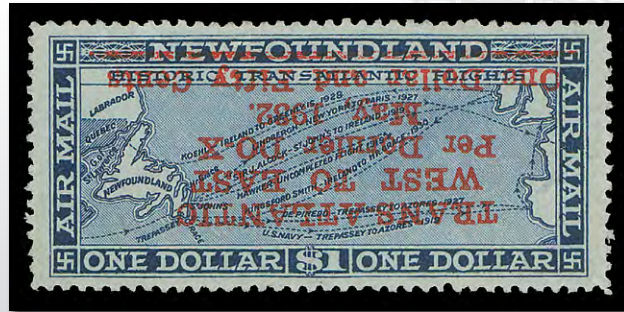
A very strong Canada section will be offered over two days – from the 1851 Issue to modern errors and elusive back-of-book issues, along with Federal & Provincial revenues. It includes some of rarest unused Pence issues often missing from even advanced collections. One will find hand-picked single-lot items including proofs, imperforates, plate imprint multiples, better printings and much more. The modern era is particularly strong (including some valuable large lots) with rarely offered printing errors, missing colours and inverts – available in such limited numbers, it is fair to say they will become some of the great rarities of tomorrow.



Canada 3p red on laid paper, exceedingly rare sound unused example; 1968 RPSL cert.



New Brunswick 1sh bright red violet, fabulous mint OG; 1990 RPSL cert.



Newfoundland 1932 DO-X Dornier, invert surcharge, choice mint NH



Nova Scotia 1sh "cold" dull violet, rare mint OG stamp; 1977 Brandon cert.



Canada 6p brownish violet, perf 11¼, post office fresh mint OG; 1971 RPSL cert.



British Columbia 2½p bright orange rose, pristine mint OG; 1979 Greene and 1981 PF certs.



1946 British Columbia Duck Stamps 50c azure and black, mint NH booklet pane; 2016 Greene cert.

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Canada 6c Air, upper right imperforate mint NH plate block



Canada 20c-\$5 SPECIMEN stamp, superb mint / NH set



Newfoundland 1p red brown, choice mint OG example of this key stamp; 1997 BPA cert.



1995 \$2 Provincial School, inverted engraved inscriptions



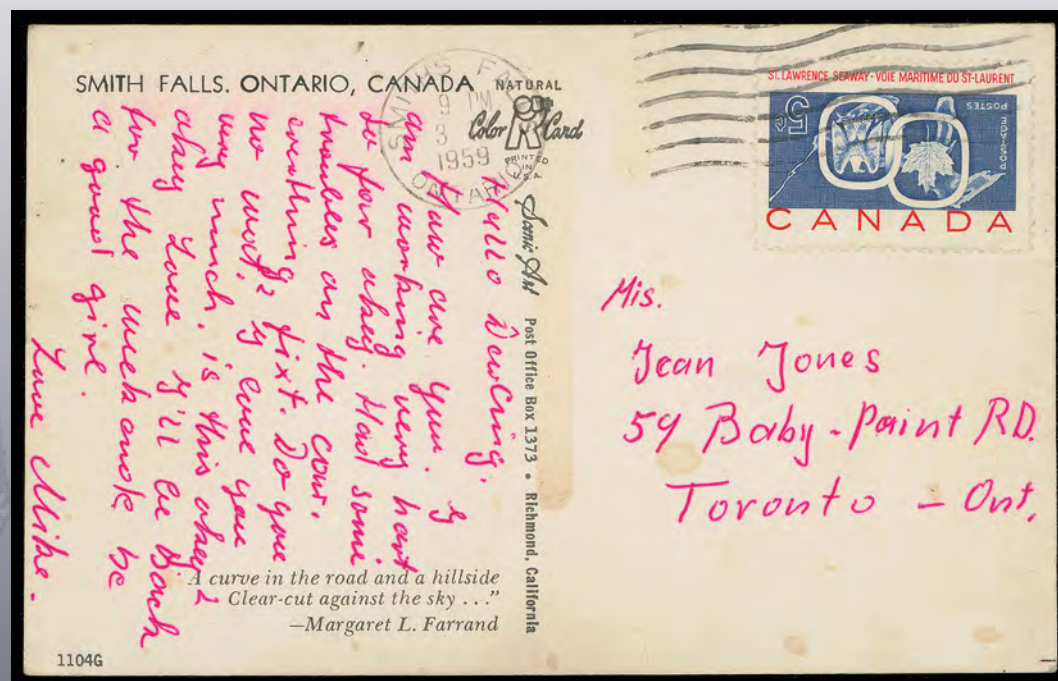
1906 Dominion DeForest Telegraph Co. Frank



1900 Saskatchewan Telephone Co. 50c red & black on dark yellow – one of only two known; 2015 Greene cert.



1973 8c Jeanne Mance, printed on the gum side error. Only 24 examples known; 2012 Greene cert.



Extremely rare use of the 1959 5c Inverted Seaway on picture postcard.

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200th anniversary of Queen Victoria's birth this May



Stamping GROUND

By Ian Robertson

Almost 200 years have passed since the birth of a monarch who influenced the naming of several communities in Canada and around the world.

As many collectors know, Queen Victoria was also the first person featured on an adhesive postage stamp.

Great Britain issued the one-penny black definitive in May 1840.

Designers selected it plus other depictions of the queen for stamps issued by postal agencies in other British-related countries.

Her profile was based on a design by William Wyon (1795-1851) on the city medal that commemorated her first London visit in 1837.

Born in Birmingham, England, Wyon was 14 when he joined his father as an apprentice die engraver.

Appointed to the Royal Mint as assistant engraver in 1816, after studying in London, he specialized in Neoclassicist images that reflected art dating to the classic period in ancient Greece.

In 1828, Wyon became the mint's chief engraver, a position he held until his death at the age of 56.

He engraved the primary die used for the "Penny Black" and "Tu'Penny Blue" definitives.

The "Penny Black" design – with slight alterations – was used until a surface-printed one-penny stamp was released in 1880. Surface-printed definitives introduced with other denominations in 1855 were based on the same portrait that remained in use until her death in 1901.



While some stamps issued by other British colonies and related countries are similar, many other engravings were eventually based on different images of the queen.

CHALON PORTRAIT

One of the most popular portraits used on stamps shows her in a much more youthful pose painted by Alfred Edward Chalon (1780-1860).

Born in Geneva, Switzerland, he was taken to live in England, where his father became a professor at the Royal Military Academy Sandhurst.

As an artist living in London, Chalon became known for his portraits of upper-class city residents.

He was chosen in 1837 by Queen Victoria to paint a portrait of her wearing state robes as a gift for her mother.

The young monarch gave him the title "Portrait Painter in Water Colour to Her Majesty," which greatly elevated his stature and popularity.

The painting was engraved by Samuel Cousins and prints were distributed to the public on June 28, 1838, the day of the 19-year-old queen's coronation at Westminster Abbey in London.

A political union of Upper Canada and Lower Canada – today called Ontario and Quebec – the Province of Canada was the first government administration to issue stamps in British North America.

Released in April 1851, the lowest-denomination definitive in the first Canadian set shows a beaver, which represented the fur trade's economic influence. The three-pence, or "Thru' Penny Beaver," was used to pre-pay the half-ounce letter rate within Canada (and then in early July to New Brunswick, Nova Scotia and Prince Edward Island).

The world's first postage stamp, Britain's 1840 'Penny Black' was designed and engraved by William Wyon.



A set of British commemoratives issued in 1987 to mark the 150th anniversary of Queen Victoria's birth feature images of key people and events during her reign.

The queen's husband, Prince Albert, was depicted on the six-pence stamp released in May that prepaid the half-ounce letter rate to the eastern and mid-U.S. and for one-ounce Canada-bound letters.

His wife's Chalon portrait was adapted for the third and final stamp, the 12 pence. Also issued that May, the pricey black definitive prepaid a half-ounce letter to Newfoundland and the British West Indies, double-weight letters to the U.S. and two-ounce letters within Canada.

Listed in the 2019 *Unitrade Specialized Catalogue of Canadian Stamps* at \$30,000 to \$150,000 in mint condition and \$25,000-\$180,000 used, the "12-Penny Black" is Canada's most valuable regular-issue stamp.

Civil engineer Sandford Fleming prepared two hand-drawn beaver essays, one for the three-pence, another for a one-shilling – 12 pence – stamp.

Only the lower-denomination design was chosen. Officials later added the six-pence Prince Albert and the 12-pence Queen Victoria stamps to their order with the New York City-based security printing firm, Rawdon, Wright, Hatch and Edson.

In his 1945 book *The Postage Stamps and Postal History of Canada*, Winthrop S. Boggs suggested the portrayal of royalty on the two higher-denomination definitives "was deemed more fitting" since they would be used "chiefly for letters going out of the country."

OTHER CHALON STAMPS

All three central designs from the 1851 set were used on later Canadian stamps, including those with different denominations.

When Nova Scotia introduced stamps that year, the Chalon portrait was featured in a small box at the centre of the one-penny brown definitive surrounded by engraved floral symbols.

The colony's decimal currency designers used the Wyon portrait on the three lowest-denomination engraved stamps introduced in 1860. The set's three higher-denomination stamps bear a very different full-face portrait of the queen.

In *The Encyclopedia of British Empire Postage Stamps* Vol. V, published in London in 1973 by Robson Lowe, the authors noted "the engraver of the higher values and designer of the issue is unknown but no doubt they were employees of the American Bank Note Co."

Stamps issued in 1860 by British Columbia and Vancouver Island, then in 1865 on the two earliest Vancouver Island definitives, bore an adaptation of Wyon's portrayal of the queen.

After switching to decimal currency, New Brunswick had Chalon's portrait of Queen Victoria used on three of its first cents-denominated issues. Introduced in 1860, they were printed by the ABNC.

Newfoundland introduced stamps in 1857, but it wasn't until 1870 the island colony issued its first definitive featuring the queen.

The 12-cent stamp's central image was based on Wyon's design, encircled by a belt. Also printed by the ABNC, the 24-cent stamp in that set bore the same front-facing portrait used on Nova Scotia's last three definitives.

Chalon's portrait was one of two adapted for the 16 diamond jubilee commemoratives Canada issued in 1897 for Queen Victoria's 60th anniversary as monarch.



An 1837 city medal commemorating Queen Victoria's first visit to London England, was also engraved by Wyon.

The ABNC was formed by an amalgamation of seven firms, including Rawdon, Wright, Hatch and Edson.

Released in 1861, all but one of Prince Edward Island's pence-denominated issue with a profile portrait based on the Wyon medal, were typograph printed. The four-and-a-half pence, based on Chalon's portrait, was printed by the ABNC.

It was accompanied by an engraving showing her as a senior, in a so-called "Widow's Weeds" pose based on the black mourning clothes she always wore after the death in 1861 of her beloved husband.

NOT BORN TO BE QUEEN

Princess Alexandrina Victoria was born on May 24, 1819, at Kensington Palace in London.

She was named after her godfather, Tsar Alexander I, of Russia, and her mother, Princess Victoria, of Saxe-Coburg-Saalfeld, of Germany.

Her father was Prince Edward, the Duke of Kent, fourth son of King George III.

As a senior officer in the British military, in 1791 he became the first British royal to live in North America, The London Gazette reported in 1805.

Based in Quebec city, in 1792 he was the first official to use "Canadian" when referring to French and English settlers in Upper and Lower Canada, Nathan Tidridge wrote in his 2013 book *Prince Edward, Duke of Kent: Father of the Canadian Crown*.



Nova Scotia's eight-and-a-half-cent definitive features a full-face engraved portrait of a young Queen Victoria.

The prince helped shape military defenses at Halifax, N.S. He later commanded British forces in North America before serving briefly as Governor of Gibraltar.

With the death in 1817 of the king's granddaughter – his lone legitimate heir – 50-year-old Prince Edward gave up his French mistress and married Princess Victoria, a widowed German princess with two young children the following May.

Their only child was born at Kensington Palace, five days before the couple's first wedding anniversary.

A fortune teller once told him "his daughter would become a great queen yet at birth Victoria was fifth in line to the throne," James Moore wrote in an article published in 2016 by The Daily Express.

After her father's death at the age of 52, when "Drina" was 10 months old, the future monarch was raised by her mother.

The youngster spent much of her time playing with dolls, dotting on her dog, painting, playing piano and studying foreign languages while being apart from other children by handlers. She realized her possible future after several relatives died prematurely.

In 1820, the year King George IV succeeded his father, the 11-year-old was welcomed in towns and at great country homes during the first of several annual escorted trips across England and Wales. On one occasion, she told a governess "I will be good" as the monarch.

When the king died 10 years later, his son became King William IV.

Upon his death, the king's son, Ernest Augustus, assumed his father's other monarchal title and became King of Hanover, Germany.

Based on different succession regulations, and with her father and his three elder brothers dead with no surviving legitimate heirs, King William's niece ascended to the British throne on June 20, 1837.

Queen Victoria was just 18.

One of her first official commands was to stop using her first name.

The teenaged sovereign also moved into her own bedroom instead of continuing to share one with her living but domineering mother. The young queen soon moved into Buckingham Palace, however, becoming the first British royal to make it a sovereign's official residence.

Though Queen Victoria stood only one-and-a-half metres tall, Duke of Wellington Arthur Wellesley noted "she filled the room."

On the day she was crowned, 400,000 people lined London's streets, waiting for the five-hour coronation ceremony to end while hoping for a glimpse of her in royal robes.

Though British sovereigns by then ruled under a constitutional monarchy with little direct political power, the new queen became widely popular and was especially well-regarded for her personal morality.

COUSIN ALBERT, A PRINCELY HUSBAND

In 1839, after being introduced to several young princes as prospective future husbands, she proposed to Prince Albert of Saxe-Coburg and Gotha, who was born in a castle in Germany.

After they met three years earlier in England, she wrote in her diary that her three-months-younger first cousin "is extremely handsome; his hair is about the same colour as mine; his eyes are large and blue, and he has a beautiful nose and a very sweet mouth with fine teeth; but the charm of his countenance is his expression, which is most delightful."

In a letter to King Leopold of Belgium, her uncle, she thanked her "best and kindest adviser" for arranging the meeting with the "so sensible, so kind" young prince.

Their wedding, on Feb. 10, 1840, was in St. James's Palace in Westminster.

They had nine children. All married royals or nobles throughout Europe but three died before their mother.

Prince Albert became widely respected for promoting better schooling and increased scientific research as part of a loving royal household, as his wife's trusted political adviser and for managing the family finances.

The queen's successful visits with officials in France led to improved relations and was welcomed back home.

Her husband's death at the age of 42 from suspected typhoid fever interrupted his wife's increasingly popular reign.

Already grieving the death that March of her mother, with whom she had reconciled, Queen Victoria began a lengthy period of mourning for her consort.

The queen's secluded lifestyle led to growing republican sentiments, but her public re-emergence several years later was widely welcomed. She even began taking regular holidays in Europe.

Dubbed "The Victorian Era," her influence during 63 years and seven months as monarch was felt throughout the British Empire, which underwent great global expansion.

The 1800s were a time of growth in industry, culture, politics, science and the military, though the latter involved armed conflicts in several countries, including the Boer War in South Africa, which lasted from Oct. 11, 1899 to May 31, 1902.

Queen Victoria's reign of 63 years and seven months was longer than that of any of her predecessors.

After escaping eight assassination attempts and left lame for several years after a serious fall, the-then longest-reigning British monarch died on Jan. 22, 1901. She was 81.

Her eldest son, Prince Albert Edward (1841-1910), became King Edward VII.

In 1860, he was the first Prince of Wales to tour North America, where he laid the cornerstone of Parliament Hill in Ottawa, inaugurated the Victoria Bridge in Montreal and visited Niagara Falls.

In another Canadian connection, his sister, Princess Louise (1848-1939), married John Campbell, the Marquess of Lorne (1845-1914). The future Duke of Argyll served as Canada's forth Governor General from 1878 to 1883.

2019 BRITISH STAMPS

Great Britain released a recent set of "stamp-on-stamp" commemoratives on a mini-sheet to represent the monarchy from Queen Victoria's reign to that of her great-great granddaughter, Queen Elizabeth II.

One of the "Stamp Classics" reproduces a one-pound green high-denomination 1891 definitive with an adaptation of Wyon's engraving of Queen Victoria in the centre.

The issue commemorates the 150th anniversary of the Royal Philatelic Society (RPSL) and the 50th anniversary of Queen Elizabeth opening the National Postal Museum in London. The five other commemoratives reproduce stamps from the reigns of King Edward VII, King George V, King Edward VIII, King George VI and Queen Elizabeth.

Britain also plans to release six bicentenary stamps in May charting Queen Victoria's life in period paintings dating from her childhood to later years. They will also be on a mini-sheet with four additional stamps marking the bicentenary of Prince Albert's birth.



Born the same year, they are buried together in Frogmore Mausoleum at Windsor Great Park.

Four U.K. commemoratives were issued in 1987 for the 150th anniversary of Queen Victoria's reign.

The "Penny Black" has been depicted on commemoratives issued by Britain and several other countries.

Canada issued a 12-cent commemorative featuring a pair of 1851 "12-Penny Blacks" for Capex '78, the Canadian International Stamp Exhibition held in 1978 in Toronto.

VICTORIA IN CANADA & ABORAD

Named after Queen Victoria are several Canadian communities, including:

- Regina, Sask., which is Latin for queen and was chosen in her honour in 1882 by Princess Louise;
- Victoria, B.C., which was named in 1843 after briefly being called Fort Albert; and
- Victoriaville, Qué., which was claimed in 1802 by a fur trader and first settled around 1825 before being named after the queen on May 8, 1861.

Her name was also chosen for streets, parks and several communities around the world, including the state of Victoria in Australia, which was part of the larger British colony of New South Wales until 1851.

Other examples include:

- Victoriaville, which was the capital and largest city of Seychelles, on Mahé Island in the Indian Ocean, until it declared independence in 1976 from the U.K.;
- the town of Victoria, Vermont, which was founded in 1906 and named by an industrialist and financier who admired the queen;
- a Johannesburg, South Africa suburb that was named Victoria in 1902;
- southern Africa's Victoria Falls, which was named by Scottish missionary David Livingstone in the mid-1800s; and
- Victoria Falls, a nearby river-side town founded in 1901 in the province of Matabeleland North, Zimbabwe, with more than 33,000 residents. 🍁

One of six commemoratives Britain will release this May will mark the bicentenary of Queen Victoria's birth.

Lunar New Year stamps celebrate Canada's diversity

Long-running series sees 23rd consecutive issue since 1997

By Jesse Robitaille

A well-attended unveiling ceremony for Canada Post's latest Lunar New Year stamps highlighted Canada's strength through diversity.

The extensive series, which recently saw the 11th release of its second 12-year run, has been met with admiration from collectors and non-collectors in Canada's Asian communities. The latest issue – this featuring an iconic character from classic Chinese literature – was released nationwide on Jan. 18 and unveiled a day earlier at the Chinese Cultural Centre of Greater Toronto.

"Canada Post is proud to join Canadians of Chinese, Korean, Vietnamese and other East Asian heritage celebrating the Lunar New Year," said Jo-Anne Polak, vice-president of communications and public affairs at Canada Post. "Since this annual issue kicked off with the Year of the Ox stamp in 1997, it has only grown in popularity."

As one of Canada's storytellers – a "responsibility we take very seriously," Polak added – Canada Post is committed to telling the country's defining stories.

"These stories reflect the diversity that makes Canada a place we're proud to call home," said Polak, who added the subject and design of every Canadian stamp is chosen by the 12-person Stamp Advisory Committee, "an independent group of experts in Canadian history, culture and design."

Two committee members – Rose-Marie Sadler and Jean Wang, the latter of who is an award-winning exhibitor and executive member of the North Toronto Stamp Club – were in attendance at the Jan. 17 unveiling in Scarborough, Ont.

"I think you'll agree they made a great choice with the Lunar New Year series and this beautiful issue celebrating Year of the Pig," added Polak.

CANADIAN MULTICULTURALISM

The Chinese Cultural Centre of Greater Toronto acts as "a beacon of what Toronto is all about," said Toronto Mayor John Tory, who also spoke at the unveiling.

"This is a city whose people are proud to be Canadian, but they're also proud to celebrate their own backgrounds, of which there are so many in this great country."

Canada's breadth of multicultural celebrations – Lunar New



Iconic calligrapher Albert Ng (right) and illustrator Seung Jai Paek, who studied under Ng at York University, designed Canada Post's 2019 Lunar New Year issue.

Year among them – is something that's "very special" about the country and its people, Tory added.

"I think what's important about these stamps is they do something that's so important to our country and what it's all about, which is celebrating each other's special occasions and learning about it in the process."

As a country, Canada must learn about its diverse cultures "if it's going to resist becoming a country like so many others around the world, where people

are becoming divided, becoming suspicious of each other and becoming polarized," Tory added.

"In this country, it's all for one and one for all; we learn about each other and celebrate our differences, and I think it's something that's so important."

While the annual Lunar New Year series rings in the new year, it also serves as "a celebration of Canada's multiculturalism and diversity," something that's held highly at the Chinese Cultural Centre of Greater Toronto according to the venue's chair Adrian Cheung.

"Being the home for the west to meet the east, the Chinese Cultural Centre of Greater Toronto has three decades of proud history, playing a key leadership role in promoting diversity and ethnic harmony; promoting Chinese cultural heritage; and strengthening the cultural and business relationships between Canada and China," said Cheung, who added the centre "enriches the lives of thousands."

'CAUSE FOR CELEBRATION'

Across Canada, Lunar New Year is "a major cause for celebration" and not only for Canadians of Asian heritage.

"People of all backgrounds want to experience our culture and be part of this wonderful festival," said Jean Yip, MP for Scarborough-Agincourt.

"It is wonderful to see how Canada Post celebrates this time of year with us, but it's not only because we know the stamps will be colourful and richly detailed; it's because they make a

statement about who we are as a nation. They celebrate the diversity that makes Canada and communities like Scarborough strong, vibrant and inclusive."

As these stamps travel across Canada and abroad, they will show the world "we are proud to be a multicultural country, that we value each other's traditions and that each of our stories are important," added Yip, whose family collects commemorative stamps every Christmas and Lunar New Year.

"I always look forward to the intricate designs and how wonderfully colourful they are."

TWO STAMPS

The 2019 Year of the Pig stamps celebrate the sign that also ruled the Chinese zodiac in 2007, 1995, 1983, 1971 and 1959.

World-renowned calligrapher Albert Ng and illustrator Seung Jai Paek, who was Ng's student at York University before graduating in 2002, designed the two stamps. They are based on the story of Zhu Bajie – also known as Pigsy – who's a colourful character from the 16th-century Chinese novel *Journey to the West*.

"Pigsy was originally the commander-in-chief of 80,000 Heavenly Navy Soldiers, but he was banished and exiled from heaven for his misbehaviour and sent to be reincarnated on Earth, where, by mishap, he fell into a big well and was reborn as a half-man, half-pig monster," said Ng, who added the character is "soft-hearted, optimistic and likes to help."

Continued on page 19



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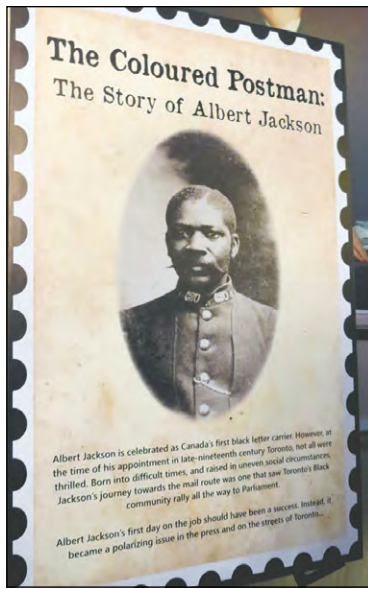
Continued from page 1

Born into slavery in Delaware in 1856, "Jackson's mother, Ann Maria, fled the state in 1858 with Underground Railroad help after two sons were sold," the plaque states.

Her "very kind" husband, John, a free black man, wouldn't leave and died brokenhearted at age 40, African-American abolitionist William Still wrote in his 1872 book *The Underground Railroad*, quoting the widow.

From Philadelphia, in slavery-free Pennsylvania, Still helped Ann Maria and her seven children reach St. Catharines, Ont.

For my 2016 CSN article on Jackson, Karolyn Smardz Frost – author of the 2007 book *I've Got a Home in Glory Land: A Lost Tale of the Underground Railroad* – told me they were Canada's largest black U.S. ex-slave family. The two enslaved sons joined them after escaping.



Several black people were publicly assaulted or insulted.

On May 17, an *Evening Telegram* editorial declared "objection to the younger man on account of his color is indefensible," adding taxes were usually the same regardless of a person's race.

Five days later, a letter in *The Globe* from black Hamilton, Ont. preacher C.A. Johnson demanded the government intervene.

"We feel much ashamed of these postmen, and we believe that the Canadian public condemn them in their heathenish action towards Jackson," Johnson, editor of a newspaper for freed Americans, added.

THE PM INTERVENES

"Toronto's Black community organized support for Jackson, arranging a public meeting and creating a committee to advocate for him," the plaque notes.

A heated press debate ensued, with support from Prime Minister Sir John A. Macdonald, "who was courting Black voters."

In an interview, Jim Phillips, Canada Post's director of stamp services, said Macdonald knew Toronto's postmaster and asked him to personally train Jackson.

He was delivering mail two days later "with no objection being raised," *The Globe* reported.

Lawrence Jackson said one partially-blind resident told his grandfather she realized he was a carrier by his footsteps.

"I can tell by your voice that you are a gentle, generous man," Jackson – the postman's last living grandson – said, quoting his mother's stories.

Sir John A. Macdonald, who intervened to help Jackson fight racism and continue his job as a letter carrier, was depicted on a 2015 stamp.

A poster showing Jackson, considered Canada's first black letter carrier, was displayed at the launch of his stamp at St. Lawrence Hall in Toronto.

"You don't have to see anybody to know them ... just be kind," he concluded.

In 1883, Albert Jackson married Henrietta Jones. They had four sons.

Earning a minimum \$1.25 daily wage in 1902 – and \$3 a day 11 years later – church-going Jackson was a pillar of Toronto's black community.

He purchased two homes, one of which his family still owns.

After 36 years as a letter-carrier, Jackson collapsed after dinner and died Jan. 14, 1918.

His descendants lauded the Canadian Union of Postal Workers (CUPW), which campaigned several years for the stamp.

Jan Simpson, CUPW's first national vice-president and the first black person elected to that position, said the union championed Jackson after learning his story and added "this commemoration means a great deal to me."

Relatives also praised *The Toronto Star*, which carried an article in 2012 about Jackson following the publication of Smardz Frost's book, for which she received a Governor General's Award in 2007.

In 2013, the City of Toronto designated "Albert Jackson Lane" behind his former home.

Two years later, a play, *The Postman*, debuted on verandas in his former neighbourhood.

Some historians suggested black men may have been letter carriers in Victoria, B.C. under the British colonial system in the 1850s as well as in Nova Scotia, but no solid evidence was found.

IN-DEPTH RESEARCH

"It took months and months" of research to ensure



the stamp image's authenticity, Phillips told me.

Studies were made of an old uniform, jacket buttons and metal "CPO4" collar insignia in museums.

Dollekamp, a Toronto artist, said he portrayed Jackson in front of Brunswick Avenue homes near where he lived but added 19th-century windows.

"I liked getting the correct satchel," he said, explaining "there was nothing in any of the photos."

Elia Anoaia, Canada Post's manager of stamp program development, credited members of the RA Stamp Club in Ottawa with alerting her during a preliminary discussion to a too-early brownish three-cent Small Queen definitive

and outdated postmarks on an envelope in Jackson's hand.

The artwork was altered to show a correct orange version of the Queen Victoria stamp with a machine flag cancel in use when he began his rounds.

Luckily, "we were still in the middle of research," Anoaia said.

Stamp booklet credits include the Canadian Museum of History; Ottawa collector Doug Lingard, who Phillips said provided correct postal history items; Garfield Portch, vice-president of the Toronto-based Vincent Graves Greene Philatelic Research Foundation and a top pre-1900 Toronto postal markings collector; the Town of York Historical Society; and Toronto's First Post Office. 🍁



Albert Jackson's great-granddaughter Shawne Jackson-Troiano attended the ceremony in Toronto.

In Toronto, Ann Maria did laundry, her younger children attended school and the oldest sons contributed part of their wages.

At the time, black men rarely had government jobs.

Told he would outrank some co-workers, Jackson was made a letter carrier on May 12, 1882.

When white postal workers refused to train Albert to deliver mail, "his supervisor assigned him to an indoor position as a hall porter," the plaque notes.

Carriers told *The Evening Telegram* his appointment was "a most impolitic move," reporter Isobel Teotonio wrote in *The Toronto Star* in February 2012.

One 1882 newspaper headline on a story displayed at the stamp launch read "The objectionable African."

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New ISSUES

Around the World with Robin Harris



AUSTRALIA

Australia released a set of five stamps on Jan. 17 titled "Australian Legends of Children's Literature."

Every year since 1997, Australia Post's "Australian Legends Award" has recognized outstanding individuals for their part in shaping the social and cultural life of Australia.

This year's award recipients are celebrated authors for young people. They include Mem Fox, Morris Gleitzman, Leigh Hobbs, Alison Lester and Shaun Tan. Their enthusiasm for children's literacy and the art of storytelling brings pleasure and delight to young audiences, enriching the imaginative and lived worlds of all who engage with their books. These exceptional storytellers also play a significant role in the intellectual, emotional and social development of their readers and listeners, contributing to generations of grounded and resilient young people. Their stories are compelling, entertaining, humorous and moving and convey values, life skills, attitudes and strategies for facing the opportunities and the challenges that emerge through life.

Fox wrote her first book, *Possum Magic*, during her university studies. It was rejected nine times over a five-year period before being published in 1983. It eventually became the highest-selling children's book in Australia.

Since the publication of Gleitzman's first children's novel, *The Other Facts of Life* (1985), which started out as a screenplay, the author has written around 40 titles for young readers.

In his stories, Hobbs uses words and pictures in an idiosyncratic fashion with the words saying one thing and the pictures something else. His first book, *Old Tom*, was published in 1994.

Lester has created more than 25 picture books for a young audience. She also illustrated books for other authors before writing her first children's book, *Clive Eats Alligators*, in 1985.

Tan has a distinctive authorial voice, which combines incisive words and often-fantastical illustrations into profound picture books. The stamp design includes the 2001 book *The Lost Thing*, which is a meditation on isolation, empathy and belonging.

NEW ZEALAND

A set of six stamps was released by New Zealand on Feb. 13.

"Native Alpine Flora" explores just six of the 600 flowering species found on New Zealand's mountains between the tree line and permanent snow.



For many years, the origins of New Zealand's native alpine flora were shrouded in mystery. Between two and 10 million years old, New Zealand's alpine areas are comparatively new, formed well after the break-up of Gondwanaland. Before shifting tectonic plates heaved much of New Zealand's terrain into colder altitudes, the landscape was largely low-lying and warm.

Although scientists haven't yet told all their stories, New Zealand's alpine plants appear to be much younger than the land mass, representing rapid and spectacular evolution and diversification.

Botanists have evidence that immigrant ancestors of alpine plants dispersed to New Zealand recently from Australia, New Guinea and South America. Some might have come from or via Antarctica, which was home to rich flora only a few million years ago. Equally adventurously, other species appear to have evolved from native lowland plants that adapted to alpine environments as the landscape shifted.



LUXEMBOURG

Luxembourg released a set of stamps last December depicting four different plum varieties in that country.

The diversity of plum varieties in Luxembourg is extraordinary. The flavours and different uses of the varieties are also very varied. Whereas some varieties are suitable for all kinds of uses, others are ideal for preserving.

The environmental foundation "natur&emwelt" has now identified more than 100 different old plum varieties in Luxembourg. The objective is to bring these varieties back into cultivation in gardens and nurseries.

LIECHTENSTEIN

Liechtenstein will issue a set of four dragonfly self-adhesive definitive stamps on March 4.

The set will include "Beautiful Demoiselle"; "Blue Emperor"; "Large Red Damselfly"; and "Banded Demoiselle." Nature photographer Xaver Roser caught these insects on camera.



All the depicted dragonflies are indigenous to the Ruggeller Riet nature reserve. The biocenoses of the fens found there also include numerous endangered plant and animal species that fortunately do not include the four dragonflies shown.

Dragonflies count among the most important bioindicators. They say a lot about the quality of the waters and wetlands. Their four wings, each of which operate independently and weigh at most one centigramme, are unique. Large dragonflies can fly at a speed of more than 40 km/h without backwind, accelerate extremely quickly, stop abruptly in full flight or suddenly change direction. In contrast, the exceptional manoeuvrability of small dragonflies in tight spaces is impressive to watch.



JERSEY

Six stamps and a miniature sheet were issued by Jersey on Feb. 5 to reflect various aspects of Sir Walter Raleigh's career and the positive impacts his governorship had on the island of Jersey using illustration combined with words or quotes.

Raleigh was one of the most important figures of the Elizabethan era with a multi-faceted career that brought him to the island of Jersey as governor during the years 1600-1603. He appeared to have been very much a "hands-on" governor, improving the militia and the island's defences, fostering trade and attending sittings of the courts.



The design of the miniature sheet features a portrait of Raleigh against an antique map of the world and includes the words "Soldier, Sailor, Poet, Adventurer and Governor of Jersey" to reflect his multi-faceted career and association to the island of Jersey.

National...

Continued from page 1

Both of these presentations will be held March 23 while a third seminar, this on philatelic exhibiting and featuring members of the NTSC, will be held the following morning.

Also on Sunday, a free "Young Collectors" auction will be held at 1 p.m., when 35 lots of numismatic and philatelic material will be offered to children aged 18 and under. Play money will be provided to all bidders, so there is no cost to participants.

A "Young Collectors" table will also offer discounted material to children aged 18 and under throughout the weekend.

1,600-LOT AUCTION

More than 1,600 lots will cross the block at the show's combined coin and stamp auction hosted by Colonial Acres.

The two-session sale will begin with a live auction on March 22, a day before the show kicks off in Mississauga. It will offer some finest-known examples,

some "exceptionally rare items that don't hit the market often" and "the usual assortment of great coins, banknotes and stamps for all collectors needs and budgets," said Kirk Parsons, co-owner of the Kitchener, Ont.-based auction house.

Bidders can expect strong paper money and Canadian decimal sections consisting of most key-date issues and "many better varieties that are highly sought after," Parsons added.

SHOW HOURS

On March 23-24, the bourse and exhibition hall will open to the public each day at 10 a.m. before closing at 5 p.m. on March 23 and 4 p.m. the following day.

FREE PARKING

Parking at the Hilton Mississauga is free while you're attending the National Postage Stamp and Coin Show on March 23-24. The Hilton will be placing a notice on its parking meters listing the shows and events – including our own – that are exempt from having to pay parking. Instead of paying the meters, attendees of our show are asked to sign in with their license plate number at the show admission desk. Do not pay the fee at the hotel's automated parking meters. There are no refunds from the hotel or show organizers.

As always, admission is \$3 on Saturday and free on Sunday, and free on-site parking is available to all show attendees (see sidebar).

Later this year, the Fall 2019 National Postage Stamp and Coin Show will be held Sept. 7-8 at the same location, the Hilton Mississauga, which is located directly off Highway 401 on Mississauga Road.

For more information about the biannual show, which is hosted by Trajan Publishing Corp., publisher of CSN and Canadian Coin News, visit stampandcoinshow.com.

Check the next issue of CSN for a full supplement highlighting the two-day National Postage Stamp and Coin Show. 🍁

Lunar...

Continued from page 16

"One day, Pigsy got a reason to be helpful and was recruited by the goddess Guanyin to join 'Monkey King' and journey westward with a monk in search of the sacred scriptures. Pigsy became a disciple of the monk and – together with Monkey King – set off toward ancient India, which is the west."

Rewarded for his hand in the journey's success, Pigsy was offered a job as "Cleanser of the Altars," meaning he was allowed to eat leftovers from the altar offerings.

DESIGN PROCESS

This year's Permanent domestic-rate stamp features a proud Pigsy clad in heavenly armour and clutching an enormous nine-toothed muckrake while an international stamp shows him lounging in more modest attire.

"I've worked on several Lunar New Year stamps, but when you work on stamp projects you're not always selected," said Ng, who was born and educated in Hong Kong before immigrating to Canada in 1974.

He's only the second graphic designer to be inducted into the Order of Ontario.

"The good thing is if you are chosen, it's an honour," said Ng, who has helped with the design – namely the calligraphy – of several other Lunar New Year stamps issued by Canada Post.

About three years ago, Ng was invited by Canada Post stamp design manager Liz Wong to submit proposals for the 2019 Year of the Pig issue.

"I always bring on board a couple of my former students to work with me on projects of such scale. My purpose is to nurture the next generation of designers to gain different experience in research, design, printing, et cetera," said Ng, who added Paek is "a brilliant and very successful young designer specializing in branding, corporate identify, way finding, interactive design and illustration."

"He was also one of my former top students who graduated some 18 years ago from our honours degree design program, and he's now my good friend."

Hours of time was spent researching to begin the design process, said Ng.

"During our research, it surprised me to find out there are over 120 countries or regions in the world that publish Lunar New Year stamps, so they're very popular."

For the Year of the Pig, Ng and his team submitted two concepts – one traditional and another modern – featuring Pigsy.

"That was the start of a three-year journey and challenge," said Ng, who added Journey to the West is "one of four great classic novels in Chinese literature" but is also popular in Japan, Korea and other Asian countries.

The duo's contemporary design for this year's Lunar New Year issue "didn't make it," Ng added.

"They liked the traditional design, which was Pigsy, and I used an illustrative approach. Pigsy is always being labelled as lazy and likes to eat; however, we should look at both sides of the coin. He's also soft-hearted, kind, frank, trusting and always helpful."

Initially, the design duo "wanted to make Pigsy a little bit sexier" but later decided to change their direction.

"It's about the abundance, richness and colourfulness that reflects the culture," said Paek, who added there were "so many revisions" since the project began in 2016.

"We really fell in love with this pig, and it's been a very unique journey – kind of similar to the *Journey to the West*." 🍁

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Attention-grabbing ads offer context to covers



Off the Beaten TRACK

By Lewis E. Tauber

Sells like the Dickens to a world of chickens.

Could you resist sharing the cover making that claim? Look at Figure 1: "It's worth crowing about."

Advertising covers were popular "a century ago, when a visit from the postman was still an event," according to the "Alphabetilately" website, alphabetilately.org, which adds an "eye-catching piece of mail had more impact."

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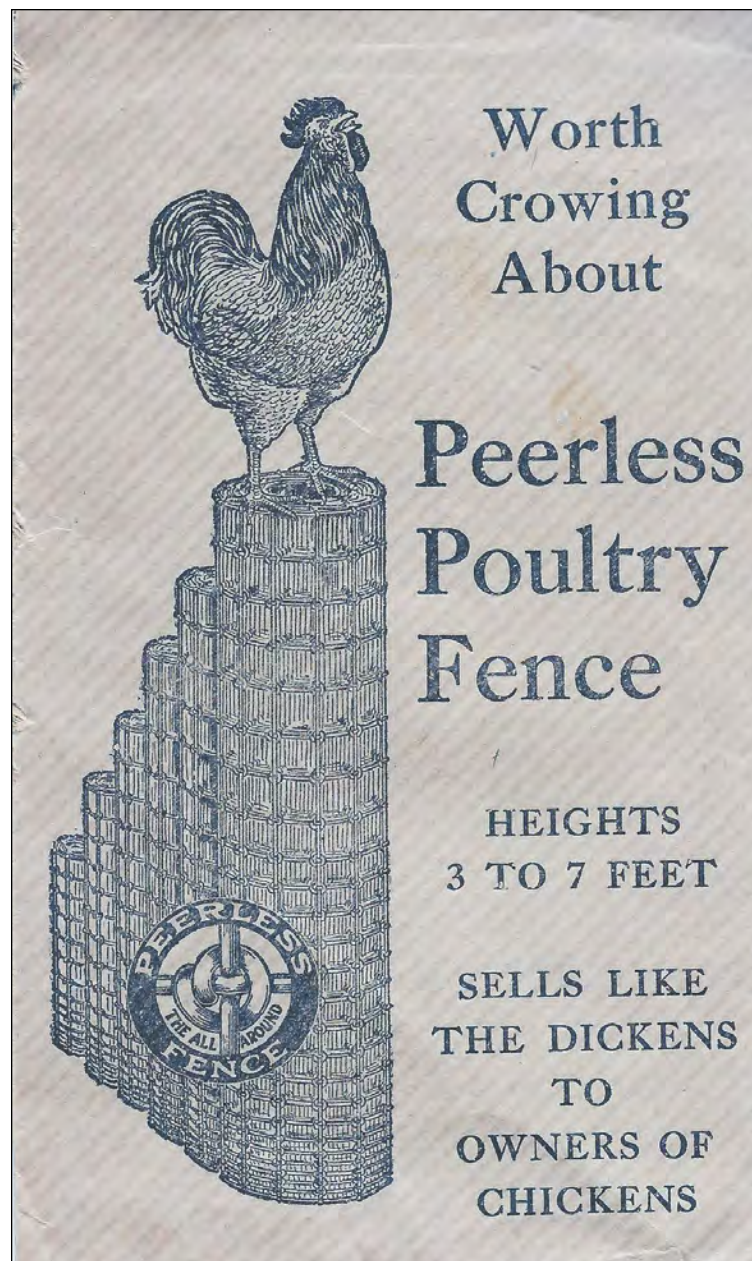


Figure 1. An advertising cover 'crows' about its poultry fence.



Figure 2. The Peerless logo illustrates how its wire fence is held together.

So let's see how the covers in this story can take us on a time travel journey from the early 1900s to the present day.

Take a look at Figure 2, the Peerless Fence Company logo as shown on the Peerless Poultry Fence, enlarged here for better viewing. The logo illustrates how Peerless Fence is "knotted," and like the "round" of wire pictured, the logo advertises itself as "the all around peerless fence."

We turn the cover over to the back (Figure 3), which now becomes the "front" of the cover. As the three cancels are faint, we cannot read the date; however, we see covering the printed box for a stamp the two-cent Canadian Confederation issue and can extrapolate the envelope was mailed sometime after June 29, 1927, when the stamp was issued.

It is interesting the company in Hamilton is pre-addressed as if the cover was a reply letter card, which it is not. The address of the sender, Heath Hard-

ware, is indistinct but looks like "ONT," which at first looked like "club," which as we shall see later cannot be eliminated as a possibility.

COVER HISTORY

So like collectors who love them, let's track down the back story for this advertising cover. We know the Peerless Poultry Fence Company is in Hamilton, caters to chicken farmers, has a distinctive logo and was in existence in the late 1920s.

We look for and find another cover going all the way back to 1908 (Figure 4), which situates Peerless as a poultry farm in the U.S. located in Plymouth Rocks, S.C., with a typed return address on the reverse listing its office in Detroit, Mich. The chickens take centre stage, perhaps indicating the chickens preceded the operation as a fence company.

A year later, in a 1909 issue of *The Farmers Advocate*, we find an advertisement referencing a Peerless Incubator and Brooder and a contest sponsored by the "Peerless Poultry for Profit Club." Peerless advertises it as "the most successful incubator" because it is built to suit Canadian conditions and climate. This brings us back to Canada, where this address of the sender Heath Hardware was indistinct and could have been "club" rather than "ONT." Perhaps Mr. Heath is a member of the Peerless Poultry for Profit Club.

Another advertisement in the 1909 *Farmers Advocate* enhances our research. The ad

contains the same logo we noted in Figure 2, and in addition, it tells us for the first time the manufacturer is Banwell Hoxie Wire Fence Company Limited located in Hamilton and Winnipeg, and they produce much more than poultry fence. They make farm, poultry and ornamental fences and gates – a major change from where we started.

We find a cover (Figure 5) franked with the war tax stamp issued in 1915, circular date stamped Hamilton 1918 with the manufacturer being the Banwell Hoxie Wire Fence Company Limited.

Curiously, the corner card company address is printed over what looks like a variation of the Peerless Fence logo we have seen in previous illustrations. The cover was sent from Hamilton to Frost Steel and Wire, a company that played a strategic role in the Hamilton steel wire industry.

Piecing together our steel wire fence searches brings us to Sherman Avenue North in Hamilton, well known as the "manufacturers' annex."

The Frost Wire Fence Company, a U.S. firm, opened a branch plant in Welland, Ont., in 1898. It did well and moved to Hamilton, where it opened a new factory on Princess Street at Sherman Avenue in 1904.

In 1916, it changed its name to Frost Steel and Wire Company. Frost made a major contribution by introducing the first chain-link fencing in Canada in 1918.



Figure 3. An advertising cover, as a corner card, occupies the full front with the back becoming the front, which identifies the sender and destination.

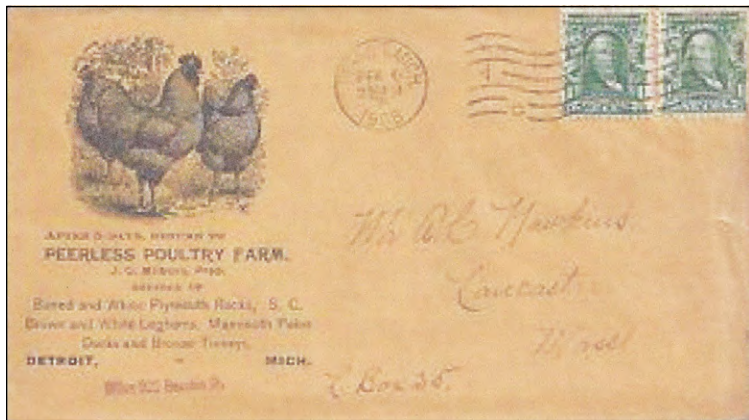


Figure 4. A corner card is topped by chickens bred and raised at the Peerless Poultry Farm in Plymouth Parks, S.C.

In 1937, it was bought by the Steel Company of Canada (Stelco) in Hamilton.

In the immediate vicinity of Frost Wire company were several other fence companies, including Banwell Hoxie Wire Fence Company, which we have just seen, and was close enough to Frost, according to the written commentary of a retired steel worker, workers even had lunch together.

Stelco sold Frost Fence in 1999 to a company called Advanced Fence and Wire, which went bankrupt two years later.

Stelco, founded in 1910, was bought by the U.S. Steel Corporation in 2007, and its name was changed to U.S. Steel Canada.

At the end of 2013, U.S. Steel Canada stopped production at its Hamilton site.

Advertising covers have taken us on a time travel jour-

ney from the 1900s to the present. Greeted by an eye-catching advertising cover and work by a would-be humorous poet for the Hamilton Peerless Wire Company, we have caught a glimpse of history makers in the Canadian steel wire industry and companies active in the late 19th and 20th centuries.

The logo, irrespective of steel wire manufacturer, initiates those not in the fence design culture to make a distinction between the usual link fence and the wire ones being looked at today.

In the process, many stamp collectors will no doubt have recalled memories of working at and even retiring from Stelco and Frost and perhaps various other smaller companies. Collectors of advertising once again preserve a culture incorporating humour as a side affect. 🍁

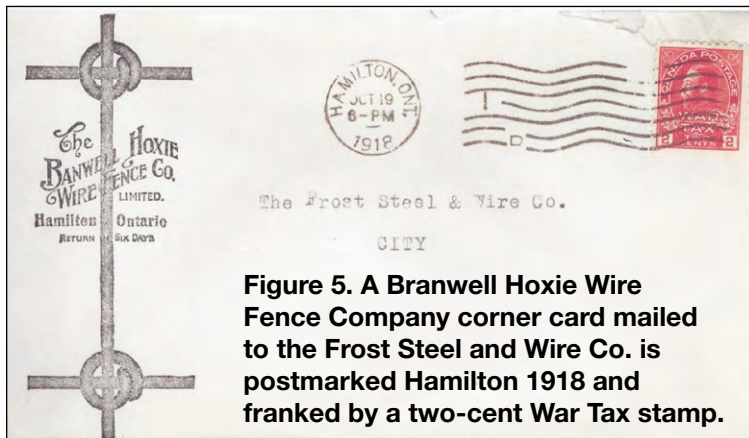


Figure 5. A Branwell Hoxie Wire Fence Company corner card mailed to the Frost Steel and Wire Co. is postmarked Hamilton 1918 and franked by a two-cent War Tax stamp.

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FEB. 9, MONCTON, NB

Moncton Stamp Fair, Royal Canadian Legion, 100 War Veterans Ave. The Moncton Stamp Fair is held each month from October to May. Hosted by the Fundy Stamp Collectors Club, the show runs from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Free admission, free parking and silent auction. There are usually between four and six dealers, and a live auction starts at 1 p.m. For more information, email bourqup@umoncton.ca, telephone 506-875-2684.

FEB. 14, AJAX, AL

Ajax-Pickering Stamp Club Auction & Sale, Ajax Public Library, 55 Harwood South The Ajax-Pickering Stamp Club will host an auction at Ajax Public Library, where there will be 250 lots for auction and 250 lots on sales tables. Viewing: 5 p.m. to 7 p.m. Auction: 7 p.m. to 9 p.m. Entrance fee is \$1. No dealer fees. For more information, contact Jim Stevenson, meeting/program co-ordinator, email roberts.jhr@rogers.com, telephone 905-576-4449. Website: www.ajax-pickering-stamp-club.com/.

FEB. 15 - 17, MESA, AZ

AmeriStamp Expo - APS Winter Convention, Mesa Convention Center, 263 N. Center St. The American Philatelic Society (APS) AmeriStamp Expo will be open to the public on Friday and Saturday from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. and on Sunday from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. For more information, email stampshow@stamps.org, telephone 814-933-3803. Website: stamps.org/Ameristamp-expo-ASE.

FEB. 16 - 17, REGINA, SK

Regina Stamp Club Spring Show, Regina Senior Citizens Centre, 2134 Winnipeg St. The Regina Philatelic Club's annual show and bourse features about 10 dealers of stamps and coins as well as club member stamp displays. Show hours are Saturday from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. and Sunday from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Admission is \$3 a day or \$5 for a two-day pass. Children under the age of 12 have free admission. For more information, telephone 306-761-0659. Website: reginastampclub.ca/.

FEB. 16, BURLINGTON, ON

BURLPEX 2019, Burlington Seniors Centre, 2285 New St. The annual Burlington Stamp Show, BURLPEX, runs from 9:30 a.m. to 3 p.m. with free parking, refreshments available and silent auctions. For more information, email bas6stamps@gmail.com, telephone 905-575-2950.

FEB. 23, ST. THOMAS, ON

St. Thomas Stamp Club 33rd Annual Stamp Show, Community of Christ Church, 105 Fairview Ave. The St. Thomas Stamp Club's 33rd Annual Stamp Show will feature 10 dealers, exhibits, lunch counter and door prizes. Free admission, free parking and no stairs to climb. Hours are 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. For more information, email bold@sympatico.ca, telephone 519-633-3669.

FEB. 23, SCARBOROUGH, ON

Scarborough Stamp Club Show, Cedarbrook Community Centre, 91 Eastpark Blvd. No admission charge, free parking, Club circuits (5-10 cent) books plus other items. As many as 4 dealers per show, new dealer inquiries welcome. Hours 8 a.m. to 2 p.m. sharp. For more information, email jmerelaid@gmail.com, telephone 416-460-3970.

FEB. 24, TORONTO, ON

Toronto Postcard Club 38th Annual Sale, Japanese Canadian Cultural Centre, 6 Garamond Cr. This is Canada's largest vintage postcard show with 40 tables and thousands of postcards for sale from many countries and covering many topics. The show will be open from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Admission is \$5, and parking is free. TTC accessible. For more information, email tpcannualshow@torontopostcardclub.com. Website: www.torontopostcardclub.com.

MAR. 1 - 3, MONTREAL, QC

Nuphilex - The largest coin and stamp show in Canada. **NEW LOCATION** McGill New Residence Hall, 3625 Parc Ave. Admission \$5 Friday and Saturday, free Sunday, early bird admission \$25, beginning Friday 8 a.m. Hours: Fri. and Sat. 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.; Sun. 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. For more information contact Emmanuel, email montrealnuphilex@gmail.com, telephone 514-889-7740. Website: www.nuphilex.com.

MAR. 3, MISSISSAUGA, ON

Mississauga Coin & Stamp Show, John Paul II Polish Cultural Centre, 4300 Cawthra Rd. Sponsored by the Troyak Club. Hours: 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. Over 30 dealers & 60 dealer tables. Canadian and world stamps, banknotes, coins and supplies. Buy, sell, trade,

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appraise. For more information, email leszekp@rogers.com, telephone 416-505-7999. Website: www.troyakclub.com.

MAR. 9, TORONTO, ON

North Toronto Stamp Club Spring Bourse, Yorkminster Park Baptist Church, 1585 Yonge St. The North Toronto Stamp Club's Spring Bourse will be held at Yorkminster Park Baptist Church, 1585 Yonge St. Hours 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Easy subway access at St. Clair subway station, free admission, 22 dealers, more than 100 sales circuit books including recent issues, over 100 ten cents books, members table, door prizes (first prize one kilo of stamps) snack bar, wheelchair access, parking at the Church and on nearby streets, families and children welcome. For more information, email ntsc.programchair@gmail.com, telephone 647-990-4073. Website: www.northtorontostampclub.ca.

MAR. 9, WINDSOR, ON

WINPEX 2019, Caboto Club, 2175 Parent Ave. Wincep, the annual show of the Essex County Stamp Club, will be held at the Caboto Club on March 9 from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. The show boasts free admission, free parking and 14 dealers. There's also a youth program with free stamps for school-aged children. For more information, email cutler@mnsi.net, telephone 519-966-2276. Website: essexcountystampclub.com.

MAR. 9, MONCTON, NB

Moncton Stamp Fair, Royal Canadian Legion, 100 War Veterans Ave. The Moncton Stamp Fair is held each month from October to May. Hosted by the Fundy Stamp Collectors Club, the show runs from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Free admission, free parking and silent auction. There are usually between four and six dealers, and a live auction starts at 1 p.m. For more information, email bourqup@umoncton.ca, telephone 506-875-2684.

MAR. 16, WOODSTOCK, ON

68th Annual OXPEX/39th Annual OTEX, Woodstock Christian School, 800 Juliana Dr. The 68th Annual Oxford Philatelic Society Exhibition (OXPEX 2019) and the 39th Annual All-Ontario Topical Exhibition (OTEX 2019) will be held March 16 from 9:30 a.m. to 4 p.m. Featuring 16 dealers, competitive exhibits, lunch/snack counter, youth gift bags, prize draws and club circuit books, the show boasts free parking as well as free admittance. For more information, email countryowl@rogers.com, telephone 519-485-2886. Website: www.oxfordphilsoc.com.

MAR. 17, KITCHENER, ON

Postcard Memories Show & Sale, Bingeman's Embassy Room, 425 Bingeman Centre Dr. 20 dealers of postcards, covers and stamps spanning the 19th & 20th century to current. 100,000's for your perusal and consideration to add to your collection or start a new one, comfortably sitting in our spacious well-lit hall. The St. Patrick's Day 2019 event where we'll be all decked out in green! Free parking, easy access. \$5 entry, kids age 12 & under attended with adult(s) admitted free. Bonus attendance and access goes with your admission to the post card show - KW Train Show in the same area! For more information, email leighh@belmontvillagefinancial.com, telephone 519-885-3499. Website: postcardshow.blogspot.com.

MAR. 23 - 24, MISSISSAUGA, ON

National Postage Stamp and Coin Show, Hilton Mississauga/Meadowvale hotel, 6750 Mississauga Rd. National Postage Stamp and Coin Show featuring about 50 professional coin and stamp dealers from across Canada. Highlights include the 76th Annual North Toronto Stamp Club Exhibition; two-day live auction by Colonial Acres; seminars featuring Yvon Marquis on how to dispose of your collection; Steven Bell on Banknote Certification; and, Jeff Fournier will be returning with a workshop. As well as the Young Collectors Table, the popular Free Kids' Auction will be held on Sunday. Admission \$3 on Saturday and FREE on Sunday. Show hours 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Saturday, 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Sunday. Parking is free. Presented by Canadian Coin News and Canadian Stamp News. For more information, email info@trajan.ca, telephone 1-800-408-0352. Website: www.stampandcoinshow.com.

MAR. 23 - 24, EDMONTON, AB

Edmonton Spring National Stamp Show, Central Lions Recreation Centre, 11113 113 St. N.W. Stamp Dealers from across Canada. National level exhibits (WSP) with Awards Breakfast on Sunday morning. Circuit books, Junior Table, Door Prizes. Free admission, free evaluations. For more information, email liuszmoser@gmail.com, telephone 780-420-7243. Website: www.edmontonstampclub.com.

OLD TIME BARGAINS #953

Well the snow continues to fall here in New Brunswick but once February arrives we start to look forward to the end of winter. In the meantime here are some excellent special offers from Newfoundland and Canada. Select those you need and order today by phone, fax, mail or email! There are no additional charges for shipping or sales taxes. Installment terms are available if needed on larger purchases. We have the new 2019 Unitrade catalogue in stock at just \$54.95 postpaid. The latest Scott catalogues are also in stock. Have something nice for sale? If you do, please get in touch. We pay the highest prices for specialized collections and individual rarities of not only Canada and Provinces, but U.S.A., British and Foreign material as well.



SPECIAL OFFER #18,184

The next few offers come from the stock of an American dealer. In business for many years, he actually bought these as new issues! Some nice specials from the Publicity Issue follow.

First here are the first four values of the first issue (Scott #145-148). Condition is F-VF NH mint and list price \$20.80. My price is \$9.95 for singles or \$39.95 for blocks of four.

SPECIAL OFFER #18,185

From the same issue here are the 12c, 14c and 15c values (Scott #154-156). Condition is fresh mint F-VF NH and list price \$54.00. My price is \$24.95. Blocks of four are \$89.95.



SPECIAL OFFER #18,186

Moving on to Newfoundland now, this offer makes a nice start on the re-engraved Publicity Issue.

The 1c to 10c values are all included in lovely VF NH mint condition (#163-169). List price is \$100.00. My price is a steal at just \$39.95 for singles or \$149.95 for blocks of four.

SPECIAL OFFER #18,187

The 1933 Sir Humphrey Gilbert issue (Scott #212-225) has long been a favourite with collectors. The long set of fourteen stamps has beautifully engraved designs on a variety of subjects. List price for a complete set of VF NH mint singles is \$380.00. My price is just \$229.00.



SPECIAL OFFER #18,188

Next here is an interesting variety from the Gilbert Issue, the 1c value showing a full reverse offset of the image on the gum side (#212i). List price for a VF NH mint single is \$320.00. My price is \$169.00.



SPECIAL OFFER #18,189

Here is an omnibus set released in 1937 (Scott #230-232) to commemorate the Coronation of King George VI in 1937. List price for a F-VF NH mint set is \$13.00. My price is just \$7.95 for singles or \$29.50 for blocks of four.



SPECIAL OFFER #18,190

The next two offers are from the 1928 Scroll Issue. Here is the 10c green (Scott #155) which pictures Mount Hurd. A VF NH mint single lists at \$70.00. My price is just \$36.95.

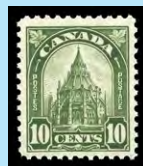


SPECIAL OFFER #18,191

The 20c value depicts the harvesting of grain in Western Canada (Scott #173). List price for a VF NH single of this attractive stamp is \$200.00. My price is just \$95.00 while they last.

SPECIAL OFFER #18,192

Next from the Arch Issue here is the 10c olive-green (Scott #173). I have some nice mint VF NH examples available. List price is \$40.00. My price is \$19.95.



SPECIAL OFFER #18,193

Also from the Arch Issue are the following two coil stamp specials. First here is the 2c dull green (Scott #180). List price for a VF NH mint pair is \$32.00. My price is \$16.95. I can also supply a single at \$8.95 or a strip of four at \$32.95.

SPECIAL OFFER #18,194

The Medallion Issue was released in 1933. The new and somewhat odd design picturing King George V was not well received by the public. Here is the 5c value (Scott #199). A VF NH single lists at \$40.00. My price is \$22.95 for a single or \$89.95 for a block of four.



SPECIAL OFFER #18,195

Scott #203 is a high value commemorative issued in 1933 for the World Grain Exhibition. The 20c Arch Issue was overprinted. Nice examples are hard to come by and a VF NH single now lists at \$120.00. My price is \$69.00.

SPECIAL OFFER #18,196

Also from the 1935 issue is this very attractive 10c value featuring a Mounted Policeman (Scott #223). It is one of Canada's most iconic stamps. A VF NH mint single lists at \$18.00. My price is \$8.95. Or make it \$34.95 for a nice block of four.



SPECIAL OFFER #18,197

The 50c value of the 1935 issue pictured the Provincial Legislature buildings in Victoria, British Columbia (Scott #226). A VF NH single of this scarce value lists at \$67.50. My price is \$27.50 only, or \$99.95 for a block of four.

SPECIAL OFFER #18,198

On to King George VI now! Here is Scott #241a, the rose shade of the 10c value from 1938. A VF NH example lists at \$18.00. My price is \$7.95 for a single or \$27.95 for a block of four.



SPECIAL OFFER #18,199

Next here is a very scarce misperforation error on Scott #518. The shift causes the perforations to run through the inscriptions. Price for the mint NH pair is just \$129.00.

SPECIAL OFFER #18,200

Every now and then stamp paper gets fed into the printing press upside down. A printed on gum side error is the result. Here is the 14c Parliament with such an error. List price for a VF NH mint single is \$50.00. My price is \$24.95 only. I also have one corner block in stock (cat. \$250.00) for just \$119.00.



SPECIAL OFFER #18,201

Here is a seldom seen modern major error you may need - the \$1 Fundy Park with the rare missing inscriptions (#726b). This example is unusually well centered. List price for a VF NH mint single is \$750.00. My price is just \$395.00.

SPECIAL OFFER #18,202

How about this one - a drastic perforation shift (8mm down) on the 42c Calgary Olympics Issue (#1131). I can supply a sheet margin example as pictured for just \$99.00.



SPECIAL OFFER #18,203

Here's one you may not have seen - a rare photographic essay of the 42c definitive issue. A VF block of four is priced at just \$69.95 while they last.

SPECIAL OFFER #18,204

Next here is an imperforate error on the 49c coil stamp (#2053a). These are hard to find. A VF NH pair lists at \$250.00. My price is just \$119.00. Or take a strip of four at only \$219.00.



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