



Paul Grimm chaired the most recent Squared Circle Study Group meeting in Québec last September.

Update coming to squared circle handbook

By Jesse Robitaille

Originating in Great Britain in 1879, the 140-year-old squared circle cancellation is the main focus of one of the British North America Philatelic Society (BNAPS) study groups.

The group's latest venture, which was unanimously agreed upon at its most recent meeting, is updating the 18-year-old fifth edition of *The Squared Circle Cancellations of Canada*. The 329-page handbook was edited by the late Jack Gordon, who also served as the

group's chairman and newsletter editor before his death in 2013.

"I remember my first introduction to squared circles was a book," said study group member William Radcliffe, who's also the vice-president of BNAPS' more than 20 active study groups. "The more information you get out, the more collectors you can get interested in your hobby."

Nearly 10 members – all in attendance at the group's last meeting in Québec – voted to update the handbook and possibly establish an electronic database or live document.

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RPSC partners with APS to promote stamp collecting worldwide

Initiative set to culminate with 2021 'international' show

By Jesse Robitaille

The Royal Philatelic Society of Canada (RPSC) and American Philatelic Society (APS) have launched a partnership that's set to begin at the 2019 Royal Convention this June.

The RPSC's 91st convention – to be held June 21-23 in Mississauga – is the first step in a plan slated to culminate with a quasi-international show in 2021, the midpoint between the World Stamp Show in New York three years ago and the one coming to Boston in 2026.

"What we're talking about with The RPSC is establishing what I consider to be a foothold in the worldwide community," said APS Executive Director Scott

English, who began in that role nearly four years ago, before the August 2015 StampShow in Grand Rapids, Mich.

The partnership will "go beyond" the APS' current ties with international organizations such as the Royal Philatelic Society London (RPSL), English added.

"We have recognized World Series of Philately (WSP) shows that occur in Great Britain, but it's never reached beyond that."

Rather than "a mutually beneficial exchange of exhibiting" – something the APS already shares with Canada, which hosts a handful of WSP shows each year – 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," he added.

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Scott English recently extended his contract as executive director of the American Philatelic Society. He's working with organizations like The Royal Philatelic Society of Canada (RPSC) to host an invitational international show in 2021. Photo by USPS.



PSSC announces 2019 lecture series

By Jesse Robitaille

Canada's specialist society to visit seven major events in six cities across country through October

Canada's exhibition season, which officially kicks off this March with the annual Edmonton Spring National Stamp Show, will once again get a boost from the the Philatelic Specialists Society of Canada (PSSC).

In keeping with the society's mandate to promote philately and share the hobby's in-depth knowledge base, its members will attend seven exhibitions – and speak at six of them – across Canada this year. All collectors are invited to attend, and all of the lectures except one are free.

"Everyone is welcome," said PSSC President Ingo Nessel, who's been at the helm of that society for more than four years.

The lecture series will show "some of the diversity" of PSSC members' interests, Nessel added.

"By coincidence, all of our topics are Canadian this year, but in fact, PSSC members are specialists in a worldwide range of philately. Secondly, with two topics on modern philatelic subjects, we demonstrate that postal history is not restricted to older – say prior to 1950 – eras."

One topic, in fact, touches on stamps that are being postally used today.

SEVEN EVENTS, SIX LECTURES

Beginning this March, the PSSC will officially attend:

- the Edmonton Spring National Stamp Show in Edmonton on March 23-24;
- Orapex in Ottawa on May 4-5;
- The Royal Philatelic Society of Canada (RPSC) Convention in Mississauga on June 21-23;
- the Postal History Society of Canada (PHSC) Symposium in Hamilton on July 18-21;

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Handbook...

Continued from page 1

"Some people are all electronic, but some people want a hard copy of the book to look up a squared circle," said Radcliffe.

Study group vice-chair Rick Friesen, who volunteered to head up the database task, said he's unsure what format the updated handbook or electronic database will follow.

Both he and Radcliffe are hoping for a consistent outpouring of new reports from members to continue pushing forward the group, which was established at BNAPS' 1976 convention in San Francisco, Calif.

"You could show up at a show today, go through a dealer's squared circle stuff and see an upside down '5' that you don't even recognize – and that's probably never been reported," said Radcliffe. "If the book is done electronically, we could report that error tomorrow."

A collector with a 1907-dated squared circle cancel might reference the hard copy of the handbook, which might have 1905 as the latest date; however, the latest date of the frequently updated electronic version might have 1908 as the latest date.

These changes will be "relatively easy to deal with," Friesen added, but other aspects of the update, which has no finish date, will present some challenges.

"For example, how many strikes are there on three-cent jubilees; if the book reports 20, are there now 30 or 40? And how do we get at that kind of data?"

Starting with the fourth edition of the handbook in 1981, the amount of known examples of squared circles – as well as their latest dates of use – was determined by "quantities reported on roster forms by collectors."

Although the handbook calls it a "less subjective approach," an update will require widespread participation among members – similar to



Long-time dealer Frank Hoyles, of Blenheim, Ont., carries an extensive stock of squared circle material.

The downside with the hard copy – any hard copy – is collectors would "have no idea if that error exists in that specific town."

"By doing it electronically, we'd have a constant update that anybody who's a member of BNAPS can go in and see if they have the latest date in Port Perry, for example," said Radcliffe, who offered another astute example.

when Gordon edited the group's newsletter, *The Roundup Annex*, from 1996-2011.

For example, if the 1981 edition of the handbook lists 20 examples of Port Perry for a specific stamp, study group members could be polled about their own collections and that number could increase if more examples are then accounted for.

SQUARED CIRCLE EXHIBITS

At the Squared Circle Study Group meeting held at BNAPEX last September, group members Laurent Belisle, Derek Smith and Colin Banfield were congratulated for their exhibits on Québec squared circles, New Brunswick squared circles and the squared circles of the 1908 'Québec Tercentenary' issue, respectively. All three exhibits received gold awards.

"The problem is if we poll everybody and come up with five – where are the other 20?"

Prior to his death in 2013, Gordon made a call for "rosters" in the newsletter, where he would also sometimes list updates.

"Your roster would show how many strikes of Saint John you have, for example, and on what stamp you have them," said Radcliffe, who added he was given Gordon's notes, which lead up to 2006 – five years after the handbook's last edition was published.

"That's where we're going to have to start from because that's the last written information. Then we have to go back through all the newsletters from 2006 to check what's been reported and what's unreported. The only changes made to the book from that point on would be what's reported in those newsletters and then whatever's newly reported from you and I – because I know we've all made some finds that you didn't know existed since 2006."

Exactly what's included in the book will depend on what's decided by "a quorum" of members, Radcliffe added.

"The start-up point is Jack's book, and then we'll decide – as a group – what we want to add and what we don't want to add to the printed form, but anything can be added to the electronic form."

Gordon was inducted into the BNAPS fellowship, the Order of the Beaver, in 2010.

SQUARED CIRCLES

Squared circle postmarks originated 140 years ago as an improvement upon the larger, less convenient duplex cancels, which cancelled a stamp with one portion of its device (the killer) while the other recorded the date and post office (the dater).

Debuted in Canada in 1860, the long-handled duplex devices were difficult to ink and apply.

Nearly two decades later, squared circle postmarks first came on the postal scene in

Britain. The straightforward device had a square or rectangular cancel with inked lines or bars leading out to the edges, surrounding a datestamp in the centre.

Squared circle postmarks came to Canada in 1880 – only a year after they were first used in Britain – but were only used in the capital city of Ottawa.

In 1893, two standardized squared circle cancels were issued to post offices in major towns across Canada. Gener-

ally only used for about a decade, these cancels remain a popular area of postal history because of their depth: more than 300 towns, a wide range of types (such as thick or thin bars) as well as hammer, date and other varieties are listed in *The Squared Circle Cancellations of Canada*.

The Squared Circle Cancels Study Group will host its next meeting at Orapex in Ottawa on May 5. The 1 p.m. meeting will be hosted by Bruce Kalbfleisch. 🍁

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Guest COMMENTARY

By Jesse Robitaille

Speak, and they will listen

There's a lot to be said about philately's intrinsic persistence; after all, it's a natural fit for historians, artists, educators and the like.

But for the hobby to truly thrive, those people involved in "Organized Philately" will need to continue exploring ever-powerful ways of marketing and promotion.

As you'll read in this issue of *CSN*, one of the leading philatelic societies – the invite-only Philatelic Specialists Society of Canada (PSSC) – is making good on their commitment to promote philatelic knowledge. With six lectures at major exhibitions across the country, the initiative is part of the PSSC's five disciplines and something they've been pursuing in earnest for the past few years.

A commendable way to share in-depth knowledge, this lecture series will mostly highlight fairly specific collecting areas that are of great interest to specialists.

But what of promoting philatelic culture at large, beyond our inner circle?

In December, on behalf of *CSN* and Trajan Publishing Corp., I was humbled to give a presentation at Lakeshore Catholic High School in Port Colborne, Ont. – my hometown (and my former high school before graduating in 2008).

My 90-minute presentation highlighted Canadian history through the lens of philately for two Grade 10 history classes (about 30 students altogether).

Picking up where the curriculum left off, I explored major events of the Second World War and beyond, including the internment of Japanese Canadians in the 1940s (something which will be remembered on a Canadian stamp featuring the Vancouver Asahi baseball team sometime this spring).

Through my presentation, I was also able to glean information about where the future of the hobby lies: virtually all of the students were interested in postal history, including the various prisoner of war covers sent to and from Japanese-Canadian internment camps, but no one was particularly interested in stamps.

Handfuls of common postage were forgone by students, who instead chose to immerse themselves in some of the

20th-century covers I brought to show around the class.

One cover in particular – this sent to the University of Toronto in the late 1940s by a hopeful applicant, complete with her secondary school grades – spurred many questions.

Who was the young female applicant, and did she end up attending U of T, or travel elsewhere for further education or work? These were just a few of the inquiries from the budding students of history – and perhaps future philatelists and postal historians.

And just so you know I'm not tooting my own horn, another similar outward-reaching presentation was made at the 67th annual meeting of the American Academy of the History of Dentistry in Toronto last September.

Award-winning exhibitor and national-level judge Charles Verge, a Fellow of both The Royal Philatelic Society of Canada (RPSC) and Royal Philatelic Society of London (RPSL), highlighted two sets of his dental stamp collections. These included a detailed study on the production and issue of the 1959 U.S. stamp issued for the centenary of the American Dental Association and a

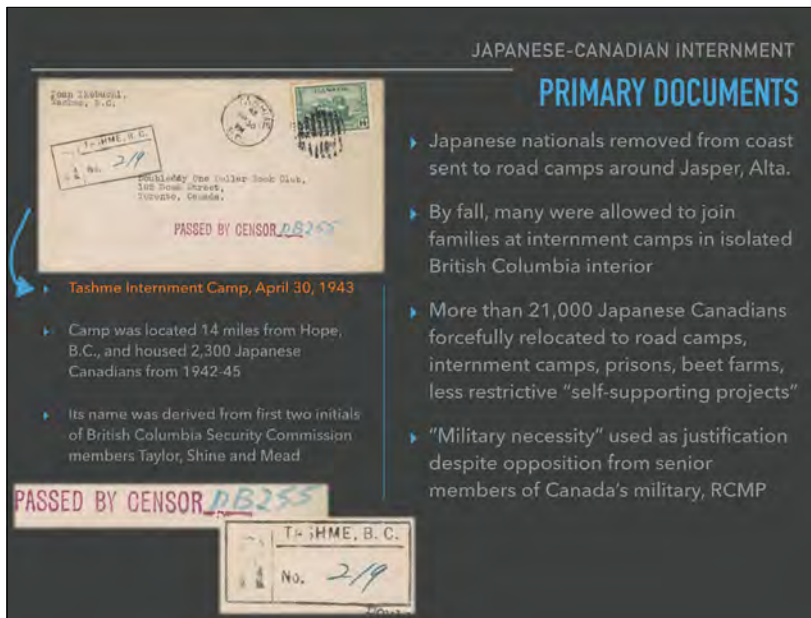
smaller exhibit on dentistry illustrated by stamps and other philatelic material from postal authorities around the world.

It's great to see philately take centre stage at events that go beyond the scope of philately – like the premier gathering of dental historians and collectors, where there was a roomful of attentive people looking to learn something new about their passion.

Similar to how these folks' passion for dentistry was tied in with

philately, we all need to find ways to combine our hobby with the diverse interests of other like-minded people.

This sort of experiential marketing, which we can use to create a closer bond between philately and potential philatelists, should be closely pursued going forward. 🍁



JAPANESE-CANADIAN INTERNMENT PRIMARY DOCUMENTS

- Japanese nationals removed from coast sent to road camps around Jasper, Alta.
- By fall, many were allowed to join families at internment camps in isolated British Columbia interior
- More than 21,000 Japanese Canadians forcefully relocated to road camps, internment camps, prisons, beet farms, less restrictive "self-supporting projects"
- "Military necessity" used as justification despite opposition from senior members of Canada's military, RCMP

Tashme Internment Camp, April 30, 1943

- Camp was located 14 miles from Hope, B.C., and housed 2,300 Japanese Canadians from 1942-45
- Its name was derived from first two initials of British Columbia Security Commission members Taylor, Shine and Mead

The widespread Japanese-Canadian internment that took place in Canada throughout the 1940s was highlighted through the lens of postal history during my 90-minute presentation at Lakeshore Catholic High School this December.

LETTERS to the Editor

PROMOTING THE HOBBY

Editor,

It has taken myself and other members of the Edmonton Stamp Club a couple of weeks to read, discuss and digest the article "'Fun frames' offer another aspect to exhibiting at Edmonton Spring National" (*CSN* Vol. 43 #20). I want to express our appreciation for printing this article and taking an interest in Western Canadian phi-

lately and the Edmonton Stamp Club in particular. Your efforts for the hobby of philately nationally is well-known.

I want to specifically thank Jesse Robitaille for his persistence and work researching this article. It was his abilities that brought this article to fruition. To ensure the recognition of the fine work by Mr. Robitaille and the coverage of the Edmonton Spring Na-

tional Show, this article is being referenced to in the March issue of the *ESC Bulletin* and was raised as a point during the business portion of our Feb. 25 club meeting.

As the only national Canadian philatelic publication, we hope you will have continued success in this effort and look forward to future interaction.

Richard Barnes,

President of the Edmonton Stamp Club

Send letters to: info@trajan.ca, fax (905) 646-0995, or by post to *CSN* Letters to the Editor, Trajan Publishing Corp., PO Box 25009 Rose City RD, Welland, ON L3B 5V0

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LONDON 2020 APPLICATIONS DUE IN JUNE

Applications for the London 2020 international stamp exhibition are due this summer on June 30. The individual regulations and application forms are now available online at the London 2020 website, london2020.co. The roughly 2,800-frame exhibition will be held May 2-9, 2020, at London, England's Business Design Centre under the patronage of the Swiss-based Fédération Internationale de Philatélie.

Competitive classes include: Championship; Traditional; Postal History; Thematic; Revenue; Postal Stationery; Aerophilately; Open; Picture Postcards; One Frame; Modern; Literature; and Youth. Fees are £70 (\$120 Cdn.) a frame for multi-frame exhibits and £90 (about \$150 Cdn.) for one-frame exhibits. Youth and literature exhibits are both £25 (about \$45 Cdn.).



DRONE DELIVERY COMING TO NORTHERN ONTARIO

Drones will soon begin delivering essential goods to the Moose Cree First Nation in northern Ontario. The \$2.5-million partnership between the Moose Cree First Nation and Drone Delivery Canada (DDC) will see deliveries sent via drones to Moose Factory and Moosonee, which are about 19 kilometres south of James Bay – and can only be reached by boat in the summer, or a dangerous ice road in the winter. "We have worked closely with DDC for nearly two years and see the many benefits of DDC's Drone Delivery Technology to our community as well as many others like us," said Stan Kapashesit, director of economic development for the Moose Cree First Nation. "Where infrastructure is weak, or at times non-existent or accessible, DDC's drone delivery platform is a valuable solution to connect remote communities and provide fast and efficient deliveries that were once not possible." DDC is expected to roll out its commercial operations in the second quarter of 2019. Its "Sparrow" aircraft, which can carry a five-kilogram payload for its

10-minute journey up and across Moose River, will be used to transport supplies, medicine, food and mail from the mainland town of Moosonee. Last July, former Canada Post president and CEO Deepak Chopra joined DDC as a strategic advisor of commercialization. He and the company's other executives are hoping DDC can service Canada's roughly 1,000 remote communities, many of which face similar infrastructural and logistical challenges, leading to a high cost of living.

DO YOU BELONG TO A CLUB?

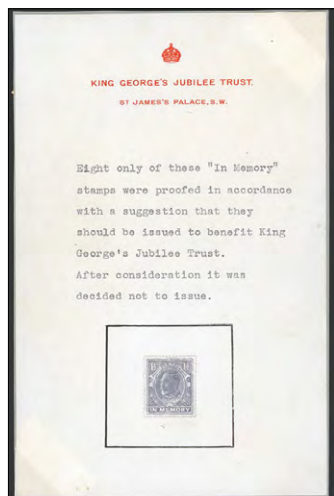
Nearly half of the attendees of the U.K.'s Fall Stampex last September did not belong to any stamp club. This according to a 100-person survey conducted by the Philatelic Traders' Society (PTS), which organizes the biannual Stampex show and found 46 per cent of respondents flew solo – at least philatelically. "One of the best things about stamp collecting is that it can be a brilliant way to meet like-minded people who share the same passion," reads a statement issued by the PTS. According to the survey, most of the people at last fall's show were men

over the age of 50. In total, 91 per cent of respondents were men, and four-fifths of them were at least 50 years old. Perhaps most intriguing, the survey found 51 per cent of respondents spent fewer than £1,000 at the show.

Where do you rank among these results (i.e., are you a member of a club, do you regularly attend shows, how much do you budget for your hobby, etc.)? Send us a letter to the editor, and we'll publish our findings about Canadian collectors.

RARE GEORGE V PROOF BRINGS £1K

A rare perforated proof of Britain's 1935 "In Memory" essay recently brought £1,000 (more than \$1,700 Cdn.) during a 69-lot sale of material relating to King George V by Spink and Son in England. After King George V's death



in January 1936, a memorial issue was proposed to raise funds for the benefit of the King George V Jubilee Trust. In place of a denomination, the phrase "IN MEMORY" was suggested, and remembrance sprigs of rosemary were to take the place of the more familiar dolphins. Although the proposal was backed by the new monarch, Edward VIII, the issue was never released for sale. Offered as Lot 49 of the Feb. 20 sale, the proof is "possibly the only perforated trial in private hands" according to auctioneers, who added it's "a fascinating and truly scarce piece." Mounted on King George V Jubilee Trust letter paper, this lot had a pre-sale estimate of £1,000-£1,200.



MOON LANDING CATALOGUE UPDATED BY AFDCS

A newly updated expanded edition of the U.S. moon landing cachet catalogue has arrived just in time for the 50th anniversary of the historic event. The newly-revised edition of the first-day cover catalogue for the U.S. moon landing stamp issued in 1969 (Scott #C76) has 166 more items than the previous edition – released in 2016 – thanks to the work of David S. Zubatsky and Bill Pry. "The 1969 'First Man on the Moon' stamp is the most iconic space-related stamp ever issued," said stamp designer Chris Calle, whose father, Paul, designed the moon landing stamp. "As a collector of the C76 issue, this is a most welcome catalogue for space collectors worldwide." Nearly all of the catalogue's 1,372 illustrations are in colour, including a section, "Paul Calle: Putting His Stamp On The Moon," about the renowned artist. Published by the American First Day Cover Society (AFDCS), the new catalogue is available online in the marketplace section of the society's website for \$35 (or \$30 for members). Printed copies (unbound) are \$42 (or \$37 for members) and may be ordered online or from AFDCS Sales, Post Office Box 44, Annapolis Junction, MD 20701-0044. The original 1975 edition – by Monte Eiserman and Harry L. Anderson – contained black-and-white illustrations of 205 first-day covers, history of the designing and production of the stamp, the first-day activities, plate number information, postmarks and descriptions of the three first-day ceremonies.

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Brightly coloured architectural stamps include major varieties



Looking BACK

By Ian Robertson

Major varieties occurred during production of three high-denomination Canadian architecture stamps released in 1989 and 1990.

The 48-millimetre-by-30-millimetre horizontal definitives each feature a historic building noted for their classic styling.

Using photographs and plans, Montreal designer Raymond Bellemare produced linear illustrations of each structure, which an article in Canada Post's "Souvenir Collection" of 1989 stamps reported were completed by Herzig Somerville Limited, of Mississauga, Ont., using "state-of-the-art computer graphics."

Printed on panes of 25 stamps by the British American Bank Note Co. (BABN), the three stamps (Scott #1181-83) were reprinted in 1992 by the Canadian Bank Note Co. (CBNC).

Harrison company paper was used for the \$1 and \$2 stamps while the later \$5 stamp was printed on Peterborough Paper stock. Tagging was not applied.

Their deep background colours are dramatic: blue is on the \$1 stamp, which features the Runnymede Library in Toronto; orange is on the \$2 stamp that depicts the former McAdam Railway Station in McAdam, N.B.; and green is on the \$5 stamp featuring the Bonsecours Market in Montreal.

The first two stamps were released May 5, 1989, and the \$5 stamp was issued May 28, 1990, in conjunction with the 17th congress of the International Union of Architects in Montreal.

The CBNC used Coated Papers Limited paper, with two fluorescent bands applied.

Regular versions are common; indeed, some are used occasionally by dealers to mail registered letters or packages.

Both security printing firms used six lithographic transfer colours plus steel engraving for the black text.

STAMPS & THEIR VARIETIES

Ink shifts of lettering have been reported on the \$1 and \$5



Left to right: Three high-denomination stamps feature Runnymede Library in Toronto; McAdam Railway Station in McAdam, N.B.; and Bonsecours Market in Montreal.

stamps but are not listed in the 2019 *Unitrade Specialized Catalogue of Canadian Stamps*.

Such varieties are much less pricey than any of the three definitives with missing or partial perforations.

Regular singles of the \$1 stamp are priced at \$2 in mint condition for the BABN Plate 1 printing and 70 cents used; \$3.50 for a mint single from the CBNC Plate 2 printing and \$1.50 used; and \$20 for a mint CBNC Plate 2 reprint single and \$3 used.

The catalogue provides helpful clues to identify the three printings.

Black lettering on the BABN version is lighter.

On the first CBNC stamps, "letters are dark blue," with a brownish roof, rounded edges on the green header above the main door, and tan bricks on the building "appear more solid." Reprints have a black roof, "the green header above the main

door has squared ends" and the tan bricks are "dotted."

The most dramatic and priciest variety is a \$1 Runnymede Library with inverted lettering, which is listed at \$17,500 for a mint single.

One pane was reported, with the catalogue noting they are usually offered for sale in pairs.

According to an article in the April-June 1998 *BNA Topics*, the British North America Philatelic Society's quarterly journal, which quoted a *Linn's Stamp News* report, the pane "was purchased in the summer of 1993 by a lucky and alert American tourist at a postal retail outlet in Ontario."

The article noted six panes were printed on each sheet. Perhaps the other five were removed from stock when proofreaders spotted them at the BABN printing plant, or by postal staff.

BNA Topics quoted noted collector Leopold Beudet suggesting the sheet of stamps did not move after two-row perfs set in a "T-comb" format were applied to the first two rows before "the perforator came down a second time on rows one and two," with the sheet "then shifted by four rows instead of two."

As a result, "the partially imperforate errors do not have any horizontal perforations at the top and bottom of the third row of stamps together with their selvage. In addition, the vertical perforations are absent on the third and fourth rows. This creates full imperforates from the third row and partial

imperforates from the fourth row (with the perforations missing from the bottom of the stamp)."

A vertical mint strip of five \$1 stamps with the top pair lacking perforations is priced at \$2,000. A vertical strip of five with a perf-less bottom pair is listed at \$1,750.

Some Runnymede Library definitives have partial imperforate edges.

A single mint stamp with the inscription omitted is listed at \$2,500.

Regular \$2 McAdam Railway Station definitives are priced at \$5 for a mint BABN-produced single and \$1.35 used; \$7 for a mint single from the CBNC's first Plate 2 version and \$1.50 used; and a reprint at \$200 in mint condition and \$10 used.

During the BABN press run, the roof trim was printed with lighter green ink.

The CBNC applied darker green ink, the top of the roof has thicker vertical green rails and the orange dot pattern is more random orange. On CBNC reprints, vertical green rails on the rooftop are thin and the orange dot pattern is "uniform," the *Unitrade* catalogue notes.

Vertical, partially-imperforate mint strips of five are priced at \$2,000 and imperf mint pairs are \$1,200.

There were only two printings of the \$5 Bonsecours Market definitive.

The BABN versions are listed at \$10 mint and \$3 used while a Plate 2 CBNC single is priced at \$20 in mint condition and \$5 used.



The \$1 denomination and Canadian Bank Note Co. marginal inscription are dramatically shifted and inverted on the Runnymede Library stamp (left). The regular stamp is shown at right.

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The dome's columns appear darker on CBNC-printed stamps and the two black windows at its base are "fuller," Unitrade notes. In addition, the red "X" above the entrance "has a darker background."

There is also only one major variety listed.

A vertical strip of five with partial perfs from the lone reported 25-stamp pane is priced at \$3,500 in mint condition or \$7,500 for a vertical block of 10 from a corner, which lacks an inscription.

An article by Joseph Monteiro in the March-April 1997 *Corgi Times* newsletter suggested the imperforate variety likely occurred when "the cylinder perforator jumped. This could have resulted because of the variation of electric power or malfunction of the perforating machinery.

"The error could also arise because ... the perforator partially jumped downward and landed in the middle of the first row of stamps, creating horizontal perforations there and vertical perforations in the middle of the next stamp.

"For some unknown reason, the perforator then attempted to correct itself for its initial mistake and skipped a strike. This resulted in the missing horizontal and vertical perforation in the second row of stamps" was followed by the resumption of regular perforating, Monteiro concluded, adding much of what he wrote came from his 1996 book *Perforating Errors of Canadian Postage Stamps (1953-1996)*.

RUNNYMEDE LIBRARY

Opened in 1930, the Runnymede Library was designed by Beaux-Arts architect John M. Lyle, a Hamilton, Ont. native.

Built with rough, highly textured red and yellow limestone from nearby Credit Valley, the two-storey building on Bloor Street West reflects his "progressive traditionalist" style, which was reportedly influenced by a combination of English, French and Indigenous traditions.

It has a steep black-slate roof and gabled windows similar to old Quebec architecture.

The arched front doorway has carved stone west coast-style totem poles that contain stylized ravens, bears and beavers. Lyle included arrowheads in the iron railing above the entrance with the Canadian lily, pinecones and squirrels in the stonework.

A modern northern extension designed by G. Bruce Stratton Architects, featuring tall windows and exterior materials

based on the building's original style, was added 14 years ago.

A Heritage Toronto plaque describes the structure as "nationally recognized for its distinctively Canadian style," which was inspired in the 1920s by "a surging sense of national pride."

The building was restored and enlarged in 2005 with further renovations begun in early 2017.

From the traditional lending of books, with a large ground floor reading room containing newspapers and magazines, the stately old library has computers for visitors to use as well as storytelling, songs and rhythmic lessons for pre-schoolers accompanied by parents or caregivers.

Other diverse programs include an art exhibit space, a youth advisory group, an afternoon book club, science lectures, film and song nights, children's dance sessions, short story writing courses, "science demystified lectures," a chess club, adult craft courses and anti-violence sessions.

The west side has books and programs for children with a less formal atmosphere and a separate entrance leading to a staircase and another reading section.

MCADAM RAILWAY STATION

Opened on Jan. 1, 1901, at a cost of \$30,000 USD, the three-storey granite McAdam Railway Station, 170 kilometres west of Saint John, N.B., was closed in late 1994 when Via Rail Canada ceased Atlantic passenger train service.

The Stamp Advisory Committee formed by Canada Post chose only still-used historic structures in good repair. The station came close: it was closed five-and-a-half/2 years after the definitive's release.

Commissioned by Sir William Cornelius Van Horne, president of the Canadian Pacific Railway (CPR), the Chateau-style structure was designed by Edward Maxwell and W. S. Painter.

The central portion, including a railway police station and jail, federal immigration offices, ticket and telegraph facilities and baggage and mail rooms, was built by Joseph McVey. Wing extensions were added 10 years later. The upper levels had a five-star hotel and staff living quarters.

Designated a Heritage Railway Station, the majestic building on Saunders Road, with its old-style towers, 18 stone dormers, wide overhanging eaves and gabled roof, is now partly used as a museum.

In addition to occasional special events, tours are offered. The waiting room has a small gift shop stocked with locally-made items, a 1950s-style 65-seat lunch room plus a dining area for weddings and other events.

Artifacts on display include old tickets, spittoons, steam locomotive headlights and conductors' uniforms.

A village with about 1,200 residents, McAdam was settled in the mid-to-late 1800s by lumberjacks.

Construction of the St. Andrews and Quebec Railway played a significant role in the establishment of several nearby timber camps. The railway was later merged with other railway companies.



The McAdam Junction railway station in McAdam, N.B., was featured on a patriotic postcard issued circa 1910.

Known as City Camp, the community was renamed McAdam Junction after lumber baron and politician John McAdam. By 1871, there were 400 residents.

In 1889, the CPR built the International Railway to Maine, creating the final link to North America's first transcontinental railroad, *Wikipedia* notes.

Mergers with two parishes resulted in the community renamed the Parish of McAdam five years later.

Further development occurred in conjunction with branch railway lines linked to other New Brunswick communities.

By 1901, there were 714 residents. Up to 18 passenger trains a day made regular stops at McAdam.

It was particularly busy during the First World War, when trains carrying soldiers to ports such as Halifax, N.S., stopped to take on fuel and water for the locomotives plus other supplies.

A German saboteur set off a dynamite charge on a railway bridge west of McAdam in 1915, but it caused little damage. He

was imprisoned before being deported in 1921.

During the Second World War, numerous trains carrying troops and essential wartime goods stopped briefly in McAdam.

In peacetime, coaches often carried Americans heading to their Bay of Fundy cottages.

With a record population of 2,800 in the mid-1950s, McAdam's importance as a rail depot community declined following the development of better highways and increased use by automobiles and freight-carrying trucks. Diesel-powered locomotives further reduced the number of servicing stops.

Branch passenger runs to St. Stephen, St. Andrews and Woodstock were cancelled by

greystone and masonry at 350 rue Saint-Paul in the city's Ville-Marie borough.

Born in England, Footner promised city council a monument would "impress upon the traveller's mind an overwhelming image of the beauty and importance" of the city, John Kalbfleisch wrote in *The Montreal Gazette* in 2010.

Completed for a hefty £70,000, the Neoclassical-style 163-metre-long building faces Montreal's harbour and occupies a full city block.

By the mid-1850s, the thriving city had 60,000 residents.

For more than a century, the grand two-storey silvery-domed market structure with iron Doric entrance pillars cast in England was the area's main agricultural market.

It had a police station from 1848-78, and firefighters with a local militia used part of the upper east wing in the 1850s to perform drills, Elinor Kyte Senior wrote in her 1981 book, *British Regulars in Montreal: An Imperial Garrison, 1832-1854*.

In addition to goods available from indoor merchants, vendors on nearby streets loudly promoted fresh vegetables, fruit, dairy products, meat and poultry.

Kalbfleisch quoted a contemporary observer of indoor market activity noting, "serious men, of dignified mien, gave their customers undivided attention, hauling from the cold storage huge quarters of beef, lamb, etc."

In the winter, he continued, "there was different and equal interest: the ice and snow melting on men's woolen clothes ... smoke from Canadian tobacco, the smell of heat from tiny stoves in each booth."

The building was used briefly by the Parliament of the Province of Canada after its legislative building was burned down during a riot on April 25, 1849. The government body was a political union of Lower Canada and Upper Canada, which became the provinces of Quebec and Ontario with Confederation in 1867.

Soldiers armed with muskets and fixed bayonets later kept guard on streets surrounding the market building. Despite local lobbying to keep the capital in Montreal, continuing political unrest resulted in its relocation to Toronto.

With Bonsecours Market's construction costs tripling the estimates, Footner was replaced by

the following decade, and the station's hotel was closed.

After Via Rail transferred ownership of the boarded-up building to the municipality, demolition was considered; however, enough residents objected.

The McAdam Historical Restoration Commission spent about \$3 million restoring the ground floor using government grants, money from community fundraisers plus rental fees. Further restoration of the provincial and national historic site is being considered.

About 30,000 visitors came to the station in 2017, CBC reporter Sarah Petz reported the following year.

Created in 1995, NB Southern – New Brunswick Southern – freight trains use McAdam's service. The company also operates subsidiary lines in Maine.

Each Christmas, special train rides, interior decorations and candlelight dining attract scores of fans to the old station.

BONSECOURS MARKET

Designed by British architect William Footner, the Bonsecours Market – Marché Bonsecours – was built from 1844-47 with local

Continued on page 9

Brant County postmarks highlighted in recent BNAPS book



Philatelic BOOKSHELF

By David Piercey

Continuing with its ever-informative "Exhibit Series" and publishing exemplary Canadian exhibits in book form, the British North America Philatelic Society (BNAPS) published Bob Anderson's award-winning Brant County exhibit in December.

Single county exhibits are an interesting way to show the postal history of a specific region in great depth. They allow the collector to specialize in an area they are passionate about.

Many postal history collectors in Ontario choose to show county exhibits because the boundaries of any particular county delimit the towns and what sort of material should be covered.

Brant County lies about midway between Hamilton and Woodstock in southern Ontario. The old Grand Trunk Railway ran through it, and today Highway 403 is its main transportation corridor.

Much of the county was originally farmland settled in the early 19th century as carriage roads, and rail lines were extended west from earlier settlements along Lake Ontario.

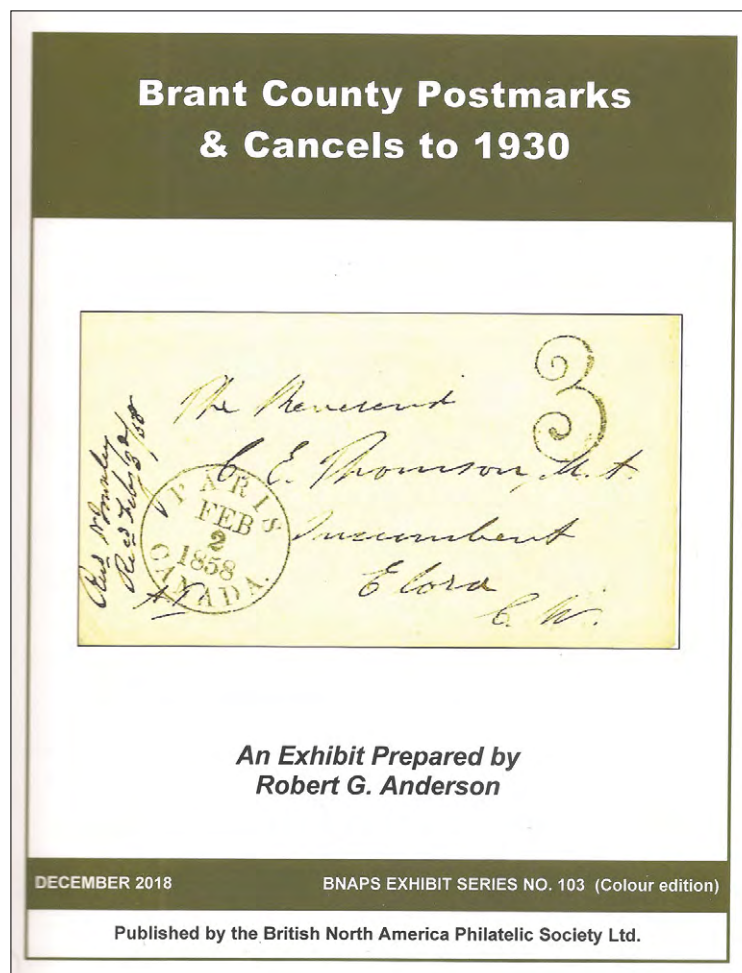
Perhaps its most famous resident was Alexander Graham Bell (notwithstanding Wayne Gretzky), whose family emigrated from Scotland to Canada and bought a farm near Brantford in 1870 (though his academic pursuits then kept him in the U.S. most of the time).

As related in Anderson's *Brant County Postmarks and Cancels to 1930*, there were 56 post offices established in the county between about 1819 and 1930. Six examples of their postmarks are yet to be discovered due to their small rural populations or their short periods of existence.

Anderson's exhibit contains examples of all the recorded post offices organized alphabetically within each postmark type (i.e., double split ring, split ring, circular date stamp, parcel cancel, etc.), making it essentially chronological in order.

EARLIEST KNOWN COVER IN 1825

He begins by showing the earliest known cover from Brantford, dated 1825 – its first year of opening – and struck with a straight-line handstamp, which was used



Brant County Postmarks and Cancels to 1930 is a 136-page book created from the award-winning exhibit by Robert Anderson, who's also a national-level judge.

postage stamps became mandatory.

He includes, for example, paid and unpaid markings and rate markings and indicates the postal rates that were to be paid for each cover. This latter is important as postal rates were, in the early days, determined by distances each letter had to travel, and one is expected to know such postal rates if one is choosing to exhibit stampless or other early covers of Canada.

As typical for exhibits, he includes examples of covers with the earliest reported dates (ERDs), the latest reported dates (LRDs) and the only reported dates (ORDs), which demonstrate the thoroughness of his research and his work in finding exemplary covers.

In fact, it would prove hard to duplicate Anderson's showing, given what is known and presently available outside his collection for other Brant county material.

Collectors who are interested in forming collections or even exhibits of smaller geographical areas – whether they be counties, towns, districts, or even cities – could use Anderson's book as an example for how to organize and show their own material to its greatest benefit. He is to be commended for his commitment to his specialized area – and to BNAPS for the permanent record of his collection now available for other collectors to reference.

BNAPS books are distributed through Sparks Auctions, 1770 Woodward Drive, Suite 101, Ottawa ON K2C 0P8, and may be ordered through their website, sparks-auctions.com/bnaps-books.

Anderson's *Brant County Postmarks and Cancels to 1930* sells for \$56 (plus \$10 shipping and handling), and BNAPS members receive a 40 per cent discount off list price. ❄️

before the introduction of its double split rings in 1829.

Other manuscript postal markings are shown for some of the other early towns followed by a showing of the various double circle marks or double split rings for many of the towns throughout the period 1831-58.

The bulk of Anderson's exhibit is a thorough showing of the various split ring postmarks, squared circles, duplex cancels, circular date stamps or machine cancels

used as introduced from about 1858 forward.

As befits a postal history exhibit, most all postmarks are shown on complete cover or post card, and all are at least reasonably complete strikes if not better.

Each town is first introduced by a small table describing the type of postmark that will be shown on the page, its proof date (if known), its usage period and its defining characteristics in terms of its diameter, length of arcs or time indicia. Much of this information is specialized knowledge only to be found within the Postal History Society of Canada (PHSC) postmark database (and was originally published by Bruce Graham as *Ontario Broken Circles* in 1999).

The PHSC continues to update the 1999 publication as current information is critical for the reader to better understand the variety of postmarks to collect.

AUXILIARY MARKINGS & KNOWING THE RATES

The depth of Anderson's exhibit is also enhanced by showing several auxiliary markings used by the various post offices before the use of

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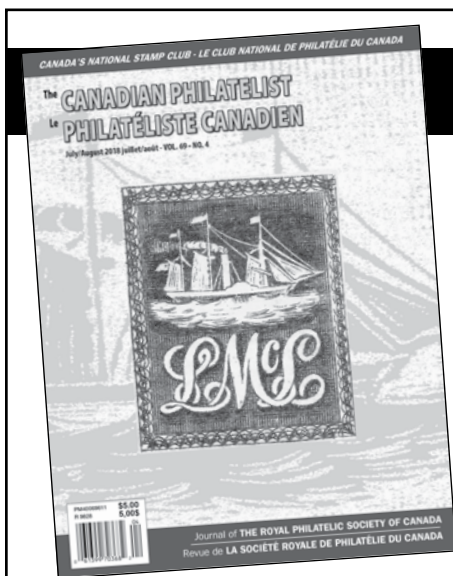
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Buildings...

Continued from page 7

Ireland-born architect George Browne when alterations were planned.

Additions completed in 1860 included an exterior ceremonial balcony; a 900-square-metre, 3,000-seat concert hall; a banquet hall; plus a portico in front of Rue Saint-Paul.

Montreal City Hall was located in the building between 1852 and 1878, after which the main chambers became a 3,700-square-metre meeting

room. Banquets, exhibitions and other festivals were held until the dome was destroyed in a 1948 fire, *The Canadian Encyclopedia* notes.

City officials recommended demolition when Marché Bonsecours was closed in 1963, but residents prevailed.

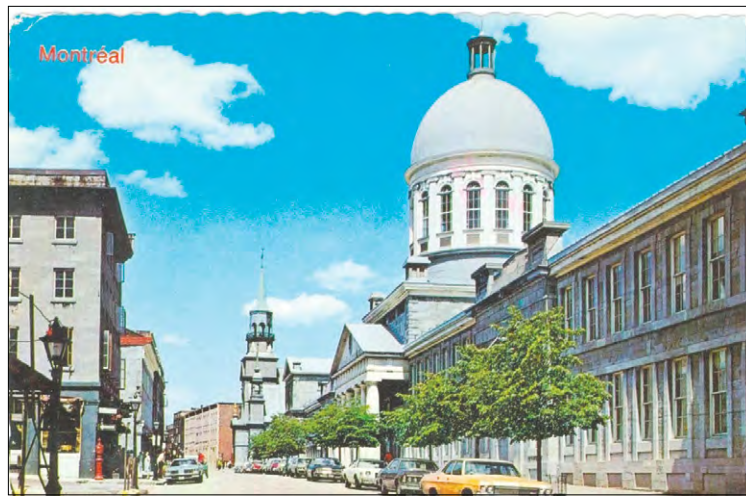
Reconstruction included a metal copy of the dome, a necessary raising of the sinking foundations, plus reinforced concrete interior walls and a restored façade. The building, whose crumbling interior "was gutted," Eric McLean wrote in his 1964 book, *The Living Past of Montreal*, became a multi-purpose facility.

The dome was again rebuilt after a rocket fired from a nearby ship before the Expo 67 world exhibition opened went astray and hit the market.

The federal government designated it a National Historic Site in 1984.

Conversion in the following decade created a shopping mall with cafes, restaurants, touristy shops, salons and boutiques on the first two levels plus a rental hall and banquet halls on the lower and upper floors. Part of the building also houses municipal offices.

Further restoration was completed in 2004. 🍁



A 1970s postcard shows the exterior of the restored Bonsecours Market in Montreal.

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Dealers, too, say the darnedest things



Collecting 101

By Peter Mosiondz, Jr.

In our previous instalment, we related some anecdotes concerning a few collectors that brought a smile or two to our face, and hopefully to yours as well.

Now it's the dealer's turn, yours truly included.

Sometimes dealers do say the darnedest things, most of them in printed form.

A comprehensive listing of the Farleys caught our eye one day. Every configuration from singles to blocks was offered. We noticed there were two pricing columns, one for no gum as issued and never hinged; the second column listing no gum as issued, lightly hinged. The hinged prices averaged about 40 per cent of the first column pricing.

We couldn't dial the dealer's phone fast enough. We told him we'd like to purchase his entire holding of the lightly hinged items.

He apologized he did not have nearly as many as the

never hinged brethren but he would be pleased to send all he had. We received another bonus as well; a 20 per cent dealer discount was given to us.

As you know, the hinge marks are easily soaked off as the stamp has no gum.

Suffice to say he is no longer in the stamp business.

Have you ever noticed a dealer's ad that describes a stamp as having an "invisible fault"? If it's invisible how did the dealer ever see it?

Almost as bad is the stamp described as having a "tiny, trivial or insignificant fault" yet offered at a price that is pretty darned close to the retail price of a fault-free example. We often wonder if the seller would acknowledge the fault to be "tiny, trivial or insignificant" and pay a correspondingly higher price for that same stamp if it were offered to him by the same collector in years to come. A

word to the wise; a fault is a fault and will always remain a fault whether it is insignificant or not. Such a stamp should be priced accordingly at a deep discount commensurate with the degree of fault.

This next tale has been told fairly often, but it happened to have been told to us from legendary dealer and friend Pat Herst, who was present at the sale and had the auction catalogue to prove it.

It happened to be priced as a hinged sheet.

Once again, we couldn't dial the phone fast enough. These were the days before push-button phones.

Yes, the sheet was still available and we could take our trade discount. The sheet arrived and there was a small trace of a very light hinge mark that did not intrude on any of the gummed area. It is a simple matter to take a small piece of a very lightly moist-

find a lower price anywhere on any stamp he listed he would match it gladly. We wonder how he stays in business using that philosophy. We wrote, offering some items for sale at the highest possible price. We are still awaiting his reply.

We remember our first few price lists when we hung out our shingle as a full-time stamp dealer 40 years ago. We never had too much difficulty with spelling in our academic

Have you ever noticed a dealer's ad that describes a stamp as having an 'invisible fault'? If it's invisible how did the dealer ever see it?

The auctioneer, who is now knocking down lots in the great stamp club in the sky, used the word "unique" in bold type after the description of a lot. You guessed it: the next several lots read, "An identical lot."

We once noticed a very fine White Plains souvenir sheet for sale. It was described as being very lightly hinged in the selva and only in a spot where there was no gum pres-

ened Q-tip or tissue and remove the hinge mark. The stamps themselves remained never hinged. You might be surprised to learn how frequently this procedure takes place. It's permissible provided none of the gum is affected.

We have mentored many new dealers in our day, remembering well the help we were given by Herst and others when we began dealing.

One of our neophytes was already in the stamp business five years. He called us one day to ask a logical question. At least it appeared logical to him.

"What's the difference between a single line watermark and a double line watermark?"

We don't believe he will remain a dealer too much longer.

One day, an advertisement caught our eye. The dealer proclaimed to all he bought at the very highest prices and sold at the lowest prices. In fact, he boasted if one could

years, but one word in particular plagued us for quite a while when we became a dealer. We listed "souvineer" sheets for sale.

Another one of our early blunders was the time when we listed some of our popular sets at higher prices than the stamps could be obtained individually. An example from one of our early price lists included:

- Scott #548-50, Fine to Very Fine, Never Hinged, \$50;
- Scott #548, Fine to Very Fine, Never Hinged, \$4;
- Scott #549, Fine to Very Fine, Never Hinged, \$6; and
- Scott #550, Fine to Very Fine, Never Hinged, \$35.

We wondered why so many orders came in right away for the individual stamps and none for the "discounted" set.

Sometimes, we professionals can say or do the darnedest things just as well as anyone else. But it's all part of this wonderful hobby, a hobby designed to bring pleasure.

Until next time, stay well and enjoy your hobby. 🍁



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DELTIOLOGY

By Mike Smith

In my previous article, “A primer for potential postcard collectors” (CSN Vol. 43 #22), I provided a roadmap for postcard collector wannabes to help them better understand the ins and outs of the hobby.

With the astounding number and types of antique postcards available at shows and online, it goes without saying the more knowledge one gains upfront, the better.

I intended to follow up my postcard primer with an article on the key Canadian publishers to look out for; however, I had so much fun at the 38th Annual Toronto Postcard Club (TPC) Show this February the publisher article will have to wait.

As it’s been for nearly four decades, the TPC Show is a must-attend event for collectors. Hosted for the past several years at the Japanese Canadian Cultural Centre, this year’s Feb. 24 show had more than 40 tables loaded with postcards and old paper. To say there was something for everybody would be an understatement. The 22 dealers offered postcards of every subject and type imaginable as well as cigarette cards, military histories, collector supplies and more.

NEW BOOK

I also had the privilege of overseeing the launch of a new Canadian collector’s guide, *The J. W. Bald Picture Postcard Handbook 1902-1905*, authored by J. W. Bald devotee Ted Sennett.



Figure 1. A terrific J. W. Bald real photo postcard of the Waterbus at Midland, Ont., also exists as a printed postcard.

One of the more than 900 postcards illustrated in Sennett’s all-colour handbook is shown as Figure 1.

When I wasn’t busy with the launch of the Bald handbook, I slipped away to see some of my go-to dealers.

As often happens when I visit Dave Moore’s table at shows, he handed me a boatload of postcards to record for one of my up-and-coming handbooks. Because Moore knows I’m currently working on the second edition of my handbook on Stedman Bros. postcards, this time around, I received a large Manila envelope stuffed with Stedman goodies (see Figure 2).

Moore is one of those dealers who also spends time checking the backs of antique postcards and often writes little notes in pencil to point out special cancels or interesting messages. Needless to say, when I bring his cards home to record, I’m entertained for days.

At dealer Jon Soyka’s table, I found three nice little postcards of rural Ontario, and one was reproduced from a Reuben R. Sallows (1855-1937) photo.

Sallows, as I’ve discussed in previous articles, was a renowned Goderich, Ont.-based shutterbug whose early 20th-century rural photos excited magazine publishers, the railways and government ministries alike. As a consequence, he received numerous commissions to take photos of Ontario, Quebec and Western Canada for



Figure 2. This is one of the classy silk novelty cards that Stedman Bros. is now known to have manufactured in Brantford, Ont.

travel, tourism and immigration literature. Magazine publishers loved to put his photos of outdoor Canada on their covers, and postcard publishers used his work to create extensive postcard series.

Stedman Bros. (Brantford), Valentine and Sons (Montreal and Toronto), and Warwick Bros. and Rutter (Toronto) are just some of the publishers who purchased his photos (see Figure 3).

At one point at the TPC Show, I had a great chat with CSN’s own Ian Robertson. Besides being knee deep in stamps while he writes CSN’s “Looking Back” and “Stamping Grounds” columns, Robertson is an aficionado of International Stationery Co. (ISC) postcards.

This Picton, Ont.-based firm, owned by local businessman James Livingston, was responsible for some of the most attractive postcards in Canada during the golden age. The earliest ISC cards were sepia-coloured gems printed in Germany from Canadian photographs.

Some of Sallows’ photos were used to make a very attractive ISC series of Goderich views.

As for Bald, many of his photos ended up on an equally attractive, sepia-coloured series, but all of his sepia-coloured cards were printed by Valentine and Sons at its plant in Dundee, Scotland (see Figure 4).

Now that the TPC Show is over for another year, I can gear up for the next big event in the postcard season – the Postcard



Figure 3. This attractive Grand Trunk Railway station in Goderich, Ont., was featured on a postcard produced by Warwick Bros. and Rutter from a Reuben R. Sallows photo



Figure 4. A sepia-coloured postcard of King Street in Midland was printed by Valentine and Sons from a Bald photo.

Memories Show and Sale in Kitchener, Ont., on Sunday, March 17. Hosted by the Kitchener Waterloo Cambridge Regional Post Card Club and held annually since 2012, this show is billed as “Southwest On-

tario’s largest post card expo.” Take it from me, no serious collector should miss this one.

For more details about this show or to see a full calendar of philatelic events, visit canadianstampnews.com/events. 🍁

SUPER SPECIALS LVII

It's difficult to believe that over twenty-five years have passed since I boarded a plane bound for New York City. It was September 1987, the largest American Bank Note Company auction ever held. On the auction block over a two day period were the archives of the famed American Bank Note Company which had designed and printed many classic stamp issues for all of these countries. The archives contained rare proofs and essays that had never been issued. In the quarter century that has passed since the auction I have handled a great deal of this material. Stocks still in dealers' hands represent what I still have in my own stock. In several cases I am down to just one or two sets so early ordering is advised. If you order now you will receive a beautiful addition to a collection. All are in the issued colours on card mounted india paper (unless otherwise stated) and are in fine condition.

OFFER #CS1241



This first offer includes all six different values of the 1859 Cents issue (#14, 15, 17, 18, 19, 20). All proofs are in issued or near-issued colours. I have just one set of singles left. Price is \$1,495.00. Complete sets are not easy to put together.

OFFER #CS1242



Here is a very desirable offer on the 1897 Diamond Jubilee Issue (#50-65), the most popular commemorative set ever issued in Canada and good property for the future. Price for the complete set of sixteen is just \$3,995.00. (Current catalogue value is \$7,000.00!)

OFFER #CS1243



Next is the 1897 Leaf Issue set of eight (Scott #66-73). Only about 150 very fine sets are available to collectors, the 8c orange being the key value. Price for the complete set of eight is \$1,495.00.

OFFER #CS1244



The Numeral Issue is one of the scarcest of all Canadian plate proof sets (Scott #74/84). The 20c is the key value. Only about 250 examples were in the auction and many of these were faulty, producing a very limited number of sets for collectors. The complete set of ten is priced at just \$3,495.00. I also have one set in pairs at \$6,950.00.

OFFER #CS1245



The Numeral Issue was the only one in the ABN archives where imperforate sheets on stamp paper were present. Six values exist and they are listed in Unitrade as follows -- #74iv, 75vi, 77d, 79ii, 82ii and 83ii. The 2c and 10c pairs are very desirable property indeed as they are the key values. The complete set of six pairs now lists at \$6,200.00. My price is just \$3,795.00 while they last. I also have a set in blocks of four at \$6,950.00.

OFFER #CS1246



The 1928-1929 Scroll Issue (Scott #149-159) has always been a popular one with collectors. All of the designs are beautifully engraved, including the famous 50c Bluenose. The proofs sets are on a somewhat thicker than normal india paper. The set of eleven is a wise purchase for \$1,995.00. The 50c is the key value with only one sheet present in the archives auction!

OFFER #CS1247



I also have the Scroll Issue available in a short set of six from the one to eight cent (#149-154) at a new special price of just \$495.00. Pairs are \$950.00. You can always start with this one and complete your set later on.

OFFER #CS1248



The 1935 Silver Jubilee Issue was also present in the ABN archives (Scott #211-216). I feel it is somewhat underpriced today, compared to many of the other proof sets. Price for the complete set of six is only \$695.00.

OFFER



One of the most attractive issues ever issued in Canada is the King George V set (Scott #217-222). I have a complete set of six mounted Policeman, one of Canada's most popular designs. The complete set of six is \$950.00.

OFFER

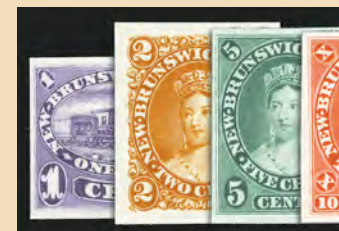


Next here is a short set of the King George V set (Scott #217-222). The set of six is just \$950.00 and sheet margins are included.



One of the most interesting stamps ever issued in Canada is the 1910 Special Delivery stamp (Scott #10). It is a very nice stamp.

OFFER



An affordable and interesting set of stamps is the New Brunswick set (Scott #6-11). The 1c is in violet, the first stamp in the world to picture a ship.

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1990. An auction was being conducted by Christies in their Park Avenue building. It was to become the most legendary British North American Day one was devoted to Latin American material, day two to the Canadian, Newfoundland, New Brunswick and Nova Scotia. ABN has been retained in their files, some for well over a century! The auction realized millions, with individual lots selling for \$100,000 and thousands have dwindled of course. Many sets have sold out completely; others remain in short supply. The following twenty special offers have never purchased plate proofs for your collection, these offers are certainly an excellent opportunity. Any of these items make a very fresh very fine never hinged condition. Payment terms are available as always to suit your budget so call today to place your order.

OFFER #CS1249



Never released in Canada is this 1935 (7). Among the designs is the 10¢ Queen's most famous stamps. Price for even is just \$1,495.00.

OFFER #CS1250



Above offer, from the 1¢ to the 8¢ \$1,495.00, a new special price! Pairs in blocks of four are \$1,895.00.

OFFER #CS1251

One of the very rarest Canadian plate proofs in the archives is Scott #E1, the special delivery stamp issued in 1888. A mere 73 examples exist and most of them are faulty. Price for a single is just \$995.00. I also have a lovely pair at \$1,950.00.

OFFER #CS1252



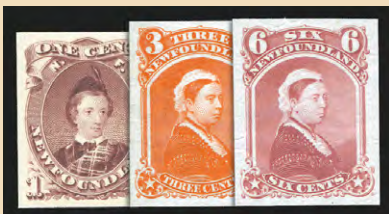
This is this one from New Brunswick and the others in issued colours. The 1¢ is the world to picture a train; the 12½¢ the Queen. Price is just \$395.00

OFFER #CS1253



This attractive set from Newfoundland Scott #24/31) is another example of the outstanding engraving abilities of the staff at American Bank Note. The designs are some of the world's earliest pictorials and are much sought after by thematic collectors. Price is \$395.00 for singles or \$795.00 for pairs.

OFFER #CS1254



Here's another nice group that is well worth acquiring -- three proofs from the 1868-1870 Cents Issues of Newfoundland (Scott #32A, 33 and 35). Price is just \$219.00 for singles or \$429.00 for pairs.

OFFER #CS1255



In 1897 a long and very attractive set of fourteen stamps (Scott #61-74) was commissioned for the 400th Anniversary of John Cabot's discovery of Newfoundland. No portraits of him are known, so one of his brother Sebastian was used for the 2¢ stamp. The year also happened to be the Diamond Jubilee of Queen Victoria, who is portrayed on the 1¢ value. Price for this beautiful set is just \$695.00.

OFFER #CS1256



Also in the ABN Archives were mint sheets of stamps of the Cabot Issue overprinted "SPECIMEN" in red (Scott #61-74). These are in F-VF NH mint condition and price is \$1,295.00.

OFFER #CS1257



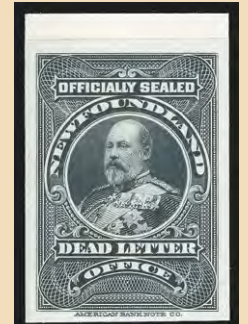
The only other Newfoundland set to receive the "SPECIMEN" overprint was the Royal Family Issue including the 2¢ Map (Scott #78-86). They also show a small printer's security punch. This long-serving set had many printings over its life and a sheet of each was retained by ABN for the files. In all the complete set shows 47 different stamps, displaying all the shades and printings of this popular issue. As such it makes a great start on a specialized collection, both for reference and exhibition. Price is just \$1,595.00.

OFFER #CS1258



Plate proofs of the 2¢ Map stamp (Scott #86) were prepared in the issued colour as well as in a most attractive brown-carmine shade. A nice example of each is just \$249.00. I also have pairs available at \$495.00 or blocks of four at \$950.00.

OFFER #CS1259



Here is a rare proof with spectacular engraving (Scott #OX1). The dead letter office stamp shows a portrait of King Edward VII. Price is \$950.00. I also have a pair available at \$1,950.00 or a sheet margin block at \$3,750.00.

OFFER #CS1260



Finally here is the Nova Scotia cents issue set of six (Scott #8-13). It features various portraits of Queen Victoria. The 1¢ and 2¢ values have diagonal SPECIMEN overprints. Price is \$195.00. Pairs are \$379.00.

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Wildlife Habitat Canada announces 2019 conservation stamp



Stamping GROUND

By Ian Robertson

A painting of three ducks by a well-known Quebec artist devoted to “detail and realism” was chosen for this year’s Wildlife Habitat Canada (WHC) conservation stamp.

The \$8.50 stamp, which is a required component for the federal “migratory game bird hunting permit,” goes on sale April 1.

Entitled “Blue-Canvasback,” it features two males and a female swimming through an icy pond. The 2019 stamp is the second for artist Claude Thivierge, and the organization’s 35th issue.

The sale of stamps, which are similar to U.S. federal duck stamp issues, have provided more than \$55 million for the WHC’s Conservation Grant Program, it said in a statement.

Totalling up to 44 projects a year, more than 1,500 ventures have been financed since 1985.

Through an established agreement with Environment and Climate Change Canada, grant funds have been invested in the protection and restoration of “thousands of acres of wildlife habitats,” WHC Executive Director Cameron Mack said in a statement.

Work has included fixing wetlands, wetland and waterfowl research projects plus the

promotion of environmental stewardship and connections with nature.

“We also participate in numerous committees and councils at a national and international level. We advocate for the protection of migratory birds and their habitats to ensure that they remain a vital part of conservation efforts in Canada,” the WHC website notes. “Our work with communities, landowners, governments, non-government organizations and industry has leveraged additional funds for conservation issues, roughly \$150 million invested.”

Images chosen for the conservation stamps are selected through annual competitions based on submissions of original artwork that depict “a selected waterfowl species.”

Having had the pleasure of being a judge last November for the 2020 stamp art competition, I will provide more details of that experience – as many as possible – in an accompanying article.

WHC ESTABLISHED 1984

Like-minded conservationists representing provincial wildlife agencies, grassroots conservation organizations and Environment Canada estab-



lished the WHC in 1984 as a national non-profit and non-governmental charitable organization.

Issued the following year, the first annual conservation stamp featured a painting of two mallard ducks near a pool on the edge of a pond.

It was the work of Robert Bateman, a world-renowned wildlife artist and former high school teacher born in Toronto. He later moved to Salt Spring Island, B.C., in the early 1980s.

Since 1985, hunters in Canada have been legally required to have a Canadian duck stamp affixed to their migratory game bird hunting permits. The \$8.50 price has not been increased since 1991.

For 35 years, the stamps have been reproduced from paintings of numerous waterfowl and migratory game birds plus habitats by more than 20 different Canadian artists.

The attractive designs and format also interest stamp collectors – especially those keen on wildlife themes – plus people interested in contributing to related conservation programs.

“Many people don’t realize that buying a Canadian wildlife habitat conservation stamp directly funds Wildlife Habitat Canada’s conservation work across Canada,” Mack said. “If they realized the great work that is done with stamp funds, they would buy stamps because they care about nature, even if they are not stamp collectors or waterfowl hunters.

“The stamp brings nature, tradition and art together in a

Artist Claude Thivierge has designed two conservation stamps for Wildlife Habitat Canada since it was established in 1984.

small but beautiful package,” he added. “It represents the importance of conserving nature for future generations; the tradition of stamps and the enjoyment they provide to collectors and outdoor enthusiasts; and the celebration of nature’s beauty through wildlife art, which has always been an important part of being human.”

Printed with offset lithographic transfer colours and



This year marks Wildlife Habitat Canada’s 35th anniversary.

perforated edges, the stamps are sold in single-stamp booklets; corner blocks of four stamps; plus 16-stamp panes. Outer margins contain information about the subjects and artists.

A single stamp sells for \$8.50; a corner block-of-four is \$34; and a 16-stamp pane is \$136. Applicable taxes cost extra.

In addition, single stamps signed by the artist are also available for \$20 each.

26 PAINTINGS SUBMITTED FOR 2019 DESIGN

Thivierge’s painting for the 2019 conservation stamp was chosen from among 26 submissions in 2017.

Featuring a male and a female long-tailed duck, his painting *Break the Ice*, which he said on the WHC website was “inspired by winter walks on

Canvasback ducks on the 2019 Canadian wildlife habitat conservation stamp were taken from a Claude Thivierge painting. (© Her Majesty the Queen in Right of Canada, as represented by the Minister of Environment and Climate Change, 2019)

the edge of the river near my home,” was reproduced on its 2013 stamp.

“What distinguishes this artist’s paintings the most are the eyes that appear to ‘speak’: Remarkable and bright eyes that determine the mood and emotion of the scenes,” Thivierge’s biography notes. His wildlife canvases “are marked with great tenderness, sometimes with a certain curiosity” about the featured subject, which has included birds, animals and occasionally people.

In addition to lauding the artist’s accuracy, the biography credits his “inquisitive, tender look, emphasizing, always, the personality of the subject.”

Married, with two children and living in the picturesque village of Rivière-Beaudette near the St. Lawrence River, Thivierge, 49, has received many awards, including Quebec Artist of the Year by Ducks Unlimited Canada in 2009.

He is a member of the International Association of Artists (AFC), which is involved in the conservation of species plus biodiversity.



Claude Thivierge’s cartoon of a computer hacker was on the cover of the Montreal-based Magazine Délice.



JUDGING NEXT YEAR'S STAMP

Details about the painting chosen for the Wildlife Habitat Canada (WHC) 2020 conservation stamp – plus the identity of the artist – remain under wraps.

Based on long-standing tradition, the selected painting and its creator will be revealed around the same time next year.

Four first-timers were among the seven people invited to be judges last November.

Others have been on panels several times before.

As a collector since my boyhood in the Ottawa Valley and a photographer and long-time columnist representing CSN, it was my first experience judging potential stamp art.

My fellow judges were:

- veteran Montreal stamp dealer Lyse Rousseau, owner of Rousseau Collections Stamps and Coins at Hudson's Bay;
- artist Violet Storto, a retired Algonquin College graphic arts and graphic design professor;
- Michel Gosselin, retired collections manager at the Canadian Museum of Nature;
- Ted Cheskey, an international birder and naturalist director at Nature Canada;
- Sarah Bristow, acting manager of wildlife management and regulatory affairs for the Canadian Wildlife Service, which is part of Environment and Climate Change Canada; and
- Quebec artist Claude Thivierge.

Artists whose works have been chosen for past WHC conservation stamps are often invited to be judges, and Thivierge, whose painting was chosen for the 2013 conservation stamp, joined us around the table.

We came together around a table in a hotel conference room in Bells Corners on Robertson Road in Nepean, near WHC's headquarters west of Ottawa.

The room was filled with 29 paintings mounted on easels.

Cameron Mack, executive director of Wildlife Habitat Canada, addresses the judges' panel for the 2020 stamp competition before a finalist was chosen from 29 art submissions in November 2018. Photo by Ian S. Robertson.

Our task, based on varying backgrounds and interests, was to narrow the field to just one artwork through three stages.

Some paintings were absolutely stunning with intricate feathering on birds in flight or sitting on water. Scenes varied from open sky to highly detailed marshland.

"We really think Canadian wildlife art ... is a positive part of the Canadian cultural identity," Cameron Mack, the WHC's Executive Director, told us.

"Wildlife art hasn't fallen out of favour – despite rumours," he said. "It's been around for thousands of years."

As with artwork being considered for any stamps, postal or otherwise, several key factors were considered.

Having been a guest judge considering numerous drawings proposed for two commemorative coins many years ago, I offered some suggestions based on what we were told by a Royal Canadian Mint engineer.

"As with coins, a large piece of art may be very appealing, but may lose definition when reduced to the size of a stamp," I told my fellow WHC panellists.

Other questions that arose during our considerations of paintings for the 2020 conservation stamp included:

- Is a painting attractive?
- Are subjects, including the featured bird or birds, plus the setting, accurately depicted?
- Can the necessary text be added without impeding the artwork?

That latter question played a significant role in setting aside the painting I chose.

Well-designed and beautifully executed, the addition of the denomination plus text to identify the stamp in both English and French posed a problem. There

Artist Violet Storto, a retired Algonquin College graphic arts and graphic design professor, considers paintings for the 2020 Wildlife Habitat Canada (WHC) conservation stamp as WHC staffer Julia Thompson checks artwork on an easel during judging last November.

Photo by Ian S. Robertson.



was insufficient open space, and lettering would have interfered with the artwork.

As with other rejected paintings, we were told the artist would receive suggestions to consider for possible modification of the design or for an entirely new entry.

Guided by their experiences and qualifications, every judge offered insight into their decision to recommend or reject an entry, which WHC staffers duly noted for future consultation with all of the artists.

One painting was considered to have an overly blurry image. An excellent painting was considered too similar to one chosen for a previous stamp in the series. Dark colours disqualified another entry.

Based on his knowledge of waterfowl, Thivierge regarded the head of a male duck on one painting as "too dark."

On one of the finalist paintings, he suggested the female's bill should be altered.

Cheskey found white streaks on one male duck "distracting."

Bristow said she liked the colours on one painting, but added, "the pintail female should be larger."

Hearing all those suggestions, some of which prompted further discussion with differing viewpoints about several paintings, left me with greater insight into the intricacies of waterfowl art.

Some judges recommended changes that were subtle while others were more obvious.

Though I liked the final second-choice painting slightly more than the one selected for the 2020 stamp, the final choice is an excellent piece of art.

I look forward to seeing it on next year's stamp.

– Ian Robertson



Sometimes using whimsical humour, including cartoon-like illustrations for magazines, his wildlife art has been published in books and encyclopedias and is displayed in museums.

Thivierge, who studied visual arts at l'Université de Laval à Québec, has offered his paintings to many non-profit organizations, including Ducks Unlimited, the Mira Foundation, the Ecomuseum, plus Rêves d'Enfants, the Que-

bec version of the Children's Wish Foundation, according to his online biography.

His creations have also been used by the David Suzuki Foundation; the Department of the Environment, Wildlife and Parks; the Office of the Commissioner of Official Languages; the Royal Canadian Mint; and Wild Nature. Sources outside Canada that have used his artwork include Discovery, National Geographic and the

Smithsonian Institute in the U.S., the Australian Geographic plus publications in Europe and China.

"Through my eyes, nature is wonderful and perfect," Thivierge was quoted as saying.

"That's why I paint with as much detail and realism as I can," he added. "I daub, I colour, I scribble hair and feathers wholeheartedly.

"Some would say that it is a monk's labour and that it borders on madness! ... and

well they are right, but it is a controlled dementia to capture this perfection and to portray small pieces around me." 🍁

The cover of the 2013 Canadian wildlife habitat conservation stamp booklet was reproduced from a painting by artist Claude Thivierge.



Overlap of Mediterranean cultures makes for interesting collecting area



Commonwealth COMMUNIQUÉ

By Chad Neighbor

The Small European Postal Administration Cooperation (SEPAC) offers a small set of highly collectable stamps each year, but as I recently noted, Commonwealth collectors can hone in on a similar but even smaller group.

These are Commonwealth members of a grouping called EuroMed from European, African and Middle East postal administrations bordering the Mediterranean Sea. Malta and Cyprus are among 16 nations in this new and relatively little-known postal union.

Each year's set from each country normally has only one or two stamps with the EuroMed logo with the grand total of participating stamps from Commonwealth countries weighing in at three a year.

The union is made up mainly of members of the Arab Permanent Postal Commission (Egypt, Jordan, Lebanon, Libya, Morocco, Palestine and Tunisia) and PostEurop (Croatia, Cyprus, France, Greece, Malta, Portugal, Slovenia, Spain and Turkey). Several other countries have been involved in the group but do not seem to have issued stamps.

The logo is an abstract design that to me suggests a bird spreading its wings. Interestingly, it includes both Roman and Arabic letters, resulting in a modest number of European issues with Arabic script as a result.

Its stamp subject for 2018 is houses of the Mediterranean. The 64-cent Cypriot stamp features traditional old homes with balconies and shutters along an ancient-looking street. Cypriot stamps are trilingual in that the name of the country is given in Greek and English – the former in Greek and Roman alphabets – so with the logo's Arabic script, EuroMed stamps from Cyprus are quadrilingual.

Malta's two EuroMed stamps – with 20- and 90-cent denominations – picture sturdy stone-built homes with a flowering shrub and bright doors and shutters firmly shut to keep the Mediterranean sun at bay.

The 2019 subject will be costumes. The stamps first emerged in 2014 with member states free to choose their designs apart from the first year, when a common stamp of a view picturing the Med



from space inaugurated the initiative. Not all members issued a stamp from the first year. These include Cyprus, further limiting the stamps with the logo that can be found.

A page on the EuroMed site – euromed-postal.org/stamps.php – makes it easy to view the stamps issued by each country, although the list does not seem to be complete.

Like SEPAC stamps, these issues are not all that easy to find postally used except in the case of the bigger European countries' issues. Properly used examples on cover or card also tend to be elusive.

ROYAL MAIL DELIVERS

The U.K.'s Royal Mail, going to great lengths to serve its customers, has advised a seven-year-old boy in Scotland it has delivered a birthday card to his father in heaven.

When the postal service received an envelope with a childish scrawl on it, asking, "Mr Postman Can you take this to Heaven for my dads Birthday. Thanks," it decided to act, British newspapers reported.

Jase Hyndman, from Bathgate, near Edinburgh, received a letter stating the card to his father James made it through the difficult journey.

"I just wanted to take this opportunity to contact you about how we succeeded in delivery of your letter, to your dad in heaven," wrote Royal Mail's Sean Milligan in a letter to the boy.

"This was a difficult challenge avoiding stars and other galactic objects on route to heaven." Milligan, an assistant delivery office manager, added: "Royal Mail's priority is to get our customers mail delivered safely. I know how important your mail is to you. I will continue to do all I can to ensure delivery to heaven safely."

While theologians might argue about the route to heaven outlined, young Jase was thrilled to hear his card was delivered. His mother, Teri Copland, posted the letter on Facebook and said: "I actually cannot state how emotional he is knowing his dad got his card ... Royal Mail you've just restored my faith in humanity."

Jase and his 10-year-old sister Nieve have marked their

Cyprus is among 16 nations belonging to the relatively little-known postal union EuroMed, whose common theme for its 2018-dated special issues was 'Houses of the Mediterranean.'

father's birthday each May since he died in 2014.

"He was overwhelmed and kept saying, 'My dad really got my letter, mum,'" said Copland. "I've always told Nieve and Jase, even if you can't get anyone a present, it's always nice to make sure you sent a card at Christmas and birthdays. I want people to realise that a small gesture of kindness can have such a fantastic impact on someone's life ... Royal Mail actually took part and that gives me so much comfort."

ON THAT TOPIC...

The birthday card to heaven reminded me of an unusual U.S. envelope I found in a box of cheap covers and reported in a CSN column in 2004.

It was a business size letter from May 1975 with the neatly typed address: "God, Heaven, the Universe." Furthermore, the envelope was marked "Personal" and "Please forward, if necessary."

The envelope was sent by one Jacob Kisner, a stamp dealer, creator of "JK" perfin stamps and one-time New York City chairman of World Poetry Day. He was also something of an eccentric judging by illustrated examples of his mail in the same group.

The highly relevant letter was still in the envelope.

"Dear God," it reads, "I have been trying to get in touch with you. Write. Cordially, Jacob."

I can just see the postal clerk who handled this letter having a Bob Newhart sort of moment – a bit like the security guard in his comedy routine who had the bad luck to discover King Kong during his shift at the Empire State Building.

The clerk, however, proceeded reasonably. He marked the envelope "Returned for Address."

As for a heavenly stamp, the issue used for this missive to God was none other than the then-current 10-cent "Mariner 10 Venus/Mercury" issue – perfect for delivering a letter to a celestial destination. 🍁

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Partners...

Continued from page 1

"It will be more comprehensive than anything we've done before."

The partnership will kick off this June with the first of many co-promoted conventions. The APS will send Scott Tiffney, its director of information services, to this June's Royal Convention, where he will man a table on the bourse and lead a seminar on the American Philatelic Research Library, which he also serves as library director.

Tiffney also spoke at last year's British North America Philatelic Society (BNAPS) Convention in Québec.

In turn, The RPSC will also send representatives to major U.S. shows beginning this fall.

RPSC STRATEGIC INITIATIVE

From The RPSC's perspective, the partnership with the APS ties into the former society's reinvented strategic initiative, which was unveiled at the 2018 Royal Convention in St. Catharines, Ont.

Executives of the Canadian society are hoping "to appeal to everybody in the broadest way possible," said RPSC President Ed Kroft, who added there is a "need to increase our membership because we want to offer more things to more people."

Canada is a "natural fit" for the APS' plans, Kroft added, because of the two countries' close ties both culturally and geographically.

"We go to one another's shows, and our dollar is cheaper than the U.S. dollar, so if Americans want to come to Canada, attend our shows, patronize our dealers and offer things to our members, we welcome it."

Kroft is also the immediate past president of the Society of Israel Philatelists (SIP) and previously worked with English and the APS while at the helm of the SIP, which was the first society to use the APS headquarters in Bellefonte, Pa., as its office.

These national and international partnerships, he added, 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," he said, adding The RPSC's top demographics include baby boomers, who are retiring,

and the preceding cohort, Generation X.

"I'm very excited about this partnership with the APS because it's part of The RPSC's philosophy to partner with different organizations."

One of nearly 100 members of the Fédération Internationale de Philatélie (FIP), The RPSC also maintains close ties with many Canadian philatelic organizations, including the Toronto-based Vincent Graves Greene Philatelic Research Foundation.

"The RPSC is fortunate to have the benefit of working with the Greene Foundation. It's like Bellefonte – it's really the Canadian equivalent – and we're grateful for that relationship," said Kroft.

"We're trying to be connected to as many people throughout the world – including in Canada – to grow our membership and serve our existing members. We want people in Canada to benefit as well."



Ed Kroft, president of The RPSC, said the Canadian society is gearing up 'to appeal to everybody in the broadest way possible.'

None of these plans will come at the expense of The RPSC's Canadian members, he added.

"By virtue of saying we're connected and we have these partnerships, people will say this is an organization people need to belong to."

A majority of today's stamp collectors acquire material online and forgo all aspects of "Organized Philately," including joining a club, Kroft said.

These are the people The RPSC's new initiatives are hoping to attract.

"We're trying to promote the hobby to different people, not only each other's members but also to a broader base of the unaffiliated community," Kroft said, adding The RPSC's current board of directors reflects that aim.

"If you look at the board's composition, I've brought on people who are connected to different organizations in the stamp collecting world. All of these different people are connected in some way, shape or form to different levels of 'Organized Philately' in their provinces, and we need all of these people to pull together because we're trying to make The RPSC appealing to everybody."

RPSC HEADING SOUTH

Following the APS' attendance at the Royal this June, The RPSC will send representatives and exhibits to the APS StampShow on Aug. 1-4 in Omaha – Nebraska's largest city.

About 1,100 kilometres west of the Canada-U.S. border at Windsor, Ont. – and even closer to Thunder Bay and Winnipeg – this 133rd annual APS convention will boast more than 110 dealers, nearly 15,000 exhibit pages, a public auction, first-day ceremonies and participation from about 50 philatelic societies.

"We made a concerted effort over the last couple of years to make our show the national show," said English, of StampShow, adding it's "a forum for more than just the APS."

At last year's StampShow in Columbus, the American Topical Association (ATA) played the role of co-host, something it'll return to this year.

"This plays nicely into the 150th anniversary of the 'golden spike,' and we'll have train-related topical exhibiting and intellectual firepower in the form of seminars and journal articles," said English, of this year's StampShow theme, which marks the sesquicentennial of the 17.6-karat gold final spike being driven to complete the first trans-continental railroad across the U.S.

The ceremonial spike, which connected the Central Pacific and Union Pacific railroads, was driven on May 10, 1869, in Utah.

The following year, in 2020, the APS will further expand its partnership model by including the American First Day Cover Society (AFDCS), which – along with the APS and ATA – will hold its national convention in conjunction with that year's StampShow.

"We're expecting a lot of crossover," said English, who added he's expecting ATA and AFDCS members who aren't

members of the APS to experience StampShow "for the first time, or for the first time in a long time."

The RPSC is also slated to attend StampShow 2020, which will be held in Hartford, Ct.

'AN INTERNATIONAL TWIST'

These plans will "build to an eventual logical conclusion" at StampShow 2021, which will be held in Chicago, one of the largest cities in the U.S. and only 450 kilometres from Windsor, Ont.

"It'll be our first national show with an international twist, and we wanted to include Canada because we have a wealth of members from there," said English, who added the APS has nearly 1,300 Canadian members.

"That's a sizeable population and a lot of commitment from Canada for the APS. We continue to open the road for every different affiliate and collecting specialty to have an outlet at our show, and this is reflective of that," he said, also referencing the APS' partnership with BNAPS, which recently announced a \$1,000 scholarship for young philatelists to attend the annual Summer Seminar.

Running for more than three decades, Summer Seminar offers courses on different aspects of philately; a wide range of services at the American Philatelic Center in Bellefonte; and social events "at which many members have forged lifelong friendships," English said.

"It's really important to bolster this work with The RPSC and APS and strengthen that network to the degree we can. We've been very impressed with what The RPSC has done in growth and outreach, and we want to be a part of that."

As the midpoint between New York 2016 and Boston 2026, StampShow 2021 will halve the "substantial" decade-long gap in international shows in North America.

"Our goal is to come together with an international show, and not only will we have our traditional StampShow but we'll extend invitations to The RPSC to be a part of it, bring exhibits and have a major presence."

In addition to the APS, ATA and AFDCS, other societies slated to participate in StampShow 2021 include the Cuban Philatelic Society of America.

"Given the history of the two countries, it's important to cre-

ate a platform for Cuban exhibitors to enter the U.S.," said English, who added there's a "very active group" of worldwide philatelists, including himself, who specializes in Cuba.

"We want to be able to highlight Cuban philately throughout time, including as a part of the Kingdom of Spain, as a U.S. protectorate, as its own independent country and under Castro's rule."

The RPSL has also "expressed interest" in StampShow 2021, to which it will commit 50 exhibit frames.

English is also eyeing participation from philatelic organizations in South American countries.

"South American philately is something – at least for us in the western hemisphere – that doesn't get enough promotion and attention as it deserves," he said, adding countries such as Colombia, Guatemala and Honduras are of high interest to collectors. "You name it – a lot of people collect it."

'A RISING TIDE'

As for the benefits of planning this new international show, English said succinctly: "A rising tide lifts all boats."

"People often talk about the branding challenges of being 'this' or 'that' philatelic society, but my feeling is 'philatelic' is the least confusing word," said English.

"We are an international organization with members in 100 countries in the world," he added, of the APS, "and while a lot of activity is with U.S. stamps, we also have 40 per cent of our members here and abroad who have an interest in other countries."

The international show planned for 2021 is a "good opportunity to promote worldwide philately," he said, adding "every philatelic organization in the world" expresses concern over dwindling membership numbers and a seemingly downward trend in philately's interest.

"I disagree with that, but the way to overcome it is to use our resources to the greatest degree we can, and standing together, we have a louder voice than standing alone. Building partnerships and leveraging the strength of each organization will make stamp collecting accessible to everyone no matter where they live." 🍁



New ISSUES

Around the World with Robin Harris



JERSEY

Other national bird stamps were issued by Jersey, the largest of the Channel Islands, in a set of six on March 5.

Europa stamps bearing the organization's official logo are issued every year by the members of PostEurop.

As birds by their very nature are migratory and representative of countries all around the world, six species which can be sighted in Jersey feature on the stamps, together with the traditional symbolic meaning with which they are associated.

These include: the kestrel with "Vision and patience" (50 pence); the swallow with "Hope and renewal" (65 pence); the swan with "Purity and love" (76 pence); the peacock with "Glory and dignity" (82 pence); the kingfisher with "Peace and calm" (94 pence); and the stork with "New beginnings and commitment" (£1.12).

GREAT BRITAIN

A 15-stamp set featuring Marvel super heroes was issued by Britain's Royal Mail on March 14 to celebrating the company's 80th anniversary.

Ten stamps show Spider-Man; Hulk; Thor; Iron Man; Doctor Strange; Captain Marvel; Peggy Carter; Black Panther; Captain Britain and Union Jack. Another five stamps are part of an exclusive short comic strip story contained within a miniature sheet.

The world-famous Marvel Comics grew out of Timely Comics, which in 1939 published its first comic book, *Marvel Comics #1*.

Editor Stan Lee and artist Jack Kirby created a super hero revolution when they devised a new world of characters, including Hulk and Thor in the early 1960s.

In 1963, Lee and Steve Ditko hit upon a new idea for a hero – a teenager who accidentally takes on Super Hero abilities – and tested it out in a magazine that was about to be retired; however, the character caught the attention of readers, and *Spider-Man* was born.



In 1972, Marvel UK was formed, publishing weekly comics that repackaged the stories for a British audience. This changed in 1976, when *Captain Britain Weekly* was launched, featuring the adventures of the first Marvel super hero created for the U.K.

The 1980s saw U.S. comic publishers heavily recruiting British writers and illustrators, who increasingly worked on the American publications and began to inject darker storylines to widen the appeal of the characters.

One such artist is Alan Davis, who designed the new Royal Mail-issued "Special Stamps." Davis has worked with Marvel since the early 1980s and first illustrated *Captain Britain* in 1985.

A specially created story also illustrated by Davis features the five-stamp miniature sheet. The story, entitled "Avengers UK," sees Captain Britain rallying super heroes to face the arch-villain Thanos.



NEW ZEALAND

March 6 saw a set of six stamps showing perspectives from lighthouses issued by New Zealand Post.

Ever since the first voyagers arrived from Hawaiki, New Zealand's rough coastline and changeable weather have proved both a risk and a challenge to those attempting to make land.

Oral histories indicate waka were wrecked as the first people discovered New Zealand's shores.

More than 1,500 shipwrecks were recorded in the 19th century alone, causing upwards of 2,000 deaths. The New Zealand government was eventually convinced to act, and lighthouses began to form a significant presence in Aotearoa by the 1860s.

The earliest lighthouses had fixed lights that did not flash but were eventually phased out as they

could be confused with other lights along the shoreline. These early lights were fuelled by colza oil (and then paraffin oil). The long wicks on these lamps had to be trimmed constantly to ensure they emitted enough light. This formed just one of the many gruel-

ling duties of the lighthouse keeper.

The lighthouse keeper's main challenge was to remain awake through the night, with the light inside the lighthouse itself only just bright enough to read a book by. When lights used fuel, two or three lighthouse keepers

may have rotated through the small hours to keep it burning. Every two years, lighthouse keepers and their families would move to a new station. This allowed them to progress from assistant to principal keeper and shared the burden of the more isolated, uncomfortable and bleak stations among the keeping families.

Despite the introduction of modern navigation technologies, lighthouses appear to have a future in New Zealand. They are considered to be an essential safety net that will always serve a purpose in the event of technological failure. They are also sustainable, with 70 per cent of lighthouses now solar powered.

LIECHTENSTEIN

Liechtenstein released two stamps on March 4.

"National Birds" is this year's theme of the Europa stamps issued by PostEurop, the trade association of European public postal operators. Aiming to build awareness of the common roots, culture and history of Europe and its common goals, Europa stamps are sought after by collectors around the world. Each year, a theme is set for members to interpret and illustrate on a set of stamps.

As Liechtenstein does not have a national bird of its own, its postal service decided to depict the impressive golden eagle, which it's presenting with the motifs "Golden Eagle Approaching" and "Golden Eagle on the Lookout."

Owing to Liechtenstein's small size – the principality measures only 25 kilometres long – and the home range of around 50 square kilometres that a golden eagle maintains, the country only has a few pairs of these birds of prey. The king of the air, as the bird is also often called, has dark brown feathers with a lighter golden brown head and neck. It has a



wingspan of more than two metres and its prey includes mammals, birds and carrion. Golden eagles usually live in the open space of mountains above the tree line but in the winter it will also forage for prey in lower regions. A pair of golden eagles has different eyries that they alternate in using for their broods. In contrast to other birds, the voice of the golden eagle is rarely heard.

Lectures...

Continued from page 1

- the annual convention of the British North America Philatelic Society, BNAPEX, in Ottawa on Aug. 30-Sept. 1;
- Vanpex, which is returning to national-level status after a 12-year hiatus as a regional show, in Vancouver on Sept. 27-29; and
- a "meet and greet" at Canpex in London on Oct. 19-20.

By presenting these lectures – and one meet and greet – at shows open to the public, PSSC executives are hoping to "inspire stamp collectors to attain higher levels of interest in the hobby," Nessel said.

award-winning multi-frame exhibit, "Vended Postage Automation," which is based on Canada's kiosk stamps and mostly features modern material dating from 2002-16.

At last year's Orapex, Bartlet's exhibit earned 91 points to take home a large gold as well as the Reserve Grand Award; the Herbert L. McNaught Memorial Award; the American Philatelic Society Medal of Excellence (Post-1980); and the John D. Arn White Queen Award.

Printed to order at Canada Post self-service kiosks, this contemporary stamp series reminds collectors – and the general public – of postal history's ongoing nature, Nessel said.



The Philatelic Specialists Society of Canada, whose president Ingo Nessel has served at the helm since 2014, will offer lectures at seven major events across the country this year.

Ultimately, he's hoping these people become philatelists – "those who study their stamps and covers rather than simply accumulating them," he added.

"You could say stamp collecting is the hobby while philately is the science. For me, PSSC opened up the world of serious philatelic research. My personal ambition of lifelong learning has been greatly enhanced by studies, research and preparing philatelic lectures; however, that intellectual side of the hobby does not detract from the socializing and pure fun. In fact, it enhances those more-entertaining aspects of the hobby as we learn from each other."

EDMONTON SPRING NATIONAL

The PSSC's upcoming lecture at the Edmonton Spring National will mark the first time the society has officially attended the long-running show.

On March 23, noted Elizabethan specialist Dave Bartlet will present a study based on his

"We can conduct significant research with present-day mails."

THE NATION'S CAPITAL

Next up is the PSSC's traditional breakfast and lecture at Orapex in the nation's capital, where another modern subject will be explored.

On May 5, Robin Harris will present his study of the Lowe-Martin coil die cutting series of recent Canadian definitives.

A Fellow of The RPSC, Harris is the editor of that society's bimonthly journal, *The Canadian Philatelist*, as well as the *Unitrade Specialized Catalogue of Canadian Stamps*. He also writes the "Around the World" column for *CSN* and previously sat on Canada Post's Stamp Advisory Committee.

In addition, he edits the British North America Philatelic Society Elizabethan study group's newsletter *Corgi Times* and recently won the John S. Siverts Best Study

Group newsletter award for a fourth time.

ROYAL 2019 IN THE GTA

As summer rolls around this June, Michel Houde will present "A 29-Year Journey of Discovery of a Unique Canadian" at Royal*2019*Royale in Mississauga on June 22.

"This promises to be not just a philatelic biography, but a lesson on how to tell a story using all manner of sources and material in a display," said Nessel.

Houde is a frequent exhibitor with the North Toronto Stamp Club.

PHSC & BNAPS

While a speaker has yet to be confirmed, the PSSC will also host a lecture at the third annual PHSC Symposium on July 20.

About a month later, on Aug. 31, Ron Majors will visit BNAPEX to present a lecture on "one of his specialties," said Nessel, who added exact details will be announced soon.

In addition to being an award-winning exhibitor, Majors is also the co-editor of BNAPS' quarterly publication, *BNA Topics*, and serves as first vice-president of that society.

VANPEX RETURNS ON NATIONAL STAGE

On Sept. 28, the PSSC is slated to convene its first-ever event in Vancouver.

The annual Vanpex show, which has been a regional-level exhibition since 2008, will return to its national-level status this year to mark the 100th anniversary of the founding of the British Columbia Philatelic Society.

The PSSC will host a lecture featuring the venerable Gray Scrimgeour, who recently published a digital book, *Andy Morod and the Nootka Sound Region*, which is now available on the PSSC website.

This will be the topic of his lecture this fall.

"It is a brilliant study of British Columbia postal history based on a 1932-1964 correspondence by the eponymous character," said Nessel.

CANPEX

To round out the PSSC's 2019 event series, its members will host the society's third annual "meet and greet" at Canpex on Oct. 19. No speaker will host this event.

For more information about the PSSC, visit philatelicspecialistsociety.com. 🍁

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Decoding a semi-official airway cover



Off the Beaten TRACK

By Lewis E. Tauber

Join me off the beaten track as we encounter and pursue signs of a potentially scarce auction cover.

It all started with me searching the web for a story I was working on; my iPad suddenly transported me to an eBay listing of a Patricia Airways flight cover.

Over the years, I've had an on-and-off interest in pioneer and unofficial airway stamps and covers, so a mysterious guiding hand from the past led me once again to look with interest at this cover. The more I looked, the more scarce aspects of the cover revealed themselves.

Let's go through these discoveries together.

First of all, this cover (seen in Figure 1) was being offered on eBay with a price of \$19.25 USD when I checked in late February (with nearly six full days of bidding to go). It seemed low for this Patricia Airways cover, but there were

six bids and still plenty of time to carefully look at this cover and determine whether or not to make a bid myself. How high could it go?

The owner advertises the cover as a "first flight cover, Red Lake, Patricia Airways." But is that correct?

The Red Lake overprint on our semi-official stamp (seen in Figure 2) is the later, rouletted issue of Patricia Airways and Exploration Ltd.

According to the *American Air Mail Society Catalogue* (AAMC), Patricia Airways Limited existed for only about two months before it was absorbed by Western Canada Airways Ltd.; however, a critical date for us appears.

Prior to the issuance of Patricia Airways' own definitive stamp on March 9, 1928, some mail was flown with the Patricia Airways and Exploration Co. semi-official stamp.

This is the same date that cancels our cover.

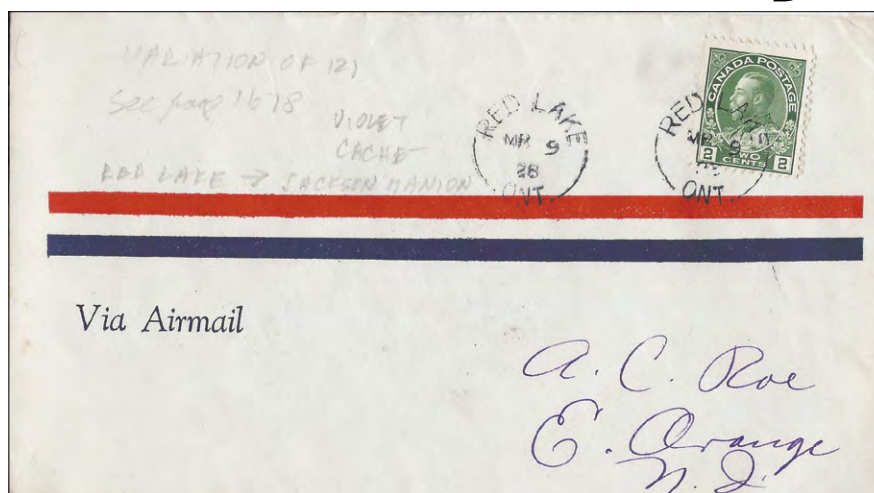


Figure 1. A cover offered on eBay has 16 bids, inviting collectors to consider how much they would bid on this item.

On this date, Patricia Airways Ltd. inaugurated its first regular service, and all mail was franked with this company's semi-official stamp.

It is the stamp that would have been expected to be used on our cover rather than the Patricia Airways and Exploration stamp.

IDENTIFYING FIRST FLIGHT

On March 9, 1928, Patricia Airways began its first regular service, inaugurating all mail with the company's semi-official stamp, which was first used that day.

But our cover is not franked with Patricia Airways' semi-official stamp, and there is a good – and interesting – reason for that. Although Patricia Airways

existed for only about two months, prior to its own stamps being issued on March 9, 1928, some mail was flown franked with Patricia Airways and Exploration Co.'s stamps.

This was required in order to help clear a large quantity of mail accumulated following the collapse of another airway, Elliot-Fairchild Air Service. The government authorized Patricia Airways and Exploration to fly the mail to Red Lake and return.

The AAMC states a few covers franked with the Patricia Airways and Exploration stamps provided a courtesy service to deliver the piled up letters. These "did not receive a maple leaf cachet," as is also true of our cover.

Let's look more closely now at the two circular date stamp cancellations (Figure 1). We see they are both dated March 9, 1928. One, Red Lake, is known as a frequent destination, but Jackson Manion – unknown to me and perhaps to you – requires research.

In 1927, the Jackson Manion Company was conducting exploration of what in later years would become the Jackson Manion Mine. At that time, the area was only accessible from

the Canadian National Railway and then via waterways, but people soon discovered the area was also accessible by plane in much less time and far more efficiently.

Patricia Airways was then licensed to carry the mail and use semi-official stamps.

On March 9, 1928, the first regular service began as Patricia Airways, a new company adopting a similar name to its predecessor, Patricia Airways and Exploration Ltd.

Since it's easy to misattribute these two companies, it's important to make the distinction between Patricia Airways and Exploration Ltd. and what followed, the unrelated Patricia Airways Ltd.

We continue with the front cover. Whom is it addressed to?

Isn't that interesting: it's A.C. Rowe.

Do you know who he is and his historical significance?

It is the alias of A. C. Roessler (1883-1956), a crafty stamp dealer who specialized in covers, many of non-existent events, which caused him trouble with the post office as well as the courts for his activities.

He was sentenced to one year in the Atlanta Penitentiary for fraudulent use of the mails. The sentence was suspended to three years probation, and probation was violated but not legally pursued and had no effect on his continuing behaviour.

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Figure 2. The Patricia Airways and Exploration semi-official stamp is unexpectedly used on the Patricia Airways service flight cover.

The mailing address so often used is one in East Orange, a city in Essex County, N.J., as it is on this cover – a definite additional incentive for me.

Perhaps the six bidders won't know about Rowe; however, another cover put up by the same dealer is also a Roessler cover. It's likely other dealers will have checked this out.

While Rowe's name and dishonest covers are well-known, having studied him before, I know he also created many genuine collectible covers. I believe this cover to be genuine, particularly considering the date and place cancels as well as the information in the AAMC.

We will return to the catalogue later, but first, let's look at the cover's written manuscripts.

DECODING PENCIL MARKINGS

In the upper-left corner of the cover, writing in faint pencil is visible as seen below:

"variation of 121

see page 1678

Violet

cachet

Red Lake → Jackson Manion"

First decipherable was the pencilled notation, "Red Lake → Jackson Manion," written by a previous owner.

While Red Lake, one of the two cover cancels, is the closest airfield to Jackson Manion, it's interesting to note Jackson Manion had no airfield.

After being able to read the faint wording, decoding was like working with the secret symbols on a treasure map.

But when all other speculation fails, the critical question remains: "What does 1678 refer to?"

A hunch leads to the AAMC, which on page 1,678 of the fifth edition (volume four) clinches the handwritten number as "121."

At first, it looked impossible to decipher because the way it was written looked more like the numeral "2" in between a pair of parentheses. Finding this information in the AAMC provided exactly what was needed to decipher the cover code.

"Covers bear a Maple leaf cachet except that a few covers between Jackson Manion (and other points) have the cachet in violet," reads the AAMC.

Our handwritten "violet/cachet," off to the side in our pencilled paragraph, is found in the catalogue but in a non-relevant context. It does, however, make a highly relevant statement, adding "a few covers were carried from the various points franked with the old PA & E stamp without the Maple leaf cachet (hand stamp)."

These covers, like ours, "did not receive the cachet, but are properly postmarked and back stamped."

If, as the catalogue notes, the early flights issued a maple leaf "cachet," we would have to question the accuracy of the auction listing as a "first flight" since the Patricia Airways flight lacks the maple leaf and is back stamped with another airway stamp (Patricia Airways and Exploration).

Our cover – Jackson Manion to Red Lake – is, for an unknown reason, not listed in the AAMC, which lists all of the other destinations and returns on the route being discussed here.

Could this be the work of Roessler? I don't think so.

From what has been uncovered so far, this auction item is not only challenging but could be scarce. The catalogue also lists a value for each destination and return, which averages about \$30 USD, and unexpectedly states, "without the cachet the value is doubled."

Does this listing affect our interest in bidding?

The catalogue, keep in mind, is copyright 1981, so the listed values can only be considered a trend at the time. The current monetary value can be better assessed after the auction result is known.

Decision time – I say yes to making a bid, but how much? While this real-life story was written before I even knew the result, I did leave a high (albeit confidential) bid that is automatically upgraded by eBay as needed.

I am justifying to myself my high bid by considering I can frame it and display it at home as my most exciting decoding adventure. As such, it would be well worth the price.

For you, the reader, I hope this cover has become more and more involving, taking you to new sites as we fly entertained by Patricia Airways on our philatelic couch. 🍁

SHOW & Bourse

Visit www.canadianstampnews.com/events for the full list of shows posted to date

MAR. 9, TORONTO, ON

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. The annual show of the Essex County Stamp Club, will be held 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 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.oxfordphilosoc.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/Meadowdale Hotel, 6750 Mississauga Rd. 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. Children under 16 always free. 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.

MAR. 23, FREDERICTON, NB

Fredericton Stamp Show and Sale, Fredericton High School, 300 Prospect St. In Fredericton High School cafeteria from 10 a.m. to 4

p.m. Maritime dealers, exhibits, displays, youth table (free stamps), door prizes, silent auction and raffle. Something for all collectors. Everyone welcome. Free parking and admission. For more information, email danielmichaud@rogers.com, telephone 506 459-8993.

MAR. 30 - 31, BURNABY, BC

Coins, Stamps & Collectibles Show, Nikkei Centre, 6688 Southoaks Cres. Hosted by the North Shore Numismatic Society, this show is open on Saturday from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. and on Sunday from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. There will be 40 tables of coins, stamps, banknotes, tokens, medals, postcards, art, pins and more. Admission is \$2 each day or \$3 for both days. Children age 16 and under, if accompanied by an adult, are free. Free underground parking. Japanese restaurant at location. For more information, email balmoralnu@shaw.ca, telephone 604-299-3673. Website: www.northshorennumismaticociety.org.

APR. 5 - 6, DORVAL, QC

Lakeshore 2019, Sarto-Desnoyers Community Centre, 1335 Lakeshore Dr. Sponsored by The Lakeshore Stamp Club. The more than 20-dealer bourse will be open from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. both days, and the exhibition will include about 100 frames of high-level exhibits. Excellent canteen on site. Free admission as well as lots of free parking. For more information, email gmsener@sympatico.ca, telephone 514-426-0432. Website: www.lakeshorestampclub.ca/.

APR. 6, 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.

APR. 6, MEDICINE HAT, AB

Medicine Hat Coin & Stamp show, Higdon Hall (stampede grounds), 2055 21 Ave. SE. Over 40 tables of coins and stamps with vendors from across Alberta and Sask. 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Door prizes. Admission \$2, children with parent free. Buy, sell or trade. Vendors welcome. For more information contact Ron, email medhatcsc@live.com, telephone 403-526-5158. Website: www.mhcasca.ca.

APR. 6, LONDON, ON

Lonpex 2019, Ramada Inn, 817 Exeter Rd. The London Philatelic Society will be holding their annual Stamp Bourse from 9:30 a.m. to 4 p.m. with 12 dealers. Free admission, free parking. Everyone welcome. For more information, email donslau@execulink.com, telephone 519-472-0206.

APR. 6, ST. CATHARINES, ON

Best Western Stamp Show, Best Western Hotel (Niagara Room), 2 North Service Rd. Hours are 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Free parking, free admission and free appraisals. Sponsored by Roy's Stamps, specializing in the stamps and covers of Canada and the British Commonwealth. For more information, email roystamp@cogeco.ca, telephone 905-934-8377.

APR. 13 - 14, WESTLAND, MI

50th Plymouth Show, Hellenic Cultural Center, 36375 Joy Rd. This American Philatelic Society "World Series of Philately" exhibition and bourse is presented by the West Suburban Stamp Club. Nearly 40 dealers from 11 U.S. states and Canada will be selling stamps, postcards and other related items. There will be more than 100 frames of rare and intriguing material on display in the exhibition. Admission and parking are free. Seminars for youth and adults interested in learning how to collect and store stamps are offered at no cost. "Stamps in Your Closet" is an opportunity to bring items you have inherited for a complimentary evaluation. For more information, email showchair@plymouthshow.com, telephone 313-533-7737. Website: www.plymouthshow.com.

APR. 13 - 14, WENDAKE, QC

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OLD TIME BARGAINS #955

Under the spotlight this week are 21 interesting specials on the Admiral Issue, Canadian revenues and classic Newfoundland. Select those you need and order today by phone, fax, mail or email! There are no additional charges for shipping or sales taxes and installment terms are available if. 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 #18,226

Thirteen great special offers featuring Canada's popular Admiral Issue follow. First here is Scott #105, the 1c yellow. List price for a F-VF NH single is \$70.00. My price is \$19.95. A block of four is \$69.95.

SPECIAL OFFER #18,227

Next here is the dry printing of the 2c green (Scott #107e). A F-VF NH mint block lists at \$204.00. My price is just \$39.95. A single is \$9.99.



SPECIAL OFFER #18,228

Many years ago a German by the name of Eckerlin approached the American Bank Note Company with a new printing process for stamps. This was eventually rejected but when the files of ABN were sold some of Eckerlin's samples were found, and these are today available to collectors. The stamp used was the 3c Admiral Issue (#109), but the portrait was done in reverse so as not to cause problems with Canada Post. I can supply two very fine examples, one in red and the other in blue, for just \$195.00.



SPECIAL OFFER #18,229

Here is a well centered mint single of the 3c carmine (Scott #109). List price is \$90.00. My price is \$39.95 for a single or \$139.50 for a block of four.



SPECIAL OFFER #18,230

Next up is this dry printing type of the 4c Admiral (Scott #110d). I have some fresh mint F-VF NH singles in stock. List price is \$130.00. My price is \$39.95. I also have a block of four at \$149.95.



SPECIAL OFFER #18,231

One of the values hardest to find is the 5c blue (Scott #111). List price for a F-VF NH mint single has risen to \$520.00. My price is just \$195.00. I also have a scarce mint block \$695.00.



SPECIAL OFFER #18,232

One printing of the 5c violet Admiral was on a special thin paper (112a). This offer includes two different shades, the normal along with a seldom seen reddish shade. List price for the two F-VF NH mint singles is \$180.00. My price is just \$39.95.



SPECIAL OFFER #18,233

Next here is the 7c Admiral (Scott #113). List price for a F-VF NH mint single is \$150.00. My price is just \$49.95. I also have a nice block of four in stock at \$149.95.

SPECIAL OFFER #18,234

How about this 7c red brown Admiral (Scott #114)? List price for a F-VF NH mint single is \$65.00. My price is just \$24.95. A block of four is \$89.95.

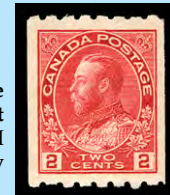


SPECIAL OFFER #18,235

The 10c Admiral comes in three major colours. The last of these was the 10c bistre brown (Scott #118). A F-VF NH mint single lists at \$115.00. My price is \$39.50.

SPECIAL OFFER #18,236

Early Canadian coils are hard to find in choice mint condition and this one is no exception. It is the 2c Carmine (Scott #124). I have a VF+ NH mint single in stock. List price is \$450.00+. My price is \$269.00.



SPECIAL OFFER #18,237



I cannot recommend this offer strongly enough – the complete set of six perf. 8 coil stamps (Scott #125-130). All are in fresh mint F-VF NH condition and hard to find thus. List price is \$458.00. My price is only \$195.00 while they last. I also have pairs available at \$395.00 or strips of four at \$695.00. This set is always difficult to put together, especially in pairs and strips.

SPECIAL OFFER #18,238

Perhaps you need a nicely centered pair of the 1c green coil stamp (Scott #131). This type of coil was abandoned because strips would break in coil vending machines. Coils with larger perforations were released as a result. List price for a VF NH mint pair is \$50.00. My price is \$24.95.



SPECIAL OFFER #18,239

Here's a good special on a scarce revenue stamp -- #FCF4. List price for a VF NH mint single is \$81.25. My price is just \$29.95. Or make it \$99.95 for a block of four.



SPECIAL OFFER #18,240

Next here is a nice F-VF used single of Van Dam #FX74. It's a scarce little stamp. List price is \$30.00. My price is \$12.95.



SPECIAL OFFER #18,241



In later years quite a number of surcharges were issued to meet demand for new rates. Here is #FX120-FX122. These three surcharges are scarce and lists at \$112.50 in F-VF NH mint condition. My price is \$49.50.

SPECIAL OFFER #18,242

Next here is a law stamp from Saskatchewan -- #SL78. This is the \$50 blue high value from the 1968 rouletted issue. List price for a VF NH mint single is \$50.00. My price is just \$19.95. I can also supply a block of four at \$75.00.



SPECIAL OFFER #18,243



Newfoundland issued only one triangular shaped design, the three pence green. However, it can be found watermarked. Here is a very nice mint block of four with three normal and one watermarked stamps (#11A, 11Ai). Condition is very fine lightly hinged. List price is \$560.00+. My price is \$395.00.

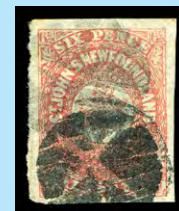
SPECIAL OFFER #18,244

Here is another scarce watermarked stamp from the pence issue -- #15Aii – the one penny violet brown. I have handled precious few of these over the years and list price seems unreasonably low at \$400.00. I have one only VF unused single in stock at \$295.00.



SPECIAL OFFER #18,245

It is true that used examples of most pence issue stamps are often scarcer than mint. Here's a case in point – the 6½p rose (Scott #21). This example is in a deeper shade on thicker paper. It is in VF used condition. Price is just \$349.00.



SPECIAL OFFER #18,246

The 1860s cents issues of Newfoundland are notorious for being in poor condition. Here is an absolutely stunning example of the 10c black on thin paper (#27a). It shows the plate imprint and is in VF+ unused condition with large margins. Price is \$395.00.



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