



BRITISH COLUMBIA
 POSTAL HISTORY
 RESEARCH GROUP

Volume 2 - Number 1

WHOLE NUMBER 5

MARCH 1993

DOMINION MILLS a Postal History
 by Bill Topping

POST OFFICE TRANSACTIONS

FOR

August, September and October, 1911.

LIST OF POST OFFICES OPENED.

4

CANADA OFFICIAL POSTAL GUIDE

NAME OF POST OFFICE.	TOWNSHIP OR PARISH.	ELECTORAL COUNTY AND PROVINCE OR TERRITORY.	POSTMASTER.
Darrell (re-opened).....	Chatham.....	Kent, E. R.....O.	Thomas W. Gee.
Deer Mound.....	Sec. 18, Tp. 52, R. 22, W. 4th M.....	Strathcona.....Alta.	Everett Ball.
Del Val.....	Romieu.....	Gaspé.....Q.	Joseph Ducasse.
Denisville.....	Sec. 3, Tp. 60, R. 9, W. 4th M.....	Victoria.....Alta.	Jos. Gervais.
Desjardins (July 15).....	Allumette Island.....	Pontiac.....Q.	Paul Desjardins.
Dominion Mills.....	Sec. 22, Tp. 2, R. 14, W. 4th M.....	City of Vancouver..E.C.	W. W. Harvey.
Doran (July 15).....	Sec. 22, Tp. 2, R. 14, W. 4th M.....	Medicine Hat.....Alta.	Mrs. Vedee Hierath.
Douglas Road.....	Sec. 17, Tp. 53, R. 14, W. 4th M.....	Annapolis.....N.S.	Geo. Douglas.
Downing (July 15).....	Sec. 17, Tp. 53, R. 14, W. 4th M.....	Victoria.....Alta.	Nick Bujar.
Dublin Bay.....	Sec. 30, Tp. 27, R. 18, W.P.M.....	Dauphin.....M.	Wm. R. Baylis.
Ebenezer.....	Sec. 25, Tp. 27, R. 4, W. 2nd M.....	Mackenzie.....Sask.	J. F. Nobles.
Eriksdale.....	Sec. 4, Tp. 22, R. 5, W.P.M.....	Dauphin.....M.	G. B. Serkau.
Ernsted.....	Sec. 38, Tp. 52, R. 20, W. 5th M.....	Edmonton.....Alta.	Robert Sumner.
Everad.....	Lyons.....	Thunder Bay & Rainy River.....O.	B. B. Caldwell.
Fairdale.....	Sec. 36, Tp. 23, R. 20, W. 3rd M.....	Moose Jaw.....Sask.	Conrad Kraft.
Fairlawn.....	Sec. 5, Tp. 1, R. 13, W. 2nd.....	Regi	
Fort Vermilion.....	River Lot No. 8.....	Edr	
Fosston.....	Sec 4, Tp. 38, R. 13, W. 2nd M.....	Hun	
Foxey.....	Gordon.....	Algt	

PROOF STRIKE
 copy

DOMINION
 MILLS
 31
 11
 B.C.

10

CANADA OFFICIAL POSTAL GUIDE

OFFICES CLOSED.

Beaconsfield.....	County of Victoria.....	N.B.
Blythfield.....	County of Macdonald.....	M.
Conroy.....	County of Perth, S.R.....	O.
Curt Hill.....	District of Assiniboia.....	Sask.
Dominion Mills.....	City of Vancouver.....	B.C.
English Cove.....	District of Yale-Cariboo.....	B.C.
Eveland.....	District of Medicine Hat.....	Alta.
Friars Head Chapel.....	County of Inverness.....	N.S.
Glencolin.....	County of Elgin, E.R.....	O.
Granthurst.....	County of Oxford, N.R., O., closed 31st August.	O.
Hillandale.....	County of Victoria.....	N.B.
Hudmore.....	District of Assiniboia.....	Sask.
Kilmartin.....	County of Middlesex, W.R.....	O.
Lindell.....	District of New Westminster.....	B.C.
Lucasville.....	County of Lambton, W.R.....	O.
McCready.....	County of Lambton, E. R.....	O.
Macewan.....	District of Macleod.....	Alta.

BACKGROUND

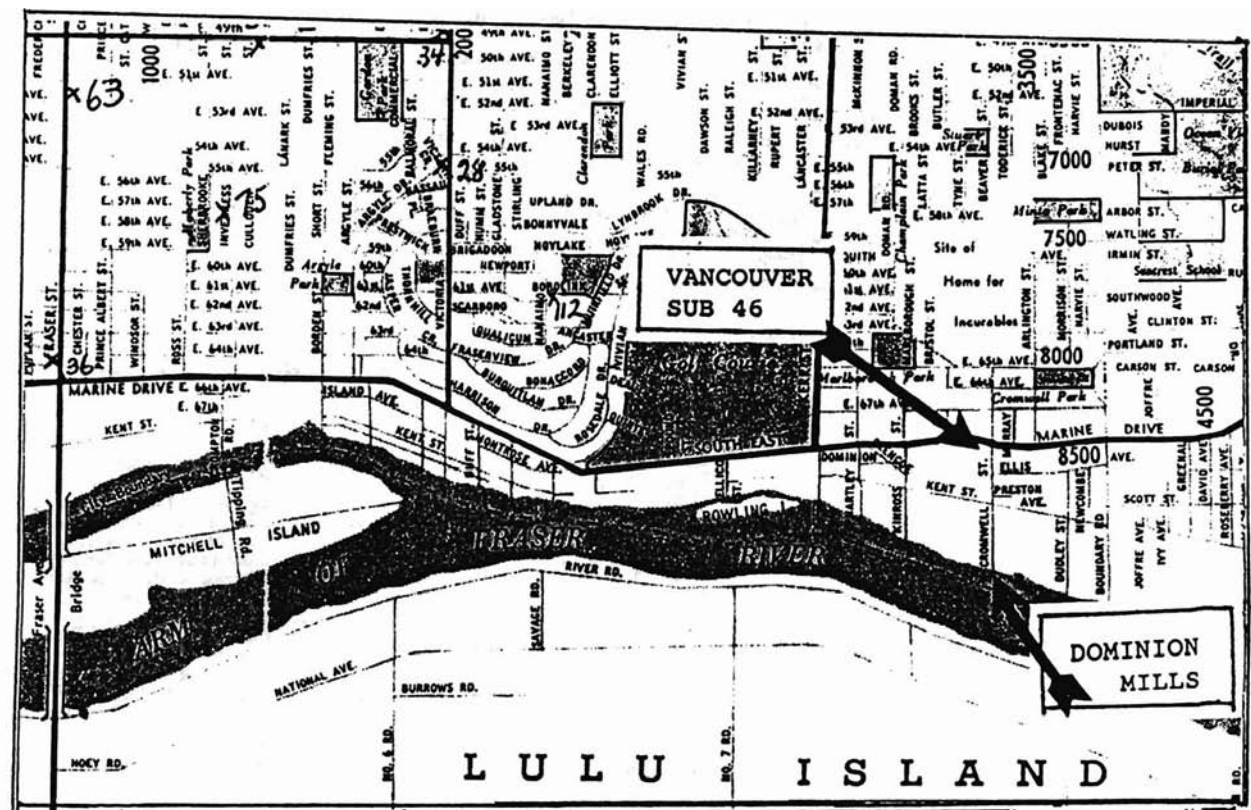
On September 15, 1909 the Canadian Pacific Railway completed the rail line along the north side of the North Arm of the Fraser River joining New Westminster to Eburne Station. The line was then turned over to the British Columbia Electric Railway and service commenced shortly afterwards. The completion of the line brought a rapid increase in the number of business located along the river and one of these was the Dominion Mills sawmill. The mill was located at mile 4.6 (from Eburne Junction) half way between Kerr Road Station (mile 4.1) and Boundary Station (mile 5.1). This would place it at the south end of Cromwell Street.

DOMINION MILLS - Post Office

The Dominion Mills Post Office was authorized under postal order 46902 dated 18 July 1911 with W.H. Harvey designated as post master with the opening date set for 1 September, 1911. On 3 August 1911 a split ring (type C) hammer reading "DOMINION MILLS / B.C." was proofed and subsequently sent to Vancouver. The equipment was shipped to Dominion Mills on 29 August 1911, under postal order F720. One report claims that the box containing the postal equipment was accidentally thrown off the end of the dock before being put into service. This cannot be confirmed but it may account for the short life of the office. Postal Order number PMG 633 from the Postmaster General, dated 20 September 1911, stated that the Post Office had closed 16 September 1911 as "Postmaster elect is unable to serve at present." On 18 September 1911 the Dominion Mills was destroyed by fire and there was no further need for a Post Office at Dominion Mills.

VANCOUVER SUB 46

Many years later another post office, Vancouver Sub 46, was established on 1 March 1935, under postal order PG 1943, with Tom Holmes as Postmaster. The Sub was located in a grocery store at 3296 SE Marine Drive on the south west corner of Marine Drive and Cromwell streets. The office closed temporarily on 31 October 1942 but did not re-open. The number was later assigned to Little Mountain Camp, Vancouver.



GUTELIUS

8 mi. S. of Winlaw, 19 mi. S. of Slocan on C.P.R. and Slocan River. Named after F. P. Gutelius, R.R. Bldg. Supt. in Rossland - Trail area in 1890's. Post. 1-4-1903; changed to Slocan Park 1-5-1912.

J. Jamieson	1- 4-03	23-10-03
J. J. Mabbott	1-12-03	1-10-04
W. Crebbin	1- 2-05	1- 5-12



Letter of Appointment to Postmastership.

POST OFFICE DEPARTMENT, CANADA.

Ottawa, 13th March, 1905.

Sir,

I have the honour to inform you that the
Postmaster pleased to appoint you to be Postmaster of

Gutelius in the Electoral County
of Kootenay in the
Province of British Columbia and
Dominion of Canada.

You are, therefore, hereby authorized to exercise all the functions and discharge all the duties appertaining to the said office, according to law.

I am, Sir,

Your obedient servant,

Deputy Postmaster General.

Mr. William Crebbin
Gutelius
Kootenay
B.C.

QUERIES

93-1 DUPLEX CANCELLATIONS

The "CATALOGUE OF CANADIAN DUPLEX CANCELLATIONS" first published in 1987 by Robert A. Lee is about to be republished and Bob is looking for input from all those interested in the Duplex Cancels. A number of changes in "early" and "late" dates have been reported as well a few new hammers have also been discovered. Bob intends to include a form of RF in this edition so that collectores can establish a rarity of various hammers. To date a number of hammers shown in the Proof Books have not been reported and it is hoped that a number of these will show up before this edition goes to press.

ANNUAL REPORT - 1992-1993

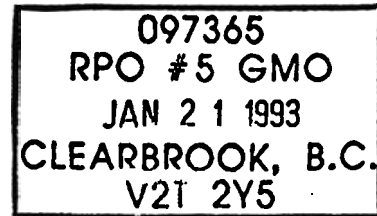
The British Columbia Postal History Research Group is off to a good start. 37 members are signed up and all members received the first 4 news letters. An additional 5 news letters were mailed as required by BNAPS and 3 to the archives and Canada Post for PR purposes. The reaction to the news letters has been excellent and response sheets which were returned by most members have produced much new information. For example the BRIT COL study produced 20 new dates and four new hammers for a topic that had been under study for some years.

I have been charging the group a flat fee of \$1.00 for each news letter mailed and this appears to cover my cost and has left a slight surpluss. A grant of \$72 US has arrived from BNA and this puts the News Letter publication in a sound financial position. I would recommend therefore that the fee be kept at \$5.00 (US or Canadian) for the next year.

Bill Topping, Editor.

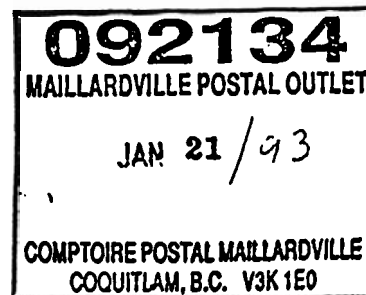
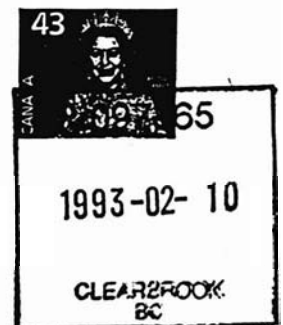
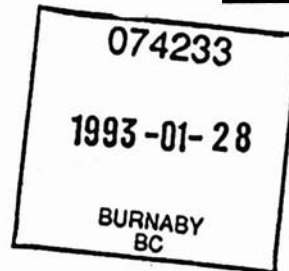
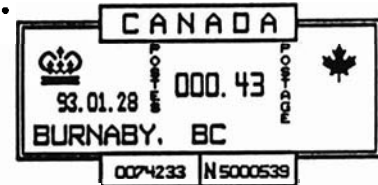
The British Columbia Postal History News Letter is published quarterly for the Pacific Northwest Regional Group of the British North America Philatelic Society.
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7430 Angus Drive,
Vancouver, BC, V6P 5K2.

GROSS MARKET OUTLET - GMO



The latest code letters added to the postal lingo is GMO - Gross Market Outlet. This new type of office is for general purposes similar in function to the older Sub or RPO and is also similar to the "B" Franchise offices. The GMOs I have seen are similar in layout to the RPO and as yet do not have the fancy counters of the new Franchise offices. In theory all daters are of the standard boxed type but as the result of delays in shipment some have used locally produced equipment for short periods of time.

A few sample of recent openings are shown below.



- 092134 Maillardville PO est 1992 12 15
- 074233 Old Orchard PO est 1993 01 28
- 097365 Abbotsford RPO 5 est 1993 01 16 (Clearbrook)

BRITISH COLUMBIA CENTENNIAL SLOGAN USAGE - 1957-58

British Columbia attained its Centennial Year in 1958, but preparations for it began in 1957, including first issue of two commemorative slogans. One read BRITISH COLUMBIA CENTENARY 1858 - 1958 (slogan catalogue number 720) and the other BRITISH COLUMBIA 1858-1958 A CENTURY TO CELEBRATE (slogan catalogue number 728).

These were each to be employed at the same 15 B.C. offices in both years, all of which by then had Pitney-Bowes cancelling machines in various sizes and quantities. This would normally have required issue of 30 dies, two for each office, to be re-issued in 1958, but while use was intended to extend over most of both years, it could not be continuous at each office without eliminating all other slogan use.

To avoid this, a scheme was devised to use only six dies, three of each of the two slogans, each pair of dies rotated on a regular monthly or half-monthly schedule to a circuit of five offices. The three circuits, designated by the letters A, B and C, totalled 15 using offices, each circuit having its own rotation schedule for each slogan in each year, but establishing monthly or half monthly gaps for other slogan use.

Circuit A called for both slogans to rotate separately on a monthly basis between three major and two lesser offices. The rotation order for both slogans in both years was NEW WESTMINSTER, PORT ALBERNI, VICTORIA, NANAIMO and VANCOUVER, but rotation began at a different office for each slogan in each year. 1957 use began March 23rd, so the offices selected to begin rotation of each slogan, NEW WESTMINSTER for slogan 720 and NANAIMO for slogan 728, retained them only until March 30th. Thereafter, rotation was based on calendar months from April through November. The 1958 use began February 1st, so initial offices all had a full first month's use in that year.

An exception to this circuit's standard 1957 rotation was scheduled in the cases of NANAIMO and VICTORIA. VICTORIA was to have used slogan 720 in May, before sending it on to NANAIMO in June. However, NANAIMO was a one machine offices that planned to use slogan 4340, HELP FIGHT ARTHRITIS, during the first two weeks of June, so VICTORIA was instructed to retain the die for six weeks, May 1st through June 15th, before sending it to NANAIMO for a shortened June 16th-30th period.

During this late use in VICTORIA, on June 10, 1957, the circuit A die of slogan 720 cracked rather badly in the upper left corner, but it was continued in use through the balance of the year. All 1957 circuit A use from June 10th clearly shows the broken left and upper frame lines. In spite of having been reasonably serviceable for much of 1957, the broken die was replaced in 1958. This new 7th die, which was assigned to circuit B in 1958, is easily recognizable as having the original wording, but in clearly narrower letters.

Circuits B and C each included five smaller offices, and rotated dies more frequently at half-month intervals, from the 1st to the 15th and from the 16th to the end of each month. However, as with circuit A, the 1957 lead-off offices retained their dies only from March 23rd to March 31th.

Circuit B rotation order was NELSON, PRINCE GEORGE, KAMLOOPS, TRAIL and PRINCE RUPERT. Circuit C rotation order was WHITE ROCK, KELOWNA, CHILLIWACK, PENTICTON and VERNON.

As neatly organized as these schedules were, a detailed study of all the reported or recorded use in both years indicates various discrepancies between the scheduled and actual employment. There is insufficient reported usage by offices and dates to determine exactly how well the schedules were adhered to, but there is enough to show some considerable deviation.

BRITISH COLUMBIA CENTENNIAL SLOGAN Usage continued

All of circuit A use seems to have been reasonably maintained, except for a few reported instances where transfer to the next office was a day or two late. However, there is considerable evidence to conclude that both 1957 and 1958 circuit B and C schedules, for both dies, were disrupted by offices that retained a die well beyond its designated transfer date.

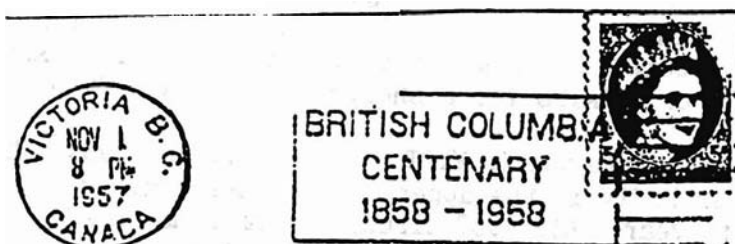
These instances threw the schedules off by various periods, in one case accumulated into a month and a half of distortion. This resulted in some offices having use well after their scheduled dates and also resulted in some offices being deprived of their entire scheduled using period during the year, in order to re-establish the schedule, or be deprived of it at late in the year because of the scheduled withdrawal of the slogan at the end of each November.

While the slogans are not especially attractive, or interesting in themselves, the careful scheduling of usage by circuits for their entire two year life is unusual, and deviations in the manner in which the schedules were adhered to has some fascination. Listings have been made to indicate the probable re-schedules that were required because of the extended retentions, but especially in the case of circuit C, recorded use is insufficient to establish these other than approximately.

There is probably considerable material in collector's hands, and if enough reports of these were available, evaluating the true usage would be feasible and a matter of real interest.

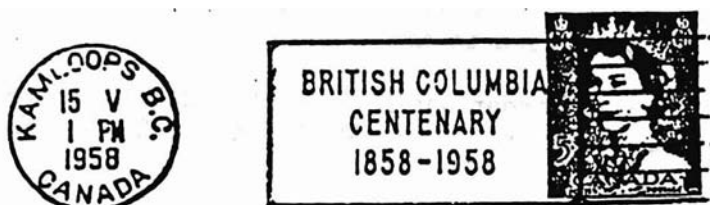
Just why DAWSON CREEK was not included in the 720-728 usage is unknown, but it used a related slogan 515, B.C.'s CENTENNIAL CITY, during 1958 only, appearing as from a single die with recorded use from at least April until October.

The author is indebted to William Topping of Vancouver for furnishing the documents upon which the article is largely based.



Submitted by -
Dan Rosenblat
1512 Templemore
Cantonment, Fl.
32533 USA

The broken 1957 die of slogan 720.



The 1958 replacement die of slogan 720

BRIT. COL. - 3

The study of the BRIT. COL. cancellations is progressing slowly as more and more information comes to light. Chris McGregor, John Keenlyside and Bill Robinson have all made significant contributions, in addition to those who provided new early or late dates.

VICTORIA / BRIT. COL.

Victoria appears to have been issued with three "BRIT. COL." hammers on or about January 1, 1872 and as they are not found in the Proof Book the exact date is unknown. Since the hammers were hand made each can be identified by the projection of the vertical bars of letters across the hammers. If the two letter "I"s in "VICTORIA" are extended across the hammers it will be seen that they intersect the "B" and the "L" at differnt locations. These lines are shown on the copies below. On hammer 3 the "A" in "VICTORIA" appears to be curved. All hammers have the same diameter and size of letters.

Hammer 1

Early 1872 01 08
Late 1876 10 24

**Hammer 2**

1872 02 07
1875 10 19

**Hammer 3**

1872 01 09
1874 07 09

**NEW WESTMINSTER / BRIT. COL.**

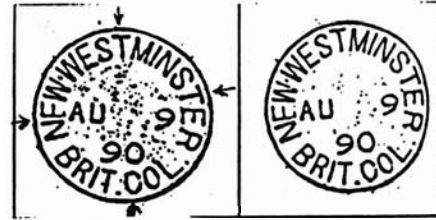
After the response form was sent out it was pointed out that the Proof Book shows three type "B" "BRIT. COL." hammers for New Westminster. The first is dated JU 2 / 82 and reads "NEW WESTMINSTER" and the second two are dated AU 9 / 90 and read "NEW-WESTMINSTER" with a hyphen and appear identical. The latter could indicate that one hammer was struck twice in the Proof Book or two different hammers were actually delivered. A projection of the letter "T"s will assist in identification as does the period of use. The diameter of the hammers appears similar.

Hammer 1

No hyphen
Early 1883 07 20
Late 1887 03 28

**Hammer 2 and 3**

Hyphen
1892 09 22
Late

**LYTTIN / BRIT. COL.**

The late Jim Pike did the early reserch on the "BRIT. COL" hammers and the list distributed was based on his findings. A recent study of his file on the markings produced a letter from a Victoria collector claiming he had two cancellation reading "LYTTIN / BRIT. COL." and dated "AG 2 / 79". Note Lytton was spelled "LYTTIN" on his enclosed sketch and in his letter. Also the "AG" abbreviation for August has, as far as is known, never been used.

Lytton was never included in any list of "BRIT. COL."s produced by Jim and it is not known if he saw the cancel or if he purchased it. The then owner suggested a value of \$750 in 1979. Can anyone supply any information on this item?

THREE NEW SHIP MARKINGS DISCOVERED

Discoveries always seem to come in threes. At C.P.S. of G.B. I was asked by Ged Taylor if I knew of a Skeena River boat known as the STRONGHEART. My reply was "No!" and although I have checked many sources the answer still is "No.". Has any body heard of the Launch Strongheart? The rather scruffy envelope is cancelled PORT ESSINGTON AP ? 09.



The second two items came from Abe Charko. The first is a line cancel in red reading 'City of Nanaimo'. The post card is undated but is from about 1905 when the City of Nanaimo was working the east coast of Vancouver Island out of Nanaimo.



Abe also produced a post card mailed on the S.S. Prince George or S.S. Prince Rupert at Prince Rupert before the ship cancelling equipment had been delivered. Proof date for both ships "Jan 19, 1911". The Prince Rupert entered service on the Seattle, Victoria, Vancouver, and Prince Rupert route in June 1910 with the Prince George entering the service in July. The card is dated 7.20.10 and is postmarked at Vancouver July 23, 1910. The ship marking is in blue green and reads "Grand Trunk Pacific Coast Service Ltd."

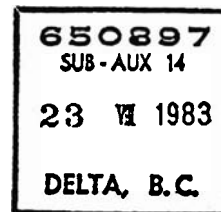


PHILATELIC CANADA PHILATELIQUE

A recent letter from Sid Bedwell with a PHILATELIC CANADA PHILATELIQUE cancel from the Philatelic Center in Salmon Arm prompted me to request a list of the the Philatelic Centers in B.C. The Vancouver Post Office quickly provided a list of 51 Offices offering philatelic service within the Pacific Division. Salmon Arm is on the list but so are small offices such as Kincolith. A note on the print out states "Unfortunately I don't trust the info. Some of these offices are very small and not likely to have Philatelic Service."



Thus the question remains unanswered - which office did or are presently using the Maple Leaf Philatelic cancel. To the best of my knowledge Vancouver has one but at last report did not have a year date. Chilliwack had one in 1986 but they tell me it was lost shortly after that date. Delta (Sub 14) had two daters and used them regularly but the office was closed in 1991. Vernon has two different Maple Leaf date stamps but no year slugs. I have also seen markings from Richmond and Kelowna both of which will shortly close and become Customer Service Centers.



Here is where you can help. I would like to produce a list of offices that have used or are presently using the Maple Leaf cancel at their philatelic center. On the Response Sheet provide town name and early and late dates for any items you have.

DUES ARE NOW DUE

RESPONSE FORM

Volume 2 Number 1, March 1993

Forms should be mailed to **Bill Topping, Editor**
B.C. Postal History News Letter
7430 Angus Drive
Vancouver, B.C. V6P 5K2

Please check your collection for dates for the following -

PHILATELIC CENTER CANCELS

Name at bottom Early Late date



BRIT COL update - see page 39

Victoria Hammer 1	early	_____	late	_____
2		_____		_____
3		_____		_____
New Westminster Hammer 1		_____		_____
2 or 3		_____		_____

Name
Address
.....

ANNUAL DUES \$5
Cheques payable to
Bill Topping, editor.

Paid
Date