



BRITISH COLUMBIA  
POSTAL HISTORY  
RESEARCH GROUP

Volume 17 Number 3

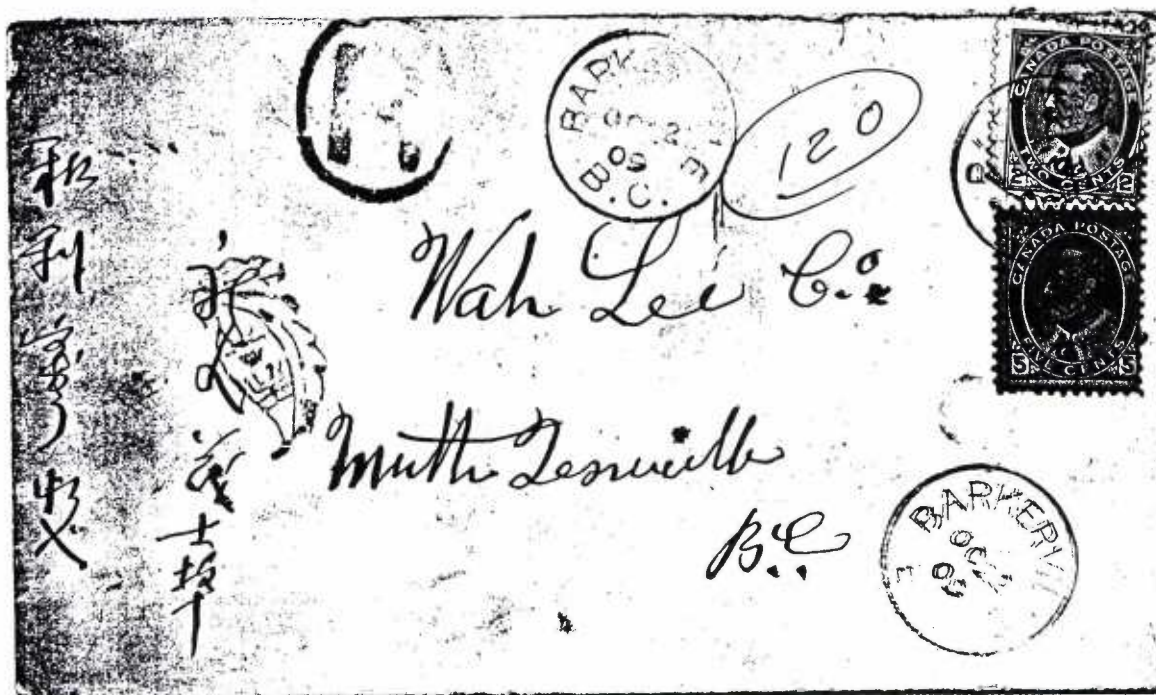
Whole number 67

September 2008

### CHINESE COVERS

Following the publication of last month's News Letter a request was received from Mr. Wong Chu of the Chinese Historical Society, asking for information regarding the two Chinese covers illustrated on page 560. The Chinese Historical Society is a recently formed historical group and is looking artifacts related to the Chinese in British Columbia, particularly if they concern the gold rush and the building of the Canadian Pacific Railway. Mr. Chu asked if it would be possible to obtain Xerox copies of these covers as well as others related to the history of the Chinese in the province. The editor would appreciate Xerox copies of similar covers so that they can be forwarded to the historical society.

Registered cover from Barkerville, dated OC 22, 1909, to Wah Lee.



NOW AVAILABLE – “Atlantic Province Post Offices 1990 to 2007”

\$12.00 plus postage \$2.00 from Bill Topping  
7430 Angus Drive, Vancouver, BC, V6P 4K2

## MILNER POST OFFICE

## A STUDY OF HAND STAMPS

Milner Post Office authorized March 23, 1908  
 Postmaster General order number 31642  
 Equipment shipped March 26, 1908  
 Officially established April 1, 1908  
 Postmaster - Theo. F. Marrington

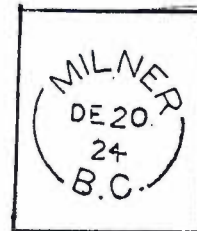
Located at Milner Station  
 on Fraser Valley Branch of  
 B.C. Electric Railway

## MILNER - PROOF STRIKES

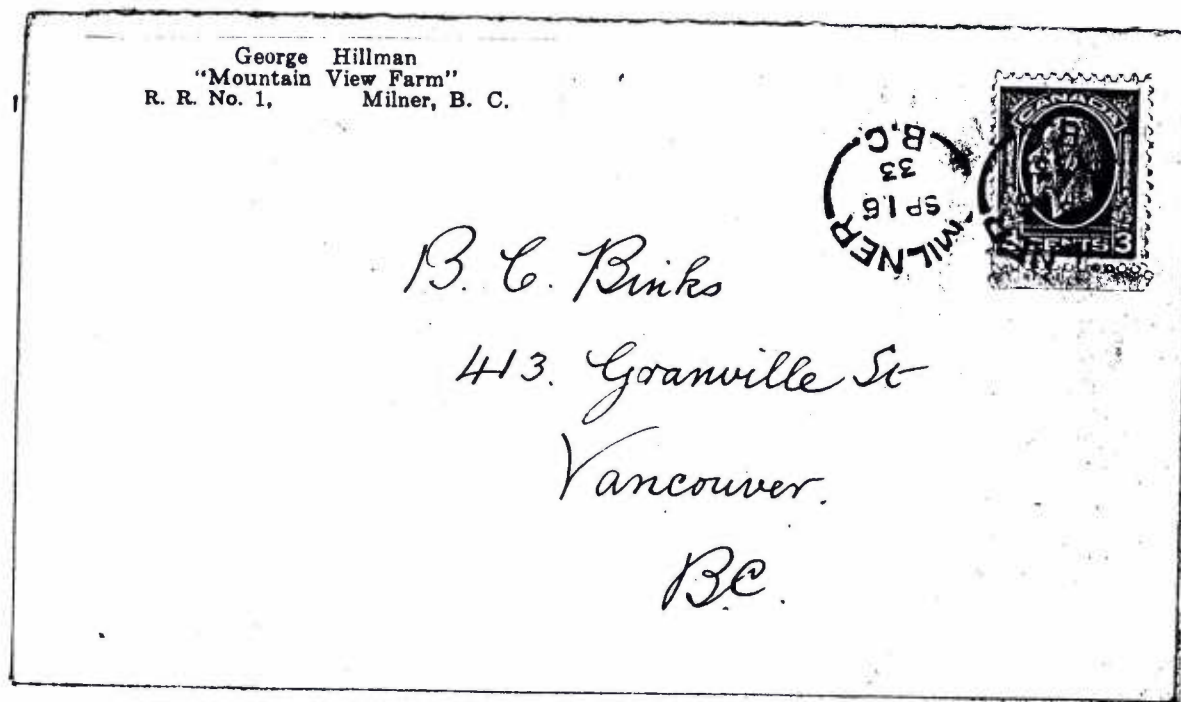
Most older post offices have a collection of outdated hand stamps that are no longer in use. Some are directly related to the cancellation of mail while others were issued for redirecting of mail or for some special function. A recent visit to the Milner Post Office produced a box containing a variety of hand stamps many of which are unreported on mail. There is some question among postal historians as to whether those types of marking's should form a part of the study of the postal history of a particular post office.

First metal hand stamp  
 Unreported

Second metal hand stamp  
 proof DE 20 / 24

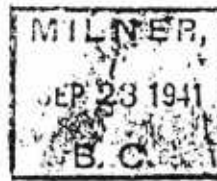
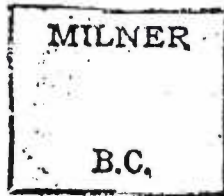
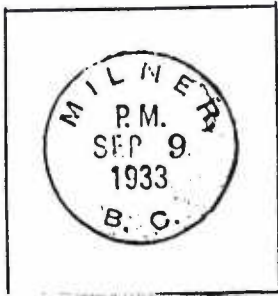


Milner - SP 16 / 33 - R. R. No. 1  
 Return address "Mountain View Farm"

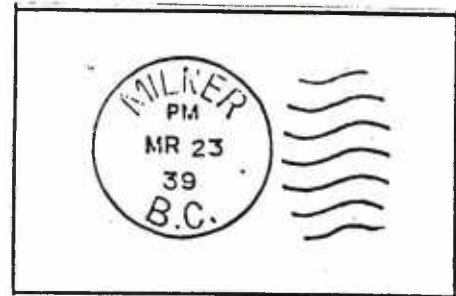


MILNER - PROOF STRIKES

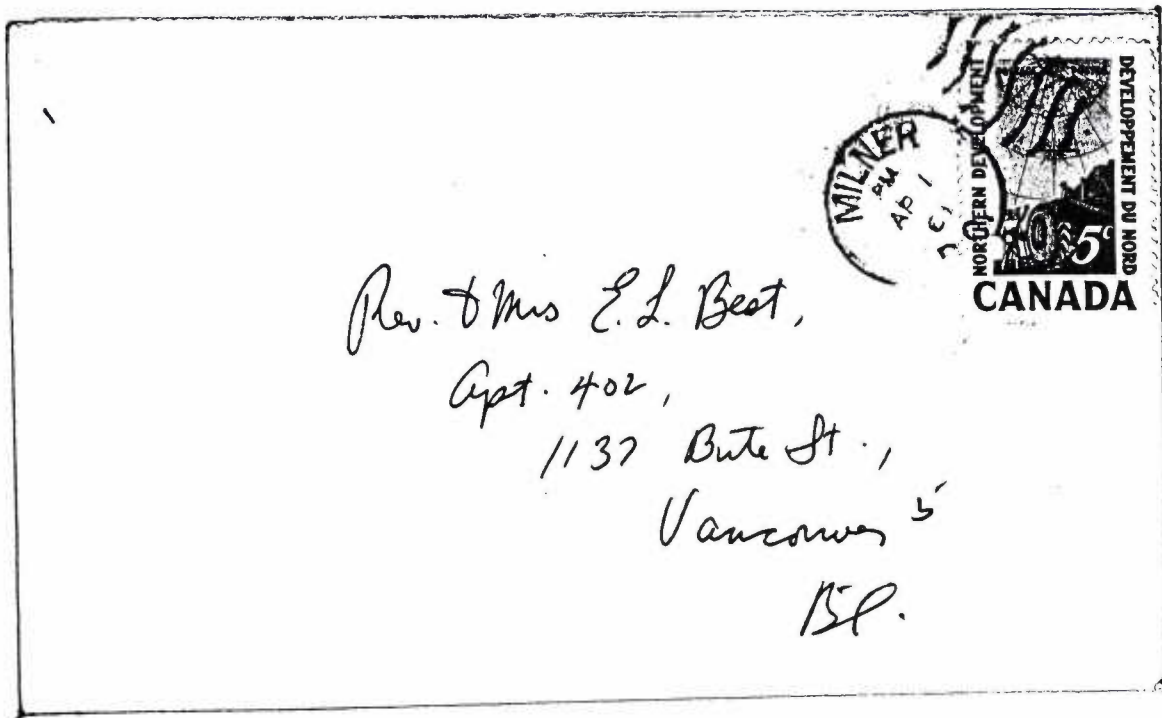
Rubber money order hand stamps - accounting number 9455



Duplex dater (DBC-227) - proof PM / MR 23 / 39

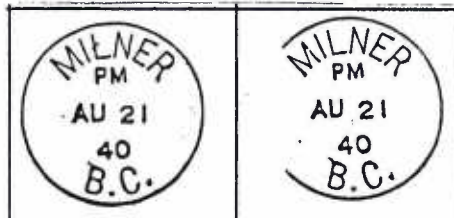


MILNER / PM / AP 1 / 61

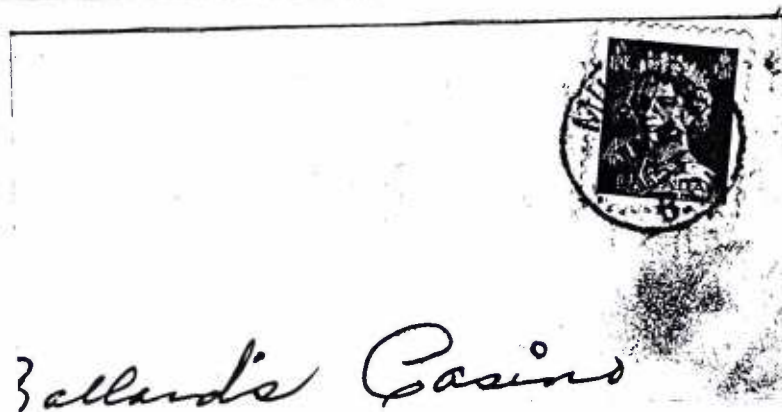


MILNER – PROOF STRIKES

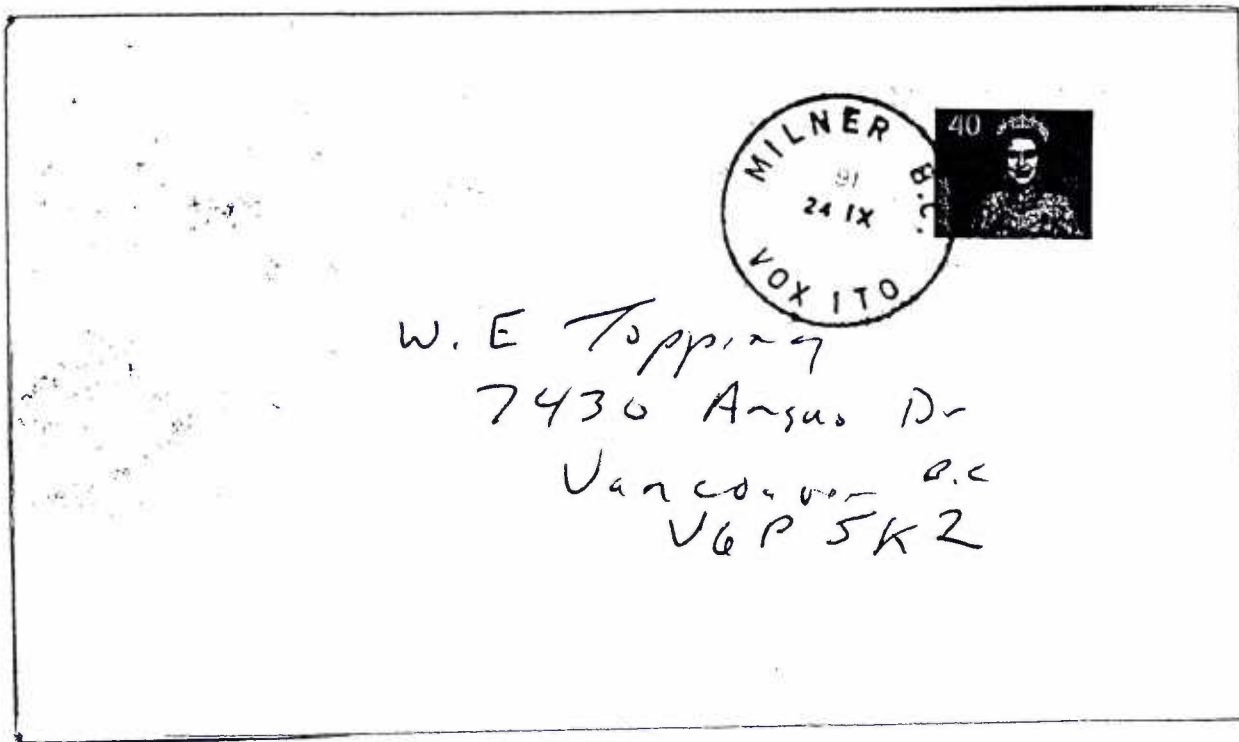
Circular Date Stamp (CDS type “B”)  
two proof strikes – PM / AU 21 / 40



MILNER / PM / JUN 13 / 53



MILNER B.C. / VOX 1T0  
30 mm CDS – earliest reported use 1990 09 13  
still on site – not used



MILNER PROOF STRIKES

Circular Date Stamp (CDS type "C")  
Proof 1752 dated PM / 18 II / 63



MILNER / 65 / 25 III / 65

Note hammer badly worn by c. 1982



**B.C. INDUSTRIAL EDUCATION ASSOCIATION**  
A SECTION OF THE BRITISH COLUMBIA TEACHERS' FEDERATION

B.C.I.E.A. MEMBERSHIP  
DENNIS POPOWICH  
7320 - 254th STREET, R.R.3  
ALDERGROVE, B.C. V0X 1A0



*BCITF/BCIEA  
2235 Burrard St.,  
Vancouver BC  
V6J 3H9*

R.C. number 644404 hand stamps

**644404**  
28 MAY 2001  
MILNER, B.C.  
VOX 1T0

MILNER POST OFFICE  
**644404**  
2007 -10- 1 5  
MILNER BC  
VOX 1T0

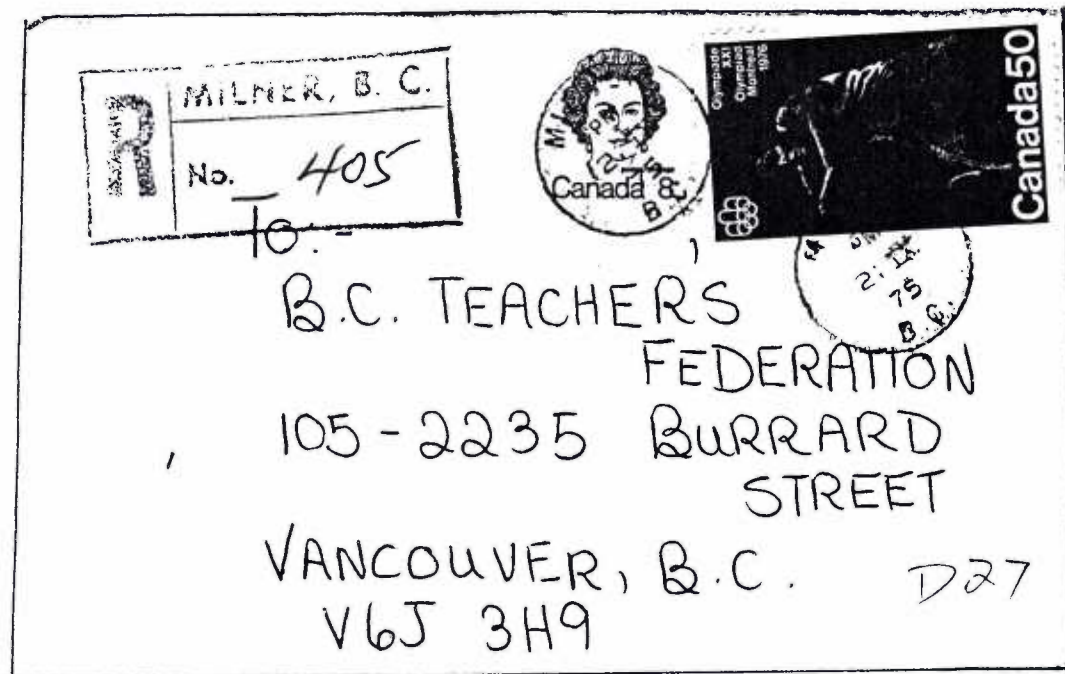
**644404**  
DEC 31 2007  
MILNER, B.C.  
VOX 1T0

**644404**  
2008 -07- 1 0  
MILNER, BC  
VOX 1T0

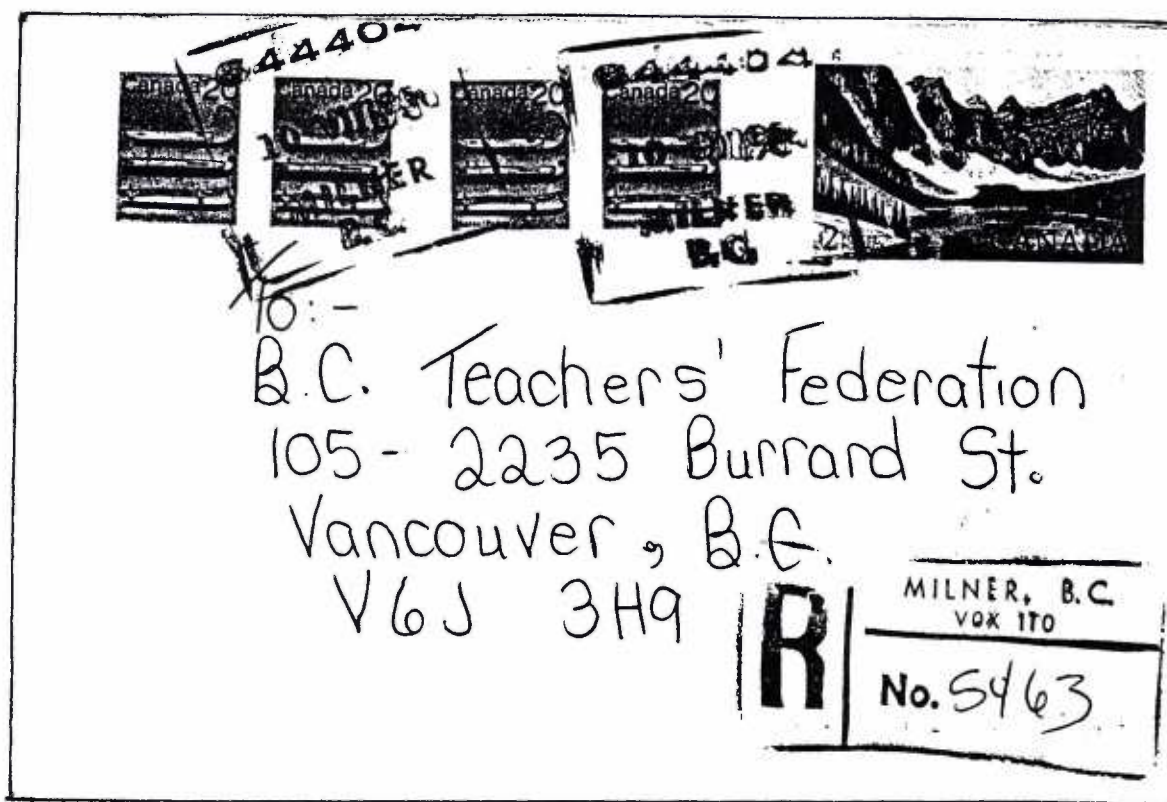
MILNER, B.C. - REGISTRATION BOXES

No proof strikes reported

"R" box without Postal Code - PM / 2 IX / 75



"R" box with Postal Code VOX 1T0 - 10 VII 1986



**MILNER – IN HOUSE – HAND STAMPS**

The following markings are presently in a box at the Milner Post Office but not in use.

Comptoir Postal Milner Post Office  
6830 rue 216 Street  
Milner, B.C. VOX 1T0

MON-FRI 09:00 - 12:00 LUN-VEN  
13:00 - 17:30  
SAT. 09:00 - 12:00 SAM

Mailed After / Posté après  
Out Of Time / L'heure limite

Please advise your correspondents  
of your correct postal address.

Prière de donner à vos correspondants  
votre adresse postale exacte

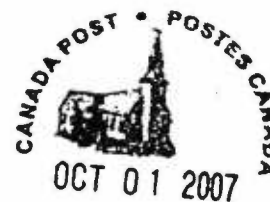
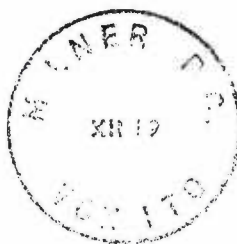
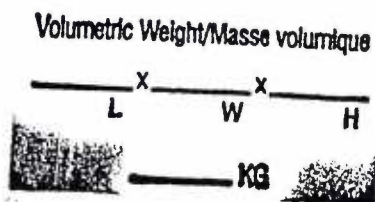
Please have your mail addressed to your  
Box No., R. R. No. or General Delivery.

S.V.P. faites adresser votre courrier à  
votre No. de case, ou de R. R. ou poste  
Restante.

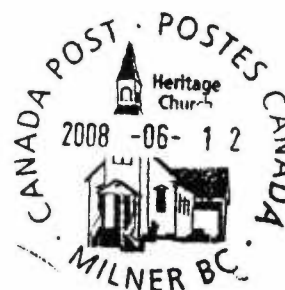
CARD SENT CARTE EXPÉDIÉE	
FINAL NOTICE DERNIER AVIS	
RETURN ON 7 JOURNÉE	

INSURED PARCEL  
Colis Assuré

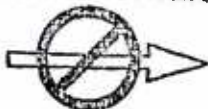
For Deposit Only to the Credit of  
CANADA POST CORPORATION  
pour dépôt seulement au crédit de  
SOCIÉTÉ CANADIENNE DES POSTES



RECEIVED IN DAMAGED  
CONDITION AT  
REÇU EN ÉTAT D'AVARIE À



Do not forward



Ne pas faire suivre

Do not forward

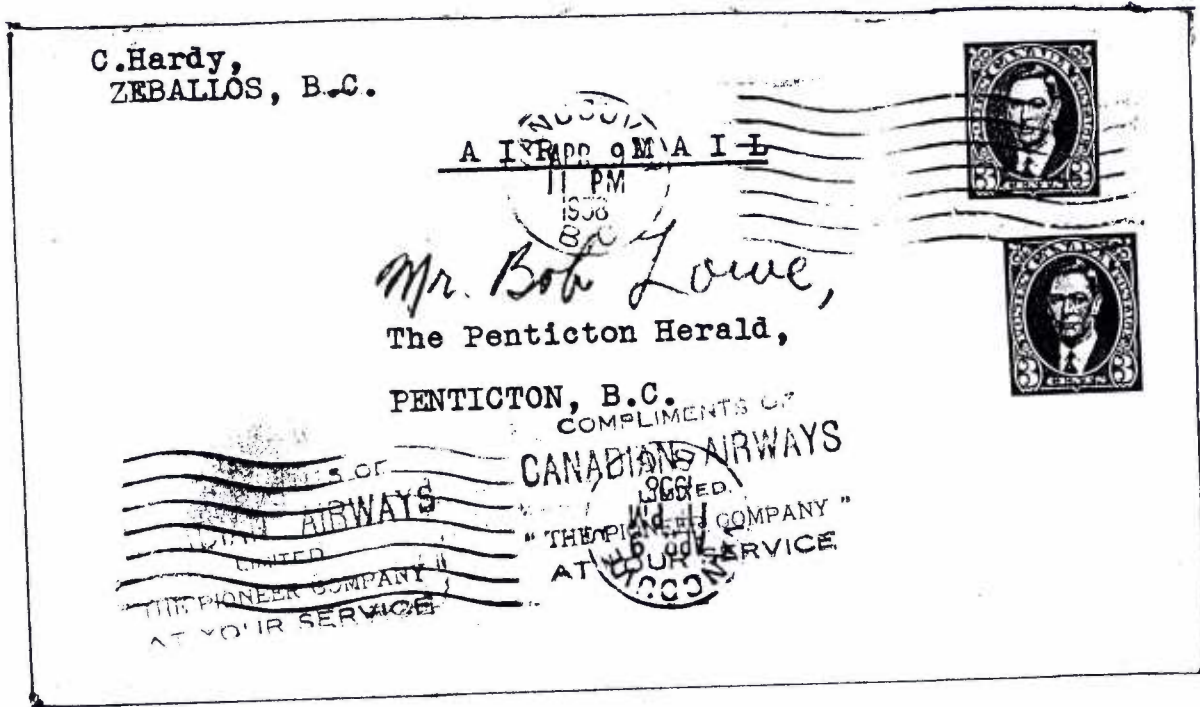


Ne pas faire suivre

COURTESY AIR MAIL SERVICE - BRITISH COLUMBIA

Following the demise of the Semi Official Air Mail service in the mid 1930s many of the pioneer airlines continued to accept mail as a service to their customers and in some cases stamped the company name on the envelopes as a form of advertising. There is much confusion as to the exact status of this mail, as under the postal regulations "mail couriers" were required to receive letters offered them when the distance to the nearest post office exceeded one mile. Since most of the small airlines held mail contracts, this made them in terms of the act "mail couriers," and as a result they were required to accept mail. Such mail was considered to be "way mail," and Vancouver A.M.F. was issued, in 1949, with a suitable hand stamp, although the dater was rarely used.

"Compliments CANADIAN AIRWAYS LIMITED"  
Zeballos to Vancouver - air mail rate (6c) to Penticton  
VANCOUVER / APR 9 / 1936



BY COURTESY OF  
B.C. AIR LINES LTD.

VIA C.P.A.L  
Canadian Pacific Airlines Limited

BY COURTESY OF



B.C. AIR LINES LTD.

VIA C.P.A.L.

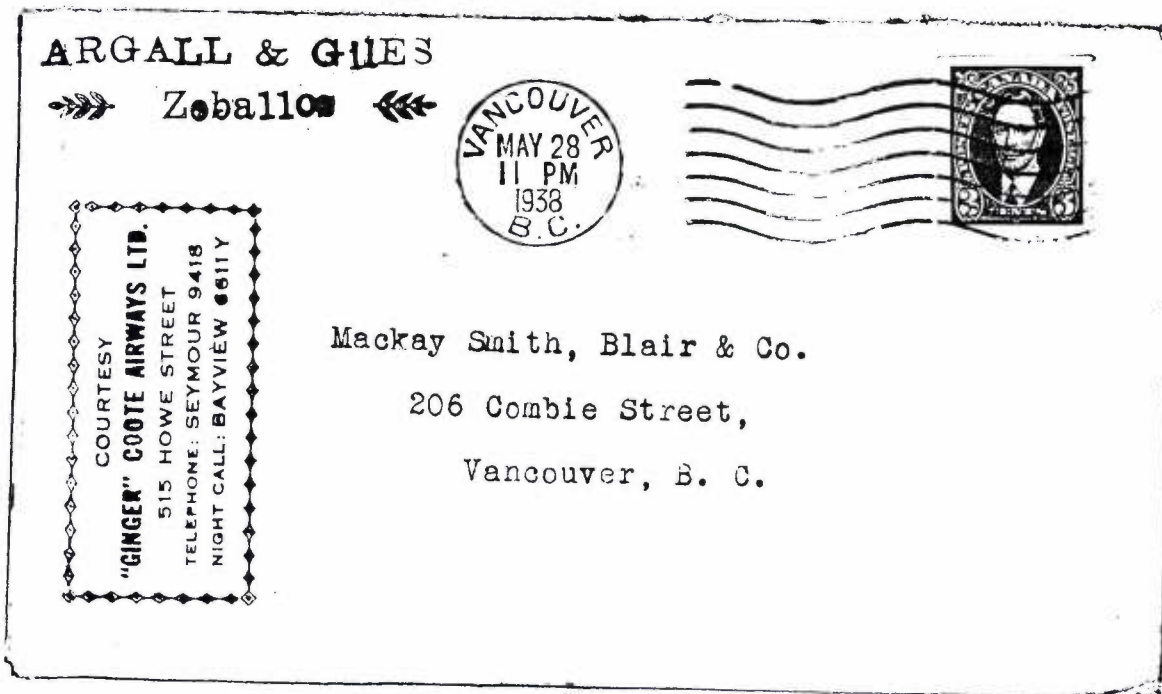


COURTESY AIR MAIL SERVICE

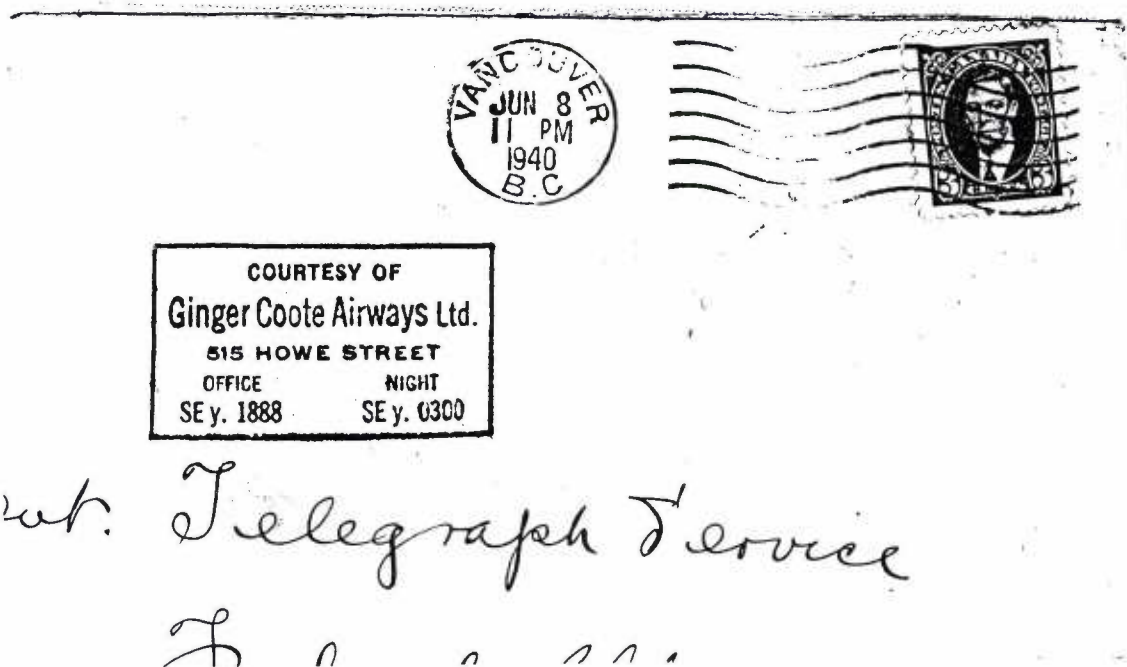
The practice of stamping the name of the company on courtesy mail appears to have started in the mid 1930s and continued until the start of the war in 1939. Following the war the practice was re-introduced, reaching its hayday in the mid 1950s and by the early 1960s had been discontinued.

"Ginger" Cooto Airways Limited 1938 -1940

Zabellos to Vancouver - first class postage (3c)  
VANCOUVER / MAY 28 / 11 PM / 1938



Mailed at Vancouver  
VANCOUVER / JUN 8 / 11 PM / 1940

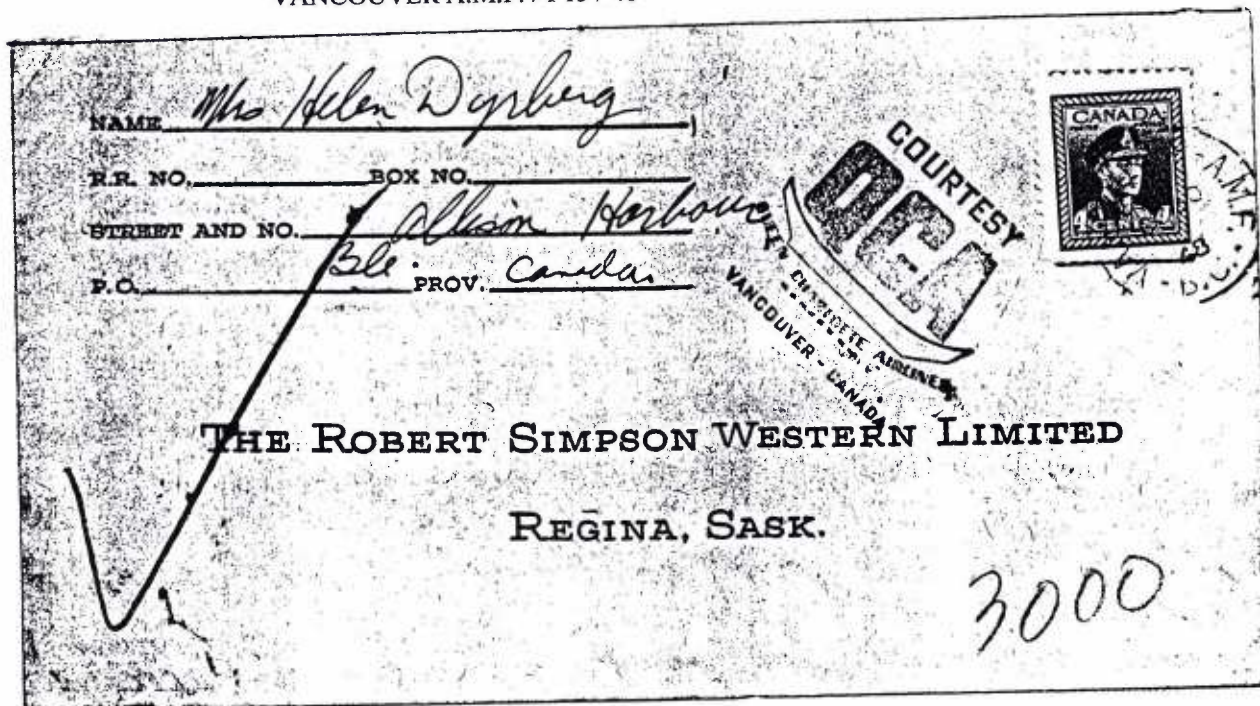


## COURTESY AIR MAIL SERVICE

A study of the limited number of existing covers produces some confusion as to how the mail was treated. In some cases the mail was picked up at a non post office point and cancelled at Vancouver or Vancouver A.M.F. while in other cases the mail was cancelled by the post office at the point of origin with no further postal marking at Vancouver. It should also be noted that some covers are philatelic and were never actually flown but were courtesy stamped at Vancouver and mailed at the Vancouver A.M.F. post office.

Courtesy Queen Charlotte Air Lines  
Allison Harbour to Vancouver to Regina Sask. - first class postage (4c)  
VANCOUVER A.M.F. / I 13 / 48

QUEEN CHARLOTTE AIRLINES LTD.



Pacific Western Airlines - 1954

BY COURTESY

Compliments of  
*Pacific Western Airlines Ltd.*

*Pacific Western AIRLINES*

The following companies are known to have carried courtesy mail in British Columbia;

Air Speed - Associated Air Taxi Limited. [1950]	Ginger Coote Airways Limited [1938-1940]
B.C. Airlines Limited [1952-1955]	Pacific Western Airlines Limited [1954]
Canadian Airways Limited [1938-1940]	Queen Charlotte Airlines Limited [1947-1952]
Canadian Pacific Airlines (C.P.A.L.) [1950's]	