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June 22, 1981

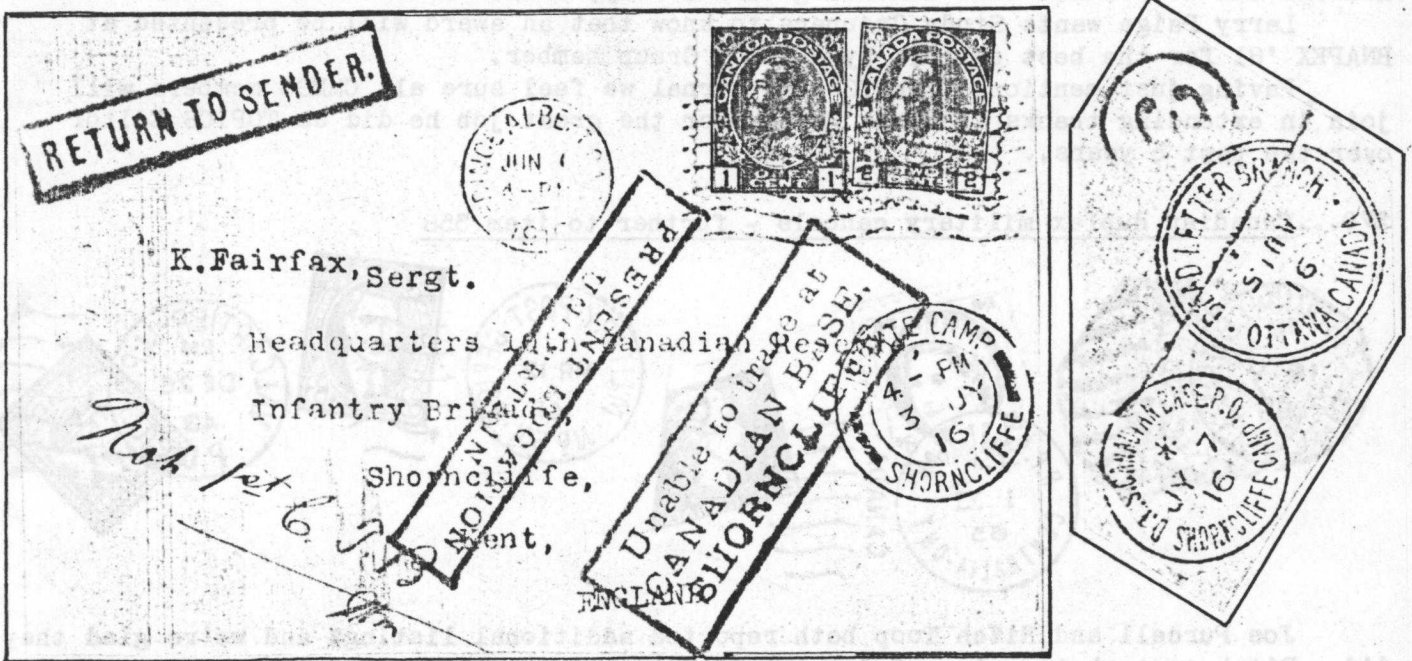
Dear Member:

A brief reminder to Study Group members of three important events in September 1981:

- 1 LACPEX 81 (RPSC) 53rd Annual Meeting - 18-20 Sep 81 1335 Lakeshore Drive Dorval, Quebec
- 2 Official opening of new wing - National Postal Museum- September 23, 1981.
- 3 BNAPEX 81 (BNAPS) 33rd Convention - 24-26 September 81 Skyline Hotel, Ottawa

NOTE: While in Ottawa enquire about the booklet "The Little Norway Story", by C.R. (Ron) McGuire. (1980)
14 pages concerning the Royal Norwegian Air Force in Canada during World War Two. Well illustrated.

367...World War One Canadian Soldier's Mail - RETURN TO SENDER



Here is a fine cover clearly illustrating a number of scarce handstamps. It may be seen that the cover was addressed to a Sergeant in the 10th Canadian Reserve Infantry Brigade, Shorncliffe. Apparently the addressee was unknown at Dibgate Camp and the letter was taken to the Canadian Base Post Office Shorncliffe where the three rectangular handstamps were applied as well as the single ring stamp on the back. The inscription on it reads D.L.S. CANADIAN BASE P.O. * JY 7 16 SHORNCLIFFE CAMP.

The abbreviation D.L.S. is believed to stand for DEAD LETTER SERVICE. The final date AU 15 16 appears on the DEAD LETTER BRANCH double ring stamp applied at Ottawa. D.L.S. handstamp proofed JU 29 16.

This is a most significant Canadian military mail item.

This issue normally due in late August will be "held over" until our Study Group "get together" at BNAPEX 81 in Ottawa.

NEWSLETTER 45

368...Book Review - "The Postal History of the Canadian Contingents in the Anglo-Boer War 1899-1902" By Kenneth Rowe. *****

Published as Handbook #1 of a continuing series by the Vincent Graves Green Philatelic Research Foundation, P.O. Box 100, First Canadian Place, Toronto, Canada, M5X 1B2. Price Can. \$30.00, plus postage and packing, Canada & U.S. \$2.00, elsewhere \$3.00.

This handbook covers the entire history of the Canadian involvement in the Anglo-Boer War. Its 104 pages include chapters on the 1st, 2nd and 3rd Contingents, the Canadian Division of the South African Constabulary, the Y.M.C.A., Canadian stamps used in South Africa, Patriotic Stationery and lists of dates and locations for every Canadian Unit involved.

Hard bound 60 illustrations. Publishing date 1981.

369...BNAPEX '81 - OTTAWA ONTARIO

The Study Group Co-Ordinator, Larry Paige, reminds us that articles are always welcome from Study Group members for printing in TOPICS.

The new TOPICS Editor is H. Michael Street, P.O. Box 230, Ancaster, Ontario, L9G 3N6 and he assumes this demanding task 1 July, 1981.

Larry Paige wants Study Groupers to know that an award will be presented at BNAPEX '81 for the best exhibit by a Study Group member.

Having just mentioned the TOPICS journal we feel sure all CMMSG members will join in extending thanks to Derek Hayter for the great job he did as TOPICS Editor over the past 5 years..

370...Canadian duplex military cancels - further to item 358



Joe Purcell and Ritch Toop both reported additional listings and we're glad they did. Ritch sent photocopies of the two RCAF duplex cancels. Readers may add the other Centralia cancel and differentiate between them by noting the measurements of CANADA which in the 1956 example measures 17mm and bears the inscription R.C.A.F. Station Centralia, Ont. CANADA in the 1963 example measures only 14mm. Both are our type 2.

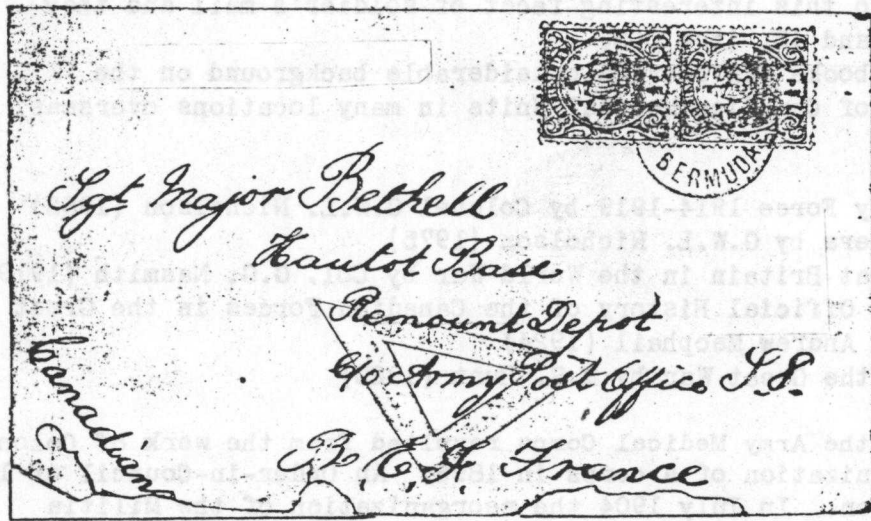
Shilo, Man., a type 2 duplex with CANADA may be added to the check list and FMO HALIFAX, N.S. a type 2 without CANADA as well. Joe says the latter is the old 7 bar duplex type circa 1955.

Just for the record we've shown examples of the two Valcartier duplex cancels, types 2A and 2B. More information will be welcome.

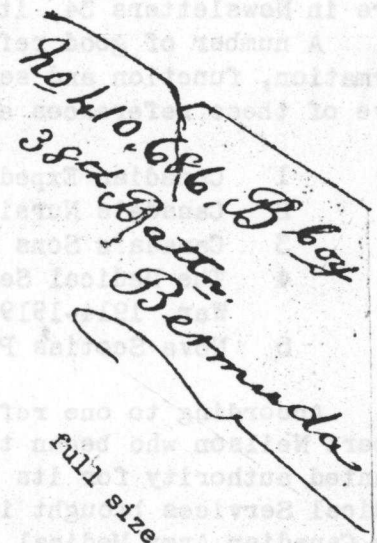
371...Censored cover from Bermuda - World War One.

This is a remarkable cover and Bill Robinson sent the photocopy along. The triangular censor mark appears to read PASSED POSTAL CENSOR BERMUDA and the cover, posted by a Canadian, is addressed to APO S8, a British office at Dieppe, France throughout most of the war. Notice the writer's regimental number, Company and Battalion designation on the back of the cover. See page 3.

371...continued



size reduced



full size

Briefly, this is the story behind the cover. The Royal Canadian Regiment was given the role of guard duty in Bermuda and sailed September 6, 1914 from Quebec to relieve a British unit, the 2nd Battalion, The Lincolnshire Regiment for service in France. The R.C.R. remained until August 1915 when relieved by the 38th Battalion from the Ottawa district so although no date can be read on the cover (photocopy) it was posted from Bermuda between August 1915 and May 1916 when the 38th handed over their guard duties to the French speaking 163rd Battalion. Six months later the 163rd went to England being replaced by a British Battalion.

The 38th became part of the 12th Brigade, 4th Division the other Battalions being the 72nd from British Columbia, 73rd from Montreal and 78th from Winnipeg.

It is most fortunate for Canadian postal/military history that this item of military mail has come to light and that details can be presented in this Newsletter with Bill's permission.

372...OFFICER i/c C.P.C. DETAILS - BRAMSHOTT

This single ring oval marking appears to be dated 28 JUN 1918 and is particularly interesting. The abbreviation is not clear but for the moment is considered to be C.P.C. (Canadian Postal Corps).

Dr. Plain is the owner and would like to know if any of our readers has seen this marking before?



Miss. Doris Redden.
R. F. D. No 1.
Box 27 A.
Franklin
Mass.
M. S. A.

373...Hospital information label

When replying address your envelope to CANADIAN ARMY POST OFFICE, ENGLAND. [Giving Regimental number, Rank, and Unit of Soldier.] DON'T address to this Hospital owing to probable transfer or discharge of patient.

Found on the back of Dave Crane's cover from the Military Convalescent Hospital, Woodcote Park, Epsom, Surrey. Cover cancelled 21 JUN 1918.

374...Hospital Markings - Canadian Soldier's Mail - World War One

We've made two references to this interesting facet of soldier's mail and they were in Newsletters 34, item 254 and 43, item 363.

A number of good reference books can provide considerable background on the formation, function and services of Canadian Medical Units in many locations overseas. Five of these references are:

- 1 Canadian Expeditionary Force 1914-1919 by Colonel G.W.L. Nicholson (1962)
- 2 Canada's Nursing Sisters by G.W.L. Nicholson (1975)
- 3 Canada's Sons and Great Britain in the World War by Col. G.G. Nasmith (1919)
- 4 The Medical Services, Official History of the Canadian Forces in the Great War, 1914-1919 by Sir Andrew Macphail (1924)
- 5 Nova Scotia's Part in the Great War by M.S. Hunt (1920)

According to one reference the Army Medical Corps resulted from the work of Colonel Hubert Neilson who began the organization of a corps in 1896. An Order-in-Council of 1899 granted authority for its formation. In July 1904 the reorganization of the Militia Medical Services brought into being the Army Medical Corps which five years later became the Canadian Army Medical Corps.

Canadian hospital accomodation in England, at first confined to a single hospital at Taplow, ultimately embraced 30 hospitals in the southeastern counties. The Orpington Hospital alone had 46 wards and covered acres of ground. Under the control of the C.A.M.C. in England there were stationary hospitals, convalescent hospitals, Red Cross Hospitals and special hospitals such as Westcliffe Eye and Ear Hospital. There were also medical services in the large training areas. Eventually, in France, there were casualty clearing stations, advanced depots of medical stores, a mobile laboratory and of course stationary and general hospitals and field ambulances. A number of medical units served directly with British units and two with the French Army.

A General hospital was to serve on the lines of communication while a Stationary hospital was to serve with a division. The principle difference between a general and a stationary hospital was size, the former being about twice as large as the latter.

By the end of the War the approximate number of personnel in the C.A.M.C. overseas was 15,580. Bed capacity of Canadian hospitals was approximately 40,000.

This brief look at the scope of the C.A.M.C. services during the First World War likely will heighten the reader/collector's interest in obtaining items of soldier's mail posted from military hospitals or in some way associated with the C.A.M.C. activities. Those handstamps including the word CANADIAN in their design would tend to be more prestigious. It is hoped that over a period of time a photocopy of the handstamps used at each of the hospitals listed can be illustrated in Newsletters. Your assistance will be necessary however. Thanks are due those who have already provided information.

The charts provided on the next two pages will serve as checklists for items held in your collection. One lists the Stationary Hospitals of which five became General Hospitals, and the General Hospitals by their designating numbers. The other lists hospitals of different roles which served in various locations with those in England bearing names and/or C.A.M.C. numbers. It is the names that are difficult to work with we've found as reference books of the various hospitals. Spaces have been left for readers to add new reported.

The Canadian Army Medical Corps (PF) was granted the title "ROYAL" on November 3, 1919 by His Majesty King George V, "in recognition of services rendered during the War 1914-1918".



374...continued

NOTES:

CANADIAN STATIONARY HOSPITALS		CANADIAN GENERAL HOSPITALS			
DESIG. NUMBER	RAISED BY OR IN	SERVED IN	LATER DISPO./ DESIGNATION		
DESIG. NUMBER	PAISED BY OR IN	SERVED IN	DESIG. NUMBER		
		TYPE	HOSPITAL MARKINGS DATE		
			HAVE IT		
1	various med. units	France, England, Lemnos, Salonika, England	13 General	England, France	
2	various med. units	England, France		England, France	
3	London, Ont.	Lemnos, France		England, France	
4	Montreal, Que.	France	8 General	Salonika, England (Besingstoke)	
5	Queen's Univ.	Cairo, France	7 General	Salonika, England (Liverpool)	
6	Laval Univ.	England, France		France with French Army	
7	Dalhousie U.	England, France		Cairo, France	
8	Univ. Sask.	England, France		France with French Army	
9	St. Francois Xavier, N.S.	England, France, England	12 General	France with French Army	
10	U. Western Ontario	England, France	14 General	France, England (Shorncliffe)	
11	various med. units	England (Brighton)		England (Brighton)	
12	see Moore Brks. H.	England (Sborn'fe)		England (Sborn'fe)	
13	was #9 Stat.	England (Bramsh't)		England (Bramsh't)	
14	was #1 Stat.	England (Hastings)		England (Hastings)	
15	was #10 Stat.	England (Eastb'ne)		England (Eastb'ne)	
16	Taplow	England		England	
	Orpington	England		England	

