



Canadian Military Mail Study Group

PAGE NO. 690

NEWSLETTER 94
MAY 1990

B.N.A.P.S. PRESIDENT

In case some of you have not heard, Lew Ludlow, our President of BNAPS, suffered a very serious stroke on April 1st. While we have had reports on Lew's condition from time to time it sounds like a long uphill battle for him. Our best wishes go out to Lew, his wife, Mac, and the family.

In the meantime we understand that Bill Robinson, the Vice-President, has shed some of his other duties and is filling in for Lew in our Society's top position.

STUDY GROUP CHAIRMAN

Ritch Toop sends a letter saying that he will be "heading o'er 'ome" until the end of May. Hope you pick up a few special items over there Ritch! He has sent us much material for the N/L over the years and your editor must admit to not using that much of it to date. However it is still in the 'bank' and we slip in bits every now and again. Much the same must be said for the several items on hand from John Frith. Many thanks to you both!

Perhaps the next EDITOR will turn out an issue for Ritch, and for John. As you note this is N/L 94 and counting 95, 96, 97, 98, 99, and then the BIG 100 when a new editor must take over. If the present Editor can do it, so could you, and why not get busy now and take a bit of the 'load'. Ritch, at Box 9026, Station T, Ottawa, Ontario, K1G 3T8 would very much like to hear from you as a 'volunteer' or a suggester of an able body!

AIR MAIL

POSTAGE PAID

Mrs. Robert Wilson,
50 Davi-Bleach,
John & Robert Sts.,
Hamilton, Ont.,
Canada.

From [unclear]
PASSED
BY CENSOR
6 APR. 1 1990
Signature Date

COVER FROM WILF
Please see next page.

MEMBERSHIP CHANGES

Please re-welcome Allan Steinhart to the fold after several years furlough. His address is:
45 Dunfield Ave., Apt. #1910, Toronto, Ont., M4S 2H3

Change of address is in order for Wilf Whitehouse:
#39 - 1750 Pacific Way, Kamloops, B.C., V2E 2K8

All dues have been collected for this year. Thank You!

From the New South Wales Philatelist of February 1990 is noted a short article by David Collyer commenting on a P.O.W. Internment Operations Administrative cover. David, you may recall, is editor of the Australian Forces Mail Research Group with whom we exchange newsletters.

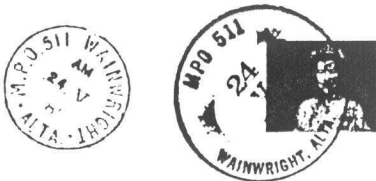
FROM WILF WHITEHOUSE

Wilf sends in the following item with photo and the reference for this is found on N/L page # 552 (#79-7). Here is "Prince Henry" in Trinidad dated 1 April 1942. This is the first R.C.N. ship he has come across using the double boxed POSTAGE PAID marking. Again, a nice item to find!

FROM DEAN MARIO

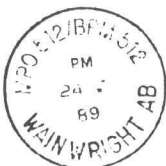
"Members may be interested in a publication entitled THE WAYS OF A WAR WITH A PAPER PUSHER by A.J.Wrigley. This autobiography tells of the plights and exploits of mr. Wrigley, a former postal worker and self-proclaimed "paper-pusher" with the Canadian Postal Corps during World War II. Anyone interested in the Corp's dailey routine operations would be delighted wqith this book. Even though it is not a detailed study of the Corps, it is a compilation of personal observations of one man's tale of army life in the 1940's. It is complete with newspaper articles, photos, and military ephemera. Photocopied, 107 pages, s/c, price is \$7.00 postpaid. Copies are available from the author, Mr. Alf Wrigley, Box 7221, Station E, Calgary, Alberta, T3C 3M1"

Dean stresses that although this sounds like a 'commercial' for the book, he has no interest in it, and thought you just might like to know about it. Thanks Dean!



SEE ARTICLE NEXT PAGE

These strikes sent in by Ritch Toop, and cut to fit by the Editor from covers. (Don't worry, just photocopies!)



CANADIAN FORCES EXERCISE RENDEZVOUS 89

This item comes from Dave Hanes who recently acquired the illustrated cover and says it is hard to come by.

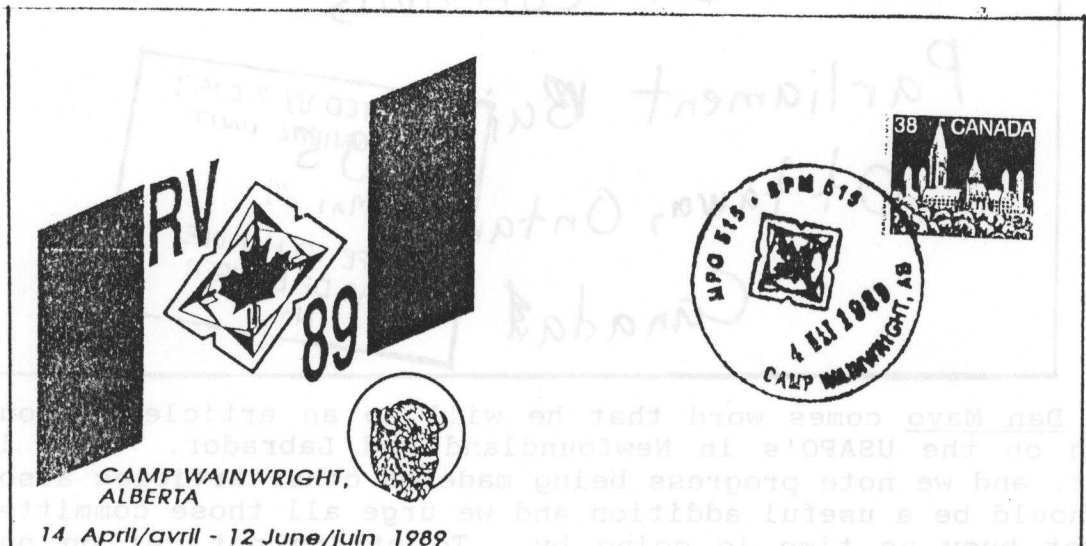
A special philatelic cover was issued to commemorate RENDEZVOUS 89, a Canadian Armed Forces division level army field training exercise at Camp Wainwright, Alberta.

The concentration took place from 14 April to 12 June 1989, under the direction of Lt.-General James A Fox, CMM, CD, Commander of Mobile Command (FMC). Overall, 15,000 military personnel, and more than 5,000 vehicles and aircraft from 40 units across Canada met for training. The U.S. Army with more than 1,800 troops also took part.

The RV cover depicts the stylized blue and red logo of RV 89 as designed by the Graphic Arts Section at FMC Headquarters. The 38 cents postage stamp was cancelled with a special and unique bilingual postmark bearing MPO 515, FMC logo, 4 MAY 89 and CAMP WAINWRIGHT, AB.

This was the fifth and last in the series of RENDEZVOUS EXERCISES which began at CFB Gagetown, N.B. in 1981, and also the fifth and last of the RV series of philatelic covers. Only one style of cover was produced for RV 89.

RV 89 was served by four Military Post Offices: MPO 511, for 1 Canadian Brigade; MPO 515, for 5e Brigade du Canada; MPO 513, for FMC Division Troops; and MPO 512, for the RV Postal Detachment and Third Line Units. Historically, all these MPO's had been activated for use except MPO 515 which had never been used. MPO 511 was first used on 22 June 1959, 30 years ago; MPO 512 on 15 May 1983 and MPO 513 on 15 April 1985.



14 April/avril - 12 June/juin 1989

CORRESPONDENCE

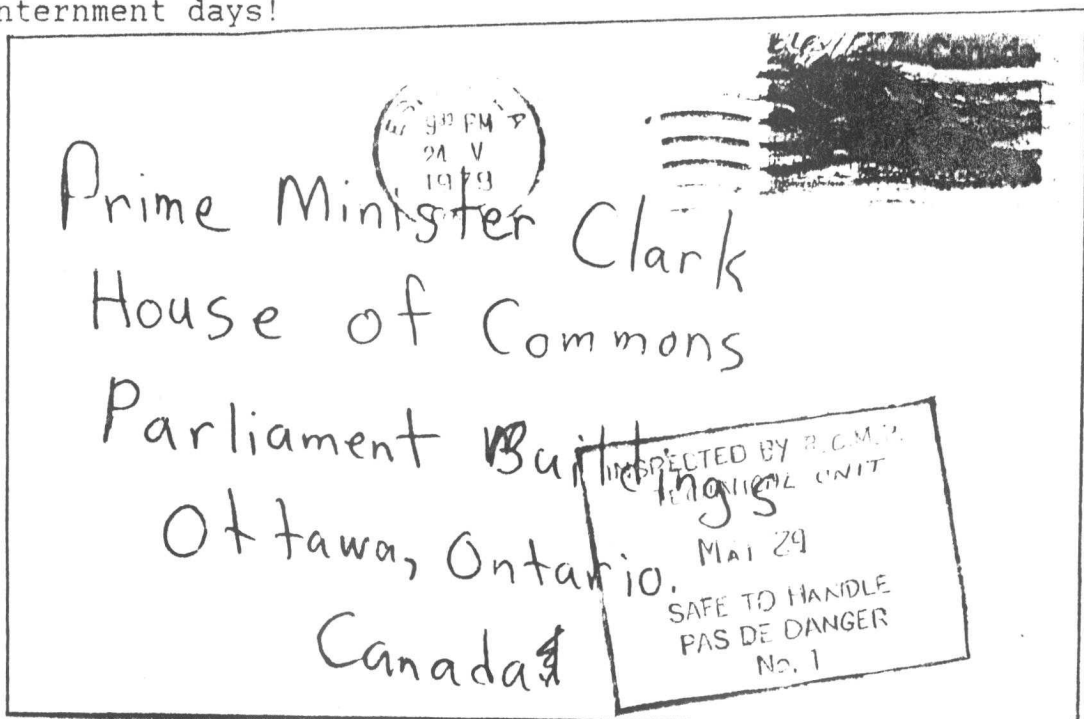
In response to the plea in the last N/L we have almost been swamped with mail.

It was nice to get a letter from John Wannerton from South Africa and to know that he arrived home safely after the Hamilton BNAPS Convention. John says that he is hoping to see us all again in Galveston this fall! Also, quote: "I liked Dean Mario's piece on Richardson (in the last N/L), but I do not think that he is the Victoria Cross man. There were quite a number of Canadians who changed to British regiments while in South Africa (Boer War), apart from those who served with the regulars."

From Colin Pomfret there are several nice photocopies one of which is of a Christmas card of the 21st Canadian Battalion from France. The accompanying cover has the F.P.O. 4W of 18 December 1916. (The 21st was part of the 4th Can. Brigade.)

Next item was a post card of 22 August 1918 from a naval person at "R.C.N. Barracks, Halifax, N.S., Mess 16". Colin says this is to compliment Wilf's one from the west in the last N/L.

A final item, illustrated here, is quasi-military and interesting just the same. In case you can not read it- INSPECTED BY R.C.M.P. / TECHNICAL UNIT / DATE / SAFE TO HANDLE / PAS DE DANGER / NO. 1. Is it just coincidence that letters from Espanola are inspected? Surely this is not a hold over from the internment days!



From Dan Mayo comes word that he will do an article for our 100th on the USAPO's in Newfoundland and Labrador. This is great, and we note progress being made on other articles also. It should be a useful addition and we urge all those committed to get busy as time is going by. To others not yet on our list of contributors there is certainly room for your article!

THE ROYAL RIFLES OF CANADA IN NEWFOUNDLAND 1940-41

By John Tyacke

The Canadian Army in Newfoundland, Force "W", has been comprehensively covered in our Newsletter No. 61 (Page 392) of January 1985. However, a recent find of the covers from two brothers in the Royal Rifles of Canada, to their parents in Scotstown, P.Q., seems worth summarizing as it covers the period just before the CANADIAN ARMY POST OFFICE (C.A.P.O.) handstamps were introduced. This period has received less attention than that of the much-collected C.A.P.O. markings. A future article will follow the same two brothers to Hong Kong, their P.O.W. mails and final release and correspondence on the way home. Information is quoted from the above N/L Page 392, and also from the excellent book NO REASON WHY, THE CANADIAN HONG KONG TRAGEDY - AN EXAMINATION by Carl Vincent, published 1981 by Canada's Wings, Inc., Box 393, Stittsville, Ontario, KOA 3G0.

The two brothers were George and Harold Baker: their correspondence is differentiated by the Cover No. with either G or H. The correspondence has been kept separate as they were in different platoons (George in 3 Pt. and Harold in 6), both part of HQ Company.

The unit was mobilized 28 June 1940 at Quebec City, and moved to Valcartier Camp in September for serious training, and then on to Sussex Camp, N.B. in October. In November they went to Newfoundland; half to Gander, the other half to Botwood to the seaplane base (Vincent, page 61). The N/L 61 gives an arrival date for the unit in Newfoundland of 25 November 1940, and so George's first letter, Cover G1 postmarked Botwood 26 November, is about as early as possible. It may have been written on the stationery of the ship transporting them.

All the time the brothers were in Newfoundland they had to pay the normal postage of 5 cents surface rate (15 cents on G1 which was registered). Free surface postage for the Canadian Forces was introduced at about the time they left the island. The earliest letter, G1, was censored in manuscript, but a few days later the handstamps "PMC" were in use, different ones appearing on the respective brothers mail. (See G2 compared to H1 and H2) By 18 December 1940 the familiar circular handstamp had appeared, (see G3 in table) and was in use for the rest of the war with some 100 different numbers recorded.

To attempt some secrecy of location, the Botwood cancel on G1 was quickly replaced with an anonymous circular 8-bar obliterator. (See Fig. 4) Vincent, page 62, says that the Gander and Botwood half-battalions changed places in February, but there is no indication of this in the brothers mail.

Editor's Note: In checking two collections of this material it would appear that the Botwood town cancel was used nearly always whereas in Gander it was usually the barred killer only in use until the introduction of the C.A.P.O. hammers on September 1, 1941.

In May 1941 the whole battalion moved to St. John's, and this is reflected immediately by the cancel of the St. John's machine slogan, with place and date hub removed for security. (See Fig. 5) Perhaps just before this move some leave was taken, as G10 and G11 show regular cancels and no military censorship. The battalion left Newfoundland on 25 August 1941 (NL 61). This was just before the Canadian Army Postal Corps arrived there in late August, and this explains why no Royal Rifle mail can have any C.A.P.O. markings as these were introduced from September 1, 1941. The cover H5 has a clear censor date of 29-9-41, but this is obviously an error as the arrival backstamp is dated August 2. No Orderly Room or other regimental handstamp appears on any of these covers.

Cover No.	Postmarked Place/date	Military Censor	Arrival bs Scotstown PQ
G1	Botwood No 26 40	ms P.M.C. (see Fig. 1) "F.Donald Ross, 2/Lieut."	No 30 40
Notes: Registered, surface. Stationery of "Clarke Steamship Co. Limited, West Indies Cruises" bs of "St. J & P.A.B., N.F., T.P.O." and 5 more TPO's in Canada. Return address "CASF, Base Post Office, Canada".			
G2	Circular 8-bar	Small hs "PMC" in black, Fig 2 ms "F.Donald Ross 2/ Lieut"	De 5 40
G3	as above	Circular hs Fig 4, #3 in red. ms initials and "18 12 40"	De 26 40
Notes: Return address "1042 CASF HQ Coy, Plt 3, Base Post Office Canada".			
G4	as above	As above, #3 but different initials and no date.	De 28 40
G5	as above	As above, #3, but initials "F.D.R." and no date	Ja 7 41
G6	as above	As above	Ja 9 41
Notes: Return address "HQ Coy, Royal Rifles of Canada, Force "W" , Base Post Office, Canada". Illustrated as Fig 4.			
G7	as above	As above	Fe 3 41
Notes: Stationery "Canadian (crest) Legion/War Services".			
G8	as above	As above	Mr 24 41
G9	as above	As above	Mr 29 41

G10 Botwood None Ap 12 41
Ap 2 41
Notes: As there was no military censor, it was opened by Newfoundland civil censorship, and resealed with their label and ms "35".

G11 Grand Falls None None
Ap 14 41
Notes: Missed by both military and civil censors. Return address "Address the same as usually", presumably indicating he was on leave.

G12 Circular Circular hs Fig 4, #7 in blk. My 1 41
8-bar ms "F.D.R." and "24/4/41:."

G13 St. John's As above but #9 in blk, same My 8 41
machine/slogan/only. Initials, date "7/5/41".

G14 St. John's None Jn 2 41
machine, My 29 41.
Notes: Return address, "176 Water Street West, St. John's". Presumably from a friend's address, evaded censorship.

G15 St. John's, Circular hs Fig 4, #2 in blk. J1 3 41
machine/slogan/only. Initials "LB"?, date "25/6/41".

G16 as above As above but #2 in red. J1 19 41
Initials illeg., date "15/7/41"

G17 as above As above but #9 in blk Au 7 41
Initials "EE?", date "378?41"
Notes: Return address written by censor "Rfn Baker, Serial 1042, Can. Army Overseas, "W" Force".

BELOW ARE LISTED THE HAROLD BAKER COVERS.

H1 Circular Hs large "P.M.C." Fig 3 violet De 14 40
8-bar ms "A.Royal Lt", both across flap.
Notes: Return address "HQ Coy, Royal Rifles of Canada (CASF) Force "W", Base Post Office, Canada".

H2 as above As above None
Notes: Stationery "Canadian (crest) Legion/War Services".
Return address "HQ Coy, 6Ptl."

H3 as above Circular hs Fig 4, #9 in red, Ja ? 41
initials "ESH" date "9/1/41"

H4 St John's As above but #9 in blk, J1 28 41
mach./slogan/only. initials illeg. date "24/7/41"
Notes: Stationery "The Salvation Army, Serving with Canadian Forces". Illustrated as in Fig 5.

H5 as above As above but in red, Au 2 41
date "29-9-41" is error for "29-7-41".

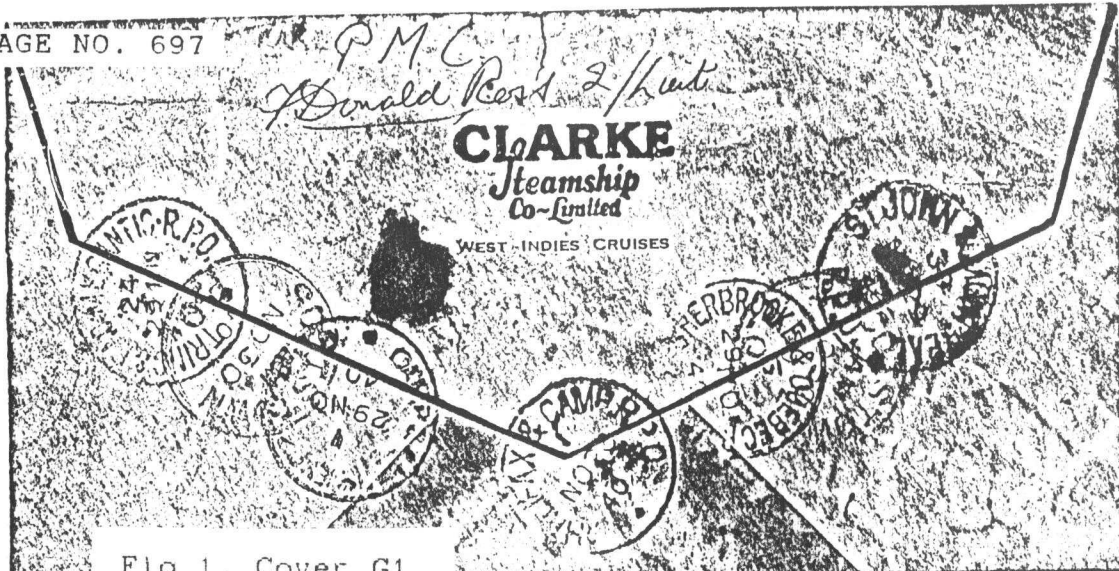


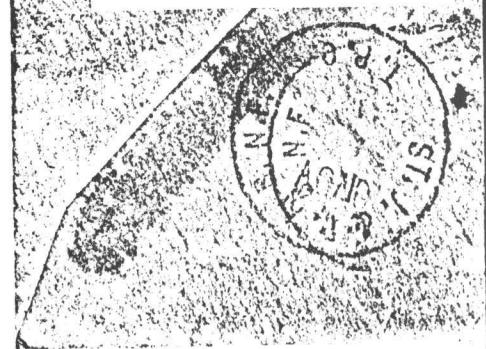
Fig 1, Cover G1

Rfm. FROM E. 29848 H. BAKER H. Coy.
 Royal Rifles of CANADA (C.A.S.F.)
 FORCE "W"
 BASE Post OFFICE
 CANADA.

P.M.C.

Royal Lt.

Fig 3, Cover H1



P M C

Fig 2, Cover G2

Donald Ross 2/cent.

	NAME <u>H. BAKER.</u>
	UNIT <u>Royal Rifles of Can.</u>
	NO. <u>E 29848.</u>
SERVING WITH CANADIAN FORCES	



FROM
 E 30 209
 Rfm. George Baker,
 H.Q. Coy Royal Rifles of Canada,
 Force "W",
 Base Post Office,
 Canada,
 Mrs. Chas Baker
 Scotstown
 Quebec
 Canada

Fig 4, Cover G6



Fig 5, Cover H4



FROM JIM FELTON - SOME MISCELLANEOUS ITEMS.

A nice little bunch of material has just come in from Jim Felton and it is presented here in a short form:

DEPARTMENT OF SOLDIER'S CIVIL RE-ESTABLISHMENT

This government department had Free Franking from May 1918 until January 1, 1920. During this period mail addressed to the department was also postage-free.

O. H. M. S.

DEPARTMENT OF SOLDIERS' CIVIL RE-ESTABLISHMENT
CANADA



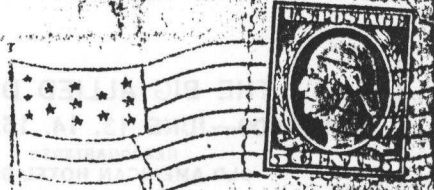
INSTRUCTIONAL MARKINGS

NEXT-OF-KIN NOTIFIED, CANADIAN CONTINGENTS RECORD OFFICE

This office was located at Green Arbour House which was near Regents Park in London. The cover was "Received Unsealed at Haverhill, Mass." on return and Officially Sealed by two copies of the blue lithographed Post Office Seal of 1907.

During April of 1915 the 10th Infantry Battalion, 2nd Brigade, 1st Canadian Division was positioned in the Ypres, Belgium area. The Second Battle of Ypres was fought 22-24 April 1914 and was likely where the officer met his fate.

After 5 days, return to
HAVERHILL ELECTRIC CO.,
HAVERHILL, MASS.
U. S. A.



in Hospital AM

Lieut. A. R. Ball,

British Expeditionary Force

NEXT
CANADIAN CONTINGENTS
RECORD OFFICE

Received Unsealed at
Haverhill, Mass.

*1st Canadian Division
2nd Brigade
10th Battalion*



Russell

MOTOR CAR CO. LIMITED.
276 KING ST. WEST,
TORONTO, CANADA.

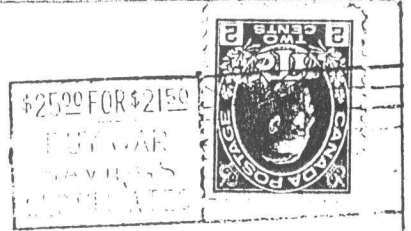


RUSSELL MOTOR CAR CO. LIMITED

"The Russell was the pre-eminent Canadian car before World War I, and... produced a line of trucks... (which) formed the basis of armoured cars early in the war, and Russell cars were used by the Canadian troops overseas." From the Complete Encyclopedia of Motor Cars 1885 to the Present, edited by G. N. Georgano, E. P. Dutton and Company, 1968.

Note also the patriotic war-time slogan cancel, Richardson type 27-2 as used at Toronto.

AFTER FIVE DAYS RETURN TO
SECRETARY
RETURNED SOLDIERS AID COMMISSION
49 CANTERBURY ST.
ST. JOHN, N. B.
P. O. BOX 888

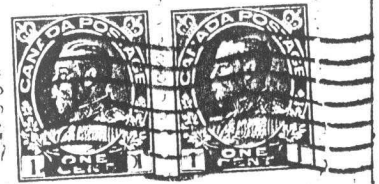


RETURNED SOLDIERS AID COMMISSION

In the province of New Brunswick, from whence this cover came, soldiers' dependents were also supported by provincial taxation.

Note also the patriotic war-time slogan cancel, Richardson type 27-1, from St. John, N.B.

THE BIG ALLIED DRIVE
\$125,000—JUNE 13, 14, 15, 16TH, 1918
HEADQUARTERS:
OLD AMERICAN HOTEL BLDG.
CORNER CHARLES AND KING ST. W.
HAMILTON, CANADA



FUND RAISING ACTIVITIES

During World War I Canadians gave over six million dollars to the British Red Cross. Herewith two covers used in fund raising at the time.

"OUR DAY"
"THE WOUNDED LOOK TO YOU"
BRITISH RED CROSS APPEAL
October 16-17-18 1917
TELEPHONE No. ... HALF A MILLION

