



BRITISH COLUMBIA
POSTAL HISTORY
RESEARCH GROUP

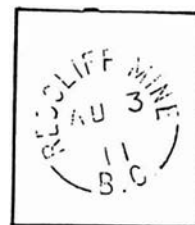
Volume 12 – Number 3

Whole number 47

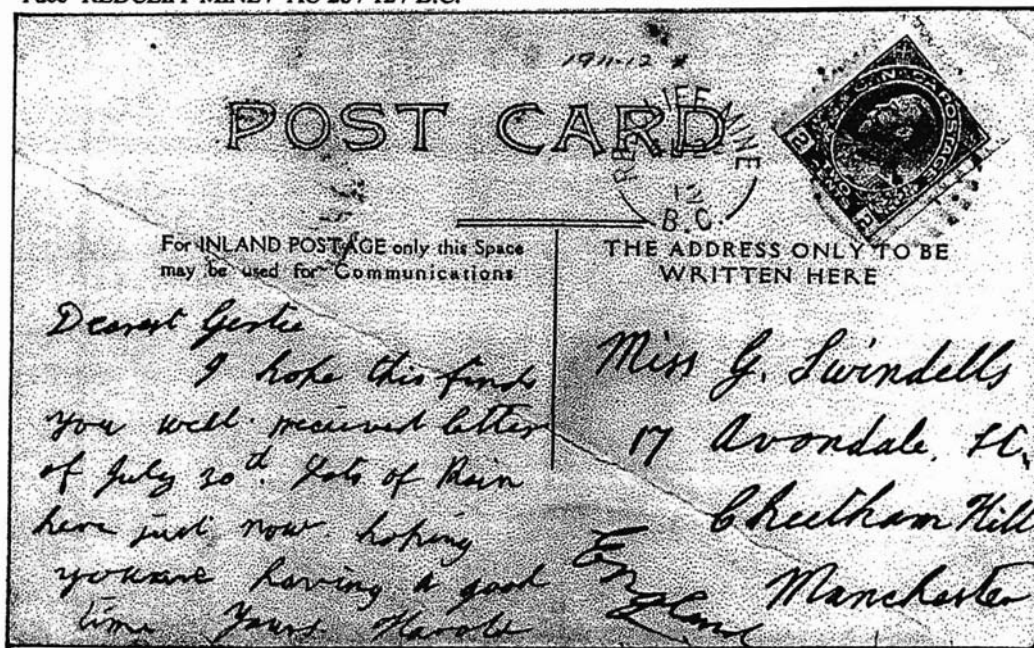
October 2003

REDCLIFF MINE

John Cheramy has reported the first recorded copy of Redcliff Mine. Redcliff Mine was located 13 miles north of Stewart and was one of a number of short lived mining camps near the head of the Portland Canal. The post office was established on October 1, 1911 with George Scales as postmaster and closed a year later on October 15, 1912. Mail was brought to the mine by the Canadian North Eastern railway that operated from Stewart to the Redcliffe mine. Like many small mining towns, once the mine closed the town and the railway vanished.



Face- REDCLIFF MINE / AU 28 / 12 / B.C.



... Canada Gazette October 1911, p 1401 and November 1912, p 1667

THE FOLLOWING NEW POST OFFICES WERE ESTABLISHED IN CANADA ON THE
1st OCTOBER, 1911.

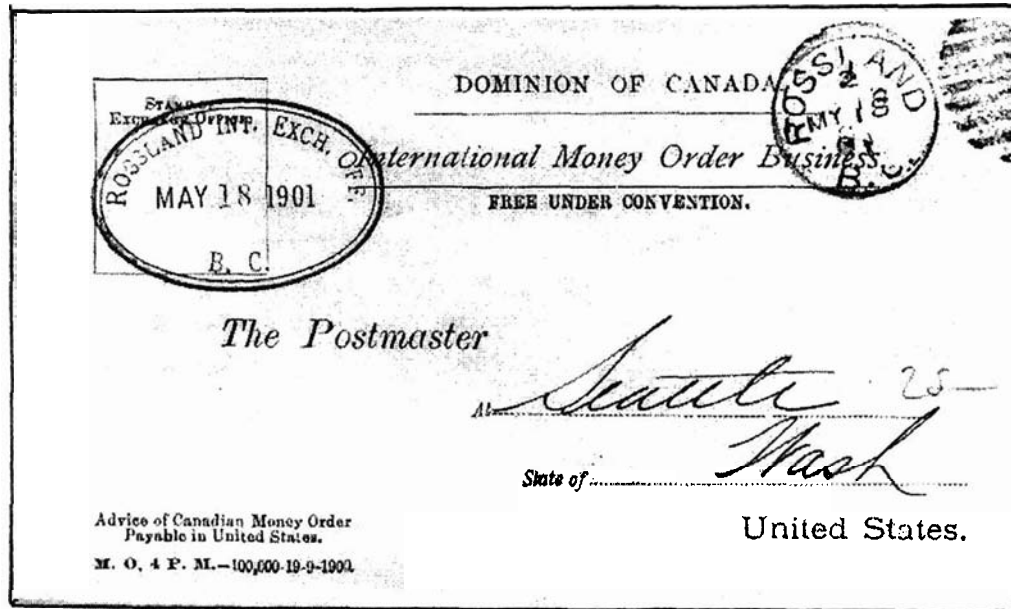
NAME OF POST OFFICE.	TOWNSHIP OR PARISH.	ELECTORAL COUNTY AND PROVINCE OR TERRITORY.	POSTMASTER.
1) Pocatonton.	Sec. 6, Tp. 49, R. 28, W. 5th M.	Edmonton.	Alta. B. E. Chadwick.
2) Point Gardiner.	Hardwick.	Northumberland.	N.B. James Taylor.
3) Rankinville.		Inverness.	N.S. Finlay Rankin.
4) Rayne.	Sec. 20, Tp. 54, R. 9, W. 5th M.	Edmonton.	Alta. Wilhelm Fortmann.
5) Redcliff Mine.		Comox-Atlin.	B.C. Geo. Scales.
6) Rolling Mead.	Dumbarton.	Charlotte.	N.B. W. D. Scullin.
7) Amateur.	Inkerman.	Gloucester.	N.B. Amateur L. Savoy.
8) Schulz (opened 18th Sept.).	Sec. 32, Tp. 20, R. 25, W. 3rd M.	Moose Jaw.	Sask. G. Schulz.

TWO MONEY ORDER ADVICE ENVELOPES

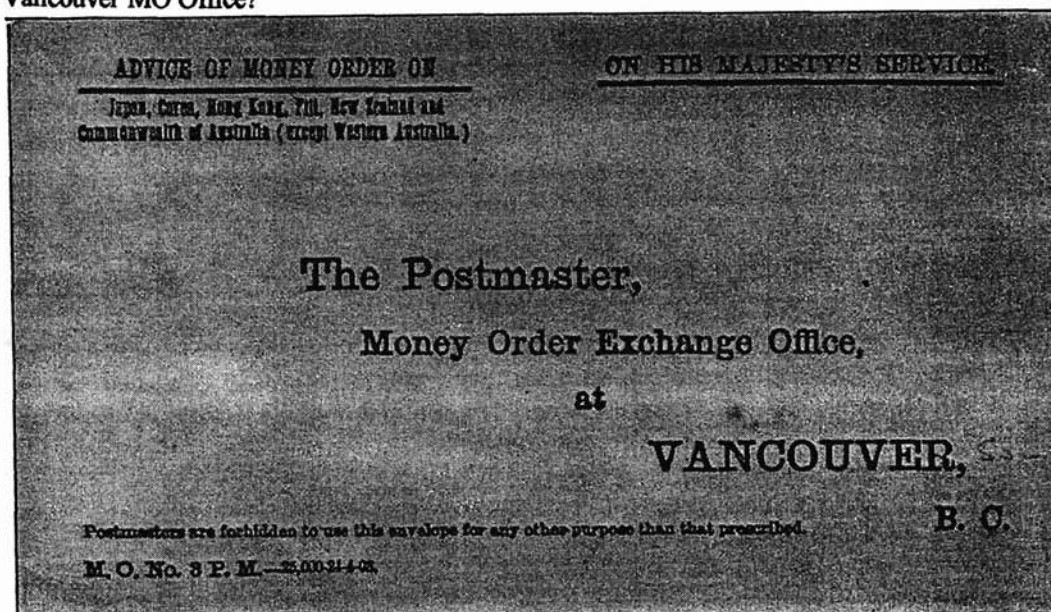
Gray Scrimgeour

Money order forms came in several parts. One part of course was the order, which was given to the purchasing patron. Another section was an advice that was mailed to the cashing office, authorizing the money order for payment. Special envelopes were used by the Post Office Department for conveying these advices to foreign countries.

I bought these two BC-related advice of money order envelopes at VANPEX 2003. The upper envelope was used at Rossland on May 18, 1901. Note the (purple) oval postmark that indicates that Rossland was an international exchange office. Is this the first evidence of this role for the Rossland post office? No proof strikes have been found for this postmarking device.



The lower unused envelope was manufactured to carry an advice to the Vancouver Money Order Exchange Office, where the advice would be forwarded overseas. Note the list of countries for which it was valid, printed in the upper left of the envelope. These were the countries that exchanged mail with Canada by either the CPR *Empresses* or the Canadian Australian Line ships that ran between Sydney and Vancouver. Has anyone seen one of these envelopes used? Has anyone seen an envelope sent overseas by the Vancouver MO Office?



Editors note – The 1900 *Canada Official Postal Guide* indicates that over 10 per-cent of the post offices in British Columbia were Money Order Offices and that these post offices could issue foreign money orders. By 1909 the list of countries to which money orders could be sent was over four and a half pages long with money orders for Japan, Hong Kong, Fiji, and Australia being sent direct, while those for Corea (Korea) were sent via Japan.

1900 MAIL ROUTES TO PLACES BEYOND SEA.

While checking the *Canada Official Postal Guide* for 1900 in connection with the item by Gray Scrimgeour regarding the dispatch of mail across the Pacific, the information reproduced below appeared to be of general interest.

MAIL ROUTES TO PLACES BEYOND SEA.

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MAIL ROUTES TO PLACES BEYOND SEA.

United Kingdom, France, Germany and other
European Countries.

Mails for England, Europe and the East are despatched from Canada, as England, follows:—

Once per week by Canadian steamer sailing weekly from Quebec in summer, and from Halifax in winter. By Canadian steamers.

Once a week by steamer, sailing from New York every Wednesday.

Once a week by Cunard (or other line of steamers) sailing from New York every Saturday. By steamers sailing from New York.

All mails for Africa are sent via England.

Direct mails for France are despatched once a week by the steamers of the "Compagnie Transatlantique" sailing from New York every Saturday.

Australia, New Zealand, China, Japan, Hawaii
(Sandwich Islands) and Fiji.

Mails are sent to the undermentioned countries as follows:—

COUNTRY.	ROUTE.	FREQUENCY OF SERVICE.
Australia (with the exception of Western Australia)	Via Vancouver..... " San Francisco	Once every four weeks.
New Zealand.....		Once every four weeks.
Fiji.....		
China (Hong Kong, Shanghai, &c.).....	" Vancouver..... " San Francisco.....	Once every three weeks, from April to September, inclusive, and once every four weeks the rest of the year.
Japan (Yokohama).....		Three times per month.
Hawaii or Sandwich Islands (Honolulu).....	" Vancouver..... " San Francisco	Once every four weeks.
		Three times per month.
Western Australia	" England and Brindisi.....	Weekly.

Bermuda, the West Indies, and South America.

To Bermuda, the West Indies and South America mails are sent via New York, with varying frequency according to destination. To Bermuda the service is semi-weekly.

There is also a monthly mail sent direct to Bermuda via Halifax, N.S., returning via St. John, N.B.

Bermuda, West
Indies and South
America.

Newfoundland.

Mails are forwarded tri-weekly from North Sydney.

HOPE POINT - GAMBIER ISLAND

The Hope Point post office was established on June 1, 1908 with W.A. Bishop as postmaster. He was succeeded, in 1910 by J.S. Kelly and in 1914 W. Horsburgh took over. Mail service from Vancouver was provided by the Inland Transportation Company that operated the Gambier Traveling Post Office (TPO) on their Vancouver to Howe Sound route. The post office closed September 15, 1917.



Hope Point P.O.
Gambier Id
B.C. 5/1/11

City Clerk
North Vancouver

Dear Sir

My address has
been changed from
532 Homer St. Vancouver

Kindly send all
notices to the following
address.

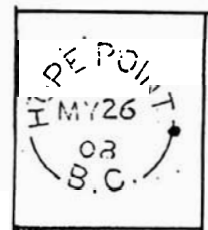
Mr. Thos. Spence
Hope Point P.O.
Gambier Id
B.C.

CANADA POST CARD

THE ADDRESS TO BE WRITTEN ON THIS SIDE



City Clerk
City of North Vancouver
B.C.



Wanted: Postal records or ephemeral for Hope Point Post office (1908-1917). I am researching the history of Hugo Hjorthoy, an immigrant pioneer who held pre-emptions on the land between Hope Point and Camp Fircom on Gambier Island. He was a lawyer who came from Norway to Gambier Island in 1895. He was well educated man who spoke and read 6 languages. He died and is buried on our property in 1942.

Sherry Cooper, 604-879-5554 or randscooper@shaw.ca



Regional general manager John Polak (left) takes questions from reporters about the special Vancouver 2010 stamp overprint to support the city's successful Olympics bid.

Sharing in Vancouver's celebration

TO SHOW ITS SUPPORT FOR VANCOUVER'S winning Olympic bid, Canada Post issued three million special flag stamps in July, overprinted in red ink with "Vancouver 2010."

Booklets of 10 or 30 were on sale across the country within nine days of the announcement that Vancouver/Whistler will host the games, beating Salzburg, Austria, and Pyeongchang, South Korea. Canada Post was a proud, early supporter of the city's bid, says the Honourable Steven W. Mahoney, Secretary of State for Canada Post.

"The organizing committee did a tremendous job in securing these games, and these stamps are a philatelic tribute to their efforts," he says.

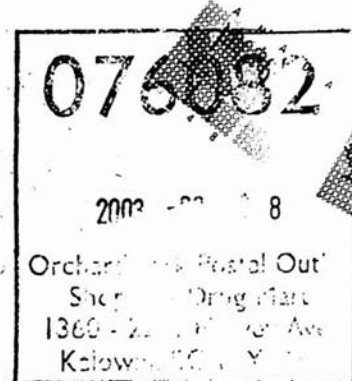
"I think it's time we started telling the world about good things in Canada, in a timely and financially responsible fashion," says Charles Verge, president of the Royal Philatelic Society of Canada. "The overprint was a great way of doing that, as well as to publicize stamps and remind everyone that Canada Post supported the bid."

An array of philatelic products related to the Games are being considered, but not until after the completion of the 2006 Olympics in Turin, Italy.

Verge says Canada Post last issued a commemorative overprint in 1933, for the World's Grain Exhibition and Conference in Regina. *Roman Zakaluzny*

FUN AND GAMES AT CANADA POST

Orchard Park Postal Outlet corrected RC 076082
Error reads RC 076802



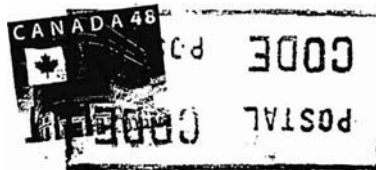
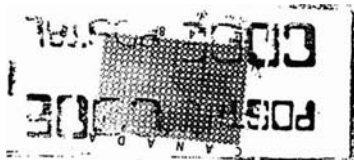
VANCOUVER & VICTORIA CFC INVERTS

Reported dates

V8Z 4B0 CFC 1 - 14 X 2003

V6B 3A0 CFC 4 - 17 X 2003

V6B 3A0 CFC 7 - 15 X 2003



VICTORIA DATED "000005"

The JSP date on the back of the envelope reads OC24Z (Victoria October 24, 2003)

118 V8Z 4B0 000005 19:53 111

www.apost.ca www.apost.ca 1111111111

UPDATE B.C. "WINGS" CANCELS

w "wings" cancellations are being introduced on an almost daily basis and thanks to Andrew Scott here is the latest update of the markings.

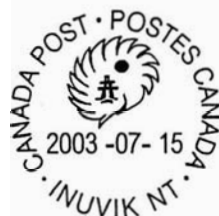
BC "WING" CANCEL LIST	RC#	Code	Ink	ERD	RC#	Code	Ink	ERD
Abbotsford, People's Drug RO	651648	V2S 5G0	B+	21/SP/00	Nanaimo, Beban Plaza RO	100545	V9S 1H0	27/MY/03
Abbotsford	100475	V2S 5G0	B+	03/MR/03	Nanaimo, Harewood Mall RO	100507	no code	27/MR/03
Alert Bay	640166	V0N 1A0		02/JU/03	Nanaimo, Operations	631183	V9S 5L0	20/DE/01
Armstrong	640328	V0E 1B0		18/JA/00	Nanaimo, Station A	644668	V9R 5H0	07/AP/03
Baldonnel (error)	640409	V9C 1B0		19/JA/00	Nanoose Bay	644684	V9P 9A0	01/FE/01
Baldonnel	640409	V9C 1C0		09/MR/00	Nelson	637807	V1L 4E0	16/AU/01
Brackendale	640735	V0N 1H0	B+	30/MY/00	Nelson	644749	V1L 4E0	18/AP/01
Burnaby, Cascade RO	100231	no code		22/OC/02	New Westminster RO	016810	no code	07/JA/03
Campbell River	653640	no code		18/DE/02	Oona River	641065	V0V 1E0	04/AP/03
Campbell River	129615	V9W 1E0		29/MY/02	Osoyoos	645397	V0H 1V0	23/NO/01
Castlegar	051136	V1N 2B0		20/NO/01	Pender Island	645508	V0N 2M0	04/SP/03
Chilliwack, Southgate RO	388254	V2P 2M0		30/MY/00	Port Edward	645672	V0V 1G0	21/FE/03
Clayhurst	641316	V0C 1K0		10/FE/00	Port McNeill	645710	V0N 2R0	11/FE/03
Coal Harbour	100235	V0N 1K0		24/OC/02	Prince George	645885	V2L 2L0	03/OC/01
Courtenay	641596	V9N 1G0	P+	04/DE/02	Prince George, College Heights RO	412856	V2N 4A0	01/OC/00
Creston	641707	V0B 1G0		28/MR/03	Prince George, Downtown RO	412864	V2L 3J0	01/OC/00
Delta, CSC (Ladner)	093122	V4K 1V0		14/AP/03	Prince George, Hart RO	412848	V2K 3A0	14/NO/00
Delta, Kennedy Heights RO	100322	V4C 6P0		03/JU/03	Prince Rupert (3 lines at base)	105090	V8J 3T6	08/AP/02
Delta, South Tsawwassen RO	100462	V4L 2C0		17/DE/02	Prince Rupert (2 lines at base)	105090	V8J 3T6	22/AU/02
Delta, Tsawwassen RO	100448	V4L 2B0		08/JA/03	Qualicum Beach	645974	V9K 1A0	13/MR/03
Duncan	no #	V9L 1P0		27/DE/02	Quatsino	646008	V0N 2V0	07/JA/03
Fort Nelson (FT. NELSON, B.C.)	644560	V0C 1R0		07/MY/02	Richmond, Blundell RO	026786	V7C 1H0	28/MR/03
Fort Nelson (FT NELSON)	644560	V0C 1B0		26/SP/02	Richmond, Ironwood RO	354619	V7A 1N0	11/AU/03
Gitwinskihkw	100268	V0J 3T0	R+	27/NO/02	Richmond, Richmond Centre RO	085715	V6Y 2B0	28/MR/03
Grand Forks	642797	V0H1H0		23/OC/01	Richmond, Steveston Village RO	644625	V7E 3A0	31/JY/03
Gray Creek	100099	V0B 1S0		20/MR/03	Robson	019542	V0G 1X0	15/AU/01
Grindrod	642851	V0E 1Y0		15/NO/01	Saltspring Island	100358	V8K 2V0	28/FE/03
Harrison Mills	642932	V0M 1L0		12/JU/03	Savona	646490	V0K 2J0	17/JY/03
Hartley Bay	649619	V0V 1A0	B+	24/JA/00	Sooke	646784	V0S 1N0	19/SP/03
Invermere	643300	V0K 1K0		24/MR/03	Smithers	646725	V0J 2N0	06/DE/01
Kamloops, MPP Wickets	651656	V2C 5P0		29/AP/02	Surge Narrows	641456	V0P 1W0	03/SP/03
Kamloops	000085	V2B 3L0	B+	11/AP/02	Surrey (circular, forerunner)	649333	V3T 2Y0	02/JA/97
Kelowna, Orchard Park RO	076082	V1X 3B0		31/MR/03	Surrey, Sunnyside Mall RO	013722	V4A 5A0	10/MR/03
Kelowna, Black Mountain RO	129879	V1X 6A0		06/AU/03	Tahsis	647047	V0P 1X0	05/FE/03
Kitimat	638447	V8C 1T0		30/JU/01	Telkwa	647128	V0J 2X0	06/SP/00
Ladner RO (error)	067069	V4K 1W0		05/FE/03	Thetis Island	655457	V0R 2Y0	30/AP/03
Ladner RO	657069	V4K 1W0		17/MR/03	Trail	647209	V1R 3W0	21/NO/02
Ladysmith	643750	V9G 1A0		03/AU/00	Vancouver, Downtown RO	062855	V6E 1B0	27/OC/00
Langley, Walnut Grove RO	413992	V1M 2C0		14/JU/01	Vancouver, Marpole	631671	no code	27/MR/03
Lillooet	643912	V0K 1V0		07/JU/01	Vedder Crossing	000100	no code	03/JU/02
Mackenzie	642983	V0J 2C0		11/JA/00	Vernon (two timestamps in use)	051187	V1T 2M0	12/OC/02
Maple Ridge	129755	no code	B+	11/MY/02	excised	V1T 2M0	BP	11/FE/03
Mission	100589	no code		29/MR/03	Vernon, Finnlay's RO	100123	V1T 6L0	14/JA/03
					Victoria	631000	V8Z 3G0	02/AU/03
					Victoria*	100182	V8X 1J0	10/JU/02
					Victoria	171905	V8T 3A0	22/MR/02
					Victoria	388505	V8N 4G0	06/MR/03
					Victoria	418595	V9B 4E0	14/JU/02
					Wasa	649058	V0B 2K0	04/MR/03
					Williams Lake	649244	V2G 1H0	28/SP/01
					Windermere	100197	V0B 2L0	14/MR/03
					Winlaw	649279	V0G 2J0	18/DE/01
					Winter Harbour	644153	V0N 3L0	08/JA/03
					Youbou	269034	V0R 3E0	10/JA/01

Inks: B/blue; R/red; P/purple; +/black noted also. ERD/LRD: early/late recorded dates
List date: 21/OC/03 Please email new reports and ERDs to andrewscott@dccnet.com.

*Victoria 100182 cancels dated JA/02 are timestamp errors.

Cancelled!

By Roman Zakaluzny



MOST PEOPLE PAY LITTLE ATTENTION to the cancel mark on their mail, but for years, stamp collectors have been discovering the many different and unique pictorial philatelic cancels available across Canada. All newer cancels are featured in *Details* magazine and online.

Typically, these cancellations promote a local event or a town's claim to fame. But who decides what gets pictured?

Postmasters do, and they can special order them to suit their hometowns.

Take, for instance, Bath, N.B. Its post office highlighted the town's name by putting an old-fashioned bathtub, bubbling over with soap, right in the middle of the cancel.

“People love our special cancel,” says Cathy Pickard.

“We have quite a few requests for it, about 50 a week.”

Part-time clerk Cathy Pickard says it's a hit with residents and collectors. “People love it,” says Pickard. “They think it's great. We have quite a few requests for it, about 50 a week.”

The requests come from collectors around the world. They want a picture of the bath, mailed from Bath. To get one, they send a stamped, self-addressed

envelope to its postmaster. Employees like Pickard fulfil the requests.

In the cases of Saint-Valentin, Que., Cupids, N.L., and Love, Sask., collectors are after the love-themed cancels these towns produce. And they usually want them dated Feb. 14—Valentine's Day.

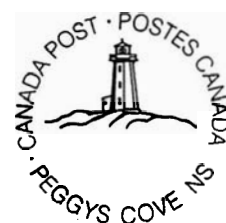
“People see me as Cupid's helper,” says Claire Langevin, postmaster in Saint-Valentin. She manually cancelled about 7,000 envelopes this year, some from as far away as China.

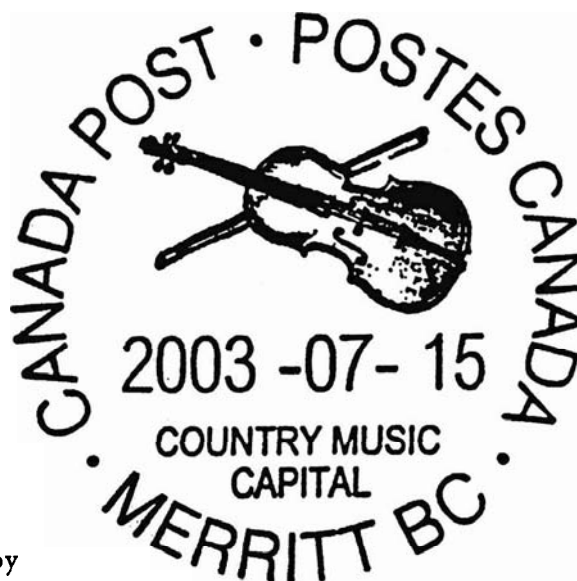
Any post office can get a cancel, as long as it meets certain criteria. “Regions send in designs. Sometimes we have to change them so they fit,” says Bernie Reilander, graphic designer (now retired), who designed them for the last 29 years (see related story, page 24).

Reilander says Canada Post can sketch a design from scratch, in consultation with a postmaster. But they prefer to work with ready-made designs, as long as the artist gives permission. “Getting a good, readable design is key,” he adds. “No gray—just black and white.”

Stamp Products is responsible for making the cancel, says Jim Phillips, director of the department.

“It's all good public relations,” says Phillips. “It fits in with some of our main mandates, including promoting Canada's





heritage, providing a service for our core customer, the philatelist, and giving something back to the community."

He points to Merritt, B.C. as an example.

The town of just 4,000 people swells by 100,000 every July when it hosts the Merritt Mountain Music Festival. This year, more than 120 visitors flocked to the post office to buy stamps and envelopes, "just to get our special cancel," says lead hand Karen Knapp.

"They thought it was awesome," says Knapp, who arranged for the cancel, which shows a fiddle. "For us, it meant that Canada Post cares about small towns,

because it's not just the big towns that get special cancels."

Postmasters can request a special cancel by writing Stamp Products, 2701 RIVERSIDE DR., SUITE N0420, OTTAWA ON, K1A 0B1.

Many of the cancels can be viewed on the Web at www.canadapost.ca/personal/collecting/default-e.asp?stamp=cancels. ■

King of cancellations retires

By Roman Zakaluzny



Bernie Reilander, who designed thousands of special event cancels, recently hung up his sketching pen after 29 years.

FOR ALMOST 30 YEARS, BERNARD "Bernie" Reilander was the king of cancellations, the sole designer of special event cancels at Canada Post.

No longer, though. Bernie put away his sketching pen in July, after 29 years of service.

Bernie joined Stamp Products in 1974 as its first graphic designer. There, he worked on first day covers and day of issue cancellations, as well as promotional materials. Several postage stamps are Bernie's work, including the Calgary centennial stamp of 1975 and the jointly-issued U.S. Bicentennial stamp of 1976.

But designing philatelic cancellations, individualized for any village or town, was one of his most fulfilling tasks.

"The post office is at the centre of a lot of events in smaller towns," says Bernie. "The cancellations can be very special for them, and I liked playing a small part in that."

He produced thousands of cancels in his time, but remains modest.

"It's really low-tech, if you think about it," says Bernie. "You're just transferring ink from a pad to paper with a piece of rubber." ■

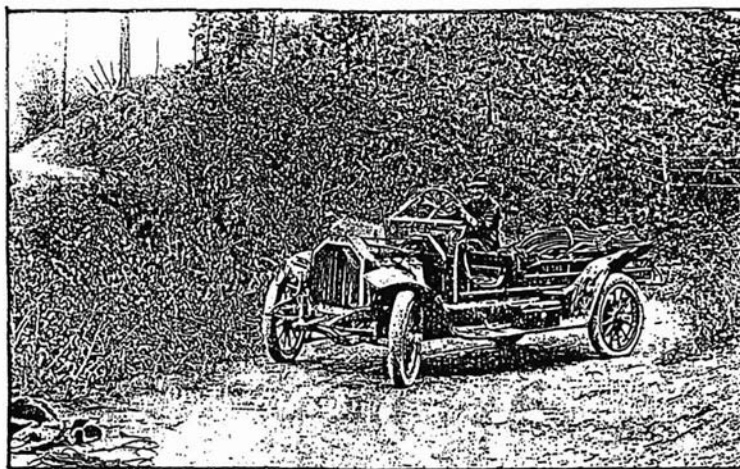
VERNON & KELOWNA MAIL – a follow up

From Mike Painter see page LXXXVII

Here is some additional information about the car shown in the postcard on the last page of the July Postal History Research Group Newsletter:

The mail car was a red McLaughlin two seater with folding top, purchased in June 1909 by William Scott to deliver mail between Vernon, Kelowna and Okanagan Mission. There was no snow clearing in those days so Scott had to go back to a team of horses in the winter. The McLaughlin was one of the first cars in Kelowna, which had a population in 1910 of 1650. Scott replaced this car with a Model T prior to the First World War.

(Source: Okanagan Historical Society Reports #21, 27, 57)



STOP THE PRESS

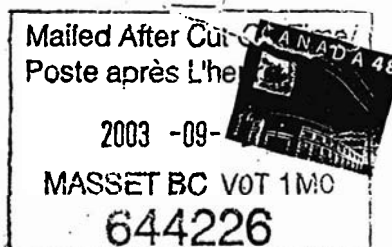
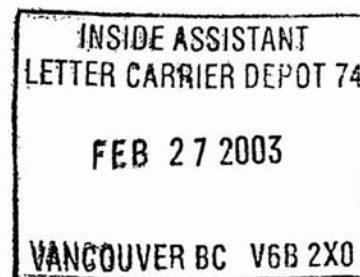
Early in September I.P.S. model HD2 serial number 4965 in Lillooet was replaced with the Klussendorf model 280/5, withdrawn from Salmon Arm in 1997 serial number 02248. The hub for the Lillooet machine was manufactured by I.P.S.

No copies of the I.P.S. machine have been reported.



RECENTLY REPORTED CANCELS

Thanks to Ken Barlow, Cec Coutts, Barry Drees, Jim Miller, Andrew Scott and others.



FOR THE RECORD – in the past the last two pages of the news letter were numbered using Roman Numerals, effective with this issue the practice will stop and number will follow the normal page sequence.

The British Columbia Postal History News Letter is published quarterly on behalf of the British North America Philatelic Society. Dues for the news letter are \$8.00 for one year or \$15.00 for two years (\$CAN or \$US). Checks should be payable to the editor, Bill Topping, 7430 Angus Drive, Vancouver, BC, V6P 5K2, Canada.