

WEST COAST



British North American Philatelic Society - Pacific Northwest Regional Group

Philately • Fellowship • Fun

Nov 2020

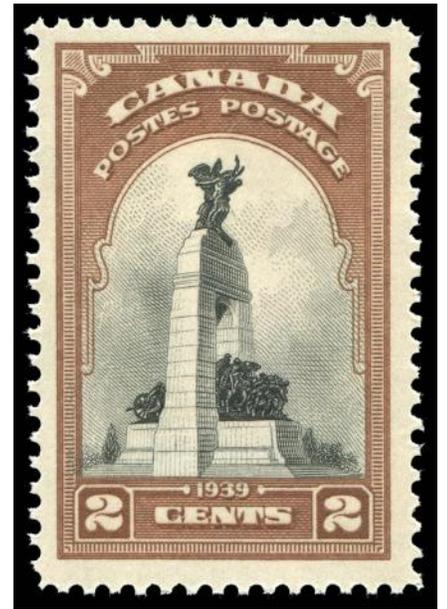
Number 39

LEST WE FORGET



Photo Credit: Oakley June 2005

*“They shall grow not old, as we that are left grow old;
Age shall not weary them, nor the years condemn.
At the going down of the sun and in the morning
We will remember them.”*



CANADA POST
DAY OF REMEMBRANCE
POSTES CANADA
JOUR D'ÉPIQUE





A Letter from the Chair

Good day, members of BNAPS Pacific Northwest Regional Group.

COVID will affect our community gatherings on Remembrance Day where we honour those that have served all Canadians and sacrificed their lives for our freedoms. Covid WILL NOT impede our thoughts and prayers for the fallen.

We Will Remember Them.

COVID has thrown a monkey wrench into everything we are do. The path forward is to work within the constraints of the “rules” and **carry on and adapt**.

And adapted we have. Technological change has accelerated now making work from home a reality and distant meetings no longer the purview of large corporations.

ZOOM ZOOM is no longer a **Mazda** commercial. It’s a software app that is bringing us together electronically. If you haven't yet tried it - **give it a go**. Certainly not as good as being there, but significantly better than being nowhere.

I recently participated in a **BNAPS study group** with members from UK, New York, Tennessee, Ontario, Quebec, BC and Alberta. Truly an international gathering of philatelists, all from the **comfort** of my own home.

Your PNW Region has planned a **series** of ZOOM meetings over the next **3 months**. All at **7 PM PST**. We are honoured to be able to present the following speakers:

Nov 18

Ed Kroft

Darin Cherniwchan

Dec 16

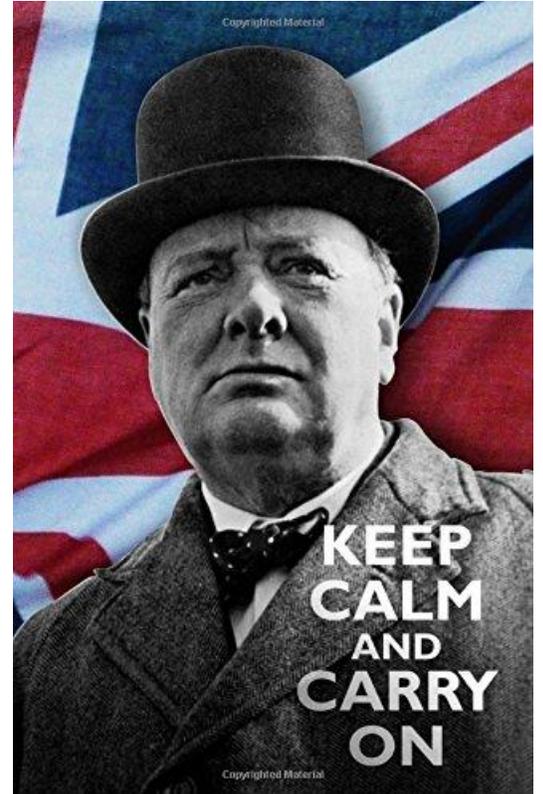
Gray Scrimgeour

Jan 12

Ken Pugh



“Tip of the Biltmore”



A tremendous **thank you** to each of these renowned philatelists' for sharing their fields of interest with the rest of the membership.

ZOOM ZOOM

Nov 18 Ed Kroft

Topic Palestine Mail Under British Occupation, Ed Kroft

Darin Cherniwchan

Topic Dr, Dewey and the 2 c Small Queen

<https://zoom.us/j/93453235955>

Meeting ID: 934 5323 5955



Dec 16 Gray Scrimgeour

Topic History of the Nicola Similkameen

<https://zoom.us/j/95322937285>

Meeting ID: 953 2293 7285

Jan 12 Ken Pugh

Topic Forger Andre Frodel

Zoom meeting ID will be sent by email as the date gets closer

Topic: Calgary Regional Group Meeting

Time: Nov 11, 2020 06:45 PM Mountain Time (US and Canada) **5:45 PST**

<https://zoom.us/j/95998651900>

Meeting ID: 959 9865 1900

Eldon Godfrey Topic: Remembrance Day slogans on covers

Dave Bartlet Topic: 100th Anniversary of the first Trans-Canada flight 7-17 October 1920.

IF you don't have Zoom software, **get it for free** at: <https://zoom.us/>

Learn how to use Zoom, just paste this rather lengthy description into the address bar in your internet browser:

<https://onedrive.live.com/?authkey=%21AKLcCc5z5J6NZQ4&cid=60AA46473575A143&id=60AA46473575A143%2164050&parId=60AA46473575A143%2164049&o=OneUp>

ZOOM ZOOM

BNAPS groups across Canada are also using Zoom to have meetings and as a member of BNAPS, you are invited.

One of the greatest advantages of this tool is the ability to participate in the National study groups. Zoom has created an incredible opportunity to participate - take advantage if it and enjoy.

All of you receive the National BNPS e-newsletter from the desk of Charles Livermore, <charleslivermore@hotmail.com>. Contained there in is a list of Zoom meetings across Canada. Here are the next few to consider. Apologies as the links wont work for you as this was ripped from Charles' newsletter.



Nov 7 Sat – Lower/Bas Canada **1pm Eastern Time** – contact: Luc Freve l_freve@videotron.ca
Yan Turmine will be speaking on the private mail courriers in Quebec (eg. Postpar, Colior, Messageries du Haut-Richelieu) from the late 1980's through the 1990's.

Nov 7 Sat – Large/Small Queen Study Group – **3:00pm Eastern Time** – Contact: Darin Cherniwchan
½¢ Small Queen, Kingston's segmented 2 ring cancel and more. chickenchan@icloud.com

Nov 11 Wed – Calgary Regional Group – **6:45pm Mountain Time** – Contact: dave.bartlet@shaw.ca

Nov 21 Sat – Newfoundland Study Group – **Noon Eastern Time** – Contact: Malcolm Back
Member presentations of 4-5 page “mini” exhibits mback1217@rogers.com

Nov 21 Sat – King George VI Study Group – 1pm Eastern Time – Contact: Ken Lemke
kwlemke@sympatico.ca
Eldon Godfrey will be speaking on WW II Patriotic Covers and Slogans

Nov 25 Wed - Calgary Regional Group – 6:45pm Mountain Time – Contact: dave.bartlet@shaw.ca

Letter from the Chair (con't)

Apologies from the break in my letter to talk about Zoom. I think the expression is “ but I digress”.

As you enjoy this newsletter, a big thank you to the contributors. We have an incredibly knowledgeable set of philatelists within our region. Thank you for your thoughtful contributions. Our newest column “My Favorite Stamp or Cover” is a place for everyone to share with the group. Your submission may be a few sentences or a doctoral thesis. But there are no rules. Share your philatelic gem with your fellow members. It's the equivalent of sitting down with a pal at the dining room table and chatting as your tour your album. Look forward to your submissions.

Cheers

Mark

KUDOS

Congratulations to:

Lorne James, Victoria BC 50 year membership in RPSC

David Lacelle, Merville, BC BNAPS Hall of Fame Award

Mark Oakley, Vernon, BC BNAPS Jack Levine Award

Ian Kimmerley, Victoria, BC Order of the Beaver (OTB)

**Alexander Globe, White Rock, BC Vincent Graves
Greene Award**

Peach Arch Stamp Club 1 st in CSN Cover contest

**Kelowna and District Stamp Club 2 nd in CSN cover
contest**

QUESTION of the Month

A member has an Edward stamp on piece with a cancel that he can't identify. Any suggestions?

A C & VRPO \.

AU ??

09

RPO Specialists in the audience - can you help out another philatelist? Perhaps someone in the BNAPS RPO study group?

Railway Post Offices

Chairman: **Peter J. McCarthy**
Secretary-Treasurer: **Sean Weatherup**

Newsletter Editor: **Ross D. Gray**

Website: <http://www.bnaps.org/studygroups/rpo/rpo1.htm>

BNAPS PNWRG Past Chair

Bill Bailey 86-87

Ken Ellison 88-89

John White 90-91

John Keenlyside 92-97

Gray Scrimgeour 1998-2001

Barry Brown 2002-03,05

Jon Johnson 2004

Jim Davidson 2005-6

Pete Jacobi 2007-8

Gary Dickenson 2009

Peter Fralick 2010-2017

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The British North America Philatelic Society Ltd. - BNAPS - is an international organization (founded 1943) devoted to the collecting and study of the stamps, markings, and postal history of Canada and the pre-confederation colonies of British North America (British Columbia, Canada, New Brunswick, Newfoundland, Nova Scotia and Prince Edward Island).

<http://www.bnaps.org/>

The objective of the BNAPS Regional Group is to promote philatelic study, sharing of knowledge and friendship with members and associates in a fun atmosphere.

Chair - Mark Oakley

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Newsletter Editor - Mark Oakley (Acting)

BNAPS VP Regional Groups Dave Bartlet

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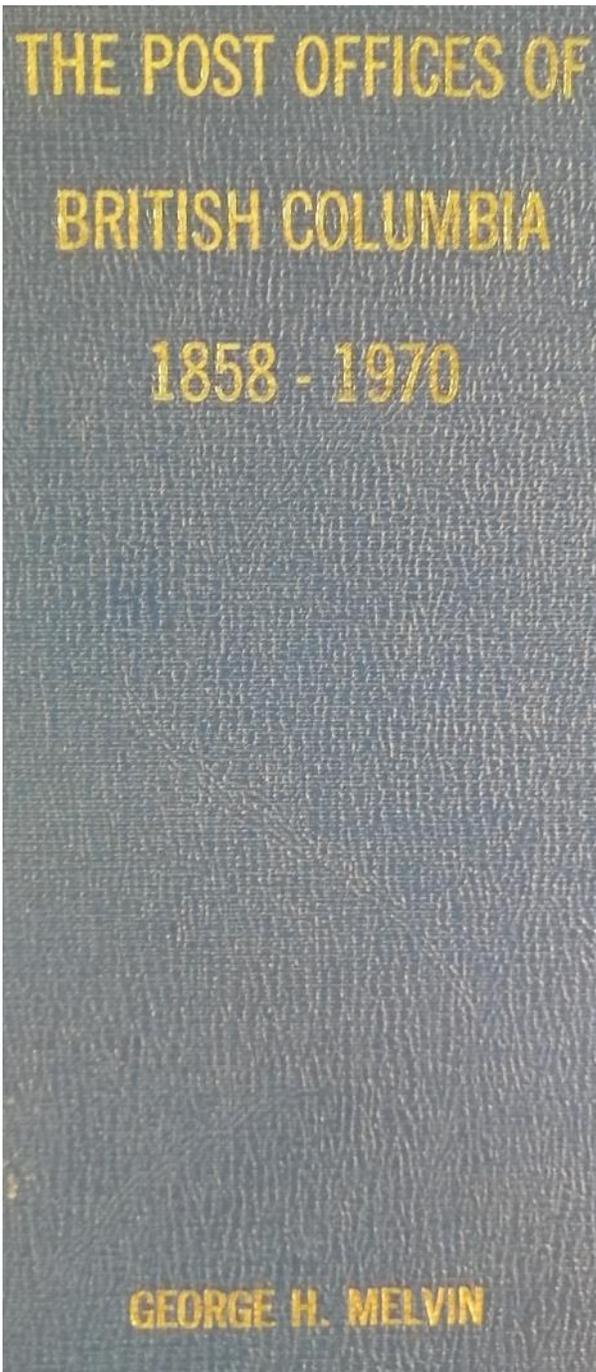
<https://www.facebook.com/>

My Favourite Book

Submitted by: Beverley Fox, Victoria, BC

I want to tell you about my **favourite book**. It's an oldie but goodie. "The Post Offices of British Columbia 1858-1970" by George H. Melvin. My copy is one of the original hardbound books with a textured blue cover and gold lettering. Inside it is numbered "67" and signed by Mr. Melvin. I didn't want to press my book flat into a scanner, so I used my mobile phone as a camera. The photos here are far from expert quality and I apologize ahead of time for my lack of talent!

"The Post Offices of British Columbia 1858-1970" is a favourite book of mine because it is chockful of useful information. It lists every BC Post Office up to 1970. Also available is a 62-page supplement issued in 1976. Every listing from A-Z



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displays the town's name, the location, the established opening date and if closed, the date of its demise. The sub offices of major centres are listed as well. Underneath shows a **list of postmasters** (I'm using this term as gender neutral) and the dates they served. If the Post Office name was changed, he lists the former name or what it became later. The town's **location** is often described by proximity to another locale and if known Melvin also explains the origin of the name.

One entry as example - *Denman Island PO is 13 mi. SE of Courtenay on W. side of Denman Island. Named after Rear Admiral Hon. J. Denman, F.R.S. Former Quadra, 1-6-1892.*

Some Post Offices **changed names** several times. I see *Quesnel* was formerly *Quesnelle* and before that *Quesnelle Mouth*. Named after Lieut. J.M. Quesnelle by Simon Fraser 30-07-1808. *Quesnelle Mouth* was established 16-07-1864 as a Colonial Office. These are all separate listings. There was also a *Quesnelle Forks* (est. 1873) which changed its spelling to *Quesnel Forks* in 1900 and closed in 1923.

Post Offices sprung open and slammed shut on some early mining or resource towns. Listed are *End of Track* and *End of Steel*, surprisingly with only a two-year window. Does this mean it only took two years to complete the British Columbian section of the railway?

My Favourite Book (con't)

Monashee was authorized 08-03-1904, deferred 13-05-1904. Postmaster F. Williams. The next line reads "Doubt this office ever opened as equipment was returned 08-06-04".

As if this isn't enough to get the BC cancel collector's blood rushing, there is more information following. Articles as shown in the Table of Contents are written by well known philatelists of days gone by. Topics include *Unreported PO Cancellations* by **K. Ellison**; *Early First Airmail Flights* by **Major R. K. Malott**; *Forgeries on BC and Vancouver Island Stamps* by **A. E. Smythies**; *Handstruck Postmarks* by J. Houser, *Coastal Ship Markings* by **W. Topping**; *Military Post Offices* by **Col. R Webb**; *Railway Post Offices* by R. T. Fraser and *BC Precancels* by **H. G. Wallburn**.

I've always been a **map junkie**. As a child I had a world map above my bed and I also loved the Canadian map, memorizing town names. I was thrilled when I found Beverly Lake, in what is Nunavut now. When I started working in the stamp business in 1984 and discovered George H. Melvin's book on "The Post Offices of British Columbia" I realized my knowledge of BC town names, which I had previously felt smug about, was miniscule. For me, it's philatelic literature **I can read for fun**.

I'm sure most of you know what I call this **'bible'** of BC Post Offices but on the off chance you don't - maybe you're new to the hobby - I hope you have the chance to read it. It's available here and there if you look for it.



The Stamps of British Columbia and their Forgeries
By E. A. Smythies, F.R.P.S.L., F.C.P.S.

The information in this article has been obtained — for the genuine stamps from two pamphlets, published (i) by A. Stanley Deaville in 1929, (ii) by Bertram Poole in 1953, (iii) as well as from the contemporary catalogues of Gibbons and Scott, and for the forgeries chiefly from (iv) the unique Har- for the collection of forgeries and (v) the new hand- book by the author — *BNA Fakes and Forgeries*, published by BNAFS.

The stamps of British Columbia are rarer than their catalogue prices in Scott and Gibbons would suggest, which is evident when we remember the tiny population before confederation was composed largely of illiterate miners busy hunting for gold rather than trying to write letters! But there are, of course, comparatively few modern collectors of a country which issued only 18 stamps, the most recent of which are over 100 years old.

To understand the genuine stamps of British Columbia and Vancouver Island, and the reasons for them, we must first look briefly at the early postal history of these (originally) two small independent Colonies.

Vancouver Island was first opened to colonisation in 1860, and the Hudson's Bay Company in 1843 erected a hut on the site of what is now Victoria, but no Government postal administration was attempted until 1854. Earlier Wells, Fargo and Co. opened a post office and sent or brought letters from all parts of the United States. When a steamer came in, Wells Fargo were the first to deliver, and their office was crowded. The names on the envelopes were called out, and anyone responding, the letter was pretty well accurately hurled at him! (A primitive way of delivering mail).

In 1856 Vancouver Island was made a Crown Colony, and two years later, owing to a big gold strike in 1858, British Columbia was also made into a separate Crown Colony. In 1860 Messrs. De La Rue of London were given the contract for the first postage stamp, of face value 2½¢, which was the cost of posting a newspaper, and was intended for use in both colonies, who had agreed to share the cost of production, since neither could afford the cost alone. De La Rue sent a first consignment of 235,000 stamps at a cost of £104. (It was stated that Vancouver Island never paid their share.)

By 1864 this solitary 2½¢ rate was causing considerable confusion. The rate in British Columbia for a ¼ ounce letter was now 3d, and the 2½¢ stamp was now on decimal currency, it cost 5 cents. In September 1865 Vancouver Island obtained from De La Rue its own postage stamps, 5 cents rose and 10 cents blue, imperf and perf 14. (The 5 cents imperf unused is now a great rarity, catalogue by Gibbons at £2,250!)

About the same time — November 1865 — British Columbia received its own stamp, 3d blue, perf 14. The design of this stamp featured the Imperial

Crown over a large V (for Victoria) and in both branches of the V we find the Morse sign for V, i.e. 3 dots and a dash (· · · —).

In 1867 the two Colonies were amalgamated into one Administration, and the current stamps of each (one with face value in pence, the other in cents) were used indiscriminately in both areas. Steps were also taken to prepare a new issue with more values, and De La Rue were asked how to keep costs down to a minimum, since neither Colony had any funds, and were looking heavily on their postal services. De La Rue suggested using the existing plate of the 3d British Columbia (a large plate of 240 stamps, with four panes of 60), printing in different colours for the different values, and re- charging the new values in cents — an experiment which had been tried and proved successful for St. Helena.

The most urgent demand was for 2 cents stamps, i.e. the rate for posting a newspaper. So the 3d plate of 240 impressions was printed in brown and over- printed TWO CENTS in black, perf 14. The date of issue was March 1868. Five more values were then prepared as follows: —

VALUE	COLOR	OVERPRINT COLOR	PATTERN
5c	red	black	5 CENTS 5
10c	lake	blue	10 CENTS 10
25c	yellow	violet	25 CENTS 25
50c	mauve	red	50 CENTS 50
\$1.00	green	arsen	1 DOLLAR 1

As the Somerset House machine performing 14, usually used by De La Rue, was not available and the need was urgent, another machine performing 12½ was used for the first printing of March 1868.

The second printing was similar except that the machine performing 14 was used. The 5 cents was issued in May 1868, the 25 cents in July '68, the 50 cents in February '71. The 10 cents and \$1.00 perf 14 were never issued, as there were adequate supplies of these two values from the first printing.

In 1871 the Province of British Columbia joined Canadian Confederation, and the local stamps became redundant. There is a certificate signed by a Post Office official, that all stamps of British Columbia and Vancouver Island, totalling over 2 million in all, were destroyed by fire in his presence except for one pane of 60 of each value, which were kept as samples. Thus for British Columbia the modern Philatelist is saved the confusion and faking that has resulted from the masses of remainders that survived in other Provinces — Newfoundland, New Brunswick, Nova Scotia, and Prince Edward Island — for which we may be duly grateful. It will be noted that all the stamps issued before Confederation came from four designs only, i.e. the original 2½¢ of the Vancouver Island 5 and 10 cents, and the British Columbia 3d. Variations of colour, shade,

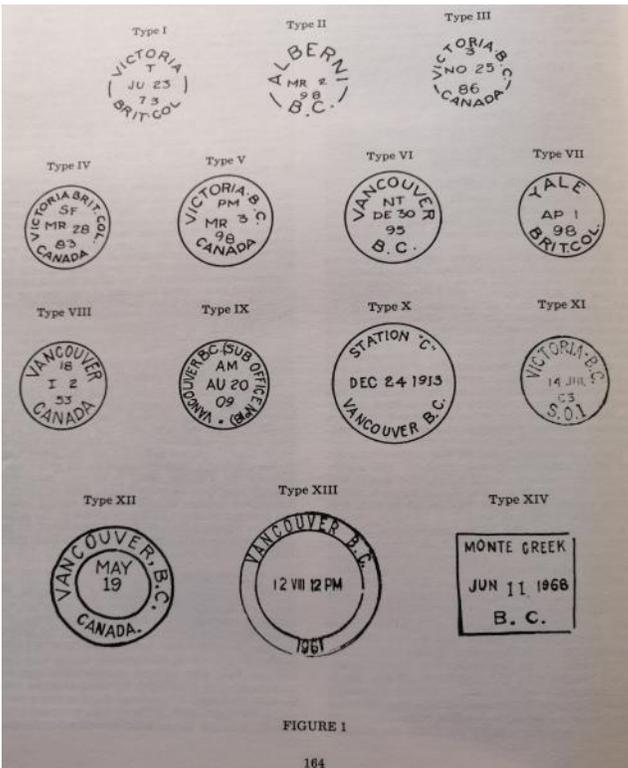
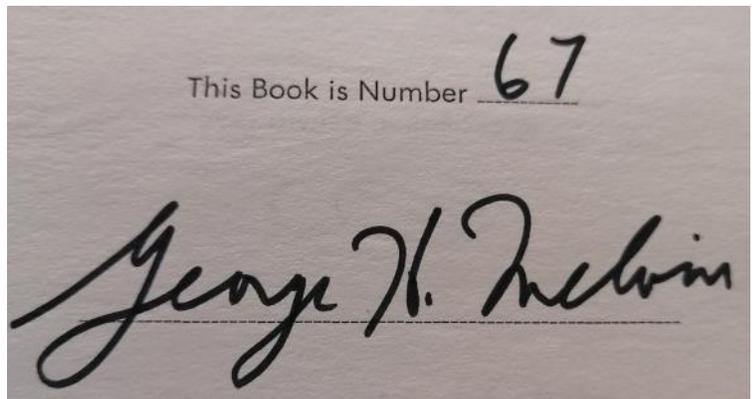


FIGURE 1
164



General Delivery (Post Restante)

Submitted By: Bill Pekonen

An interesting side-line collection of General Delivery mail is worth considering. **Examples** of General Delivery mail are **seldom seen** and may be **very scarce**.

International Mail is governed by Universal Postal Union regulations, namely Article 17 (2) which states: *Items addressed poste restante may be subjected by Administrations of Countries of destination to the special charge, if any, prescribed by their legislation for items of the same kind in their internal service.*

Only one reference describing mail addressed to “**General Delivery**” has been found so far in philatelic literature. Kenneth Wood describes the term in his three volume “*This Is Philately*” as follows: ***When an item is addressed to an individual in case of “General Delivery” at a specific post office, it will be held to be picked up by the addressee. Same as “Post Restante”.***

References to General Delivery mail are described in the Canadian Postal Guides. The Canadian Postal Guide (1940-1941) provides a more detailed explanation of this little known process in these sections:

Section 265: *The General Delivery Service mentioned in section 11 is intended for the use of the travelling public, transients and persons who have no fixed or permanent home addresses with the letter carrier delivery area, or others who cannot, for good and sufficient reasons, conveniently receive their mail by letter carrier or through a Post Office box.*

Section 290: *The words “General Delivery” in addition to the place of destination should be clearly indicated on re-directed mail intended for General Delivery.*

Section 291: *Letters for commercial travelers should be so addressed as to prevent their delivery to persons of the same name who may happen to be permanent residents of the places to which such letters are addressed.*

Commercial sales people and entertainers, usually visit small towns by airplane, train or automobiles to provide services and to promote themselves to expand the customer base. Before the days when the mobile phones; and the internet existed, these travelers **used the mail service to receive instructions** from employers and to return purchase orders. People on vacation also used the General Delivery service to **maintain contact** with friends and relatives. The same service exists today and can be used when travelling to other international countries.

Illustrated with this article are two **Poste Restante** examples mailed from Spain to Argentina. These two examples are part of a small group of covers that had been acquired at an auction. The envelopes contained letters written over a several month period. Unfortunately, the examples have been **roughly opened** by the recipient in their haste to read the enclosed correspondence. Each of the covers had the initials “MR” added by hand writing with coloured pencil. All of the covers were addressed to the same person.

The enclosed letters are **written in the Spanish** language on very thin semi-transparent pelure bond paper. The handwriting is also difficult to read. Therefore, no attempt has been made to translate the contents. On an entirely different subject, envelopes made from this **very thin paper** were commonly used in both Europe and South America. The air mail envelopes manufactured in Canada and USA were generally made with regular weight bond paper with the exception of a lighter weight envelope specifying AIR MAIL.

The first cover does not have any indication that an **extra charge** for the General Delivery service has been applied by the Postmaster. An Argentine postage stamp on the second cover indicates that a special charge had been made. The other envelopes in this group also had the same 10 centavo postage stamp added at the Buenos Aires post office.

Figure 1. Illustrates the front of a European size envelope mailed at Madrid 23 May 1936. There is no indication that a service fee had been charged nor paid. This cover arrived in Buenos Aires 27 May, 1936 after only **4 days** in transit. It appears that the envelope was picked up by the recipient on the same day that it arrived. Curiously, this envelope contains a dark blue very thin pelure bond inner sheet attached to the inside of the outer envelope. The purpose of the insert was for **security reasons**. The envelope has also been split open to show the back of the cover. The receiving cancel is different because it has the initials N.L.Y R. after Buenos Aires.

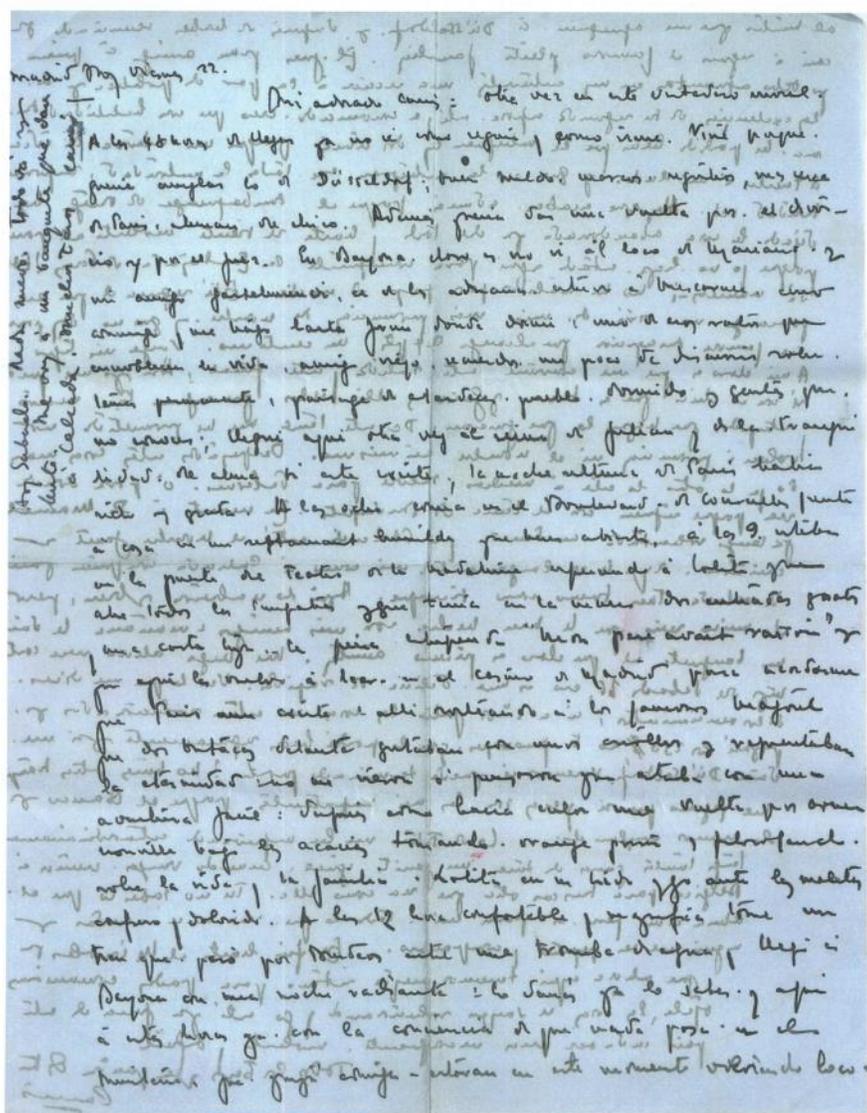
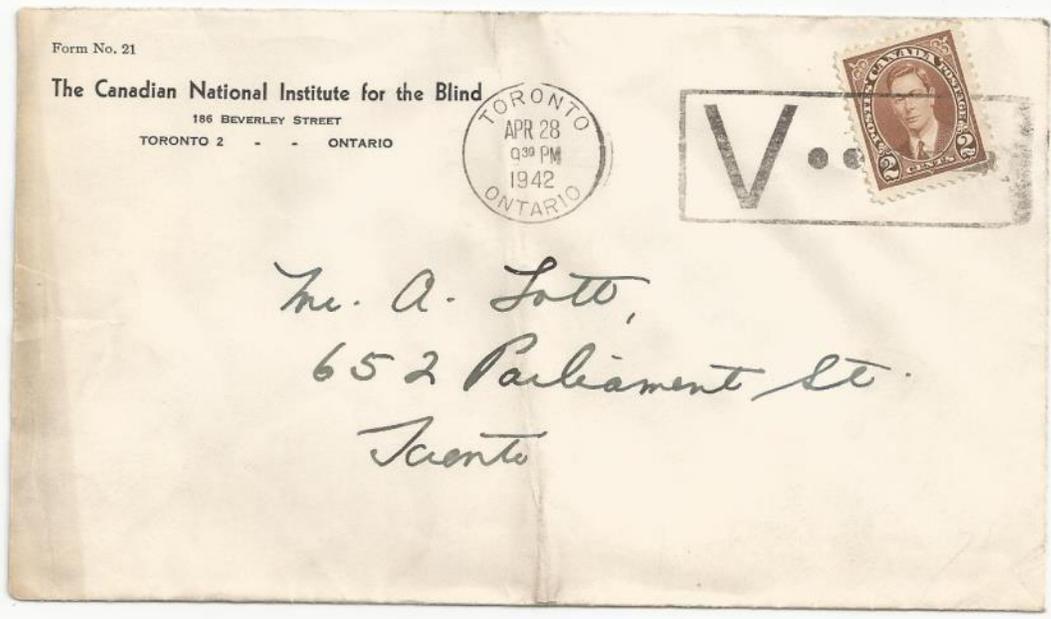


Figure 2. Shows part of the correspondence on the very thin pale blue writing sheet with the writing on the other side showing through



Canada Machine Cancel
 V for Victory
 And
 ...- morse code for V



Form No. 21

The Canadian National Institute for the Blind
 186 BEVERLEY STREET
 TORONTO 2 - - ONTARIO

TORONTO
 APR 28
 9:30 PM
 1942
 ONTARIO

Mr. A. Loto,
 652 Parliament St.
 Toronto



Cedar Cottage BC to
 Athies, Somme, France
 Nov 7 1911

Private Post Card

CANADA POSTAGE
 2c

VANCOUVER, B.C.
 NOV 7 1911

THIS SPACE MAY BE USED FOR CORRESPONDENCE

Mademoiselle J. Dereu
 Epinancourt, par Athies, Somme, France.
 Vancouver, le 7 oct. 1911.
 j'ai recu
 il y a quelques jours votre
 jolie p. c. Votre p. c. des defile
 m'interece beaucoup. Voulez
 vous que je vous envoie un
 p. c. du regiment 72nd Seaforth
 Highlanders dont je suis un
 soldat. Salutations empressees
 Kay Steverson.

Mademoiselle J. Dereu,
 Epinancourt,
 par Athies,
 Somme,
 France.

Printed in Germany.

No. 16. European Import Co.

The British Empire and Commonwealth Games

Submitted by: Bill Aaroe, Maple Ridge BC

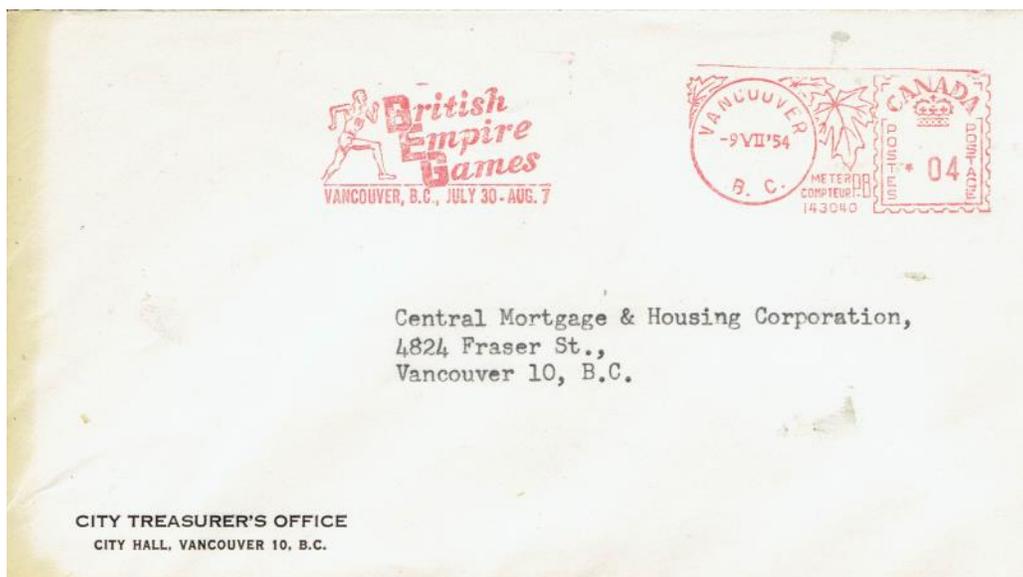
From July 30th until August 7th **Vancouver** hosted the 1954 British Empire and Commonwealth Games. These were the first games using this name as the event had, previous to 1952, been known as the '**British Empire Games**'. The games were held at Empire stadium which was located on what today is the Pacific National Exhibition's 'Playland' grounds. A total of 24 'nations' participated with a total of 662 competitors involved. Canada placed **fourth** in overall medal count winning 9 gold, 20 silver and 14 bronze medals.

These are the games famous for the '**Miracle Mile**' race between Roger Bannister of Britain and John Landy of Australia. Bannister was the **first runner** to break the **four minute** barrier (3:59.4) when running a mile and Landy the second (3:58.0) 43 days later. At the time of these games they were the only two runners to have broken the mark and their race on August 7, 1954 was the first time two runners both broke the barrier in the same race with Bannister, winning, 3:58.8, and Landy, second, 3:59.6.

The games were publicized with slogan postmarks in English in Edmonton, Ottawa, Toronto, Vancouver and Winnipeg and bilingually in Montreal. I have yet to come across examples of these although their pricing (Coutts 2002 catalogue) suggests they are common .



The postage meter illustrated here was used by **Vancouver's City Hall**, but interestingly uses the **previous name** of the games possibly for **space or familiarity** reasons. The postage meter they used was a Pitney Bowes type PB 8.1.13 (Irwin catalogue 2004). I have not seen any other examples of this promotional image so have no idea if it is common or was used by other organizations. Date of use was July 9th, 1954 and presumably it would have been retired at the close of the games or shortly after.



My Favorite Stamp (s)- Mark Oakley

“Brilliant, powerful, beautiful”

When contemplating this column for our newsletter, I thought it would be interesting to hear from the membership on **the** favorite item in their collection. Little did I realize how many children I have in my collection. **Who do I love the most?** All parents know the answer to that question!

As I reflected over my collection and all of the items and various areas of interest, covers, stamps, cancels, FDC, miniature sheets, it was almost impossible to pick one. Members, you have a task ahead of you and we look forward to hearing how you made your selection.

In the end I decided that my favorite stamp is **E6 Special Delivery** “The Allegory of Progress” designed by Hernan Herbert Schwartz based on a design created by Alonzo Foringer and printed by the Canadian Bank Note Company.



Why this stamp? There are several features that make this an impressive stamp. First the **size** allows for the presentation an engraved image from the pinnacle of philatelic design and engraving. The **en-graving** is incredibly detailed and fully captures the beauty of the artwork. A tribute to the skill of the engraving craftsman. The bold red **colour** makes this a vibrant and **powerful** appearing stamp complementing the figure straining to turn the wheel of the wagon on which rides the winged God, Mercury. The overall design surrounded by the maple leaves complements the design in a uniquely Canadian way.

“This beautiful stamp was created by an American, **Alonzo Earl Foringer**. Born in Kaylor, Pennsylvania on February 1, 1878. In addition to designing and painting many famous murals throughout the United States he was sought after as a bank note designer for American, Canadian and European banks. He worked extensively for the American Bank Note Company and in addition to his work on postal stamps he also created equally beautiful bank notes. His engraving on this stamp, issued June 1, 1935, called 'Carrier' certainly is impressive and adequately conveys the message of 'special postal delivery'.”

My second favorite stamp is also a special delivery. **E3** The Five Stages of Mail Transportation, *aircraft, train, ship, dog sled, and horseback* printed by The Canadian Bank Note Company, issued on **June 29, 1927** as part of the **60th Anniversary** of the **Canadian Confederation** commemorative stamp series.

Why is it number two? The intricacy of the design, the detail of the engraving and the overall composition of the design.



Originally I was drawn to this stamp as it was reputed to be very difficult to find well centred and that a well centered copy was considered to be even more valuable than what the catalogue described as VF. I found the premise that a VF stamp somehow carried a value greater than VF catalogue due to its centering rarity contrary to the catalogue definition of a VF stamp. But as I examined the stamp itself, I recognized that it was impressive in its own right.

Further study is merited on each of these issues which I will present in a later issue.



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