

British North American Philatelic Society - Pacific Northwest Regional Group

Philately • Fellowship • Fun

December 2021 Number 43

Merry Christmas & Happy New Year 2022



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A Letter from the Chair

To the members of BNAPS Pacific Northwest Regional Group

A Merry Christmas and the very Best Wishes for a Happy and Healthy New Year 2022

Perhaps never in recent times can I say that the New Years wish for heath and happiness was more timely and heartfelt. COVID fatigue is setting in. I can only imagine how fatigued our frontline health care workers are. Our heartfelt thanks for their continued service to our community.

Our thoughts and prayers go out to those that have lost loved ones, suffered the ravages of COVID and continue to be negatively impacted.

It will be a pleasure to close the door on 2021 and look forward to a return to normal in 2022.

2022 is starting off with the latest COVID trickster, Omicron. Will this be the last variant—we can only hope. However, I often tell my clients "Hope is a town outside of Vancouver, not a strategy"

Regardless, we will adapt to meet the challenge as we have done over the last 2 years. We will continue to have our monthly zoom sessions. Thanks again to those members who have given of their time and talents—what a remarkable group.

The front page illustrates Canada's change of dominion overseas rate stamp, incorrectly referred to as The Worlds first Christmas stamp. An unintended consequence referring to the rate change date as opposed to the celebration. No doubt a controversy exists and I would direct you to the BNAPS Study Group on the map stamp.

Rick Friesen is the Chair of the group and invites any BNAPS member with an interest in the Map Stamp to join. For more information, you can email Rick at rickfriesen5@gmail.com.

We had a very enjoyable Christmas party at our December Zoom Meeting. It was sparsely attended, I presume due to everyone's busy social schedules at this time of year. However, we had several outstanding presentations from members.

Brian Copeland had a very unique cover on the topic of Canadas Home Children. Between 1869 and 1932, over 100,000 children were sent from Britain to Canada through assisted juvenile emigration. Brian's cover is an interesting example of the 1898 Map Stamp usage. Further information will be published in the next newsletter. Canadas National Archives has a web site on the Home Children at https://www.bac-lac.gc.ca/eng/discover/immigration/immigration-records/home-children-1869-1930/Pages/home-children.aspx

Harold Krische presented several WWI POW
Christmas cards from his recent presentation to the
American Philatelic Society. See a more detailed
discussion further in the newsletter.

And don't forget CAPEX in June and BNAPex in September of 2022. Looking forward to these events and shaking hands with our philatelic family,

face to face, person to person.

Now wouldn't that be nice!

Finally, the quote below was made by one of our members about our membership. Too true.

All the Best for a

Happy New Year 2022

Mark



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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.

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Newsletter Editor - Mark Oakley (Acting)

BNAPS VP Regional Groups Dave Bartlet

BNAPS - Pacific Northwest Regional Group

7388 L & A Road

Vernon, BC V1B 3S6

p. 250 878 2700

http://www.bnaps.org/regional.php https://www.facebook.com/



Lot 625, Sparks Auctions Sept 21 2021



Scott #85



Scott #86

1898 Map Stamp

On December 7, 1898, Canada became the first country to reference Christmas on a stamp with the release of a two-cent issue celebrating the British Empire's unprecedented vastness.

With pro-imperialist sentiments, the stamp, which uses the term "XMAS," was originally designed to promote the inauguration of imperial penny postage throughout the British Empire. It was issued with two ocean colours – blue and lavender (Scott #85 and #86) – on Dec. 7 (although it was originally slated for release on Nov. 9 before being postponed, hastily redesigned and officially issued). With British officials seeking postal reform since the introduction of adhesive stamps in 1840, a motion to introduce "imperial penny postage" was introduced in the British House of Commons in 1885, according to Douglas and Mary Patrick's 1964 book, *Canada's Postage Stamps*.

Thirteen years later, an Imperial Conference on postage rates was held in London, England, On the proposal of the Canadian representative William Mulock, who was also his country's postmaster general, the imperial penny post was adopted by Great Britain, Canada and Newfoundland plus Cape Colony and Natal, then British colonies located in southern Africa. Other regions belonging to the British Empire were also invited to participate in the scheme with the Queen's approval.

"At first a proposal suggested fixing a uniform rate for the whole of the British Empire, but no rate acceptable to all the governments concerned could be settled upon," write the Patricks. "As chief Canadian proponent of the actual adoption of Imperial Penny Postage, the Canadian Postmaster General decided to stimulate interest in the event by issuing a special postage stamp covering the new rate and emphasizing the vast extent of the British Empire."

Envisioning a stamp showing Canada at the centre of the vastness of the British Empire, Mulock settled on a design by Warren Green, then president of the American Bank Note Company in Ottawa.

"In October 1898, Mr. Green called at Mr. Mulock's office," write the Patricks, "and a memorandum in his handwriting still existing in the files of the Canadian Bank Note Company, reads:

'This is a rough idea for the new stamp. Mr. Mulock had a number of designs for this and naturally a great many conflicting ideas. The only way I could get anything definite was to sit right down with a pencil and a brush and work right alongside of him until he got something that approached his idea.'

"The stamp was not meant to be a limited issue; it was intended to supplement the regular stamps for prepayment principally of overseas British correspondence, although the stamps were available for any other postal use."

The design uses the Mercator projection and shows the various regions of the British Empire in red. It reads "XMAS 1898" at the bottom, just above the phrase,

"WE HOLD A VASTER EMPIRE THAN HAS BEEN."

The phrase comes from a poem by Welsh poet Sir William Morris, who wrote "A Song of Empire" for Queen Victoria's Diamond Jubilee (published as the Jubilee Ode in June 1897).

"We hold a vaster Empire than has been!
Nigh half the race of man is subject to our Queen!
Nigh half the wide, wide earth is ours in fee!
And where her rule comes all are free.
And therefore 'tis, O Queen, that we,
Knit fast in bonds of temperate liberty,
Rejoice to-day, and make our solemn Jubilee."

Acknowledgement

This article was written by Canadian Stamp News December 7, 2021

https://canadianstampnews.com/canadas-first-christmas-stamp/

Postal History with a Christmas theme.....

Christmas has arguably been one of the most recognized holidays of the Christian world. While Christmas celebrations have evolved to take varied roots in many countries throughout the world, one might be surprised to learn that Japan notably hosted the design, printing and mailing of Christmas postcards from numerous World War I prisoner of war camps. Harold Krische provided insights into these developments and shared many examples of these Christmas postcards in an American Philatelic Society sponsored "Stamp Chats" webinar. The presentation "Christmas Postcards from Japanese Prisoner of War Camps 1914-1919" runs just under one hour and is available for viewing at the APS YouTube channel:

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=rapGKtX 1zY

These WW1 Cards exist due to the social political events of the period. The Japanese were attempting to advance their position on the world political stage. To gain favor with the Allied Forces, Japan arrested and interned German soldiers located at a German outpost in China at Kiautschou. However, as to not offend anyone, they created the best POW "experience" to meet and exceed the international rues for captured prisoner's. This policy allowed the German POW's to design, build and maintain heir own printing presses which gave rise to the varied and richly decorated Christmas cards, several pictured here.







Landscapes of Injustice

Submitted by Gray Scrimgeour

Here is a brief article explaining an amazing new online resource for researching postal history items relating to the internment of Japanese Canadians during World War II. The website—whose creation was a seven-year job for a large number of workers—is called *Landscapes of Injustice* (LOI). Its URL is:

https://www.landscapesofinjustice.com/

https://www.uvic.ca/research/centres/capi/research/home/projects/landscapes/index.php





In 1942, the Canadian government uprooted about 22,000 people of Japanese ancestry from coastal British Columbia, and forced the sale of all of their property. When restrictions were lifted in 1949, the Japanese Canadians had no homes and no historic Japanese-Canadian neighbourhoods to return to. Some had been sent to Japan in 1946. The LOI website tells the history of this injustice—with unusual detail.

The LOI reports were designed to avoid the euphemisms used in many governmental reports. For example, the website avoids the terms "evacuation" of Japanese Canadians, preferring "uprooting" and "internment". Similarly, the term "repatriation" of Japanese Canadians to Japan in 1946 is replaced by "exile". Loss of property is referred to as "dispossession" or "forced sales".

The most useful information can be found in the **PROJECT RESULTS** under **DIGITAL RESEARCH DATABASE**: https://loi.uvic.ca/archive/. Go to: **COLLECTIONS PAGE** and then **Custodian Case Files**.

The custodian case files are records created by the Office of the Custodian of Enemy Property. They document Japanese-Canadian property holdings including real estate and chattels as processed by the LOI digital archive team. They are a part of the Office of the Custodian material held at Library and Archives Canada in Record Group-117 C-3. This Office recorded 14,562 case files and other official records on microfilm. These records detail Japanese-Canadian property loss with names of individuals and itemized lists of property and forced sales. The digital archive team created a single record and digital object for each case file. Each case file is searchable in the database with a detailed description of the record. This collection is a good resource for community members who are conducting family history

research as well as for general researchers interested in analyzing the kinds of property recorded by the Office of the Custodian.

Browse the Custodian Case Files, and note that they are organized alphabetically by surname. Each entry in the index has a summary of the information, but open the case file number at the left and download the Facsimile. You will find records of property owned and information from the R.C.M.P. (including family details, date forced into the Interior and subsequent addresses) and property appraisals.

Here is an example that shows how the LOI data can more fully describe a cover. This cover was sent from Vernon, B.C. on April 6, 1945 to *The New Canadian* newspaper in Kaslo, B.C. by T. Tsuji, c/o Fraser Brothers, Swan Lake, Vernon. It reached Kaslo on April 14th after its letter was censored in Vancouver (Censor 268). Its route was train to Vancouver, censoring, then train (CPR Kettle Valley) to Nelson, and motor vehicle to Kaslo. *The New Canadian* was the only Japanese-Canadian newspaper permitted to publish after 1941. The cover's letter probably was related to a subscription to the newspaper.





How can I supplement this outline of the cover with information from LOI? There are four T. Tsujis listed in LOI who were uprooted to Vernon. Only two gave Fraser Brothers and Box 636 as their postal contact: Tokutaro Tsuji and his wife. In Vernon, Tokutaro (born in 1893) was employed as an orchard worker by Fraser Brothers. In Vancouver, he had been a gardener. The family—including one of their three daughters (two born in Japan had remained there)—had lived on West 3rd Avenue in Vancouver, and moved to Vernon on February 22, 1942. Tokutaro's wife was Tsuge (born in 1901). Both Tokutaro and Tsuge were Japanese nationals. The handwriting and handprinting styles on forms completed by Tsuge are identical to those on my envelope. Therefore, she was the T. Tsuji who sent my cover. After the war, the Tsujis went to Japan in the *S.S. Marine Angel*, which sailed from Vancouver on May 31, 1946. When they left, Tokutaro was debtfree and was issued a draft for \$4180; Tsuge was paid \$200 by the government. [Often, exiled Japanese were given \$200 each when they departed because they were penniless.]



Starting in March 1942, Japanese nationals and Japanese Canadians were ordered removed from coastal British Columbia. Most were sent to housing centres in the Interior, where the government provided the necessities of life. Tokutaro and his family, instead, apparently chose self-support authorized by the government, working at a B.C. orchard for the duration of the war. Their February travel to Vernon was quite early in the removal process—before the government enforced removal of Japanese from the west coast. Movement of Japanese to the Okanagan valley would relieve a drastic shortage of farm and orchard workers there; farmers and

orchard owners in the North Okanagan favoured arrival of Japanese workers. Many people in Kelowna, though, strongly opposed the arrival of any Japanese. At first, some came to the Okanagan independent of the government. This seems to have been the case for the Tsujis. Eventually, local growers' associations in the North Okanagan arranged to provide—for the duration of the war—room and board, medical care and

the going wage for incoming Japanese families. Self-support families presumably required government permits for movement. I have not found any mention of permits in the LOI data.

The information from LOI explains quite a bit about the removal of the Tsujis from the coast and their existence during the war, but some fundamental questions remain. How were they accommodated by the Fraser Brothers? How was their daughter Aiko schooled? Were all three of the Tsuji family paid to do orchard work?

I hope this one example has given you an idea of the value of LOI information for postal historians who like social history. There are almost 15,000 separate case files in LOI. Many contain more than one name. For example, children are listed in their parents' files, so the total number of names in the files is much larger than 15,000 (possibly as many as 30,000). The available data certainly indicate a few of the difficulties they faced. I will be using LOI for analysis of each of the covers in my small collection of internment mail.

Acknowledgements

I thank Louis Fiset and Robert Stock for their review of this article, and Jordan Stanger-Ross of UVic for helpful comments.

References:

L. Fiset, Japanese Canadians in World War II, BNAPS (July 2019) p. 20.

Additional Resources:

P.E. Roy, "A Tale of Two Cities: the Reception of Japanese Evacuees in Kelowna and Kaslo, B.C.", BC Studies, No. 87 (Autumn 1990) pp. 23–47.

https://nationalpost.com/news/Canada/rare-views-of-japanese-canadian-internment-19-images-remembering-one-of-canadas-darkest-hours

https://postalmuseum.si.edu/exhibition/collecting-history-exhibition-highlights/world-war-ii-internment-camp-stamps-and-mail

From the BNAPS Library:

Japanese Canadians in World War II - Censored Mail from the Uprooting in British Columbia

Louis Fiset
Released **December 2018**.
154 pages, 8.5x11, spiral bound.
Colour C\$ 35.00 [ISBN 978-1-927119-95-2].

Japanese Relocation Mail 1941 to 1945

William E. Topping Released **May 2013**. Exhibit series # 71. 88 pages, 8.5 x 11, spiral bound. Colour C\$ <u>24.00</u> [ISBN 978-1-927119-19-8]. B&W C\$ <u>17.00</u> [ISBN 978-1-927119-20-4].

Japanese Internment in Canada 1941 - 1946 - A Postal History

Ken Ellison Released **May 2006**. Exhibit series # 39. 86 pages, 8.5x11, spiral bound. Colour C\$ <u>24.00</u> [ISBN 0-919854-78-8].

WANT LIST



Canadian Special Delivery cover bearing #E3

Wanted, E3 special delivery on cover.

Please contact Mark at BNAPS-PNW@shaw.ca

(Please note the above image is not the authors and I did not record the source when I saved the image. My apologies to the rightful owner)

Do you need anything for your research topic of interest? Let the membership know—perhaps they can help. Our members have a tremendous philatelic knowledge ad contacts and are happy to share their expertise. Use this space as a research tool.

Went to a fancy dress party dressed as a stamp. It was a first class outfit.

Help Me -I'm Stuck



WANT LIST - HELP WANTED

Please submit your "want" items for publication. Who knows what may be lurking in someone's closet.

Submit your philatelic questions if you need help. We have an amazing pool of members eager to help other members.

THANK YOU to our Presenters

BNAPS PNW is honoured and privileged to have a membership that shares their research and knowledge for the enjoyment and education of the membership. In my editorial remarks made earlier, I said that the Zoom platform and technology has expanded our philatelic knowledge significantly in the last 18 months since the COVID pandemic started in March 2020.

We started our first Zoom session one year ago and look how far we have come. We have adapted to the technology and those individuals below have stepped forward for our mutual benefit. Not only have these individuals presented to our regional group, but to others as well and at our National BNAPex event and to other organizations as well. Zoom sessions are generally open to all interested collectors. You are always invited.

We are indebted to you for your service. This is indeed the hobby of Kings

Most of these presentations have been recorded and are available for viewing at BNAPS.org

Date	Presenter	Topic
Nov 23 2021	Dr. Gray Scrimgeour	Keewatin Postal History
Oct 19	Dr. Darin P. Cherniwchan	Using genealogical research to enrich the study of philately
July 27	Dr. Gray Scrimgeour	Burrard Inlet - Indian Arm Postal History
June 29	Dr. Brian C. Plain	Dead Letter Office
May 25	Ken Pugh	The Tormented Life of Andre Frodel - A Different Perspective
April 27	Dr. Darin P. Cherniwchan	A systematic approach to analyzing your stamps, cards or covers
March 23	Dr. Morris Beattie	CPR "Crowsnest Route" in Southern BC
Feb 23	Dr. Brian Copeland	Postal history of the CPR on the Prairies (up to about 1900).
Jan 12 2021	Ken Pugh	Research Sources for Stamp Authentication
Dec 16	Dr. Gray Scrimgeour	The history of the Nicola and Similkameen
Nov 18	Ed Croft, LLB,QC FRPSC	Uncommon Destinations for Mail Sent from Palestine during British
Nov 18 2020	Dr. Darin P. Cherniwchan	Dr. Dewey's 2 cent small queen

ZOOM ZOOM Upcoming Meetings

Pacific Northwest Regional Group

Date: January 18, Tuesday 7 PM PST

Presenter David Piercey

Topic: "Skidegate and Ikeda Bay 1907 - An Early Cover from Haida Gwaii"

The proposed schedule for the balance of the year would keep with the Tuesday meeting day in the latter part of the month.

Please "save the date"

Feb 22

Mar 22

Apr 26

May 24

Jun 21

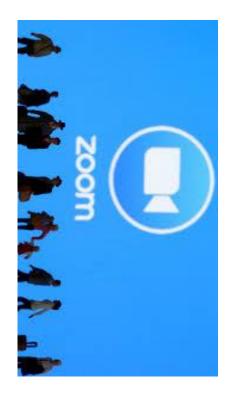
Sept 27

Oct 25

Nov 22

Dec 6 Christmas Party

If you have a topic of interest to share, please pick a date which suits your schedule and send a note. With Thanks.





Philatelic Funnies



Got a better one? Send it along.

Wellburn Philatelic Foundation

http://www.vicstamps.com/wellburn.htm

To Promote Stamp Collecting on Southern Vancouver Island In 1992, the Gerald E. Wellburn Philatelic Foundation was established from capital funds donated by Gerry, a well known local collector. The Wellburn Foundation promotes stamp collecting activities on Southern Vancouver Island. This has included shows, bourses, stamp clubs, youth and school activities and related endeavours. Future goals include promotional activities, seniors' programs, and other ways to encourage the hobby. We are always looking for additional contributions and volunteers to attain these goals.



G. E. Wellburn Philatelic Foundation a Summary and Year End Status Report, 2021. Respectfully submitted by: Peter Newroth, President

We now approach the second year of the COVID-19 pandemic and nearly 30 years since the G. E. Wellburn Philatelic Foundation was created here in Victoria, British Columbia.

Recently I heard questions including: "How has the Wellburn Foundation assisted philately", and "Who cares about more collectors"? These are good points to consider moving forward.

While this review of the Foundation does not attempt to answer these questions in depth - hopefully considering them will encourage discussion and generate new ideas.

Background - Beginning and Early Days:

Funds given by Gerald E. Wellburn (1900-1992) provided capital and an income source for the G. E. Wellburn Philatelic Foundation, which was legally constituted and is a Registered Society under Legislation in British Columbia.

There is a recognized affiliation and partnership between the Foundation and stamp clubs in Victoria area. The Foundation is wholly served by volunteers, currently operating under a Board of eight Directors. Annual Meetings review and document the operational and financial condition of the Foundation. Wellburn Foundation was able to adapt to reduced income from capital due to low interest rates. The original capital remains intact while annual operating funds have been supplemented in recent years by many generous donations.

Founding volunteers gave direction and embraced a Foundation Goal: to promote stamp collecting on southern Vancouver Island. At the time the Foundation was established, contributions to clubs and collecting stamps and postal history by Gerry Wellburn were clearly remembered. Collectors recalled his enthusiastic and active promotion of philately, support for organized stamp clubs and his lifetime love of collecting.

Gerry was a very effective story teller. His artful and interesting album pages were early demonstrations of ways to share links between history and postage stamps and covers. The Foundation was built on his accomplishments.

In early years little public outreach or publicity was generated about Wellburn Foundation. Its funds were mainly used to encourage young collectors within stamp clubs formed in local Middle Schools. Local stamp clubs including the Victoria Junior Stamp Club received some Wellburn Foundation financial support, with local stamp exhibitions encouraging displays by junior collectors.

More Recently:

During the past 15 years the Wellburn Foundation expanded its scope. While it is nearly impossible to measure the results of promoting collecting among young people, it appears that few childhood collectors show sustained interest and become adult collectors. As an example, the Junior Stamp Club was closed a few years ago due to lack of junior collectors. Until recently, Wellburn Foundation gave several Middle School stamp clubs stamp material and volunteer leadership. One school group has just re-started its stamp club - led by an enthusiastic teacher, herself a collector, helped by a Wellburn Director.

Details of Foundation activities are recorded on Vicstamps website (see below). Information about stamp collecting was shared at Seniors events and Foundation volunteers led stamp collecting/literacy programs at several local Public Libraries. Prizes were supplied for local stamp exhibitions.

Sadly COVID-19 has put much of this local outreach and exhibiting on hold. School and Library programs always require staff support - Foundation volunteers must work with them to access young people.

Wellburn Foundation now makes outreach a priority - supporting broader groups of collectors of all age groups. To promote stamp collecting we share information about hobby resources and contacts in the Victoria community. For over 20 years, Wellburn Foundation volunteers prepared and distributed brochures throughout our community describing local stamp clubs, dates of meetings and stamp shows. Much now is online and electronically updated on the local Victoria stamp clubs' Website:

www.vicstamps.com

Wellburn Foundation provides financial support for this website. It is an important "Bridge", connecting local collectors and clubs. It includes many useful features; club meeting dates, philatelic events, interesting links, displays and exhibits, as well as Wellburn Foundation information.

The Foundation prepares Free Stamp Packs; many hundreds already were distributed. Stamps in packets mainly come from donations and information on every packet links people to Wellburn Foundation and Vic stamps website. Packet materials are in part donated thanks to Weeda Stamps.

Outreach goes beyond the local stamp community to encourage new collectors and responses include more stamp donations. Recently hundreds of Free Stamp Packs are being given to Little Free Libraries of Victoria. Over 400 LFL boxes are in neighbourhood yards all over - people soon will find Wellburn Foundation stamps along with free books. Hopefully the stamp packs will inspire and spark interest in collecting colourful bits of paper! The Foundation also has been building up stocks of stamps and collecting tools, as resources now available for anyone interested.

Looking ahead:

The core Foundation goal remains - to share the heritage and fun of collecting with beginners and anyone wishing to resume the hobby.

There has been an apparent decline in the numbers of active collectors. Despite this trend there never before has been such greater opportunities to gather/purchase stamp material, build collections, access information and tell stories using stamps and postal history. Despite COVID-19 limitations, most people can find Internet and media access to stamp information through Zoom and other technologies. These opportunities allow individual enjoyment and some social connections.

The collecting experience remains for all to share what this hobby offers. Wellburn Philatelic Foundation continues to nurture goals set long ago with supports for people who care about a great hobby. While gatherings and aspects of stamp collecting are restricted at present, we want to innovate to promote and fully use our Foundation resources. Our expectations of "growth" of stamp collecting must be realistic - but perhaps we might aim to improve the quality of the collecting experience? What action might that take?



BNAPEX/CALTAPEX 2022

In 2022 the Calgary Philatelic Society will be 100 Years old since it was founded and will host the annual BNAPS convention (BNAPEX) over the **Labor Day weekend from 2 - 4 September**. CALTAPEX, which is normally held the third weekend of October, will be combined with and held at the same time as BNAPEX. This show will not be exclusively BNA, as it has also acquired the rights to hold a National level exhibition concurrent with this show so finetune your worldwide exhibits too. As a consequence, there will not be a separate CALTAPEX show in October. With the additional of National judging for the show, additional exhibitors and attendees are expected to come and help make our 100th Anniversary a great party.

The venue - Hyatt Regency in downtown Calgary has been secured with special event rates to be announced in the new year.





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