# KING GEORGE VI POST & MAIL

Jan—April, 2021 Issue 42

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# **►** Cover Story — Simon Claughton



CDS Woodfibre BC February 3, 1949. Paying 7 cent airmail rate to USA.

From: **C.G. Killam** of Woodfibre. BC.

To: Box 12-L-1, 19

Chemical and Engineering News,

Easton, PA.

**20** Postal marking;

21 Opened to Prevent Forwarding of Circular Matter by Order of Business Manager.

Did the Post Office intervene? Is S.G. Killam of Woodfibre, B.C. on the naughty list? 22

Is Box 12-L-1 a front for a lottery operation or?

# ► Chairman's Notes - by Gary Steele OTB

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Most of you may have heard there is a STAMP BOOM happening. Subscriptions to organizations are growing, bidding and prices at auctions are at a record setting pace. Interest has resurfaced as the hobbies like stamp collecting allow one to be busy and immerse themselves in new ventures.

Now is the time to take advantage of this and allow newly interested collectors into the fold via other means, emails, Facebook, YouTube, zoom meetings etc.

I would like to thank Ken, Stephen, and Simon for all the support of this study group they have given over the last 19 years. In addition, all the contributors, exhibitors, and attendees at meetings.

I am stepping down as Chairman of the King George VI Study Group as I feel it will free up time and energy to support this and other groups better in other ways.

Editors Note: On behalf of the King George VI Study Group, I would like to thank Gary for his 19 years of service to the group. While he has stepped down as Chairman he will periodically write some articles.

I am pleased to announce that Eldon Godfrey OTB has volunteered to become the Study Group Chairman.

#### King George VI Study Group

The King George VI Study Group operates under the auspices of the British North America Philatelic Society (BNAPS)

- The Society for Canadian Philately.

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# **► Editors' Notes**

As we enter the third wave of the pandemic I trust everyone and their families are staying safe and healthy.

**Simon Claughton** started the newsletter off with a cover that was "Opened to prevent forwarding of circular matter by order of business manager".

**Joe Trauzzi**, on page three, provides a very informative article on the National War Memorial two cent commemorative stamp. Joe conducted some very extensive research which can be found on pages five to seven.

**Eldon Godfrey OTB**, on page eight, provides an extensive look at what a pennies worth of postage would have purchased in the late thirties and early forties. His article is quite a lesson in third class mail.

Since the beginning of the year we have had two very interesting Zoom meetings. We have heard interesting and educational presentations from **Peter McCarthy OTB** (Motor Torpedo Boats), Eldon Godfrey (FECB covers), Simon Claughton (some favourite covers — which by the way I would love to had)., and **John Cranmer** (story of a Bismarck survivor who ended up in a Canadian POW camp), to name a few. The meetings were filled with the usual questions and philatelic discussions. See page eight for information on our next Zoom meeting.

During the last Zoom meeting John Cranmer asked a question regarding one of Simon Claughton's covers. See page 18 for the answer.

From the discussions, John sent a cover (page 19) to share with the study group in hopes of getting an answer as to why a cover mailed on Jan12/42 to Singapore which received a "Mail Service Suspended" mark disappeared for about three months. I decided to do a little research. It was an interesting adventure however I did not find an answer to John's question. As John's cover had a Censor label, I decided to track down a list of the Censor's with the help of **Mike Street OTB.** (See page 21)

On page 20, Gary Steele offers some answers to questions posed by Peter Kritz in Post and Mail Issue 41.

I would like to publish the next newsletter in July, 2021. However, as always, articles are needed. Please forward a question about a cover, a Canadian based historical item from the King George VI period, a favourite cover etc. The opportunities are limitless.

Finally, I hope to see members at bourses and conferences hopefully by the fall. I miss the personal contact as I am sure your do.

The KG VI study group and the newsletter are intended to share information, research, discussion, and helping each other.

If we are to support this goal with regular newsletters, we need more contributions.

#### KING GEORGE VI POST & MAIL

King George VI Post & Mail is produced in Word using Microsoft Publisher. Manuscripts can be submitted to the Editor either by mail or, preferably, in electronic format with text documents in M/S WORD. Scanned illustrations (using a black background) should be sent as separate electronic files or colour photocopies.

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# 1939 Royal Visit 2¢ National War Memorial Commemorative Stamp The Steps of the National War Memorial

# By Joe Trauzzi

In May and June of 1939, the King and Queen visited Canada, the first time our ruling monarchs visited. To help commemorate the visit the Post Office issued three stamps, a 1¢ of **Princess Elizabeth** and **Princess Margaret Rose** in green, a 2¢ portrait of the National War Memorial in brown and a 3¢ of **King George VI** and **Queen Elizabeth**.

All three stamps were printed using two different plates, the first time in Canada two different plates were used, to produce bi-coloured stamps. This was the second time bi-coloured stamps were issued by the Canadian Post Office, the first was the 1898 Map Stamp.

#### The Monument



Photo Credit: Canadian Heritage - courtesy of Veterans Affairs Canada, National War Memorial webpage, (1)

The National War Memorial was chosen in January of 1926 after a worldwide design competition, the winner was **Vernon March** of England. Vernon's theme was,

""the Great Response of Canada," represented by uniformed figures from all services passing through a granite arch. The idea, March wrote, was "to perpetuate in this bronze group the people of Canada who went Overseas to the Great War, and to represent them, as we of today saw them, as a record for future generations..." There was to be no suggestion of glorifying war (2)

Unfortunately, Vernon March passed away in 1930. However, the monument was completed on October 19, 1938 by his six brothers and sister.

The official name of the monument was the National Memorial, but **Donald Leblanc** reported an interesting story on how the name National War Memorial came to be,

"One concern for the P.O. Dept. was to acquire the exact name of the monument. They sent out inquiries to all departments, both federal and municipal (Ex: Ottawa Parks and Recreation Dept.) to be certain that they had the correct name to be added to the stamp. They were assured that the official name would be "The National Memorial"." ... "However, as luck would have it, politicians have their own agenda. At the ribbon cutting ceremony, in the presence of King George VI, the politicians referred to it as the National War Memorial and the name has stuck" (3)

The monument was officially unveiled and dedicated by King George VI on May 21, 1939 with an estimated 100 000 people gathered to witness the ceremony. You can watch video clip of King George VI in Ottawa at:

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Wx9f5fTvdOA

with the War Memorial ceremony starting at the 2:32 mark. You can also listen to the Kings full speech at the dedication at:

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=o5M5lSE3J2s

In 1982 the memorial was rededicated in include the dates of the Second World War 1939-1945 and the Korean War 1950-1953.

In 2000 the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier was added with the bones of an unknown soldier from a Vimy Ridge cemetery.

In 2014 the dates of the South African War 1899-1902 and the Afghanistan War 2001-2014 were added.

In 2016 the monument was restored by removing and replacing the concrete slab, replacing and repairing damaged pavers, adding a waterproof membrane and ensuring proper drainage, cleaned and repaired the cenotaph masonry and cleaned a bronze statues and re-waxed them with a new protective coating. (4)

#### The Stamp

50,244,000 stamps were issued, with the official first day release on May 15, 1939. The stamp was based on a photo by

2 CENTS 2

Marcus Adams of the National War Memorial designed by Vernon Match. The stamp was designed by Herman Herbert Schwartz and engraved by Joseph Killer, who engraved the black War Memorial centre and Walter Rosch who engraved the brown outside frame. They were printed by the Canadian Bank Note Company.

There is a significant amount of material available to collect as described by **Christopher McFetridge.** (5)

Shade, Paper and Gum varieties
Plate block with corner inscriptions (12 combinations for the 2¢)
Re-entries
Colour shifts
Imperforates
Essays and Proofs
OMHS Perfins
First Day Covers and Cachets
Postal History

Cancels

If **shades**, **paper and gum** varieties interest you, The McFetridge paper provides some basic information about these for both the 1937 Coronation in addition to the 1939 Royal Visit issues. McFetridge shows three shades of the brown frame, discusses the different papers he has seen including soft wove paper with vertical mesh and crisp wove paper without mesh and shows six types of gums.

There are position dots **varieties** on the  $2\phi$  as well as markings in the selvage. **Ralph Trimble** shows a re-entry on the War memorial steps on his website at:

https://www.re-entries.com/post\_medallions.html

Essays, Proofs, Vignettes and Die proofs all exist but are fairly hard to find. For more information on essays and proofs see:

http://www.bnaproofs.com/can-royalvisit.html

### **Plate Blocks**





For the 2¢ Nation Memorial stamp there are 3 brown plates of the frame and 2 centre black plates of the monument for a total of 12 combinations.

Left - block is from brown frame plate #2 and the black centre plate #1. All the National Memorial inscription blocks are common.

Right - there are four known imperforate inscription blocks, plates 2-2 upper right, 2-2 lower right, 1-2 lower left and 2-2 lower left. My copy is plate 2-2 LR.

### **Colour Shifts**

One of the more fun, and inexpensive collections, can be a colour shift study. These can be easily identified by looking at the monument stairs. I based my study on the right side of the monument and looking how many 'steps' are white.





The stamp on the left has one white step and the stamp on the right has five white steps.

I sorted 887 stamps and had the following breakdown,

0 steps	1.4%
1 step	2.2%
2 steps	8.5%
3 steps	14.9%
4 steps	22.0%
5 steps	23.7%
6 steps	17.2%
7 steps	6.7%
8 steps	3.3%
9 steps	0.23%

I then examined 41 plate blocks to see if there was a simple vertical shift. What I found surprised me. Within a single block, some steps shifted vertically, some horizontally and some both vertically and horizontally. Below is my spreadsheet showing the number of steps observed for each of the four stamps in each plate block examined in this study.

The block 1-1 LR is the lower right inscription block from the frame plate 1 and portrait plate 1.

The four stamps in each plate block are designated ULS, URS etc. in the Stamp Position columns to indicate where in the block each of the four stamps are located. The number beside the stamp location designator is the number of steps observed on the stamp, i.e., ULS - 4 means four steps in the Upper Left stamp.

Blocks (plates 1-1)	Stamp Position		Blocks (plates 2-1)	Stamp Position		Blocks (plates 3-1)	Stamp Position	
UL	ULS - 4	URS - 4	UL	ULS - 0	URS - 0	UL	ULS - 3	URS - 3
	LLS - 4	LRS - 4		LLS - 0	LRS - 0		LLS - 3	LRS - 3
UR	ULS - 2	URS - 2	UL	ULS - 1	URS - 1	UR	ULS - 3	URS - 3
	LLS - 2	LRS - 3		LLS - 2	LRS - 1		LLS - 3	LRS - 3
UR	ULS - 6	URS - 7	UR	ULS - 1	URS - 1	LL	ULS - 2	URS - 2
	LLS - 6	LRS - 7		LLS - 2	LRS - 2		LLS - 3	LRS - 3
LL	ULS - 3	URS - 4	UR	ULS - 1	URS - 1	LR	ULS - 4	URS - 5
	LLS - 3	LRS - 4		LLS - 2	LRS - 1		LLS - 5	LRS - 6
LL	ULS - 1	URS - 1	LL	ULS - 5	URS - 5			
	LLS - 1	LRS - 2		LLS - 5	LRS - 5			
LR	ULS - 4	URS - 4	LR	ULS - 5	URS - 5			
	LLS - 4	LRS - 4		LLS - 5	LRS - 5			
LR	ULS - 4	URS - 3						
	LLS-4	LRS - 4						
Blocks (plates 1-2)	<b>Stamp Position</b>		Blocks (plates 2-2)	_	Position	Blocks (plates 3-2)	_	Position
UL	ULS - 7	URS - 7	UL	ULS - 3	URS - 4	UL	ULS - 5	URS - 5
	LLS - 7	LRS - 8		LLS - 5	LRS - 5		LLS - 5	LRS - 5
UL	ULS - 5	URS - 5	UL	ULS - 6	URS - 6	UR	ULS - 3	URS - 2
	LLS - 6	LRS - 6		LLS - 7	LRS - 7		LLS - 3	LRS - 3
UL	ULS - 3	URS - 3	UR	ULS - 6	URS - 5	LL	ULS - 5	URS - 5
	LLS - 3	LRS - 4		LLS - 6	LRS - 6		LLS - 5	LRS - 5
UR	ULS - 6	URS - 5	UR	ULS - 4	URS - 3	LR	ULS - 4	URS - 5
	LLS - 6	LRS - 5		LLS - 4	LRS - 4		LLS - 5	LRS - 5
UR	ULS - 1	URS - 1	UR	ULS - 4	URS - 3			
	LLS - 0	LRS - 0		LLS - 4	LRS - 4			
UR	ULS - 2	URS - 1	LL	ULS - 6	URS - 6			
	LLS - 2	LRS - 1		LLS - 6	LRS - 6			
UR	ULS - 0	URS - 0	LL	ULS - 4	URS - 4			
	LLS - 0	LRS - 0		LLS - 3	LRS - 3			
LL	ULS - 3	URS - 3	LR	ULS - 4	URS - 5			
	LLS - 3	LRS - 3		LLS - 4	LRS - 4			
LL	ULS - 6	URS - 6	LR	ULS - 6	URS - 6			
	LLS - 6	LRS - 6		LLS - 6	LRS - 6			
LR	ULS - 4	URS - 4						
	LLS - 4	LRS - 4						
LR	ULS - 3	URS - 4						
	LLS - 3	LRS - 4						



Here is an example of the upper left corner of plates 2–2. It is hard to see but the upper left stamp has 3 steps, the upper right stamp has 4 steps and the bottom two stamps have 5 steps.

Normally when a shift occurs it is because the plate was secured in a slightly different location on the press. The shift would all line up higher, lower or to the right or left.

How and why these shifts occur escape me. Perhaps the plate was slightly misaligned horizontally or vertically, so the shift was different across the plate. Maybe it had something to do with how the ink was applied to the plate, although I do not believe so.

If anyone has any ideas, please write in.

**OMHS Perfins** are rare and nearly impossible to find used on cover. I have only seen one example.

Another popular collecting area of the Royal Visit issue is **first day covers with unique cachets**. There are over 200 different cachets and I heard a rumour that there will be an upcoming BNA book regarding them.

The most popular **postal history** collecting is the Royal Train visit of 1939. The pilot train had a post office car attached and there are examples of mail from every day from May 15 to June 16. This include mail from the U.S. Post office when the train was in the U.S., June 8 to June 12. Also, a fun area to collect is destination covers with Royal Visit stamps including the Empire Airmail Scheme destinations.

A simple inexpensive stamp like the 2¢ National War Memorial Commemorative Stamp offers a huge area of study but unfortunately it turns out that there are some fairly expensive items needed for a complete study.

#### **Bibliography**

- (1) Photo sourced from Veterans Affairs Canada, National War Memorial webpage (2020-01-24) <a href="https://www.veterans.gc.ca/eng/remembrance/memorials/national-inventory-canadian-memorials/details/9429">https://www.veterans.gc.ca/eng/remembrance/memorials/national-inventory-canadian-memorials/details/9429</a>
- (2) "Winning Entry (1926)", Veterans Affairs Canada, National War Memorial webpage (2020-01-24) https://www.verterans.g.ca/eng/remembrance/memorials/national-inventory-canadian-memorials/details/9429
- (3) "The Royal Visit Issue of 1939 Part II" by Donald Leblanc, King George VI Post & Mail, Issue 31 (Jan June 2015) p 8
- (4) "Restoration (2016)", Veteran Affairs Canada, National War Memorial webpage (2021-03-10) https://www.veterans.gc.ca/eng/remembrance/memorials/national-inventory-canadian-memorials/details/9429
- (5) "The 1937 Coronation and 1939 Royal Visit Issue", by Christopher McFetridge, February 14, 2017, Brixton-Chrome Inc website, Blogs and Forums (2021),

https://brixtonchrome.com/blogs/canadian-stamps-and-postal-history/the-1937-coronation-and-1939-royal-visit-issue

The next Zoom meeting of the King George VI Study Group will be on:

May 15, 2021 2:00 PM EDT

**Presentation will be:** 

King George VI Postal Stationery
By Robert Lemire OTB

If you haven't been receiving invitations to the study groups Zoom meetings, please email me at kwlemke@sympatico.ca

# WHAT CAN YOU BUY FOR A PENNY? 3<sup>rd</sup> CLASS MATTER and the 1¢ MUFTI

by

# Eldon C. Godfrey, OC, FCA, OTB.

The purpose of this article is to validate the production and issuance of the 1¢ denomination of the King George VI "Mufti" Issue (April 1, 1937 – June 30, 1942) by illustrating various postal usages of the 1937 King George VI 1¢ Mufti.

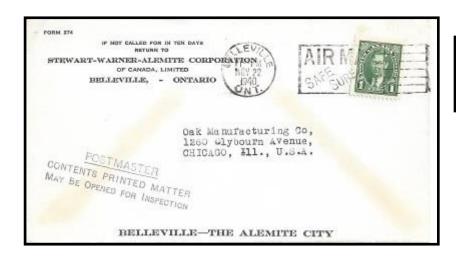
Issuance of a stamp of 1¢ denomination and its' use is required for the mailing of **3rd Class Matter** as defined in Canada Official Postal Guides (COPG) 1936-1937, 1938-1939 and 1940-1941 (Paragraphs 80 – 117).

<u>Designation as 3<sup>rd</sup> Class Matter</u> is noted with reference to specific COPG paragraphs supplemented by the COPG "List of Many Articles Admitted to the Canadian Mails with Rates of Postage".

Articles of 3<sup>rd</sup> Class Matter are subject to the rate of 1¢ per 2 oz. or fraction thereof.

The rate applies to Domestic (Fig 2) & International (Fig 3) Addressees. (COPG 80 & 336).

Fig 1 – Complying with Regulation 96



Leaving the envelope unsealed gave the sender a simple way of complying with Regulation 96.

# Third (3rd) Class Matter – Domestic and International Addressees

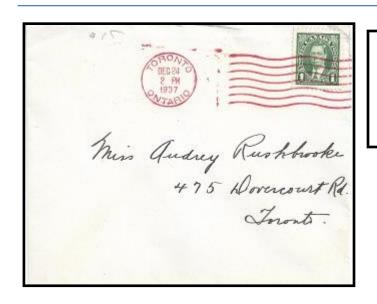


Fig 2 -- Addressed So Near – Domestic – Toronto to To-

Mailed **from Toronto**, Ontario on December 24, 1937 **to Toronto**, Ontario

Special Christmas mail delivery service

#### Third (3rd) Class Matter – Civic Publicity – (COPG 83)

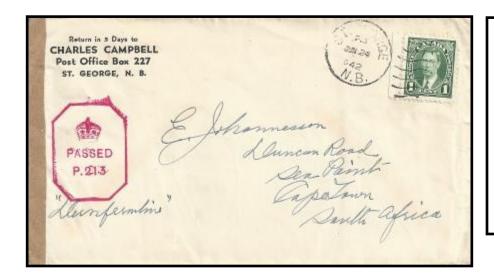


Fig 3 – Addressed So Far – International – New Brunswick to South

Mailed from St. George, N.B. on June 24, 1942 to Capetown, South Africa.

Charles Campbell was a physician and mail order stamp dealer.

Advertised "50 different Newfoundland for \$1" in Feb. & Sept. 1942
Popular Science.

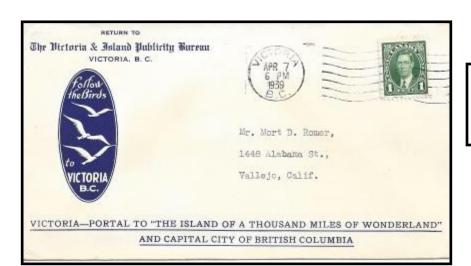


Fig 4 – Civic Publicity Circular – (COPG 83)

West Coast - Victoria,

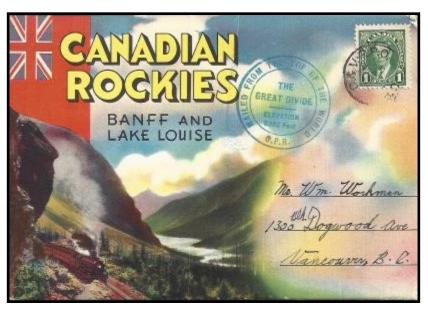


Fig 5 — National Parks Publicity Banff and Lake Louise (COPG 83)

# Third (3rd) Class Matter – Greeting Card – (COPG 85(g))

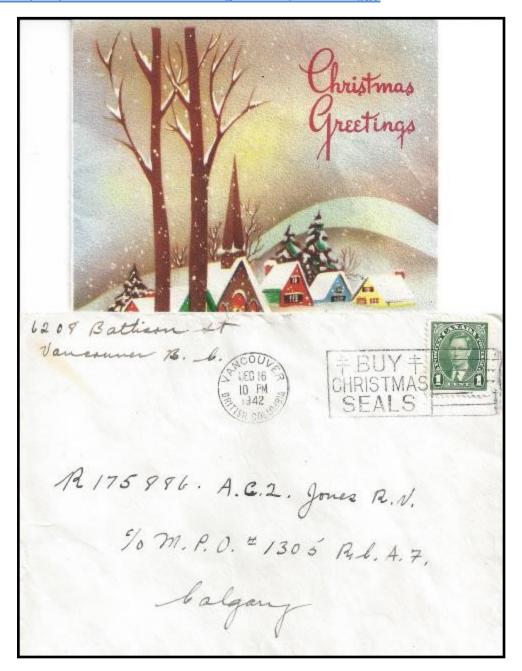


Fig 6 -- Greeting Card -- (COPG 85g)

Christmas Greeting

Mailed on December 16, 1942 at Vancouver, B.C., to Calgary

Received Calgary M.P.O. 1305 R.C.A.F. – AM/DE 19/42

The Christmas slogan exhorts Canadians

BUY CHRISTMAS

SEALS

#### Third (3rd) Class Matter – Greeting Card – (COPG 85(g))





Fig 7 -- Greeting Card -- (COPG 85g)

**Easter Greeting** 

Thank you for your encouragement over the last season.

Until we have the pleasure to serve you again we wish you

#### **Joyous & Happy Easter**

Card mailed from Port Daniel Station, P.Q. to Spencer, Indiana, U.S.A. on March 21

"Maunday Thursday"

Easter Sunday fell upon March 24

#### Third (3rd) Class Matter – Customs and Excise – 4 Hole "OHMS" – (COPG 80)



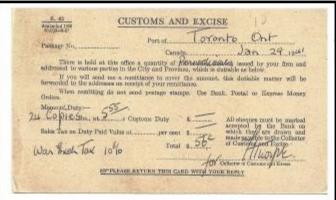


Fig 8 And 9

#### "Dominion Government document on official blank"

has been mailed to the assessed party, American Scandinavian Good Will Magazine.

The card has been returned by American Scandinavian under separate cover as directed.

Note – No Customs Duty or Sales Tax is assessed; however, a **War Exchange Tax** in the amount of 10% of the value of the shipment has been **self-assessed** on January 29, 1941.

#### Third (3rd) Class Matter – Newspaper Reporting and Photographs – (COPG 80)

Figs 10 & 11 – Newspaper Reporting and Photographs – (COPG 80)



Fig. 10

# **News Report or Advertising Copy**

Mailed from Port Rowan, Ontario on February 17, 1942 to Tillsonburg.



Fig 11

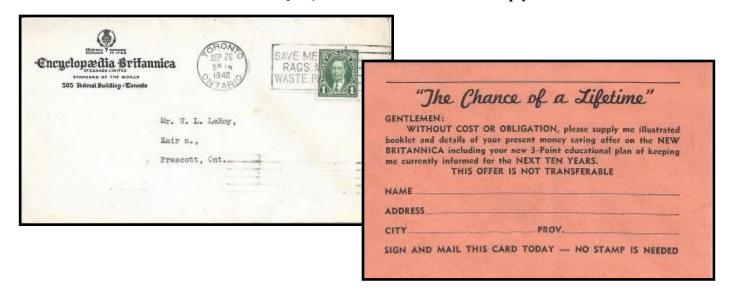
Street Photographer forwarding "Street Snapshots"

Forwarded from Calgary, Alta. to Clive, Alta. on July 20, 1942

Third (3rd) Class Matter – Forms of Order or Subscription – (COPG 85(f))

Figs 12 & 13 – Forms of Order or Subscription – (COPG 85(f))

# Transmission of an Encyclopaedia Britannica Business Reply Card



#### A Non-transferable Request for Details of Publication Offering

Mailed from Toronto, Ontario on September 26, 1942 to Prescott, Ont.

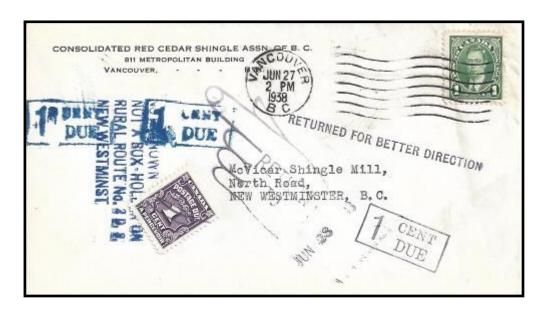
Received in Prescott on September 28, 1942.

#### Third (3rd) Class Matter – Undeliverable – Returned for Better Direction

### Postage Due – RETURNED FOR BETTER DIRECTION

# Canada Official Postal Guide 1938 – 1939 -- Paragraph 113

Fig 14



#### Two separate services each provided for 1¢

Initial service -- Mailed from Vancouver, B.C. on June 27, 1938 to New Westminster, B.C.

Pointing Finger to Return to Sender – June 28, 1938

RETURNED FOR BETTER DIRECTION

**NOT KNOWN** 

NOT A BOX HOLDER ON

RURAL ROUTE No. 2 D.S.

**NEW WESTMINSTER** 

**Second service - 1 CENT DUE** 

Paid with Fourth (4<sup>th</sup>) Postage Due Issue Stamp – 1 Cent

#### Third (3rd) Class Matter – Bulk Letter Mailing – "Mute Dater Hub"

#### Fig 15 and 16

Specifically used to cancel printed matter mail, it is believed the months/days were deliberately left out because there were no delivery guarantees on printed matter and a date could cause embarrassment. It is believed that some larger offices would set aside an old machine to use for this type of mail, i.e. instead of periodically having to remove the day/month slugs temporarily from an active mainstream machine; a machine dedicated for the purpose could be used.

#### **Notice – Annual General Meeting of Shareholders**

The Inland Mortgage Corporation Limited



#### Third (3rd) Class Matter – Bulk Letter Mailing – "Pre-cancelled"

**COPG 1937 Paragraph 274** permits the use of "pre-cancelled" stamps "for payment of postage on articles of mail other than letters in some of the larger centres, where extensive mailings are made under very stringent regulations". .... "When pre-cancelled stamps are used on any article of mail, the postage on the article should be <u>entirely</u> prepaid by means of pre-cancelled stamps.

Forty-one (41) towns used 1¢ Mufti stamps pre-cancelled bearing the Money Order Office Number (MOON) and additionally with parallel horizontal bars for smaller centres upon application therefor. A heavy bar type on the 1¢ Mufti Coil.

CENTENARY COMMITTEE
MOUNT ALLISON, SACKVILLE
NEW BRUNSWICK, CANADA

Dr. Frederick M. Thuck,
8 Broadway.
Bangor, Thaine

1840 MOUNT ALLISON'S BIRTHDAY 1940

Fig 17
Sackville, New Brunswick
MOON—X945

Sector of Charity

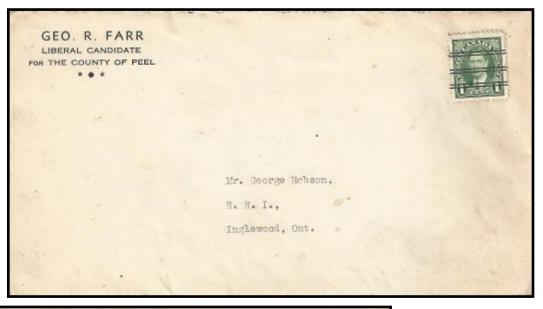
5122 Chapman St.

Lineary

Li

Fig 18
Price Alberta,
Saskatchewan.
Horizontal
3 Bars

Third (3rd) Class Matter – Political Candidate Circular -- (COPG 83)





#### Fig 18 and 19

PEEL was a federal <u>electoral district</u> represented in the <u>House of Commons of Canada</u> from 1867 to 1968. Peel was located in the <u>province</u> of <u>Ontario</u>. It was created by the <u>British North America Act of 1867</u>.

#### 1940 Federal Election Result

National Government Incumbent Gordon GRAYDON 8,486 votes

Liberal George R. FARR 7,638 votes

Graydon held the Peel District Seat for 20 years from his election in 1935 until his death on March 22, 1954.

#### Third (3rd) Class Matter – Price Lists – (COPG 85(j))

# Fig 21

"A Prophetic Statement About Stamps and Philately"

#### HAPPY HOURS STAMP CO.



Fig 22
The Gray Stamp Company



# ► Zoom meeting questions from John Cramner

John had asked for information regarding the censorship markings on the cover to India in Simon Claughton's presentation. See information below provided by Simon.



#### Censorship

Chapter 18 - Asia 797

Air mail correspondence addressed outside of India was censored in India between September 1939 and the end of the war. Correspondence received from China was censored in Calcutta.

Air mail passing through from Europe and the Middle East to and from the Far East and Australia was not censored if it had already been. Sealed bags of mail not containing mail for India were not usually removed for censoring when carried on BOAC flights across northern India.

Many of the markings on air mail censored in India consist of a three letter code to indicate the censor station location. The code letters associated with some of the principal censor stations are as follows:

DHA	Calcutta	DHG	Belgaum	DHQ	Cochin	DHW	Lunding
DHB	Karachi	DHH	Peshawar	DHR	Cocanada	DHZ	Calcutta
DHC	Bombay	DHJ	Chittagong	DHS	Vizagapatam		
DHD	Madras	DHO	Delhi	DHT	Delhi		
DHF	Calcutta	DHP	Bombay	DHU	Simia		

DHA/21 indicating that censor No. 21 stationed at Calcutta had inspected the letter is typical.

The censors were instructed to excise possible breaches of security out of correspondence, to condemn the correspondence, or to return the correspondence to the sender with notations about deletions required. A unique feature of Indian government censorship was that the envelopes were often opened at the flap and resealed with red sealing wax impressed with a metal stamp bearing the legend "Indian Censorship". Occasionally the envelope was opened at the end and resealed by a printed tape, and the wax seal applied on the tape so that it overlapped the envelope.

Source: Airmail Operations During World War II by Thomas H. Boyle Jr.

#### **►** Cover question from John Cramner



Surface mail from Drumheller, Alberta to Singapore postmarked 12th January 1942. 3c preferred rate. Singapore was invaded on the 8/9 February 1942.

The letter was marked to be returned to sender with a D.L.O. cachet on the reverse dated 4th April 1942. with a standard Canadian censor resealing label on transparent paper.

With the lack of transit / routing marking the question I have is likely impossible to answer but I was wondering when and where it may have been turned round on its way to Singapore. I do not know if mail across the Pacific stopped after the fall of Hong Kong and the invasion of the Philippines. If it did the only route would have been via the Atlantic.

In short - Where was the letter in the three months between posting and arriving back at Ottawa with a Dead Letter marking.

As Editor, I decided to take on doing some research regarding this cover since the pandemic has provided me with lots of time.

The cover has C-268 Censor label which was applied in Vancouver (see Censor label table on Page 22). From this it would seem the cover was intended to link up with the Trans-Pacific Route out of San Francisco.

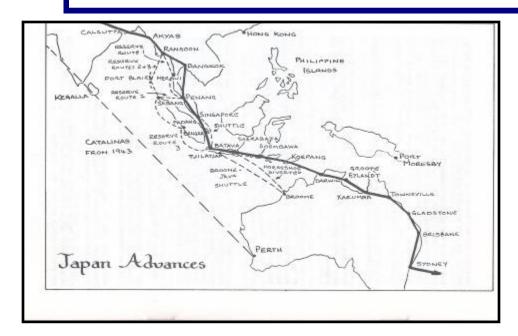
According to The Trans-Pacific Route 1942-1945 by R.M. Startup FRPSL, FRPSNZ in a booklet published by the Chavril Press, 1997.

"The Route to Singapore on the Trans-Pacific by Pan-Am was from San Francisco to Honolulu (Midway, Wake, Guam) to Manila to (Macao) Hong Kong. The route was extended to Singapore in May of 1941."

The Philippines fell to the Japan on Dec 8. 1941, and Pan-Am suspended all flights to South East Asia on December 9, 1941. This left the only option to get mail to Singapore was through the much longer Atlantic and Horseshoe route.

To help explain the happenings on the Horseshoe Route the following are a number of excerpts from a booklet *The Horseshoe Route published by the Chavril Press (no author or date reported).* 

"In October, 1941 a shortage of BOAC crew had led to Qantas Empire Airways responsibility being from Singapore to Karachi. It was therefore the dedicated crew of Qantas who had to cope with Japanese Aggression."



The above map shows the primary route to Singapore went through Rangoon, Bangkok and Penang. (Penang fell on Dec 19/41)

- "On 30th December all flying-boat services south of Rangoon were suspended by the Director of Civil Aviation in Burma whilst phase three of the Reserve Route was brought into operation. Malaya was now to be by-passed. Stand-off staff had been transferred to Batavia but BOAC's headquarters remained in Singapore which was linked to Batavia by a shuttle service"
- "On 4th February, 1942 the last flying-boat flew out of Singapore and on 6th February the shuttle service was ordered to cease."
- "On 14th February (the day before the island surrendered) BOAC's ground staff left Singapore on the company launch the only launch still to be afloat. By the time they reached Batavia the last flying-boat had left for Australia and they were forced to complete their journey by ship."
- "The Horseshoe route had been broken."

Since the cover was posted on Jan 12, 1942, I suspect the suspension of services from Rangoon on December 30, 1941 probably influenced the decision to mark the cover "Mail Service Suspended."

This however, does not answer the question as to where the cover was for three months. I have a cover that was destined for Hong Kong, but got "hung-up" in Honolulu due to the attack on Pearl Harbor. It took months for it to be returned to Vancouver.

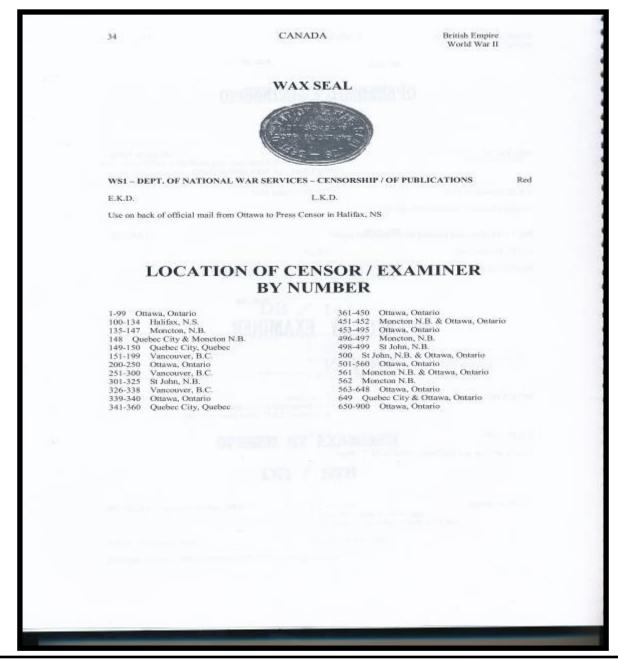
I would offer a guess that the cover sat in Vancouver before being sent to the DLO. I can imagine that with a war raging that a "Mail Service Suspended" cover was not treated with any priority. Perhaps a Study Group member could provide further insight.

#### **►** Member Writes

In Post and Mail Issue 41, pages 3—5 Peter Kritz asked some questions. Gary Steele offered the following answers:

- Q: Regarding a COD shipment RPO card. "Was it usual to go by train due to the shipment being COD?
- A: Trains were used as well as other means, which ever was the fastest.
- Q: Regarding a large 8.5 inch X 11 inch overweight air mail envelope paying 27 cents for a 5 oz. letter. "Is there an extra charge for the size?"
- A: Twenty seven cents is for five ounces, but the statement "overweight" is not an issue. It is over one ounce but can go up to any weight by airmail at seven cents for the first ounce and five cents for each additional ounce.
- Q: Cover with 52 cents postage, paying 20 cents registration and 32 cents postage. "Could this be a registered money letter or a registered letter with documents?"
- A: Registration fee 20 cents, additional franking 32 cents would be at regular surface rate of 4 cents for the first ounce and 28 Cents for 14 additional ounces at 2 cents per ounce, thus 5 ounces. Money packets are 7 cents for the first ounce and 5 cents for each additional ounce or fraction thereof plus registration. Thus 20 cents registration. 7 cents for the first ounce pus 5 cents per ounce would be up to a 6 ounce Money packet letter. It is impossible to tell which unless notated.

#### ► Canadian WW II Censor Marks (page 34)



**British Empire** 

**Civil Censorship Devices** 

WW II

**Section 7** 

Canada and Newfoundland

# ► Member's Sale Corner

<u>Pre-cancel plate blocks, pre-cancel varieties and pre-cancels on cover wanted:</u> <u>Gary Steele,</u> is willing to trade for anything he has listed on E-bay under **Sportster.** 

**<u>Dead Letter Office Covers - All Issues</u>** Gary is also looking for DLO covers for the 1937 - 52 period.

**KGVI Covers with Foreign Postage Dues** Gary is also interested in underpaid Canadian covers to foreign destinations charged/marked Postage Due and paid with foreign dues or regular stamps. Gary can be reached by email at gwsteele57@gmail.com

# **►** Members' Wants

**Peace Issue Rates and Destinations** Mike Street is looking for Peace Issue Stamps (Sc #s 268-273, C9, CE 3-4 and E11) on mail to China and the American Pacific (Hawaii, Guam, Samoa, Philippines) up to June 1952 but especially Sept 16-Nov 15/1946. Also Parcel post anywhere, legitimate paquebot and unusual foreign destinations, including Russia and components of the USSR from 1946 to June 1952.

#### Wanted

World War II Patriotic Postage Meter Slogans.

Contact Steve Friedenthal at sfriedenthal@shaw.ca

#### Members

Your Want Ad or For Sale List Could be Here

Contact Ken at kwlemke@sympatico.ca

# **►** Members' Wants

<u>Covers Wanted</u> Eldon Godfrey is seeking "Mail Suspended Service" and "Foreign Exchange Control Board" covers. His e-mail address is ecg@godfrey-godfrey.ca

<u>KG VI Patriotic Covers</u> Bill Verbruggen is assembling a collection of KG VI Patriotic Covers for the purpose of studying the Postmarks used. He's interested in corresponding with study group members who can assist him with:

- \* Postmarks used during the KG VI era
- \* Cachets produced during the era.
- \* Any references pertaining to the above mentioned subject.

His e-mail address is verbill@dccnet.com

<u>Postmarks on KG VI wanted</u> Patrick Moore in Bonn, Germany, is looking for a nice large collection or collections of clear and readable postmarks on KG VI stamps. Geographic diversity rather than scarcity is important. His e-mail address is patrick.moore@snafu.de

<u>1949 - 51 Postes-Postage</u> Greg Spring is looking for in period postal history items featuring the last Canada KGVI issues incl. overprints postally used to destinations outside of Canada and the US particularly, dated 1949 but no later than Feb 6, 1952 (the King's death). Greg can be contacted by email at g.m.spring@asch.co.uk.

<u>KGVI Period Articles Wanted</u> Your Editor is always looking for articles or images of special items from Members for future Post & Mail Issues. Also this space is available for any member who wishes to place a Want List ad. Detailed want lists can be published on the Study Group website. Contact Ken or Stephen for further info at snail mail or email addresses given on page 2 of the Post & Mail.