

Kingston Stamp Club Chapter 49 of the Royal Philatelic Society of Canada

Volume #4, Issue #4 Whole Number 16
Summer 2010 Issue



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Upcoming Meeting Listing

May 10	Meeting Night
May 31	Auction Night and AGM
September 13	Meeting Night
September 27	Auction Night
October 4	Meeting Night
October 16	Stamp Festival

1) President's Message

This is the final issue before we break for the summer and a good time to look back on the past six months.

We have been busy with the Invista Show, Seawaypex and our Stamp Festival.

Our club has now two prestigious awards: a) Herbert Mc Naught Novice Award and the Donald O. Thompson Annual Award.

Club membership remains steady; we added several new members this year and lost several due to illness.

In September, our annual dues are to be paid to our Membership Chairperson.

Our Annual General Meeting will be held on May 31st, are you ready to join our executive committee?

Financially your club is in good shape due to the successful Stamp Festival, raising club dues and the strong sales of the Consignment and Bourse Tables.

Our auction nights continue to be well attended with an average of 60 lots (one auction had 105) for sale with most lots sold for asking or higher prices. A big Thank You to the volunteers at the Sales Table.

Your Executive has been working on the details of awards, the festivals and door prizes among other items. We hope you enjoy the summer and we look forward to seeing you in September.

I have continued to send our club's back issues of our newsletters to the Library and Archives Building – Philatelic Branch, for posterity.

Richard Weigand

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2) Editor's Comments

I want to thank the contributions to this issue and hope all of you will come up with great articles over the summer!

Editor – *Richard Weigand*



3) Preservation and Care of Philatelic Material Photographic Material and Albums

Most philatelists have photographs, slides, negatives, and related photographic items. Most materials used for storage, especially plastics, have been discussed previously.

Some of the commercial albums available over the past few years have been a disaster to those who used them. PVC, (polyvinyl chloride) is still made into products and sold as ideal for photographic storage, although it has been condemned for decades as a proven unsafe material. Pythalate plasticizers migrate from PVC and form yellow oily droplets on slides. Slides and films stored in PVC pockets or enclosures will have a waxy film on their surface. These are carboxylate salts of a type used as heat stabilizers in PVC. PVC film will degrade photographs producing acidic hydrogen chloride. Do not use PVC, which is proven to be an unsafe material.

Avoid using so-called "magnetic albums," which are adhesive-coated pages wrapped in a plastic cover. The adhesive coating gives off gaseous impurities. Acetate, a clear plastic materials is not recommended to the collector. Since some photographic materials are alkaline-sensitive, it is advisable to use neutral pH rather than buffered storage material for storing photographs.

Other materials commonly used in conjunction with photographic albums, but which are to be avoided by the philatelist, include: cellophane adhesive tapes, white glues, rubber cement, ballpoint pens, typewriting on photos or valuable papers, paper clips, and rubber bands. All are potentially harmful to philatelic materials.

Polyester film (Mylar), available in rolls or prepared folders, sleeves, and envelopes, is a recommended material. In most cases, other types of plastic film should not be substituted. Covers and postcards with media such as charcoal, chalk or pastel should not be stored in Mylar since the polyester film can pick up and hold an electrostatic charge. These media may offset onto the Mylar as a result.

Today, we notice vast improvements in the use of acid-free materials in photographic albums. Because of the use of better materials, the price of albums has escalated.

The public has become aware of the harmful effect that acidic materials do to their photographs. As a result, manufacturers are striving to provide more acceptable merchandise.

Always check the material you are buying for "Philatelic / Archival Preservation Qualities" to ensure your material remains safe

Desmarais and Frère Ltée of Longueuil, Quebec, sells a range of clear plastic sheets with pockets for holding photographs and negatives of various sizes. These sheets are punched for use in standard binders, and are widely distributed in Canada. Several letters were sent to the Desmarais and Frère Ltée firm asking for information on the type of plastic film used in their DF clear plastic storage pages described in their literature as "archival quality." No reply was ever received. The author notes that this company has quietly shifted to a poly-type film. The new product, while not as good as Mylar, has much better archival qualities than the plastic formerly used.

The Image Permanence Institute of Rochester, New York is testing more and more products manufactured by various companies for storing photographs. They use the American National Standards Institute's IT9.2-1988 standard.

Editors Note to the Reader

For storing material in various larger sizes the author uses Scrapbooking Stores to find these larger sheet protectors and binders. I use this for my Canadian Sheet Collection and over the past twenty years there has been no change to the mint sheets.

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4) Canada Honours International Co-operation Year
By Richard Weigand



Historical Background

On November 21, 1963, the General Assembly of the United Nations adopted a resolution whereby the year 1965, the twentieth year of the establishment of the United Nations, would be designated as International Co-operation Year. The Assembly called upon all member countries to publicize the activities of international co-operation in which they were engaged, and to draw up plans to promote the objectives of International Co-operation Year. Canada was a member of the preparatory committee for this project and is now a member of the United Nations Committee for I.C.Y.

Canadian projects in this field include: the Canadian Mysore project, developed during the Freedom from Hunger Campaign, a library project in Tanganyika, the opening of International House for foreign students at the University of Toronto, and the establishment of reception and welfare services for other foreign students and trainees in 25 cities across Canada. In addition to these projects, the Canadian Committee will associate itself with the extension of programmes to provide material aid by helping organizations to increase the sending of food, clothing and medical supplies to benefit a number of countries. Canada will start new projects to collect machinery, technical equipment, film broadcasting equipment and art materials to be sent to foreign schools and institutions. It is also planned to increase the number of volunteers sent abroad under the auspices of the Canadian University Service Overseas and to develop and exchange opportunities. [1]

The Canadian Mysore Project

In 1960, the British government convened a conference in London to mark the centenary of the world's first food and drug act, enacted in 1860. During the conference, Joseph Hulse, then research director of one of Canada's largest agribusiness companies, was asked by an old friend, Sir Norman Wright, who was deputy director-general of the UN Food and Agriculture Organisation (FAO), if Canadians would be willing to support FAO's recently launched Freedom From Hunger Campaign. Specifically, Wright asked for financial support for an International Food Technology Training Centre. The Indian government had promised physical facilities for such a centre in a former palace of the Maharajah of Mysore.

An FAO study had revealed that no university, college or other institution anywhere in Asia was providing training in practical means of food preservation and its safe distribution. Countless tonnes of perishable foods were being spoiled and wasted after harvest.

Early in 1960, Canada had established a small "Freedom From Hunger Campaign" (FFHC) committee chaired by Mitchell Sharp, a former senior public servant who later served as Foreign Minister in the Liberal government of Pierre Trudeau. The FFHC committee agreed to undertake what became known as the Canada-Mysore Project as its principal contribution to the FAO campaign, and appointed Hulse as the chair and director of the project. During a visit to India, Hulse took and collected many photographs illustrative of vast quantities of harvested crops and livestock products that were degraded and spoiled for want of effective preservation. Adrienne Clarkson, then a CBC producer, was the first journalist to interview him on this project. Relatively soon, the presidents of Canada's 20 largest agribusiness corporations formed an industrial fundraising committee, while the United Nations Association in Canada, Oxfam, Save the Children Fund and several other organizations agreed to support the project. The fundraising began in 1961. By 1964 the first short courses began; in 1965 the first batch of 20 M.Sc. students arrived, each from a different Asian nation. Monies raised in Canada supported these students during the centre's first seven years of activity. Later, other nations contributed, the Swiss began a school for milling and baking and, in the 1970s.

The training programme still goes on. Since it started, more than 7,500 men and women from some 45 developing nations have taken courses at Mysore. Though most were Asians, students from Africa, the Middle East and a few from Latin America have benefited from various training programmes. They have come from as far abroad as Mexico, the Sudan and Zambia. Several subsequently advanced to become directors of food research in Korea, Singapore, Sri Lanka, India and some other nations. Other Asian nations have since created relevant training facilities, several with staff trained at Mysore.

Hulse, in continuing as Canadian Chair and Director of the Canada-Mysore Project, has maintained an active interest in the Mysore Centre and its progress over the years and, during the past 12 years, has acted as Visiting Professor, lecturing in agribusiness management and food systems analysis and

integration.



University of Mysore, India [2] [3]

Stamp Issue Details – Issue Date March 3, 1965

In the past few years, Canada has issued several postage stamps honouring United Nations activities and once again joins other member nations, this time in producing a special stamp to mark International Co-operation Year. The stamp shows two hands clasped; a symbol of international co-operation, surrounded by the United Nations Wreath. Canada's maple leaf is shown in a quadrangle symbolizing Canada as a link between other countries in the furtherance of international co-operation.

Canada Banknote Company printed twenty six million, six hundred thousand five cent stamps using one colour, (green), with perforation 12. Key individuals in the design of this stamp are: Yves Baril as engraver, lettering designed by Donald J. Mitchell and overall stamp design by Harvey T. Prosser. Stamp Size 1" by 1.5". Stamps issued in panes of fifty.

The Canada Post Office was proud to help this nation mark the achievements of international co-operation. [1]

Bibliography

- [1] Canada Archives www.collectionscanada.ca
- [2] World Food Sciences – www.worldfoodsciences.org
- [3] International Development Research Centre www.irdc.ca

A Personal Note from the Editor

My god father owned part of the left parcel the UN now occupies in New York City. The site contained two factories designing and manufacturing furniture for residential and commercial use for their customers on the eastern seaboard. They were famous for reproducing classic European designs for upscale homes (they were on par with Gibbard Furniture, Napanee, Ontario). My grandfather worked in the factory along with many other newly arrived Italian immigrants to the United States. One of the buildings was demolished to erect the UN Building. If you look closely at the left hand building from the street level of the UN, you will see a faint design on the "Albano Furniture Company". His portion of the site was sold to a land developer for one million dollars a tremendous sum, at that time.



5) [Labrador Stamps Saga](#)

By Pierre Lafond and Peter Bacon

Are you an heir to Dr. Villecourt from Laurier Street? If yes, you can perhaps clarify for us the dark history of the Labrador's stamps!

In spring of 1908, an advertising letter addressed to the newspapers of the time announced that "The Labrador Company" had obtained a charter from the governments of Newfoundland and Canada to develop the mines and to establish factories and other industries in Labrador.

Stamps were to be issued from this company: five cents for a letter and twenty five cents for a registered letter and one dollar for parcels sent from Labrador City to their final destination.



It's not by chance that the philatelic newspapers of the time such as L'Echo de la Timbrologie (Paris, April 15, 1908) and Le Collectionneur de timbres-poste (Paris, May 01, 1908) accepted the circular letter. This new postal service by a company had never been seen before. The entire topic had a new philatelic mind-set rather than an economic basis.

In an explanation letter provided to the last newspaper, a certain A.E. Clement, (affirmed to represent the company in Montreal) specified the US Government would be taking over again these postal services as the shareholders were American citizens. This is why the stamps show "LABRADOR THE USA POST OFFICE" printed on these stamps.

Two years later, in Montreal, the police seized a trunk filled with these stamps from a merchant, who was selling these stamps to collectors. Dr. Villecourt was on who purchased a batch of these stamps. There was also a sale of unclaimed goods from the police dept and a second batch came from St Pierre et Miquelon!

The Montreal Police seizure of material did not include any stock already distributed. There is an estimate of seventeen thousand stamps in total that remained unaccounted by the police. To avoid any further legal issues, these stamps were sold as label, and, as they contained no gum, this was allowed.

The police investigation revealed that the stamps came from the presses of Montreal Lithography Company. The order for these stamps came from Dr. Raymond Villecourt, acting on behalf of the government of Newfoundland. The trunk seized contained 108,400 five cent stamps, 108,000 twenty five cent stamps and fifty seven thousand one dollar issues.

But all this finishes badly, because the judge decided that only the US Government could have been injured by the inscription on the stamps and that this matter was outside of his jurisdiction. Dr Villecourt didn't have to reveal who hid behind this operation. The printer had a bad feeling this matter would turn ugly; the original plates and all related material was destroyed.

In 1936, further investigation by a Canadian philatelic newspaper focused on the involvement of Dr Villecourt and A.E. Clement. The newspaper postulated that the collectors, merchants (Canadian, French and American) all took an active role in the distribution and promotion of these stamps in 1908.

Eighty years later, these stamps are rarely seen by anyone. How many stamps exist and what is the true story? No one knows! The chronicler of a philatelic semi monthly newspaper even offered a premium to anyone who could provide them information based on the colour photos of these three stamps.

I joined up with some Canadian heirs to Dr Villecourt, none of them preserved any correspondence on this business venture. Perhaps there is information stored away in a box in France? The printer is still awaiting payment for his work!

Bibliography

This article was published by Andrew Blanchard from Philatelic Quebec magazine in 1987 and translated by Pierre Lafond and adapted by Peter Bacon in 2010.

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6) Exhibits and Awards Committee Launch

By Ron Barrett

The goal of this new committee is two fold: a) create novice exhibitors for our club to support the Herbert Mc Naught Novice Award and b) to handle all awards the Kingston Stamp Club supports, including the Donald O. Thompson Annual Award.

Our new committee was pleased to show off the various ways to create novice exhibits at our March 6, 2010 meeting. Our committee presented their material, we had six frames, and each showed a different way to create an exhibit. We fielded many questions and this committee is off to a good start with lots of interest.

Enclosed with this newsletter are the details of this committee's structure along with the committee members.

We encourage you to consider entering a frame (6 pages) for our October Stamp Festival, as your introduction to this exciting addition to your collections.

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7) Special Guest Speakers from Canada Post:
Elia Anoaia and Gervaise Poulin
By Colin Batsford



Our club had the pleasure of listening to our guest speakers: Elia Anoaia, Manager Stamp Program Development (left) and Gervaise Poulin, Production Coordinator Stamp Services (right) at our April 26, 2010 meeting. In addition, we had members from various clubs in our area, including Perth & Brockville.

Elia Anoaia spoke to us about the Stamp Advisory Committee, how it works and the decision process. This committee reviews all of the letters written to them from all Canadians and considers the number and focus of the current year's issues. After deliberations, with a final review by Canada Post, the number and details are set for the year.

Part of the decision process includes how the issue is to be presented, booklet or pane or souvenir sheet or a special presentation method (consider the hockey issue this year!) Are the stamps going to be engraved or lithographed? The First Day Cover design is also approved along with the first day cancel.

Booklets are issued because they are very convenient, easy to store and use. Pane issues appeal to all Canadians especially collectors. Souvenir Sheets are also great sellers as they are very colourful. First Day Covers also have a wide appeal, based on the issue.

Currently, The Stamp Advisory Committee is finishing up 2011 and starting 2012. This long lead time is due to the time it takes to choose the issues, obtain at least two designs from design firms, final approval and the full printing process.

Gervaise Poulin spoke to us about the Production Process, in detail. Once the design has been approved, the art firm chosen, the printing firm is then chosen for the issue. Now that the design layouts have been approved, the printing press plates are prepared for the production. There are several runs made to determine the correct positioning, colour quality and overall design of the issue. Once Canada Post signs off on the final essay, the design is then printed. Each post office receives their supply based on a preset quantity and the stamps are then ready to issue on their issue date.

We also had a sneak preview of the 2011 issues as they are now at the printers for their part of the issuing process.

At the end of the presentation, there was a half hour of very good questions by the audience that were handled by both speakers.

In recognition of their efforts, your club presented a framed picture of the statue of Sir John A Macdonald.

If you have a stamp issue that you want to present to this group, The Stamp Advisory Committee's address is 2701 Riverside Drive, Ottawa, ON K1A 0B1.

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