



# KING GEORGE VI POST & MAIL

October - December 2004

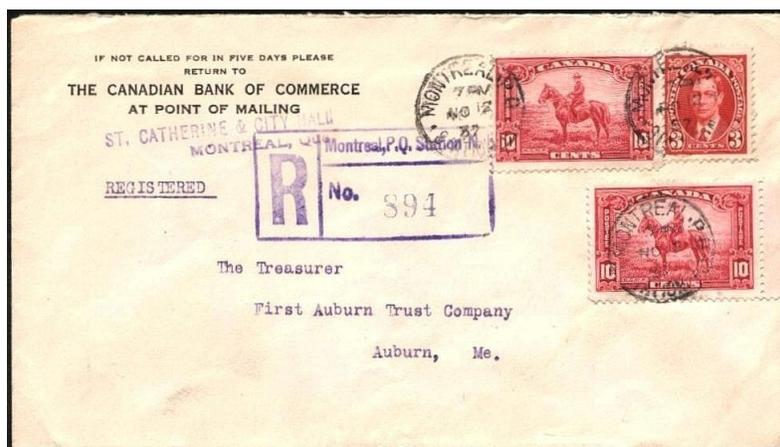
Issue 5

## Double Registration Fee to the U.S? - by Gary Steele

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The cover illustrated below is quite an unusual item. If you will recall from the summary of postal rates presented in John Burnett's article on postage rates to destinations in the United States in Issue 4, indemnification against loss of registered letters was not to exceed \$25. The Canada Official Postal Guide of the day stated that the registration fee was a "uniform 10¢" for registered mail to the U.S. The registered cover below seems to indicate that the staff at downtown Montreal Station N charged the Canadian Bank of Commerce a double registration fee in November 1937 as evidenced by the two 1935 10¢ RCMP Constable stamps on the cover.



It is doubtful that the bank would have been able to claim up to \$50 in the event of a loss as the Post Office regulations were quite clear about the \$25 liability limit for registered mail to the United States. I would be interested in hearing from other members of the Study Group if they have also seen examples of overpaid registration fees on mail to the U.S.

## ► Chairman's Notes - by Gary Steele

As we entered 2005, almost 68 years had passed since the first issue of King George VI stamps on April 1, 1937. When I started collecting Mufti era stamps and covers, it was around 1979 so they were only some 40 years old by then. Ken MacDonald, a long time collector of the Arch issue, encouraged me to focus on this fascinating period of Canadian stamps. Ken unfortunately passed away early in life at age 50 and never really got to exhibit his Arch material the way he wanted to on a national and international level or finish his research on a book.

With the formation of the King George VI Study Group, we have created an opportunity to collate and or publish whatever material we can think of putting together. Hopefully over the next couple of years, depending upon the availability of articles posted in our newsletter, we can start to see the areas of interest relating to the stamps of the King George VI period that might be worthy of further publication. Let us know what you would be interested in doing.

Turning to BNAPS matters, Issue 1 of our newsletter is now on the BNAPS website. Future issues will be posted with about a one year delay. Hopefully access to our newsletter will encourage other George VI collectors to join BNAPS and our Study Group. BNAPEX 2005 will be held in Edmonton September 2<sup>nd</sup> - 4<sup>th</sup> this year and I look forward to seeing you at the George VI Study Group meeting we will hold during the convention. Nothing special is planned but the key is that each of us show something of interest. Drop me a line if you have any ideas on what we may discuss or like to look at during our meeting.

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- *The Society for Canadian Philately.*

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**► EFO's & Varieties**

This Issue's EFO & Varieties column features a variety of the Unrevised 1c coil stamp issued in December 1949. This stamp, and its companion stamps in sheet form printed without the words "Poste-Postage", was originally scheduled to be issued in mid 1949. When the printing oversight was recognized, the Canadian Bank Note Company was instructed to revise the design to incorporate the words Poste-Postage and the Revised 1¢ coil was subsequently issued in May 1950.



Coils precancelled during the King George VI era featured three pairs of parallel lines overprinted across the face of the stamps (the so-called "V-Type Precancel"). The strip above shows only two pairs of lines overprinted with traces of the lower line of the third pair evident along the top of the stamps. It would appear that something caused the (pre-slit) coil roll and overprinting machine to be misaligned during the overprinting process which resulted in the lines being shifted upwards.

This strip is probably the bottom strip of the coil roll as there is no evidence of the next set of lines which should otherwise appear at the bottom of the stamps. This would also infer that there is as yet another variety out there to be discovered i.e. a precancelled coil strip or stamps with a single pair of lines at the bottom of the stamps separated by a wider spacing than normal from the other two pairs of overprinted lines at the top of the stamps. Your Editor would be interested to learn whether Study Group Members might have such examples in their collections.

**► Editor's Desk**

This issue of the Post & Mail features the third in John Burnett's series of articles on postage rates during the 1937-42 Mufti period. John's current article looks at postage rates for Canadian mail destined for the British Empire colonies in the Americas and Mexico. John has already drafted the next article in his series covering international mail to countries in South and Central America.

This issue also features an extensive article by Gary Steele on First Class Mail to the U.S. and its Territories during the Mufti period. Gary has provided us with many excellent examples of postage rates which complement and expand upon John Burnett's Part II article in Issue 4. Gary has also provided this issue's "Cover Story".

Ed Harris, Leo Beaudet and Doug Lingard have provided some interesting precancel and cracked plate items. Hopefully other Study Group Members might be able to send along similar items for inclusion in future issues. John Wynns provided material for an article on Postal Centenaries that occurred during the KGVI reign.

Your Editor has been visiting family overseas since mid January which has caused a delay in the production of Issue 5. It would appear that, from the amount of material we have received for publication and taking into account my personal schedule, three newsletter issues a year might be appropriate. Accordingly, Members can expect two further issues this year, one around the time of BNAPEX 2005 and one later in the fall.

**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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## Postal History during the King George VI 1937 - 42 “Mufti” Era Part III - Postage Rates to British America & Mexico

*By John Burnett*

Parts I and II in this series of articles on the Postal History of the Mufti era covered domestic first class mail and mail to the United States and its Territories. This present article is the first of a number planned to examine Canadian mail to international destinations during the early part of the King George VI reign.

In developing my collection of postal history of the Mufti period, I first had to figure out how to best present the items in my collection. I decided to segment my collection into three distinct areas of study, namely, Domestic Mail, Mail to the United States and International Mail. Domestic mail and mail to the U.S. turned out to be pretty straightforward, with postage rates and various service fees being very similar for mail sent to destinations in Canada or the United States.

Things become a bit more complicated with international mail however. As the Mufti period progressed, world events played havoc with the mail system and it became increasingly difficult, and in some cases impossible, to forward mail to certain international destinations. Some European and Asian countries all but shut down their postal systems in the early 1940's and much mail was undeliverable and had to be handled in a special manner because of hostilities raging around the globe. Further complicating matters was the rapid growth of airmail services through the 1930's. This growth led to numerous changes in both routing and postage rates for letters sent by airmail in the Mufti period.

In light of these complexities, I have segmented international mail items in my collection into a number of smaller components, namely, “the Americas”, “Africa”, “India”, “the Middle East and Australia” and lastly, “Europe”. Subsequently, I decided to further segment “the Americas” into two sub-categories the first being “British America and Mexico” and the second, “Non British Empire countries”. I have included Mexico with the British Empire countries as postage rates and fees for Canadian mail to these destinations were quite similar during the Mufti period. A summary of these rates and fees is shown below.

### Canadian Postage Rates and Fees for Mail to British America & Mexico (1937 - 42)

<u>Category</u>	<u>Rates</u>	<u>Effective Periods</u>
Letter (First Class)	3¢ first oz., 2¢ per additional oz.	Effective July 1, 1931 through the entire Mufti period
Post Cards	2¢ each	Effective April 15, 1915 through the entire Mufti period
Air Mail ( <i>Inc. Mexico</i> ) <i>(Bermuda)</i>	25¢ per ¼ oz.; then, 10¢ per ¼ oz. <i>(6¢ per oz.; then, 15¢ per each ¼ oz.)</i>	Effective July 1, 1935 to December 14, 1937; then, from December 15, 1937 for the balance of the Mufti period <i>(Effective July 1, 1934 until February 1938; then, from March 1938 through to the end of the Mufti period)</i>
Third Class Matter	1¢ per each 2 oz.	Effective July 1, 1930 through the entire Mufti period
<u>Additional Services</u>		
Registration	10¢ for \$25 indemnity (only)	Effective July 15, 1920 through the entire Mufti period
Acknowledgement of Receipt	10¢ at time of mailing (or 20¢ after mailing);	Effective October 1, 1921 through the entire Mufti period

## ... Mufti Era Postage Rates to British America & Mexico

by John Burnett

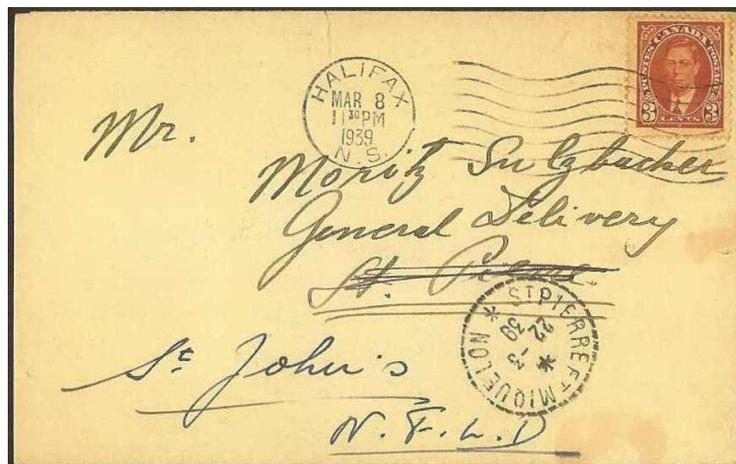
### First Class Mail to British America

The rates for first class surface letters mailed to British Empire colonies in the Americas was 3¢ first ounce, 2¢ per additional ounce. The cover below is an example of a first class letter to the Trinidad weighing less than one ounce. The envelope bears a nice C.N.S. Lady Hawkins circular Paquebot cancel. The Lady Hawkins was one of five Canadian National Steamships that provided regular passenger service between Montreal, St. John N.B., Halifax, and ports of call in the British West Indies and British Guiana during the 1930's and into the war period. The Lady Hawkins was unfortunately lost in action between Boston and Bermuda on January 19<sup>th</sup>, 1942.



Cover "Posted on the High Seas" from the C.N.S. Lady Hawkins Purser's Office for delivery to Port of Spain, Trinidad franked at the 3¢ per 1 ounce rate for a Canadian First Class Letter to a British Empire destination in the Americas.

While Newfoundland was a British colony in the Mufti (1937-42) era, rates for first class surface mail destined for Newfoundland were the same as for Canadian destinations. Canadian mail destined for the French island territories of St Pierre & Miquelon located in the Gulf of St. Lawrence south of Newfoundland also enjoyed the same rates. The cover below shows a regular first class letter franked with a 3¢ Mufti mailed from Halifax, Nova Scotia addressed to St. Pierre and redirected to Newfoundland. The envelope has a St. Pierre receiving strike on the front showing arrival in St. Pierre on March 22<sup>nd</sup>, 1939.



Cover mailed March 8, 1939 from Halifax, Nova Scotia, for delivery to St. Pierre, redirected to St. John's, Newfoundland franked at the 3¢ per 1 ounce rate for a Canadian First Class Letter to the St. Pierre & Miquelon Islands.

## ... Mufti Era Postage Rates to British America & Mexico

by John Burnett

### Air Mail Letters

For the early part of the Mufti period the rate of 25¢ per ¼ ounce applied to airmail letters from Canada to Mexico and British Empire destinations in the Americas (except Bermuda). This rate was reduced to 10¢ per ¼ ounce in December 1937. Rates for airmail service to Bermuda were initially set at the same rate for airmail letters to Canadian and continental US destinations. This changed in March 1938 when the rate was increased to 15¢ per ¼ ounce or five cents higher than the airmail rate for other British America destinations.

A significant number of Jamaicans immigrated to Canada in the 1930's and so examples of mail to Jamaica are not too difficult to find. The envelope below nicely illustrates the airmail rates applying to British America destinations up to December 1937. Here we have seven 3¢ Coronation commemorative stamps and a single 5¢ Mufti making up 26¢, a 1¢ convenience overpayment of the 25¢ per ¼ ounce airmail rate. When one speaks of a "convenience overpayment" it is assumed the sender had only certain stamps available and knowingly overpaid the required postal fee for the sake of convenience.



*Airmail letter posted June 12, 1937 at Terminal Station "A", Toronto, Ontario to Malvern, Jamaica, British West Indies franked with seven 3¢ 1937 Coronation stamps and a 5¢ Mufti to pay the 25¢ airmail rate to British America destinations.*

In my international collecting I have found that examples of mail to Mexico are very hard to find. It appears that very few Canadians had reason to send correspondence to Mexican destinations and very few Mexicans saved their Canadian letters. To date, I have not found a 25¢ franked letter to Mexico paying the airmail rate in the 1937 period. The cover below illustrates the 10¢ per ¼ ounce rate that applied from December 15<sup>th</sup>, 1937 for airmail letters sent to Mexican destinations. Dated February 9<sup>th</sup>, 1942, this wartime letter has been censored and returned to the sender in Victoria, B.C. I have seen a few covers addressed to Dr. Pierce; I surmise that he was in Mexico for a period of time in 1942. This letter just missed him while he was there.



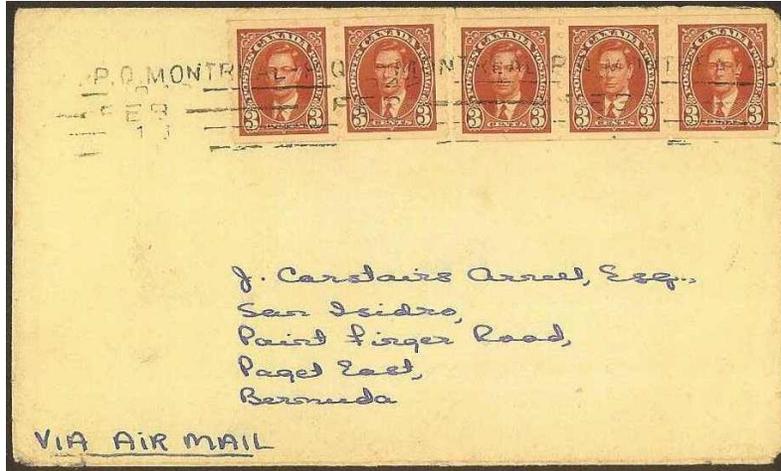
*Airmail letter posted February 9, 1942 from Lake Hill, British Columbia to Mexico D.F., Mexico franked with two 5¢ Mufti stamps to make up the 10¢ per ¼ ounce airmail rate applicable to destinations in Mexico.*

## ... Mufti Era Postage Rates to British America & Mexico

by John Burnett

### Air Mail Letters cont'd

Like Mexico, mail to Bermuda is hard to find. The airmail cover below has a pair and strip of three 3¢ Mufti coil stamps to make up the 15 ¢ per ¼ ounce airmail rate. Dated February 15<sup>th</sup>, 1942, this letter has slipped through the system without being censored.



*Airmail letter posted February 15, 1942 from Montreal, Quebec to Paget East, Bermuda franked with five 3¢ Mufti coil stamps to make up the 15¢ per ¼ ounce airmail rate to Bermuda.*

Airmail letters sent from Canada to other British Empire destinations in the Americas enjoyed the 10¢ per ¼ ounce rate from December 15<sup>th</sup>, 1937 throughout the balance of the Mufti period. The cover below is an example of a double weight letter sent to Jamaica where 20¢ postage is paid for a letter weight of up to ½ ounce.

I find this cover interesting because it is an early example of a letter whose contents were subject to inspection by Canada's Foreign Exchange Control Board. Within a week of Canada's declaration of war in September 1939, the Canadian Government ordered that all foreign exchange transactions must be authorized by the newly formed Foreign Exchange Control Board. The Control Board began operations on September 16<sup>th</sup>, 1939 and continued in operation until the early 1950's.

The cover below was mailed October 13<sup>th</sup>, 1939 in Montreal, travelled to St. Jean, Quebec as indicated by the St. John & Montreal R.P.O. and further cancelled on October 14<sup>th</sup> with a St. Jean CDS where Canada had an important military administration centre. This envelope was mailed within the first month of the new exchange control regulations coming into effect. Many bank managers were authorized to pre-clear this type of mail in the early going, as I believe was the case with this letter, as this envelope has "AUTHORIZED FOR EXPORT FOREIGN EXCHANGE CONTROL BOARD" typed in red by bank personnel prior to the postage stamps being affixed rather than the more usual hand stamp one finds on envelopes mailed in later years.



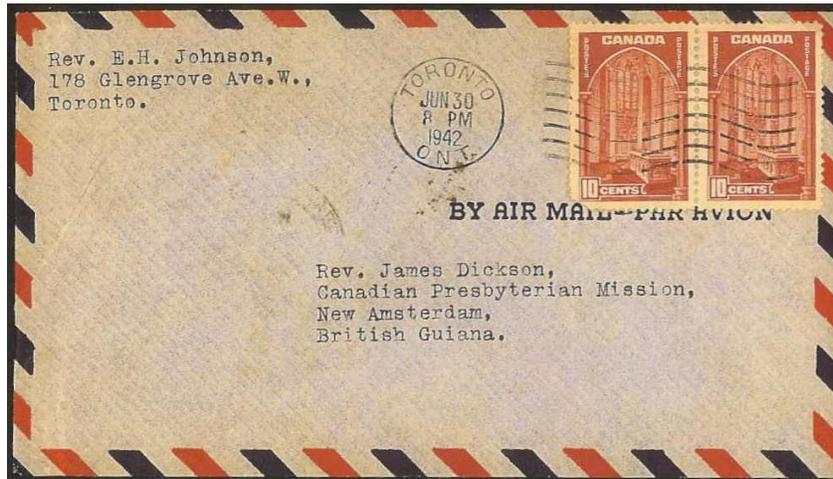
*Airmail letter dated October 13, 1939 from Montreal through St. Jean, Quebec to Kingston, Jamaica, British West Indies franked with a 2¢, 3¢, 5¢ Mufti and 10¢ 1938 Memorial Chamber stamp to pay the 20¢ double rate to British America destinations.*

## ... Mufti Era Postage Rates to British America &amp; Mexico

by John Burnett

Air Mail Letters cont'd

The cover below is an example of double weight letter sent in this case to Rev. James Dickson in British Guiana. The cover is franked with a pair of the 1938 Memorial Chamber stamps to pay the rate for an airmail letter weighing up to ½ ounce. Interestingly, the letter is postmarked June 30<sup>th</sup>, 1942, and so could be considered a “Last Day Cover” for these stamps as the first day of issue of the 10¢ Parliament stamp of the King George VI War Issue series was the next day, July 1, 1942.



*Airmail letter posted June 30, 1942 from Toronto, Ontario to New Amsterdam, British Guiana, British West Indies franked with two 10¢ 1938 Memorial Chamber stamps to make up the 20¢ per double rate to British America destinations.*

I have noticed a number of covers sent to clergy did not get censored and I have often wondered if there was some sort of arrangement between the churches and the military censorship boards concerning censorship. Both envelopes above and below indicate the letter contents slipped through the system without being censored.

The cover below is addressed to Belize, British Honduras, another hard destination to find covers in any condition. It is also an example of a double airmail rate to a British America destination; this time paid by a single 20¢ 1938 “Fort Garry” stamp and again addressed to a member of the clergy.



*Airmail letter posted January 13, 1941 from Colburg, Ontario to Belize, British Honduras, Central America franked with a 20¢ 1938 Fort Garry stamp to make up the 20¢ per double rate to British America destinations.*

**... Mufti Era Postage Rates to British America & Mexico**

*by John Burnett*

**Air Mail Letters cont'd**

I have always enjoyed collecting covers with auxiliary markings. The cover below bears the standard 10¢ per ¼ ounce postage for an letter airmailed in early 1942 to St. Lucia in the British West Indies but is enhanced by the addition of the boxed "MISSENT TO ST. VINCENT BWI" handstamp. This letter would have likely taken quite an interesting journey, first from Toronto to Miami, then probably aboard U.S. Postal Services Airmail Route No. 5 from Miami to Panama with stops in Montego Bay, Jamaica, Port-au-Prince, Haiti, Santo Domingo, Dominican Republic, on to San Juan and then various Caribbean islands including Martinique where it would have been dropped off to be forwarded to St Lucia/St. Vincent via a connecting service.



*Air mail letter mailed January 27, 1939 from Toronto, Ontario to Castries, St. Lucia British West Indies franked with two 5¢ Mufti stamps to pay the 10¢ per ¼ ounce airmail rate to British America destinations .*

**Additional Services**

Fees for Registration and Acknowledgement of Receipt services to British America and Mexican destinations were the same as for destinations in Canada and the continental United States. As noted earlier in this article, Newfoundland was a British colony during the Mufti period and the cover below features the 1938 13¢ Halifax Harbour stamp which was issued to pay the combined rate of 3¢ first class postage and the 10¢ registration fee.



*Registered letter mailed November 22, 1938 from Ottawa, Ontario to Carbonear, Newfoundland franked with the 13¢ 1938 Halifax Harbour stamp to pay the Registered First Class Letter rate to Newfoundland*

## Postal History during the King George VI 1937 - 42 “Mufti” Era First Class Postage to the United States & Territories

*By Gary Steele*

Upon reading John Burnett’s article in Issue 4 of the Post & Mail I reviewed items in my collection to see how they compared. I found a number of covers sent from Canada to destinations in the United States and its Territories that expand on the subject of John’s article, particularly items to which First Class postage rates and fees for Additional Services were applicable. I have also included an airmail cover sent on the U.S. Clipper service to Hawaii in the later period in the Mufti era when the rate was 30¢ per ½ ounce.

### Registered Free Consular Mail - Indemnity not to exceed \$25

Reciprocal arrangements were in place between Canada and the United States for official correspondence between the two countries to be delivered free of postage provided the article had been franked as official by a “competent authority” of the originating country. Fees for additional services were still payable however for such correspondence.

The envelope below, sent by registered first class surface mail from the American Consulate in Hamilton, Ontario to Secretary of State in Washington, D.C., bears a “CONSULAR MAIL/FREE” hand-stamp as the mark indicating that the letter could be mailed postage free. The standard registration fee of 10¢ was required and paid for in this case by five 2¢ Mufti’s. The letter was marked in hand written script “Passed for Export”, which by the appearance of the script and ink, was by the Canadian post office official who registered the letter.

In addition to the normal receiving office cancellations (New York and Washington D.C.), the back of this envelope also has the imprint “FROM THE FRANKLIN D. ROOSEVELT COLLECTION/AUTHENTICATION BY H.R. HARMER INC., N.Y. ”. President Roosevelt’s stamp collecting interests were well known and I would guess many items such as the one below were set aside and forwarded to the President by officials in various government departments.



*Registered “CONSULAR FREE MAIL” letter sent September 29, 1939 from Hamilton, Ontario to Washington, D.C.  
(received September 30, 1939 via New York City)  
franked with five 2¢ Mufti stamps to pay the 10¢ Registration Fee for a letter delivered to a U.S. destination*

**... Mufti Era First Class Postage to the United States & Territories**

*by Gary*

**Special Delivery - First Class Letters**

From the Canada Official Postal Guide we know that “Letters bearing in addition to ordinary postage, a Canadian special delivery stamp, or bearing Canadian postage stamps to the value of twenty cents additional to the ordinary postage and bearing the words “Special Delivery” legibly written across the upper left hand corner of the address, may be accepted in Canada for delivery at any place in the United States”. The fee charged for Special Delivery service, initially 20¢ at the start of the King George VI reign, was reduced to 10¢ from March 1<sup>st</sup>, 1939 onwards.

The cover below is a letter sent special delivery from Toronto to an address in New York City before the rate change and is a nice example where the 20¢ special delivery fee was paid by an ordinary postage stamp, in this case the 1938 20¢ Fort Garry pictorial.



*Letter sent June 26, 1938 from Toronto, Ontario special delivery to New York City (Received June 26, 1938) franked with a 3¢ Mufti and a 20¢ 1938 Fort Garry to pay the special delivery fee for a first class letter to a U.S. destination.*

The cover below features the 1938 20¢ Special Delivery stamp, now overprinted 10¢ to pay the special delivery fee for a package of post cards mailed to the U.S. on July 21<sup>st</sup>, 1939. Similar to the special delivery cover shown in John’s article in Issue 4, the imprint “**Fee Claimed by Office of First Address**” has been applied to the cover by U.S. postal authorities



*Letter sent July 21, 1939 from Fort Francis, Ontario, special delivery to Mason City, Iowa, U.S.A franked with a 3¢ Mufti and a 10¢ 1939 Special Delivery Provisional Overprint to pay the special delivery fee for a 1 ounce first class letter to a U.S. destination.*

## ... Mufti Era First Class Postage to the United States & Territories

by Gary

### ... Special Delivery - First Class Letters

This large, heavily used envelope is a little bit of a conundrum with 23¢ in Canadian postage and a 10¢ U.S. special delivery stamp affixed. The total postage affixed of 33¢ would pay the 20 cents special delivery fee plus 13 cents for an overweight first class letter of up to 6 ounces. The envelope shows signs of stuffing, however it would take a lot of heavy paper to get over 5 ounces. The question is, would the Canadian Post Office accept the use of the 10¢ U.S. stamp to partially pay the 33¢ fee. I do not have any first hand knowledge of this and was wondering if other Study Group members can shed further light on the subject.

A similar cover from 1937 is shown in Kimber Wald's Special Delivery book on page 1.39 where he says "the sender apparently added an unnecessary 10 cent United States Special Delivery stamp. The 20 cent Canadian prepayment was adequate per the 1923 treaty." If it weren't for the appearance of such heavy use, I might reach a similar conclusion for the envelope below.



Letter sent June 30, 1938 from Montreal, Quebec special delivery to Rome, New York franked with seven 3¢ and two 1¢ Mufti's to pay the special delivery fee for a 1 ounce first class letter to a U.S. destination.

### Airmail to U.S. Territories in the Pacific - 30¢ per ½ ounce fee to Hawaii

As noted in John's article in Issue 4, the "Clipper Service" rate for airmail letters to Hawaii via San Francisco increased from 25¢ to 30¢ per ½ ounce on July 27<sup>th</sup>, 1940. Following the attack on Pearl Harbour, all mail service to Hawaii was suspended on December 19<sup>th</sup>, 1941. Airmail service was reinstated on December 27<sup>th</sup>, 1941 and then surface mail some six months later on June 30<sup>th</sup>, 1942. The cover illustrated below was mailed from Bamfield, British Columbia on May 13<sup>th</sup> 1942 during the period of airmail service only and was examined by Censor DB/C.276.



Airmail letter sent May 13, 1942 from Bamfield, British Columbia to Honolulu, Hawaii franked with a 20¢ 1938 Fort Garry, a 6¢ 1938 Airmail and a 4¢ Mufti to pay the 30¢ per ½ ounce U.S. Clipper rate to Hawaii.

**... Mufti Era First Class Postage to the United States & Territories**

*by Gary*

**Special Delivery - Airmail First Class Letter up to 1 ounce**

The cover below is a nice example of a normal airmail letter where the sender also paid the prevailing 20¢ fee for special delivery upon arrival in Vallejo, California. The sender must have felt it quite important that the addressee receive the letter in the shortest time possible as evidenced by the handwritten note asking the U.S. Postal Service delivery person to “Please leave at door if no answer”. Mailed September 1<sup>st</sup>, 1938 from Vancouver and backstamped 7 AM September 2<sup>nd</sup> in Vallejo, it appears that the U.S. and Canadian postal services did not disappoint the sender.



*1938 3¢ Postal Stationary Envelope sent air mail September 1, 1938 from Vancouver B.C. special delivery to Vallejo, California franked with a 3¢ Mufti and a 20¢ 1938 Special Delivery stamp to pay the special delivery fee for an airmail first class letter up to 1 ounce to a U.S. destination.*

**Special Delivery - Registered Airmail First Class Letter up to 1 ounce**

All classes of mail, including postcards, posted in Canada by airmail to U.S. destinations was subject to applicable first class air-mail rates. Illustrated below is an exceptional item seldom seen, a 1938 2¢ Post Card up-rated by a 4¢ Mufti and sent airmail registered special delivery to meet this requirement.

Clearly for the sender, time was of the essence, as written on the back was the message “We hope you receive these few lines much recovered from your recent illness”. Mailed from Hamilton, Ontario on August 21<sup>st</sup>, 1940, it was inspected, stamped “PASSED FOR EXPORT”, travelled via the Tor. & Niagara Falls R.P.O. and arrived in New York the next day.



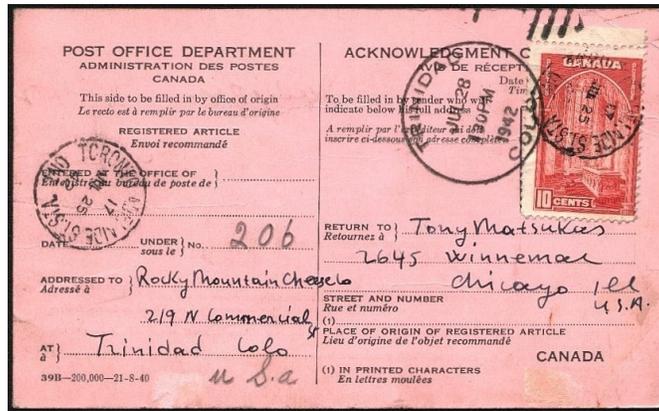
*1938 2¢ Post Card sent via air mail August 21, 1940 from Hamilton, Ontario to New York City, New York franked with a 4¢ Mufti, a 10¢ 1938 Memorial Chamber and the 10¢ 1939 Special Delivery stamp to pay the registered special delivery fee for an airmail first class letter up to 1 ounce to a U.S. destination.*

**... Mufti Era First Class Postage to the United States & Territories**

*by Gary*

**Acknowledgement of Receipt**

A sender of a registered letter mailed in Canada could request that an Acknowledgement of Receipt card accompany the letter to destinations in the continental U.S. and Hawaii. The fee for this additional service - 10¢ - was the same as that charged for Canadian destinations. AR cards to the U.S. are very scarce as compared to Canadian domestic usage. An unusual feature about the AR card pictured below is that, even though the card (and presumably the registered letter associated with the card) originated in Toronto, Ontario, the sender asks that the Acknowledgement of Receipt card be sent to an address in Chicago, Illinois.



*Acknowledgement of Receipt Card sent July 25, 1942 from Toronto, Ontario to Trinidad, Colorado and returned July 28, 1942 to sender's address in Chicago, Illinois*

**Money Packet**

Fees for money packets were the same for either Canadian or to U.S. destinations during the Mufti period at 5¢ for the first ounce and 5¢ for each additional ounce or fraction thereof. A 10¢ registration fee was also to be prepaid on money packets. The money packet tag illustrated below is prepaid with three 1938 \$1.00 Chateau de Ramesey stamps to make up a \$2.90 money packet fee plus the 10¢ registration fee. The \$2.90 fee indicates the packet would have weighed between 57 and 58 ounces. Money packets were sent by surface mail and this packet was mailed by the Bank of Nova Scotia in Halifax on October 30<sup>th</sup>, 1941, arrived at the central New York Registration Division on November 1<sup>st</sup> and was then forwarded to the Church Street Annex in the Wall Street district on November 3<sup>rd</sup> for delivery to the Bank of New York.



*Tag from money packet sent (registered) from Halifax, N.S. October 30, 1941 to New York City, N.Y. (Received November 1, 1941) franked with a three \$1.00 1938 Chateau de Ramesey stamps to pay the fees for a registered money packet weighing 58 ounces.*

► **TOPICS Revisited (Part II - BNAPS TOPICS Vol. 5 & 6)**  
*Prest*

*by Stephen F.*

*Introduction*

Issue 4 of the Post & Mail featured Part I of **TOPICS Revisited**, a listing of articles and notes drawn from TOPICS Volumes 1 to 4 issued between 1944 to 1947. The information provide below in this Part II of TOPICS Revisited is drawn from TOPICS Volumes 5 and 6 (Whole Nos. 44 to 64) issued in 1948 and 1949.

*1948 Princess Elizabeth Marriage Issue*

In **Whole No. 46** (March 1948), **Rev John F. Bain** noted that 1947 is the “Secret Date” printed on the commemorative Princess Elizabeth Marriage issue which was released on February 16<sup>th</sup>, 1948. In **Whole No. 47** (April 1948), **Rev Bain** wrote that the original design of 1948 Royal Wedding (Princess Elizabeth) was changed prior to final issue. Earlier, **Rev Bain** noted in **Whole No. 44** (Jan 1948), that the Post Office had delayed the issue date for this stamp (originally set for January 15<sup>th</sup>, 1948) due to “production difficulties”.

*1948 Responsible Government Issue*

A Post Office Announcement regarding the 1948 Responsible Government Issue was reproduced in **Whole No. 52** (Oct 1948).

*1948 War Issue Perf 9½ Coil Stamps*

In **Whole No. 56** (Feb 1949), **Rev John F. Bain’s** column provided information about the newly issued War Issue Perf 9½ coil stamps.

*1949 John Cabot Commemorative*

In **Whole No. 58** (April 1949), **Rev John F. Bain’s** column raised a query about the correct spelling of the name of Cabot’s ship the Matthew (or Mathew).

*1949 Halifax Bicentenary*

Notes relating to the Halifax Bicentenary issue appeared in **Whole No. 60** (June 1949).

*1949/50 Revised/Unrevised KGVI Definitives*

An announcement concerning the issue of the Revised 1949 and the Unrevised 1950 KGVI definitive stamps appeared in **Whole No. 63** (Nov 1949). The Revised Issue stamps, which incorporated the words Poste/Postage in the design, were scheduled to be issued on November 15<sup>th</sup>, 1949. The Unrevised Issue stamps, which do not have the words Postes/Postage incorporated in the design, were initially scheduled to be issued on June 6<sup>th</sup>, 1949 but were in fact not issued on that date. Stocks of Unrevised Issue stamps were subsequently forwarded to post offices throughout Canada in January 1950 but no further printings of these stamps were made as stocks were depleted.

*Air Letters*

In **Whole No. 55** (Jan 1949), **Rev John F. Bain’s** column contained a number references to air letter sheets.

*Booklets*

In **Whole No. 45** (Feb 1948), **Rev John F. Bain’s** column contained reference to differences between the panes found in the 1947 “Gift“ Booklet and regular “War Issue” booklets.

*Meter Postage*

In **Whole No. 49** (June 1948), **C.B.D. Garrett** wrote an article that illustrated some examples of meter postage marks during the early 1940’s. Follow-up articles appeared in **Whole Nos. 54 & 57** (Dec 1948 & Mar 1949).

*Military Postmarks*

Notes on Prisoner-of-War Franks appear in **Herman Herst, Jr.**'s advertisement in **Whole No. 49** (June 1948).

## ► TOPICS Revisited (Part II - BNAPS TOPICS Vol. 5 & 6) ... *continued*

### Newfoundland

The **Meyersons'** "Trail of the Caribou" articles in **Whole Nos. 46 & 53** (March & Nov 1948) made reference to plate numbers on current Newfoundland issues. Further notes about the printings of Newfoundland stamps issued between 1942 to 1947 appeared in the "Trail of the Caribou" columns in **Whole Nos. 55, 57, 58, 60 & 62** (Jan, March, April, June & Oct 1949).

A brief listing of Newfoundland Inland and Airmail Rates of Postage can be found in the **Meyersons'** "Trail of the Caribou" column in **Whole No. 47** (Apr 1948). A correction relating to Postage for town delivery of letters appeared in the "Trail of the Caribou" in **Whole No. 48** (May 1948).

A nice pair of the 5¢ Cabot imperforate between used on piece was pictured in the **Meyersons'** "Trail of the Caribou" column in **Whole No. 49** (June 1948).

Further notes to earlier articles on Traveling Post Offices of Newfoundland (**Whole Nos. 34, 35 & 39**) appeared in an article in **Whole No. 49** (June 1949) written by the **Meyersons**.

Perforation variations of Newfoundland's Postage Dues were discussed in the **Meyersons'** "Trail of the Caribou" column in **Whole No. 50** (July 1948).

Notes on airmail letters and Air Letter Forms appeared in the **Meyersons'** "Trail of the Caribou" column in **Whole No. 54** (Dec 1948). In the same column, the **Meyersons** mentioned that there were more than 500 post offices in Newfoundland in late 1948.

In **Whole No. 56** (Feb 1949), **S. G. Rich** explores the possible printing methods used to produce the 10 cent "Salmon" value of Newfoundland's 1937 Long Coronation set.

The **Meyersons'** "Trail of the Caribou" column in **Whole No. 57** (Mar 1949) provided information on Newfoundland Registered Envelopes.

The **Meyersons'** "Trail of the Caribou" column in **Whole No. 64** (Dec 1949) provided information gleaned from the 1938 Newfoundland Post Office Circular.

### Official Stamps - Perforated

In **Whole No. 48** (May 1948), **Rev John S. Bain's** column contained a brief note from **Arthur L. Guess** on double and inverted O.H.M.S. perforated stamps.

### Philatelic Literature

In **Whole No. 47** (Apr 1948), **R.J. Duncan** reviewed B.N.A. related articles in **Popular Stamps** and lists numerous articles of potential interest to KGVI Collectors to be found in Volumes I through X (1938 to Jan. 1948).

In **Whole No. 56** (Feb 1949), **R.J. Duncan** reviewed B.N.A. related articles in **Stamp Collector's Exchange Club Magazine** and lists numerous articles of possible interest to KGVI collectors to be found in Volumes III through IX (1937 to 1946). For a short period, this magazine was the official organ of the Canadian Philatelic Society.

### Plate Blocks

**Russell Allison's** column "Looking Here...Looking There..." in **Whole No. 55** (Jan. 1949) made reference to a series of articles by Mr. W.J. Scott ending in the November 6, (1948) issue of **Weekly Philatelic Gossip** that provided details on KGVI era plate blocks.

### Postage Dues

A Post Office note regarding the issue of a new 5¢ Postage Due stamp appeared in **Whole No. 52** (Oct 1948).

### Postage Rates

In **Whole No. 49** (June 1948), **Rev John F. Bain** mentioned the start of "all up" airmail service as of July 1, 1948. In a follow-up note in **Whole No. 50** (July 1948), **Rev Bain** mentioned that the "all up" rate applied only to first class mail between main

cities in Canada and that the airmail rate of 7¢ would (continue to) apply to “feeder” air lines.

## ► TOPICS Revisited (Part II - BNAPS TOPICS Vol. 5 & 6) ... *continued*

### Postage Rates ....

A short listing of new airmail rates from Newfoundland appeared in the **Meyersons'** “Trail of the Caribou” column in **Whole No. 51** (Sept 1948). A further listing of postage rates effective in Newfoundland as of April 1<sup>st</sup>, 1949 appears in their column in **Whole No. 59** (May 1949).

### Post Office History & Correspondence

**Ed Whiting's** article, “Review & Reports” in **Whole No. 52** (Oct 1948), contained an interesting reference to the Post Office Bulletin of September 11<sup>th</sup> regarding “Back Stamping of First Class Mail” which stated, “effective immediately, the requirement to back stamp incoming mail would now only apply to post offices having an annual revenue base of less than \$3000”. Formerly, post offices with an annual revenue base of \$10,000 were required to back stamp incoming first class mail.

### Postal Stationary

In **Whole No. 46** (Mar 1948) **Rev John S. Bain's** article contained a brief note on current 10¢ Air Letters.

### Presentations Booklets

In **Whole No. 44** (Jan 1948), **Reg Baraclough** wrote an article entitled “*Incomplete Notes – Presentation Booklets of Canada*” which provided some background on how and why these items came about. He continued on this subject with a series of four articles entitled “*An Initial Listing of the Presentation Booklets of Canada*” that appeared in **Whole Nos. 59 to 62** (May - Oct 1949).

The **Meyersons'** “Trail of the Caribou” article in **Whole No. 58** (Apr 1949) provided information on Newfoundland's Presentation Booklet issued in relation to the 1947 U.P.U. Congress held in Paris, France.

### Registration Markings

In **Whole No. 44** (Jan 1948) **F. Walter Pollock** wrote a letter to the Editor to ask if anyone can provide further explanation of a rather elaborate boxed registration handstamp which provides spaces for an “Original No.” and then “Subsequent Nos.”. **E.G. Lloyd** and others provided answers in their letters to the Editor found in **Whole No. 46** (Mar 1948).

### Royal Visits

In **Whole No. 46** (Mar 1948), **Rev John S. Bain's** article contained a short note on the limited number of One Dollar Money Orders issued by the (1939) Royal Train Post Office. In **Whole No. 48** (May 1948), **E.G. Lloyd** explained how he was able to obtain three \$1.00 Money Orders with Royal Train Cancellations. This article also contained reference to the Royal Train's Post Office Number as being 3956.

An article on The Royal Train Post Office by **R.A. Jamieson** appeared in **Whole No. 50** (July 1948).

### Secret Dates

In **Whole No. 46** (Mar 1948), **Rev John S. Bain's** article contained a short write-up on “Secret Dates”. **F. Walter Pollock's** Letter to the Editor in **Whole No. 47** (Apr 1948) commented further on Secret Dates where he noted that the 1938 Special Delivery stamp has the Secret Date 1937 which he goes on to suggest was the year the stamp was actually produced.

### Slogan Cancellations

In **Whole No. 58** (Apr 1949), the **Meyersons'** provided further information about Newfoundland Postal Slogan cancellations in their “Trail of the Caribou” column.

### Traveling Post Offices

Notes on Traveling Letter Boxes appeared in **Wilsdon & Watmouth's** article in **Whole No. 50** (July 1948).

**Precancelled Stamps - Warning Strips**

Precancelled stamps are a fascinating collecting area for collectors and there is an active BNAPS Study Group. All three definitive series of the King George VI period were issued as precancelled stamps. In the recent past, Study Group members Leo Beaudet and Ed Harris have sent in images of what are known as Warning Strips which were printed along the top or bottom selvedge of sheets that have been overprinted for sale as precancelled stamps. These items are fairly uncommon although some do come up for sale from time to time in auction. It would be interesting to learn if any other Study Group members have similar items in their collection. If so, please send along an image of your item for inclusion in a future edition of the Post & Mail.



*Plate 5 Upper Right Sheet of the 1¢ Mufti overprinted for issue as precancelled stamps with the St. Thomas, Ontario Money Order Office Number (4260) - (Courtesy of Leo Beaudet)*



*Plate 1 Upper Right Sheet of the 1949 2¢ “Postes-Postage” Revised Issue (sepia) overprinted for issue as precancelled stamps with the Edmonton, Alberta Money Order Office Number (8360) - (Courtesy of Ed Harris)*

**What’s in your Collection?**

Part II of TOPICS Revisited contains a number of references to what would appear to be interesting items for anyone who collects KGV Canada. Your Editor will be looking through his material to see if he has any of the following items but he is not too hopeful and so requests that Study Group members also take a look to see if perhaps they might have one or more examples of the following to share with us in a future newsletter.

- A cover with the boxed Registration hand-stamp that provided space for the originating and subsequent handling post offices to write in their respective record entries.
- A cover bearing as backstamp of a small town post office dated later than September 1948. Such a cover would indicate that post office probably had an annual turnover of less than \$3000.00 p.a.
- A Money Order issued by the 1939 Royal Train Post Office.

## Postage Stamps Centenaries during the KGVII Reign

by John Wynns

### The Centenary of the Penny Black

The reign of King George VI was auspicious in many respects but of particular interest to stamp collectors was the fact that the reign coincided with various centenaries of the first issues of postage stamp adhesives in Great Britain, Canada and many other countries around the world. Prior to prepaid postage using stamps, letter delivery fees were usually paid by the recipient not the sender. Collection of delivery fees from the recipient often proved difficult, especially if the recipient did not wish to accept the letter. To overcome this problem and to increase the efficiency of mail delivery generally in Great Britain, Sir Roland Hill came up with the idea of using adhesive stamps that senders would affix to their letters to prepay the delivery service fees. The first postage stamp, the so-called "Penny Black", was issued on May 6<sup>th</sup>, 1840 featuring a side face profile of young Queen Victoria. As a testimony to the improvement in service this development represented, the volume of mail handled by the Post Office more than doubled within a year of the Penny Black's introduction.

The Hamilton Stamp Club planned a show Saturday May 4<sup>th</sup>, 1940 to commemorate the centenary of the Penny Black in conjunction with hosting a joint meeting with the Stamp Clubs of Buffalo and Toronto. It appears a member of the Hamilton Philatelic Society suggested that an attempt be made to secure a slogan for this noteworthy event. By date of 16<sup>th</sup> February 1940, Edward Goodale, Chairman of the Hamilton Philatelic Society 1940 Dinner Committee wrote the Hamilton Post Master with a request for a special slogan die. A drawing of the proposed slogan die was forwarded along with the request to the Director of Administrative Services, Ottawa. The special slogan die was approved and the club bore the cost in the amount of \$16.20 to manufacture the die.

To make a long story short, the die was forwarded to the Hamilton Post Office to be used in one of their Pitney-Bowes cancelling machines on May 6<sup>th</sup>, 1940 only. No other post office in Canada received authorization to mark the centenary in this manner and inquiries by other parties were redirected to the Hamilton Stamp Club. The Ottawa Administrative office issued explicit instructions to the Hamilton P.O. that no "special handling of covers" would be approved. That is, a collector could not forward a batch of covers to the post office requesting they be cancelled by favour. Only mail being processed on May 6<sup>th</sup> in the usual manner would receive the slogan cancel. It seems from the cover below however, the staff at the Hamilton Post Office may have misunderstood Ottawa's directive!



*Unaddressed cover with the 1940 Postage Centenary Slogan Cancel May 6, 1940 in Hamilton, Ontario*

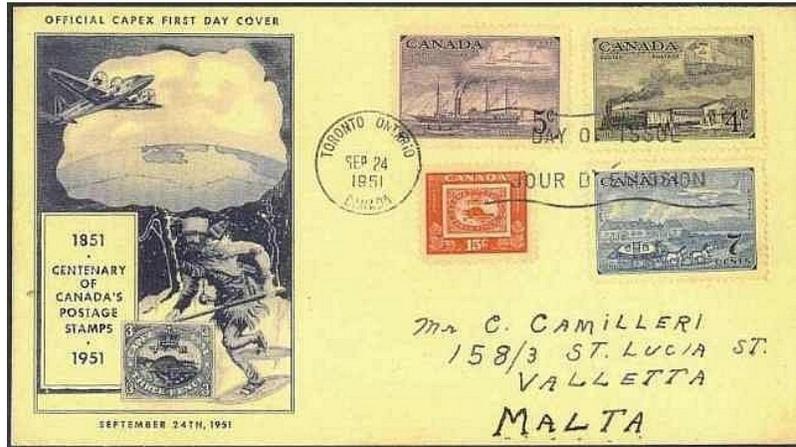
### The Centenary of Canada's First Postage Stamps

Other countries followed Great Britain's lead, with Brazil, in 1843, being the second country to issue adhesive postage stamps followed by the United States and Mauritius in 1847. Canada's first postage stamps were issued in 1851 as were the first postage stamps for New Brunswick and Nova Scotia. Newfoundland's first stamps were issued in 1857.

Canada's philatelic community celebrated the centenary of its first postage stamps in September 1951 by staging the first International Philatelic Exhibit to be held in Canada – CAPEX 1951 – in Toronto. The Post Office marked the occasion by issuing the "Stamp Centenary" set of four stamps on September 24<sup>th</sup>, 1951. The first day cover, showing the four stamps in the set was addressed to a Mr. Camilleri in Valletta, Malta, had sufficient postage affixed to send a letter of up to ½ ounce airmail to Malta.

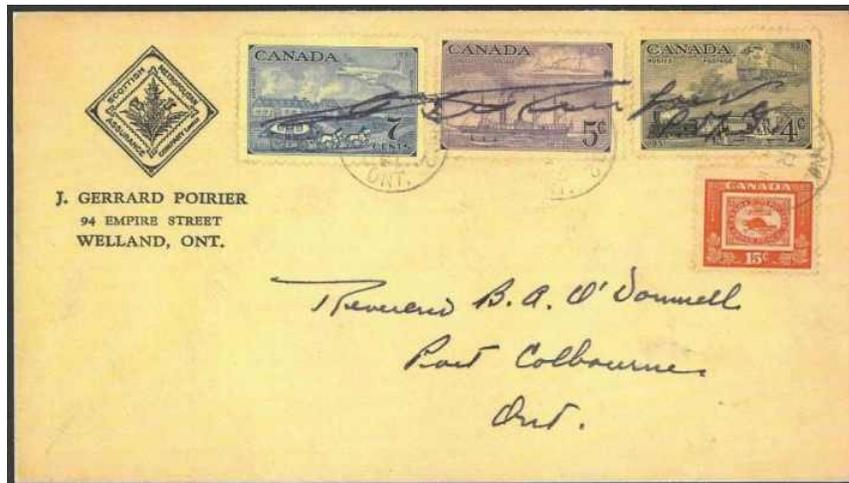
**... Postage Stamp Centenaries**

*by John Wynns*



*CAPEX First Day Cover mailed September 24, 1951 from Toronto to Valetta, Malta*

The cover below also has each of the Stamp Centenary stamps affixed of which three have been autographed by “G. Edouard Rinfret, P.M.G” (Postmaster General of Canada). This cover is dated 26 XI 51. One wonders why the PMG would be endorsing a philatelic cover in late November. Could it be that the post office clerk transposed the letters “XI” in the hand canceller for if they had read “IX” this would mean the envelope was mailed during CAPEX week in September 1951, perhaps emanating from the CAPEX exhibition in Toronto which M. Rinfret may well have attended.



*Cover autographed by M. G. Edouard Rinfret, Postmaster General of Canada mailed November (September?) 26, 1951 to Port Colburne, Ontario*

**Acknowledgements**

*The author would like to express his appreciation to Mr. Cecil Coutts, Editor of the Slogan Box, the newsletter of the BNAPS Slogan Study Group for providing valuable background information about the Hamilton May 1940 Centenary of the Postage Stamp Slogan Cancel (M-225). The author also wishes to acknowledge Mr. R. Taylor's article "The Penny Black" to be found at [www.imagesoftheworld.org/stamps](http://www.imagesoftheworld.org/stamps) as a source of information regarding the issue of Great Britain's first postage stamp.*

## ► Member's Corner

**John Burnett** wrote to say that he attended the fall meeting of the Pacific Northwest Group at Harrison Hot Springs, B.C. in September last year where about thirty members present heard five different talks on a variety of subjects. John gave a talk on the 1937 & 1938 issues used on mail to foreign destinations. John polled those attending and was surprised to learn that about 80% collected KGV material but that he was in fact the only member of the George VI Study Group. John hopes he will be able to encourage more of his Pacific Northwest colleagues to join in the future.

Since moving out west in mid 2004, John has taken on the task of Editor of "The Western Express" the newsletter of the Pacific Northwest Regional Group of BNAPS. He has also become the President of his local stamp club near his new home in Washington State. John has also written to say he expects to be attending BNAPEX 2005 in Edmonton and plans on entering a ten frame exhibit on the 1937 Mufti & 1938 Pictorial issues.

**Bill Pawluk**, BNAPS First Vice President joined our Study Group in late 2004. Bill says he has been looking for a new collecting area and has always been attracted to the King George VI period but even more so after listening to John Burnett's presentation in the fall meeting of the BNAPS Pacific Northwest Group.

**Steve Prest** gave a PowerPoint presentation on King George VI precancelled plate blocks at the January 2005 meeting of the Calgary Regional BNAPS Group. Steve is particularly grateful to Study Group members **Gary Steele**, **Leo Beaudet** and **John Burnett** for their assistance in assembling this presentation including the use of images of various items from their collections.

## ► Members' Wants

**1942 War Issue 1¢ Green** John Munro-Cape specializes in the 1¢ War Issue (in all its forms) and is looking to buy/sell exchange items related to these issues. John can be contacted by mail at RR #3 Picton, Ontario, Canada K0K 2T0 or by telephone at 1-613-476-5133

**KGVI Booklets - All Issues** Eirwyn Jones is looking to buy/sell/exchange KGVI booklets and has duplicates to offer. Eirwyn can be contacted by mail at 10 Low Green, ATHERTON, Manchester, United Kingdom M46 9HS or by email at jennifer.jones45@btinternet.com

**KGVI Used Plate Blocks** Ed Harris is interested in used plate blocks for his KGVI collection and has a few duplicates for trade or purchase. Ed can be contacted by mail at 620 75th Ave. NW, Calgary, Alberta, Canada T2K 0P9 or by email at harrise@shaw.ca

## Cracked Plates



*Cracked Lower Left Plate Block No. 31 of the 4¢ War Issue*

Thanks to Doug Lingard for sending through the nice example of a 4¢ War Issue cracked plate block. A review of current stamp catalogues reveals some 18 cracked corner plate blocks of the War Issue definitives have listed status with the 1943 4¢ War Issue stamp, including Plate No. 31 LL above, accounting for 8 of the total. There have been unlisted corners offered for sale in auction from time to time.

Doug suggests that identification and compilation of KGVI era cracked plates offers an interesting area for study by our Study Group. If any members of our Study Group has other examples of cracked plate blocks please send your Editor a note and a few scans for future editions of the Post & Mail.

**Hugh Delaney** has forwarded an interesting article on the postal history and active postal outlets of the Yukon Territory during the King George VI reign which your Editor expects will be published in upcoming Issue 6 of the Post & Mail.

**1937 - 42 Mufti, Pictorial Issue etc.** Gary Steele is looking for covers, proofs, plate blocks, misperfs etc. of all issues in the Mufti period.

**Dead Letter Office Covers - All Issues** 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 contacted by mail at 6 Braemont Court, Lower Sackville, Nova Scotia, Canada B4E 3A1 or by email at gary.steele@ns.sympatico.ca

**1949 Postes - Postage OHMS** Peter Kritz is looking for O285 & O286 (2 & 3¢ KGVI Poste - Postage issue) on cover. Peter can be contacted by regular mail at RR #3, Hanover, Ontario, Canada, N4N 3B9 or by email at pkritz@coldwellbankerpr.com