



SIPA

Bulletin

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PERFINS OF
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CANADA
POST 60

QUARTERLY

Editorial

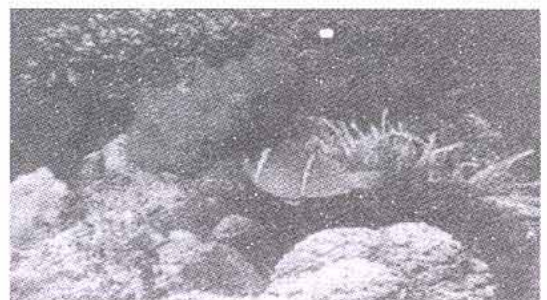
SIPEX 2011

With esteemed pleasure wish I to inform that our Association has conducted, SIPA'S thirteenth exhibition, state level during 7th and 9th Oct at life Auditorium Kilpak, Life Chennai - 600 010. with the patronage of India Post, Chennai Circle.

Like all the previous exhibitions about hundred collectors exhibited few hundred frames, mesmerised thousands of viewers who honoured the endeavour of the members of SIPA and made the exhibition a grand success.

To highlight the show on each day special cover shown on the right (1). Coral Reef - Full of mannar, (2). Endangered Grizzled squirrel and (3). Rak Painting at Keelvalai - Maritime Heritage were released and to make it memorable an attractive sovenir was also brought out.

Overall, the exhibition boosted the morale of many collectors and also brought a few scores of new collectors into the fold showing that an exhibition is the real energser for the hobby.



Second Sunday Meeting August 2011

With President
Mr. G. Balakrishna Das on the Chair,
18 members attended the meeting on
1.08.11 Mr.Ravindranath Member, SIPA
spoke on "Present trends in collecting"

STAMP NEWS

DR. D.S. KOTHARI

06.07.2011

500

0.3.mill

Daulat Singh Kothari was born on July 6, 1906 at Udaipur to Shri Fateh Lal Kothari, a school teacher. After the death of his father in 1918 he was brought up by his mother.

Completing the B.Sc. Degree from Allahabad University in 1926, under the guidance of Shri Meghnad Saha, a noted physicist, he went on to obtain M.Sc. in 1928 with specialization in Wireless (now renamed as Electronics).



He completed his PhD under the supervision of Ernst Rutherford at the Cavendish Laboratory, Cambridge.

In May 1934, Kothari joined the Delhi University as Reader and Head of Physics department. After joining, he brought about a lot of changes in the Physics Department. He established laboratories, libraries, invited eminent physicists to deliver lectures, established an active research group in physical science and also started the M.Sc. course in Delhi University.

Dr. Kothari was appointed as Scientific Advisor to the Ministry of Defence, Government of India in 1948. He retained this position till 1961 when he was appointed the Chairman, University Grants Commission. He was also associated with the National Council of Educational Research and Training (NCERT). He was appointed as Chairman of Committee on 'Recruitment Policy and Selection Methods' of UPSC in 1974.

He received the Padma Vibhushan in 1973. He passed away on 4 Feb 1993.

Theme : Personality, Leader, Educationalist, Scientist, Physics.

UNITED THEOLOGICAL COLLEGE

08.07.11

500

0.3 mill

United Theological College, Bangalore was founded on 08th July 1910 to train leaders for the church and society in India. From a small beginning with about ten students, and seven staff, the college has now grown to train more than 160 students.



The college has a well endowed library, one of the best theological libraries in the world. Imprints and manuscripts more than a hundred years old are preserved in the archives of the library.

The college has welcomed world leaders. Mahatma Gandhi visited it in 1927 and declared, "To live the gospel is the most effective way ... I can say that the life of service and uttermost simplicity is the best preaching". The campus of UTC is studded with old, sprawling trees, has quite a few heritage buildings including its main block. The well maintained garden is cynosure of all eyes.

Theme : Institutions, Christianity, Religions, Centenary

VITTHAL SAKHARAM PAGE

21.07.11

500

0.3 mill

Vitthal Shkharam Page was born on 21st July 1910 at Bagani in Satara district of Maharashtra. After his graduation, he completed his L.L.B., degree from Mumbai University. He also took part in the freedom movement and had underwent imprisonment.



He was elected to the Bombay legislative Council successively in 1952 and 1954 and to the Maharashtra Legislative council in 1960, 1966, and 1972 and was its Chairman from 1960 to 1978.

He made valuable contribution to various fields of public life. He was a veteran Gandhian Congress leader. He was Secretary and President of Sangli District Congress committee.

In 1965, he formulated the Integrated Area Development Scheme, popularly known as "Page Scheme". In 1969, he persuaded the government of Maharashtra to implement an employment guarantee scheme on a pilot basis in village Visapur in Sangli District.

In 1977, the State Legislature of Maharashtra adopted Employment Guarantee Act and passed it unanimously. V.S. Page was honoured with "Dalit Mitra" and Nyayaratha Ramshastri Prabhune Puraskar and regarded as "Father of employment Guarantee Scheme".

Theme : Personality, Freedom fighter, Social Worker, Leader.

KASU BRAHMANADA REDDY

28.07.2011

500

0.3 mill

Kasu Brahmanada Reddy was born on 28th July 1909 in Chirumamilla Village of Guntur District to S. Kasu Venkata Krishna Reddy and Smt. Chhayamma. After

completing graduation and LLB he started practice as a lawyer in 1933. Starting from his Student days he was actively involved in the National movement and underwent rigorous imprisonment.

He entered the political arena at 27 and was elected President of the Guntur District Board. In March 1946, he was a legislator in the Madras Provincial Assembly for six years. He was inducted into the Cabinet of the newly created state of Andhra Pradesh in 1956 where he excelled as Finance Minister and Minister for Planning. In 1964 he was elected Chief Minister of Andhra Pradesh. Many Central projects were initiated and public sector industries were set up : the Nagarajunasagar and Tungabhadra High Level Canal projects, rail-cum-road Bridge on Godavari River, creation of South – Central Railway Zone, establishment of Vizag Steel Plant and modernized Vishakapatnam port and harbor. He was also instrument in establishing many PSUs like BHEL, IDPL, ECIL, BDL, etc. He also strengthened the Panchayatraj and Zilla Parishads. He resigned from the post of Chief Minister on 24th September 1971.

He was appointed Chairman of the Sixth Finance Commission in 1972-73. Later he was inducted into the Union Cabinet and held the portfolios of Minister for communications and Home Minister. In 1988 he was appointed as the governor of Maharashtra.

He breathed his last on 20th May 1994.

Theme : Personality, Leader, Freedom fighter, Politics, Chief ministers.

K.M. MATHEW

01.08.11 500 0.3 mill

K.M. Mathew was born on 2nd January 1917, the seventh son of Sh. K.C. Mammen Happillai. He had his early schooling in Kottayam, Kerala and his degree in Economics from Madras University.

Mathew joined the 'Malayala Manorama' as Managing Editor in 1954 and become Chief Editor in 1973. Under his stewardship, the newspaper achieved many milestones. He launched many best selling publications such as 'Vanitha' in Malayalam, the English news magazine 'Manorama Weekly' which became the largest selling weekly in India.

His campaign in 1993 for Kerala's development brought rich dividends. He was instrumental in bringing Kochi International Airport at Nedumbassery,



Kayamkulam. Thermal Power Plant and Ezhimala Naval Academy to Kerala. In 1998, the president of India conferred the 'Padma Bhushan'.

His book of memoirs, 'Annamma', published in Malayalam (2004) and English (2005) has been highly appreciated for its literary and historical value. His autobiography, 'Ettamathe Mothiram', gives an insight into the social and political evolution of the state. He breathed his last on 01 August 2010.

Theme : Journalism, Personality, Leader.

RASHTRAPATI BHAVAN

05.08.11 4 x 500 0.4 mill each

The Rastrapati Bhavan, formerly the Viceregal Lodge or Viceroy's House, was conceptualized in 1911 (after the Delhi Durbar) under Lord Hardinge, the then Viceroy and Governor General of India. The task of construction was assigned to Sir Edwin Landseer Lutyens, an architect of rare originality. He was ably assisted by Herbert Baker in this project.



The construction, begun in 1913, was finally completed in 1929. It was commissioned in 1931 when Lord Irwin became its first occupant.

The entrance to Rashtrapati Bhavan is guarded by an intricately designed wrought iron grille with stone piers, each supporting a pair of sandstone elephants and a stone lantern, along with stone aedicules providing shade to the guards.



The Processional Way from the main entrance to the majestic forecourt hosts the Jaipur Column, 145ft. tall.

The most outstanding feature of the building on which the National tricolor flies is the large Neo-Buddhist Dome that arises over the east frontage which pays homage to the Stupa of Sanchi.

The Mughal Gardens, as the name indicates, are a tribute to geometrical decorum and fountains and water channels so liked by the Mughals. The Mughal Gardens are at their glorious best in February and March.

As New Delhi celebrates its centenary, the Rashtrapati Bhavan celebrates eighty years of its glorious existence.

Theme : Heritage, Delhi, Buildings, Architecture.

PT. K. SANTANAM

25.08.11

500

0.3 mill

Pt. K. Santanam was born on 25th August, 1885 to A. Krishnamachari Iyengar who was then the Dewan of Mysore. He did his post graduation in Economics at Madras Presidency College, and went to England to study at Kings College Cambridge and became barrister in 1910. On return, he chose to settle in Lahore and practiced Law at the High Court.



As a lawyer he took up the defence of those implicated in the aftermath of Jallianwala Bagh massacre. No one was allowed to travel outside Amritsar under the Martial Law then in effect, but Pt. K. Santanam managed to slip out and brought the atrocities perpetrated in Punjab to the notice of the Viceroy's Executive Council.

After ten eventful years as a lawyer he quit his legal practice following Gandhiji's clarion call to boycott the law courts and British Educational Institutions. He took active part in the Non-Cooperation Movement.

Pt. K. Santanam was known for his progressive thoughts. He shunned certain rituals and practices and rejected the caste system. He was a successful lawyer, freedom fighter and an enterprising businessman with foresight.

He passed away on 30th August 1949.

Theme : Personality, Freedom Fighter, Lawyers.

DR. M.S. ANEY

29.8.2011

500

0.3 mill

Yavatmal in Maharashtra in the plains of Central India dates back historically to when it was part of Berar province. In rural Wani, in this windswept cotton, jowar and wheat fields was born Dr. Madhav Srihari Aney on 29th August 1880.

As a young man, he met Lokmanya Tilak in 1902

at Morris College, Nagpur. His fierce anti-British writings in 'Harikishor' resulted in prosecution by the Crown and consequent suspension of his Sanad to practice law for one year. As an active leader of the mass-based Civil Disobedience movement, he was punished yet again with cancellation of his Sanad to practice law.

He established the Vidarbha Sahitya Sangh Sammelan at Gwalior in 1928. In 1938, he was appointed Vice-Chancellor, Tilak Maharashtra.

From 1928 to 1929 he served as the Secretary of the Nehru Committee. Inspired by the Salt Satyagraha, he became part of the freedom struggle. His role in the non-co-operation movement is best exemplified by the wide-spread Jungle Satyagraha, started at Pusad in July 1930. He courted arrest and underwent six months imprisonment.

In 1930 Loknayak Aney joined Mahatma Gandhi in the Quit India Movement. In 1931 he became Member of the Congress Working Committee and in 1933 was elected President of the Indian National Congress.

Loknayak Aney was elected to the Parliament from Nagpur in the year 1959. He was a Member of the Lok Sabha from 1959 to 1966.

On 26.1.1968, the day he died, he was awarded the 'Padma Vibhushan'.

Theme : Personality, Freedom fighter, Literature, Indian National Congress.

SURENDRA NATH JAUHAR

02.09.11

500

0.3 mill

Surendra Nath Jauhar was born on 13 August 1903 at village Vahalee, Dist. Jhelum, West Punjab (now in Pakistan). He had his higher education at D.A.V. College and National College, Lahore. From his student days onwards he actively participated in the freedom movement.

He was member of D.C.C (1939), member of P.C.C (1934-47); took part in the Civil Disobedience Movement and the Quit India Movement. In 1930, he organized boycott of foreign cloth in Chandni Chowk markets. Showing exemplary courage he read the Independence Day Resolution on 14th November 1930 at the Clock Tower, Chandni Chowk. He was arrested and sentenced to nine months vigorous imprisonment in the Central Jail, Multan and released in



1931 on account of Gandhi-Irwin Pact. In 1942, he went underground and worked with Smt. Aruna Asaf Ali and Shri Jugal Kishore Khanna. He was arrested again on September 17, 1942 and tried on various counts for about two years but acquitted on May 6, 1944.

After independence, moving away from active politics he chose religious pursuits by joining Sri Aurobinda Ashram, Delhi

Theme : Freedom Fighter, Politics.

DEV NARAYAN

07.09.2011

500

0. 3mill

Dev Narayan, a folk deity worshipped in Rajasthan and north west Madhya Pradesh, was born to Shri Savai Bhoj and Sadu Mata Gurjari in 911 AD. However some historians are of the view that he lived between 1200-1400 AD.

Shri Savai Bhoj, a Bagaravat, was killed in a battle by Rana, King of Ran city. Sadu Mata gave birth to Dev Narayan after eleven days of severe penance on a hill near the battle field. Fearing for her life, she fled to her maternal home in Malwa where Dev Narayan spent his childhood unaware of his past. One day Chochu Bhat, the bard and genealogist of 24 Bagaravats, came in search of Dev Narayan and narrated the story of the battle between the Rana and Bagaravats. Dev Narayan, against the wishes of his mother, planned to avenge his father's death. In due course he was united with his cousins and together they fought the Rana who was beheaded by Dev Narayan's bow string.



The saga of his life and deeds is sung by the Bhopas, the traditional priest singers of Dev Narayan, at night from November to July in the villages of Rajasthan and Malwa. The epic of Dev Narayan is recited with the help of a Phad. This is a large scroll of cloth, normally 30 feet long, which is painted with the legend of Dev Narayan in bright colours and used as a backdrop by the Bhopas.

Theme : Culture, Sages & Sadhus. Folklore.

TEJAJI MAHARAJ

07.09.11

500

0.3 mill

Rajasthan is a land filled with fascinating folk-stories woven around heroic warriors. During an era when small clans ruled under local chieftains, there were constant conflicts among them. The chieftains of these clans were warriors, fiercely loyal to their subjects, ready to risk their lives, jealously guarding their honour and displaying rare courage in protecting the lives of the people.

Veer Teja also known as Tejaji was one such folk-deity worshipped by some communities of people in Rajasthan and in parts of Madhya Pradesh. Tejaji was said to be born on 29th January 1074 to Chaudhary Tahar and Smt. Sugna of Khirnal in Nagaur district in Rajasthan.



The valour and good deeds of Tejaji made an everlasting impression on his people who started worshipping him as a deity. A number of temples have been built to honour him in Rajasthan.

Theme : Personality, Folklore, Culture.

TRIPURANENI GOPICHAND

08.09.11

500

0.3 mill

Tripuraneni Gopichand, who adorned Telugu literature as a writer, novelist, dramatist, essayist and cine script writer, was born on 08.09.1910 in a family rich in Telugu literary and cultural heritage.

He authored ten novels, twelve plays, numerous essays, sketches, letters and a hundred short stories. His stories fall into four broad categories i.e. political, social, domestic and autobiographical. An innovative technique used by Gopichand is to present the stories of non-human beings as soliloquies as if they are human. An element of satire and a delicate sense of humor run through his stories.



All his writings reflect a purpose and are thought-provoking. Shri Gopichand was presented with Sahitya Akademi Award in 1963 for his work "Panditha Parameshwara Sastry Veelunama". He rendered invaluable services to the Telugu literary heritage for nearly 35 years.

Shri Gopichand passed away on 02.11.1962. However, his literary creations continue to inspire generations of readers.

Theme : Personality, Literature, Writer

JAIMALJI MAHARAJ

25.09.11

500

0.6 mill

Jaimalji (1708-1796 AD) was born to Smt. Mahima Devi and Shri Mohandas Samdadiya Mehta in the then Lambiya Province of Merta Pargana in Rajasthan. The young Jaimal initially assisted his father in family business and got married, but his heart was more inclined towards doing 'sadhana' than in worldly matters.

PERFINS OF INDIA

A.K. BAYANWALA

PERFIN, a side-line of the Indian Philately can provide the collector with many scarce stamps at a fraction of their usual cost. It is a security marking used by Government or local bodies, or by private companies and individuals. The idea of marking stamps came into being, to avoid pilferage of stamps on their way to post and to make the stamps unusable if they are stolen. At first, the stamps were tied to the cover by the word "STAMPED" and/or "CANCELLED" written across the stamp and letter. Afterwards the Government bodies and private firms over-printed the stamps with their own names or initials. As such overprints were contrary to the rules and regulations of the P & T Department. Perforated initials (PERFINS) on stamps were substituted for overprinting which was introduced by Mr. Joseph Sloper in England in 1868.

The year of use of the first Perfin in India is not known, because there are no records relating to Perfins with the Postal Department. I have not come across any rules in Post Office Guide permitting the use of Perfins. But I have seen a note under clause 13 of Section I of Post Office Guide Part I which reads as follows :

"The perforation of postage stamps with initials or other identifying marks traced in minute holes is not prohibited, provided they do not render the indications regarding the country of origin and value of stamps illegible."

But it is definite that the use of Perfins got the momentum after 1905 when overprinting of stamps by semi - Government bodies and private parties was strictly forbidden. The peak period for Perfins remained from 1905 to 1940. After 1940 the use of meter franking became popular in India and the use of perfins diminished to a great extent. At present, rarely a few firms are using Perfins.

The word Perfin is used to describe a stamp which has been punctured by the Government Department, or a private concern with a series of small holes forming a letter or letters, a name or a device for security (anti-theft) reasons. In India, the semi-Government bodies, Railways etc. which were not allowed to use "service" stamps and private firms which required bulk stamps, used to perforate their initials on stamps to avoid theft and misuse by dishonest employees.

Stamps are normally fed into a perforator in such a way that the perforation reads in a normal manner when the stamp is in an up-right position. Such perforators will perforate more than one stamp at one time, sheets of stamps are folded, so that the top stamps are perforated from the face while the next row will be perforated from the reverse. As no hard or fast rules were maintained in feeding the stamps in the perforator, all possible varieties are found in Perfins i.e. obverse,

Acharya Bhudharji realized the potential of young Jaimal and his likely contribution to society and permitted him to take a vow of celibacy. Jaimal committed himself to the practice of the three jewels, namely Right Faith, Right Knowledge and Right Conduct and adhered to them throughout his life.



Jaimalji was a social reformer also. He worked for the upliftment of women and spoke against female infanticide, sati, child marriage and empowerment of women.

He was also gifted with literary qualities and helped spread spiritual and social messages through his poems and other writings.

Theme: Sadhus & Sages, Religions, Jainism, Social work, Literature.

TRAINED NURSES ASSOCIATION OF INDIA

30.09.11 500 0.3 mill

The Trained Nurses Association of India (TNAI) established in 1908 is a national organisation of nursing professionals at different levels. The main objectives are

- to uphold the dignity and honour of the nursing profession;
- to promote team spirit;
- to advance professional, educational, economic and general welfare of nurses;

A non-sectoral, non-political body, TNAI has come a long way, from being a small group of inspired women to an association that represents trained nurses, student nurses, auxiliary nurses and female health supervisors.



In the years since its establishment, collaboration with agencies such as UNICEF, WHO, European Commission, Swedish International Development Nurses Federation, Commonwealth Secretariat, UNFPI, International Council, have all been immensely rewarding.

TNAI celebrated its centenary in 2008. With an eye on the future, The Trained Nurses Association of India is working towards the setting up of a Central Institute of Nursing & Research.

Theme: Medicine, Nursing, Healthcare, Women, Profession.

sideways, reverse-sideways, inverted, misplaced, double and triple perforated, etc.

Perfins are also done on Indian Postal Stationary. But it is very scarce. M/s De La Rue & Co. England who printed the postal stationary of India, perforated the word "SPECIMEN" and / or "CANCELLED" on such stationary. Beside this, perforated initials are also found on Indian Postal Stationary. A few are as follows :

1. ¼ anna post card of King George V being perforated with "R K R" used by Rohillund Kumaun Railway Co. Ltd. Dated 25th July 1928.
2. ½ anna post card of King George V being perforated with "L F S" used by P. BOARD HIGH SCHOOL, Elapuliy, a local body, dated 5-7-1930.
3. ½ anna envelope of King Edward VII being perforated with "B N R" used by Bengal Nagpur Railway.
4. 2 annas Envelope of Independent India being perforated with "M S" used by a Municipality dated 11-6-1958.
5. ½ anna Post Card of King King George V being perforated with "L F S" used by Taluka Board Office Palghat dated 15-3-1918.
6. ½ anna Post Card of George V being perforated with "L F S" used by Palghat Taluka Board's Office, dated 2-12-1915.

More than 100 years have passed, since the use of Perfins in India. Perfins are found on East India Co's stamps which were issued in the year 1866. But nobody has ever come out to record the Indian Perfins. I took the initiative and asked the help of "Perfins of India Collectors" to record the Indian Perfins, in my article on Indian Perfins which was published in December 1973 in STAMP DIGEST ANNUAL 1974. The said article was republished in the Bi-monthly Bulletin of "SECURITY ENDORSEMENT & PERFIN SOCIETY OF G.B.", London (G.B.).

Mr. Brian Birch of Security Endorsement and Perfin Society of G.B and Mrs. Barbara Closs of the Perfin Club of U.S.A. and Mr. Alfred S. Bartleson of U.S.A. and Mr. E.J. Enschede of Nederland have helped me to gather new information regarding Indian Perfins.

There are certain rules and regulations laid by the Perfin Club of U.S.A. to classify and measure all Perfins. But I am not describing them here because I am at present interested in gathering more and more informations regarding Indian Perfins before giving full details of Indian Perfins.

There are many identical Perfins of India but they vary in measurements, types etc, I am also not classifying them because it is not possible to do so in one article.

Perfins in pairs usually are not found in the same position. If one perfin is on obverse side, the other will be on reverse side. This thing happens because stamps are fed in the machine after folding. Perfins in blocks of 4 and 6 are not common, but big blocks are very scarce. I possess one block of 35 stamps of Animal Series 1963, which I think is the biggest block of Indian Perfins.

Identifying a Perfin is the most difficult work. Mere imagination does not help and there is every possibility that it will lead to wrong directions. So it is advisable to identify a perfin with full proof and authentications. And that is possible only when Perfins are collected on covers with the users name. For example we take the case of the most common Indian Perfin viz. A I R. We all know that A I R stands for All India Radio and so we all will imagine that AIR Perfin must have been used by "All India Radio". But it is not so. AIR Perfin is used by "All India Reporter" of Nagpur.

When a Perfin pattern consists of two or more letters separated by a bar as part of the design, the word bar is spelled out in the description.po

A letter or character underlined in the list indicates that the letter has a serif, a top bar, or a foot.

When a Perfin pattern is in more than one line, a solidus (/) is used in the description to show the separation of lines.

A LIST OF INDIAN PERFINS WITH NAMES OF USERS IS AS FOLLOWS

1. A B ALLAHABAD BANK, NAINITAL
2. AB/S LD ALLIANCE BANK OF SIMLA, Ltd.
3. A B/M P AMERICAN BAPTIST MISSION PRESS
4. A I R ALL INDIA REPORTER, NAGPUR
5. A & N/CSL ARMY AND NAVY CIVIL SERVICE SUPPLY Ltd.
6. B & Co BURN & CO LTD. LILUAH (W.B)
7. BNR BENGAL NAGPUR RAILWAY.
8. BNWR BENGAL NORTH WESTERN RAILWAY
9. B S BENGAL SECRETARIAT
10. C A/Co COOPER ALLEN & CO, CAWNPORE.
11. C/A N/S ARMY & NAVY CO-OPERATIVE SOCIETY Ltd, CALCUTTA
12. C B I CHARTERED BANK OF INDIA, Australia & China.
13. CES THE CALCUTTA ELECTRIC SUPPLY CORPORATION Ltd.
14. CW COURT OF WARDS SERVICE
15. CWS _____ do _____
16. D A B DEUTSCH ASIATISCHE BANK, CALCUTTA.
17. D B S DISTRICT BOARD SERVICE.
18. D B S/ POONA DISTRICT BOARD SERVICE, POONA
19. D L B DISTRICT LOCAL BOARD.
20. D L F DISTRICT LOCAL FUND.
21. E EMPIRE PRESS

22. E I R EAST INDIAN RAILWAY.
23. F S F, STAHELI & CO. P.O. Box 2074, Calcutta.
24. F S /& Co _____ do _____
25. G A/S GENERAL ASSURANCE SOCIETY Ltd., AJMER
26. G A S _____ do _____
27. G A/& Co GILANDERS ARBUTHNOT & CO. CALCUTTA.
28. G H/Co GEORGE HENDERSON & CO, CALCUTTA
29. H & Co HEGT & Co Ltd, RANGOON
30. H S B HONG KONG & SHANGHAI BANKING CORPORATION, CALCUTTA.
31. HS/BC _____ do _____
32. HS/&CO. LD HARPERINK SMITH & CO. LTD, RANGOON.
33. K My KARACHI MUNICIPAL CORPORATION.
34. L LIPTON.
35. L LOCAL FUND SERVICE.
36. L F _____ do _____
37. L F S _____ do _____
38. L F/S _____ do _____
39. L B LOCAL BOARD
40. L F B LOCAL FUND BOARD.
41. L F D LOCAL FUND DISTRICT
42. L/F D _____ do _____
43. M MARTIN & CO.
44. M B I THE MERCANTILE BANK OF INDIA CALCUTTA
45. M B LD MARTIN BURN LIMITED.
46. M S MUNICIPAL SERVICE.
47. M S /& Co MARSHALL SONS & CO. LTD.
48. N B I THE NATIONAL BANK OF INDIA Ltd. (Perfin is used from Bombay, Calcutta etc. therefore the perfin varies.)
49. N B/I _____ do _____
50. N B I(diagonal) _____ do _____
51. N M H NEDERLANDSCHE HANDELMAAT-SCHAPPIJ
52. N Z/I Co NEW ZEALAND INSURANCE CO.
53. N Z/I C _____ do _____
54. ON M S ON MUNICIPAL SERVICE
55. ORI/ENT/AL ORIENTAL SECURITY LIFE ASSURANCE CO. LTD. BOMBAY
56. P D/Co PARK DAVIS CO. BOMBAY
57. P & O THE PENINSULAR & ORIENT BANKING CORPORATION Ltd. (these perfins were used by its various branches viz. Madras, Bombay, Calcutta etc. therefore it varies)
58. P & O/B _____ do _____
59. P O/B C _____ do _____
60. P & O/BANK _____ do _____
61. RKR ROHILLUND KUMAUN RAILWAY CO LTD.
62. SLA/Co THE STANDARD LIFE ASSURANCE COMPANY, CALCUTTA
63. SLO STANDARD LIFE OFFICE
64. S M N STAAMVARN MAATSCHAPPIJ NEDERLAND, CALCUTTA
65. S M R SOUTHERN MAHARATTA RAILWAY.
66. SW/& Co SHAW WALLACE & CO, CALCUTTA
67. T THACKER & Co. Ltd., BOMBAY
68. T S/& Co. THACKER, SOUBJ & CO, P.O. Box 54,

CALCUTTA

69. T C /& S THOMAS COOK & SONS
70. T/C/& S _____ do _____
71. T E T T.E. THOMSON & CO Ltd.
72. T & Co/LD TREACHER & CO. LTD, BYCULLA, BOMBAY
73. V B VOLKART BROTHERS, KARACHI.
74. V O Co VACUM OIL COMPANY.

I have come across perfins with designs and monograms on them instead of alphabets or numbers. Some firms have used them as security markings without disclosing their names. I am also keeping myself mum in this article for these type of Perfins.

Perfins are also seen on Indian States Stamps. They are found on Cochin, Travancore-Cochin, Hyderabad and Holkar states. These Perfins are very scarce. A list of Indian states Perfins is as follows:

1. Cochin: In the state of Cochin, Perfins were permitted under rule 6 of the Cochin Anchal Act(1 of 1067). Perfins are found on stamps of all Rajas, but they are not being seen on Pictorial stamps. Perfins on covers are very hard to find.

As perfins of Cochin are very scarce except a few I have gathered the informations from experts on cochin state. Mr. S.P. Luiz in his book "Stamps of Cochin" has given nine different perfins with their user's name. Now I have seen a list of Cochin Perfins by Mr. Abimalek David in the India's Stamp Journal Jan 1976. Beside the above two lists, I also possess a few perfins which are not included in those lists. The comprehensive list of Cochin State Perfins is as follows:

- a. D - Devasoms in Cochin State.
 - b. E - (?)
 - c. EMC - Ernaculam Municipal Council
 - d. H E S - Hydro Electric Scheme
 - e. I J M - Irinjalakuda Municipality.
 - f. I M C - Irinjalakuda Municipal Council
- Note: (Mr. Luiz states that "IJM" Perfin is used by Irinjalakuda Municipality whereas Mr. Abimalek David states that "IMC" Perfin has been used by the said municipality.)
- g. I M O - ?
 - h. I W C - ?
 - i. K D - Kodalmannickam Devasoms
 - j. M / T C - ?
 - k. O D - ?
 - l. P - Paliyam of Paliyath Achan.
 - m. R V R I - Sri Rama Varma Technical INSTITUTE. (Rama Varma Regional Institute)
 - n. T C / C T - Tatamangalam Chittor and Chittor Tatamangalam.
 - o. C T / T C - Chittor - Trichur, Trichur - Chittor
Note : (It appears to me that TC/CT' and "CT/TC" Perfins are same and only difference is misplaced perforation, and either of the two firms have used it, or the two names depict only one firm.)
 - p. T O T - ?
 - q. T / M C - Trichur Municipal Council.

- r. BM/L- ?
- s. OTTI- ?

2. Travancore - Cochin: Perfins on stamps of Travancore are yet to be seen. But when the states of Travancore and Cochin were united together, the firms which used perfins on cochin stamps had used the same perfins on Travancore-Cochin stamps after the union. Only two examples are known which are as follows:

- a. M/TC ?
- b. ? ?

3. Hyderabad(Deccan): a. The Postal administration of Hyderabad (Deccan) had prepared Perfin in the year 1909 on 1/2 anna stamp (brick-red) of 1871-1909 for the use of the Government offices only. "SARKARI" in Persian script was perforated on the said stamps. Whether this Perfin-stamp was actually issued to the Government offices or just prepared but not issued, is not known.

b. Beside the above Official Perfin, the following Perfins are also found on the stamps of Hyderabad (Deccan):

- 1. P.P ?
- 2. JES ?
- 3. JFS ?
- 4. BJE ?

4. Holkar: I find one exception in the stamps of Indore (Holkar). My example of Perfin shows H.H (HIS HIGHNESS) Perfin on 1 anna stamp which does not consists of small holes, but the letters "H.H." are punched in the stamp itself.

(Courtesy : Indian Stamp Journal, June 76)

AUSIPEX 84 MINIATURE SHEET

RICHARD BRECKON

Introduction

The miniature sheet incorporates seven base rate stamps - each stamp featuring reproduction of one of the stamps from the first stamp series issued by each State and the Commonwealth. The stamps featured in the miniature sheet were selected by Mr. Ray Chapman, President of AUSIPEX 84 and a member of the Stamp Advisory Committee. The design of the miniature sheet was prepared by Ken Cato of Melbourne. Before Federation, each State (then a colony) operated its own postal services and issued its own stamps. The circumstances surrounding the issue of the first State and Commonwealth stamps are outlined in this article.



1. 1850 : First stamps of New South Wales

In 1849 New South Wales passed legislation specifying that a system of compulsory prepayment of postage would come into operation on 1 January 1850 and from that date postage stamps would be used to denote that the sender of a letter had prepaid the postage involved.

It was decided to issue three stamps in 1d, 2d and 3d denominations which would meet requirements for the three basic postal charges mentioned in the legislation for letters of up to a half ounce (14 grams) in weight - 1d for letters posted in Sydney for delivery to city addresses, 2d for letters to be delivered to inland addresses and 3d for ships' mail, with any inland postage being additional.



The central feature of the stamp design (common to all three stamps) is the Great seal of New South Wales. The design of the Great Seal which was first used in 1791, supposedly incorporated a view of Sydney and as a result, collectors refer to the first New South Wales stamps as the "Sydney Views". The scene on the Great Seal represents convicts landing at Botany Bay being received by "Industry", in the form of an allegorical female, directing the attention of the convicts to a hill where oxen are ploughing and a town has been established.

An interesting feature of the "Sydney Views" is that New South Wales is identified in the design only by the inscription Sigillum Nov. Camb. Aust. - an abbreviation of the Latin words meaning New South Wales.

An interesting plates for the "Sydney Views" were the work of three Sydney engravers - Robert Clayton (1d stamp) John Carmichael (2d) and Harry Jervis (3d), There

was no expertise available in the colony which would permit transferring multiple impressions of a master die, using a hardened roller, to a softened, metal printing Plate. It was, therefore, necessary to engrave, separately, each of the impressions directly on to the printing plate. This meant that each stamp design on the printing plate was necessarily different, in some respects from each of the other stamps. Charles Kay undertook the printing and gumming of the stamps using a press installed in the Sydney GPO for that purpose. On 1 January 1850, the three "Sydney views" were placed on issue.

2. 1850 : First stamp of Victoria

A curious aspect of the issue of the first stamps of Victoria in 1850 was that, at the time, the colony of Victoria did not exist - it did not come into being until 18 months later. Victoria, then known as the Port Phillip District, was part of New South Wales and when arrangements were made to introduce stamps for the prepayment of postage in New South Wales, these arrangements also applied to the Port Phillip District. The impending separation of the District from New South Wales to form the new colony of Victoria had already been announced and the authorities in Sydney considered it expedient if separate stamps were issued for Victoria at the same time as the first New South Wales stamps. A Melbourne engraver, Thomas Ham, was contracted to engrave plates and undertake the printing of 600,000 each of three denominations - 1d, 2d and 3d. The production of the stamps was to take place at Thomas Ham's premises in Collins Street, under the supervision of a Post Office employee. The design of the first Victorian stamps depicted a half length portrait of Queen Victoria, holding the sceptre and orb. As a result, the stamps referred to by collectors as the "Half Lengths".

The "Half-Length" stamps were printed from lithographic transfers derived from a steel plate containing single, engraved impressions of the three denominations. Lithographic printing stones were produced by laying down transfers, one by one, direct from the steel die. Ham had little time to produce the stamps before the date authorised for their use - 1 January 1850. Ham's Bond specifying arrangements for the printing was not signed until Saturday, 29 December 1849 and so Ham had only two working days to produce a supply of stamps. It is generally accepted that the first "Half-Lengths" were placed on sale on 3 January 1850, two days after the "Sydney Views" - the first New South Wales stamp issue - went on sale in Sydney.



3. 1853: First stamp of Tasmania

Legislation to provide for the use of postage stamps to prepay mail was passed by Tasmania's Legislative Council in 1853. "An Act to Regulate the Conveyance and Postage of Letters" specified that the new postage rates for half ounce (14g) letters would be 1d for letters posted and delivered within the limits of the same town, 4d for intra-colonial and overseas mail.

The task of producing the colony's first stamps was given to Messrs. H. & C. Best, the proprietors of the Courier newspaper. Charles Coard, who worked at the Treasury, was commissioned to engrave the printing plate. Like the "Sydney View" stamps of New South Wales, the first Tasmanian stamps were individually engraved direct on to the printing plates and, as a consequence, each stamp bears its own distinctive design characteristics.

Both the 1d and 4d stamp designs featured Queen Victoria's head enclosed in an oval frame which incorporated the denomination and "Van Diemen's Land" (Tasmania was known as Van Diemen's Land until the beginning of 1856). The 1d stamp design was a conventional, rectangular in shape but the 4d was octagonal in format, possibly inspired by the British 1/- embossed, octagonal stamps issued in 1847-48. The engraving of the Queen's head is rather crude, but Charles Coard evidently possessed some engraving ability as the latticework in the background is skillful and there is remarkable consistency of detail between each separately engraved impression on the plate.



Printing of the stamps took place in the office of the Courier newspaper during September 1853. The 1d stamp was printed in blue and the 4d stamps in orange, although in the latter case the ink ranges from a pale yellow to a bright orange-red. The gum applied to the stamps was manufactured by a local chemist, Henry Hinsby. Distribution of the stamps to post offices took place on 12 October 1853, to provide the public with time to purchase the stamps before their use came into operation on 1 November 1853.

4. 1854: First stamp of Western Australia

Unlike the other Australian colonies, Western Australia's first stamp issue consisted of only one denomination - the 1d "Black Swan" stamp issued on 1 August 1854. The stamp issue had its origin in a request submitted by the Governor of Western Australia, Charles Fitzgerald, in June 1852 to the colonial authorities in London. Governor Fitzgerald advised that he had approved reductions in postal rates to 2d on inter-colonial letters and 4d on foreign letters and that one million 1d postage stamps would be required to prepay the reduced postage.



The Governor's request was submitted to Perkins Bacon & Co. the English firm of banknote printers that produced stamps for Britain and its colonies. The London authorities, however, were puzzled by the Governor's request for 1d stamps, when the postal rates were 2d and 4d. They thought it more appropriate to issue 2d and 4d stamps and after some time, they ascertained from the Governor that 1d stamps had been requested in anticipation of the postal rates being reduced to 1d at some future stage. However, in the meantime, Perkins Bacon & Co. had proceeded without proper authority, with the

production of a 1d Western Australian stamp. Consequently, the first stamp issue of Western Australia was born as a result of a bureaucratic misunderstanding. At Governor Fitzgerald's suggestion, the design of the first Western Australian stamp featured the Black Swan. This served as a precedent, since all Western Australian stamps issued up to 1900 depicted the Black Swan. It was also an unusual precedent, as other British colonies invariably depicted the monarch on their stamp issue.

In October 1853, the consignment of one million 1d "Black Swans" was shipped from London, and although the stamps were received in Perth at the end of January 1854, they were not issued to the public until 1 August that year. This occurred because Western Australia was in the unusual position of having stamps available for use, but not having any legislative authority for their introduction. A Postage Stamp Bill was passed by the Legislative Council of Western Australia sanctioning the use of stamps for prepayment of mail from August 1854.

5. 1855: First stamp of South Australia

Following the adoption of legislation in South Australia providing for the introduction of prepayment of postage, the colonial authorities in Adelaide took steps to obtain a supply of postage stamps from England.

In May 1853, an order was forwarded from Adelaide to the Agent-General for the colonies in London, Mr. Edward Barnard, for one million 2d stamps to be supplied, together with the plates and a printing press for further supplies to be produced locally in Adelaide. As with the first stamp issue of Western Australia, the production of South Australia's first stamp was given to Perkins Bacon & Co. In April 1854, a second order was placed with Perkins Bacon & Co. for 200,000 1d stamps and 500,000 6d stamps for South Australia.

The design of the first South Australian stamps (which was common to all denominations) featured the Queen's portrait in a circular frame set within a patterned background. Since Perkins Bacon & Co. produced stamps for all British colonies as well as a number of foreign countries, the firm had a wide range of existing engravings which could be utilised for the production of new stamp dies. Interestingly, the Queen's head was taken from a New South Wales stamp issue of 1854 and the patterned background was borrowed from the first stamp issue of Chile (1853).



The consignment of 2d stamps was received first and placed on sale in South Australia on 1 January 1855. The supply of 1d and 6d stamps was not received in Adelaide until October 1855, 21 months after the order had been forwarded to London. The explanation for the delay conveyed by Perkins Bacon & Co. to the authorities in Adelaide was unanticipated increases in stamp printing for the British Post Office and the consequent relegation of colonial stamp production to lower priorities. The late arrival of the 6d stamps, in particular, had caused stocks of 2d stamps to be heavily depleted. The new 1d and 6d stamps were first issued on 26 October 1855.

6. 1860: First stamp of Queensland

In 1860 Queensland became the last Australian colony to issue its own stamps. This was a consequence of Queensland being part of New South Wales until December 1859, when it was created into a separate colony. While it was part of New South Wales, Queensland's postal system was administered from Sydney and New South Wales stamps were used in Queensland.

Shortly after the new colony was established, the authorities in Brisbane promulgated new postal regulations and took steps to obtain a supply of new stamps from England. Early in 1860 an order was sent to the London agents appointed to represent Queensland's interests Messrs. F. Mangles & Co. to arrange for a supply of stamps in denominations of 1d, 2d, 3d, 6d and 1/- as well as a further stamp for use on registered letters. The 1d, 2d and 3d stamps were intended for use on letters up to half an ounce to be delivered to town, inland and overseas addresses respectively, and the 6d and 1/- stamps prepaid heavier letters.



The task of printing the first Queensland stamps was awarded to Perkins Bacon & Co. The English firm was instructed to prepare designs similar to the current 6d Tasmanian stamp (Australian stamp catalogue Nos. 6 and 6a) and to print each denomination in a distinctive colour. The stamp featured the "Chalon" portrait of Queen Victoria, which was based on a full length portrait of the Queen by Alfred Chalon in about 1838.

Perkins Bacon & Co. were also asked to expedite the printing of the stamps and, if necessary, to consign only part of the order to avoid missing the monthly mail to Australia (in those days the mail between England and Brisbane took about 8 weeks). Supplies of the first three stamps printed (1d, 2d and 6d) were dispatched before they could be perforated as well as a small supply perforated 1d and 2d stamps to meet the first available mails. Consequently, the postal authorities in Brisbane had perforated and imperforated stocks of the 1d and 2d stamps and imperforated stocks only of the 6d stamp which were released for sale on 1 November 1860 - the date selected for the introduction of Queensland stamps and the discontinuation of New South Wales stamps. Perforated supplies of the 6d stamps were issued a fortnight later and by April 1861, the remaining stamps on order (3d, 1/- and the Registration stamps) had been placed on sale.

7. 1913 : First stamp of the Australian Commonwealth

The first Australian Commonwealth stamp issue, the "Kangaroo and Map" series of 1913 was issued 12 years after the Commonwealth was established and the colonial postal administrations were merged into a single, Federal Postmaster-General's Department.

This long delay was caused by the Commonwealth/State financial arrangements which applied during the first decade after federation. Under these arrangements, the Commonwealth was required to reimburse the states with certain proportions of revenue formerly collected by the states. Exact records had to be maintained of postal revenue raised in each state and to facilitate this, it was decided to continue to issue separate stamps for each state which could only be used on mail posted within the state concerned. In 1910 a new system of Commonwealth/State financial reimbursement freed the Post Office from the need to maintain separate state stamps and the way was cleared for the introduction of uniform Australian Commonwealth stamps.



As a first step, state stamps were made valid for postage anywhere in Australia in October 1910.

To obtain designs for the first Commonwealth stamp issue, the Postmaster-General announced a public competition in January 1911. The conditions of the competition provided for prizes of 100 pounds and 50 pounds for the entries judged to be first and second, respectively. An adjudicating board comprising Bernard Hall, Director of the National Gallery of Victoria, J.B. Cooke, Commonwealth Stamp Printer and A.S.A. Whelan representing philately, met to consider the 1,051 designs submitted by 533 entrants. The winning entry featured a full-face portrait of the King, flanked by an Emu and Kangaroo. However, it was not adopted as the issued design, as the Postmaster-General, Mr. C.E. Frazer, favoured a design which was picturesque and incorporated an outline of Australia.

Accordingly, Mr. Blamire Young, a leading artist of the day, was commissioned to prepare some designs, which it is believed featured scenes within outline maps of Australia. One of Young's designs pictured two Kangaroos within the outline map, and from this the "Kangaroo and Map" stamp design was developed. In April 1912, the Postmaster-General released the design to the public, but before production started, further modifications were made to the design over the next few weeks. These included the addition of the word postage in the design and the deletion of a tuft of grass in front of the Kangaroo, which critics likened to a rabbit's head poking out of the ground.

The engraving of a die for the "Kangaroo and Map" stamp was entrusted to Samuel Reading, who operated as a commercial engraver in Melbourne. Reading was required to supply the dies for ½d and 1d stamps (the most frequently used denominations) within one month and dies for the remainder within two months. By August 1912 the Commonwealth stamp printer, J.B. Cooke, had finished the plate for the 1d stamp, ready for printing. It was the intention to issue the full series of stamps, ranging in denomination from ½d to two pounds on 2 January 1913. However, since the "Kangaroo and Map" design was larger than most of the existing designs, it was necessary to obtain new supplies of watermarked paper from England. These supplies were due for delivery

in early October 1912, but production difficulties meant that the paper was not delivered to the Stamp Printer until 30 December. Despite this handicap, Mr. Cooke was able to print an initial supply of the 1d "Kangaroo and Map" stamp which was delivered to the Melbourne GPO the following day. By mid-February 1913 the denomination from ½d to 5/- had been delivered to post offices and the remaining high value stamps (10/-, one pound and two pounds) were issued in March/April 1913.

(Courtesy : Ausipex official catalogue 1984)

A POSTAL HISTORY OF CANADA

Dr. Alan Salmon

The blending of the story of a nation with its stamps and postal history can produce an interesting philatelic collection. Furthermore, the integration can be as the philatelist wishes, with the emphasis either on the stamps and covers or on the history. Whatever the balance the result can be of interest to the historian, the philatelist or the boy or girl starting in stamp-collecting. Below we have interlaced some of Canada's story with some of its postal history. All the references to the stamps are from the Stanley Gibbons British Commonwealth catalogue.

Early days

The first men (SG 1198) arrived in America about 30,000BC. They came from Asia, during the last Ice Age, via a land-bridge that, then joined the two continents. Before their arrival the whole American continent was empty of people. About the year AD1000 the Vikings (1209) the first Europeans to have certainly visited America, landed in Newfoundland at what is now L'Arise aux Meadows (local pronunciation Lancy Meadows). John Cabot (412) rediscovered North America in 1497, just five years after Columbus landed in the Bahamas. Jacques Cartier (332) visited, what was to be Canada, three times during the 16th century, but it was Samuel de Champlain (351) who, in 1608, established a small French colony in a region he called Quebec (505). In 1763, when almost all French possessions east of the Mississippi became part of British North America (BNA), the population of what is now Canada was about 250,000. The majority were the native people, only 70,000 were of European descent.

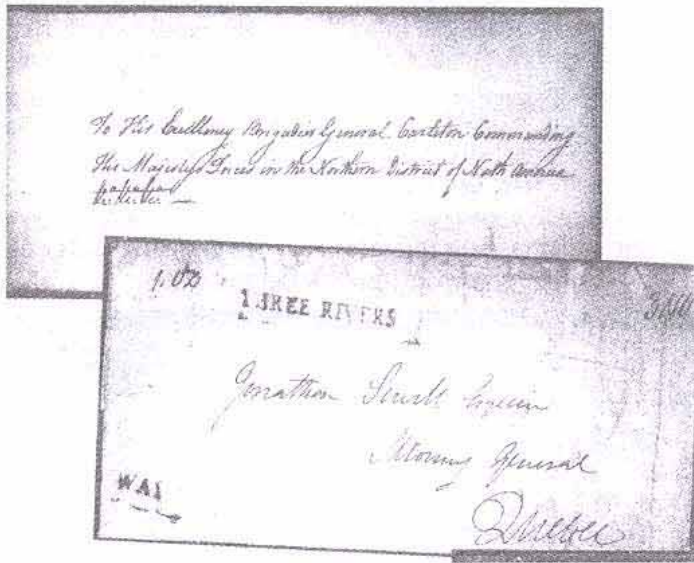


Although the above events have been commemorated by the issue of stamps there are few letters or covers relating to Canada from before the 18th century; and these few are mainly in museums or official archives. The first, that I know of, are in the Public Record Office in London; they are the letters patent given by King

Henry VII to John Cabot in 1496. However, the Canada of today was moulded in the 18th and 19th centuries. It began in 1758 when the strong French citadel at Louisbourg (1631/5) was stormed and taken, a major act in the decline of the French empire in North America. By 1885 the broad outline of the Dominion of Canada had been created, when the Canadian Pacific Railway (CPR) reached from the St Lawrence to the Pacific.

Decisive battles at Quebec

After Louisbourg a British armada of 150 ships with 9000 regulars on board, sailed up the St Lawrence to Quebec. Commander-in-Chief of the force was Major-General James Wolfe. The lead pilot of the fleet was the greatest seaman the world has ever known - James Cook (910). Guy Carleton, a friend of Wolfe and a major, unsung hero of the British Empire, was then a Colonel, having been promoted after Louisbourg. He was on Wolfe's staff as Quartermaster-General of the expedition. Quebec fell in 1759 when Montcalm was defeated on the Heights of Abraham; but Wolfe and Montcalm were mortally wounded at that battle and are together on the 7c. stamp of 1908 (192). Carleton made two reconnaissance's up-river from Quebec, with Wolfe, before the final assault, once with them both disguised in grenadiers' raincoats. Wolfe made an addition to his will on the night of the attack - he left his books and papers to Carleton, whom he also asked to be one of his executors. Carleton was severely wounded at the fall of Quebec when leading the grenadiers - elite troops trained in throwing grenades.



Top : Military mail to Brigadier - General Carleton, at Quebec, dated 18 November 1768.

Above : A single sheet letter, dated APR 10 1797, which travelled the classic Franklin route, established in 1763, from Montreal to Quebec. There is a straight line marking of MONTREAL on the back and of THREE RIVERS on the front. In 1797 there was a twice - weekly post service, via Three rivers, between Montreal and Quebec.

In 1766 he returned to BNA as the lieutenant-governor of the colony of Quebec. He was renowned for

his benevolence towards the French-Canadians, which was one reason they remained loyal to Britain during the American revolution. He became the Commander-in-Chief of the army in Canada in January 1775. In April of that year the first fighting of the revolution began. In September Canada was invaded, Carleton had few troops and within a few weeks Montreal was occupied. Carleton himself narrowly evaded capture and retreated to Quebec. I have a cover from Montreal to the USA with a cachet commemorating that fall of Montreal - presumably posted by an American! In December rebel columns advancing from Montreal and from Boston, met at Quebec and requested its surrender. Carleton threw back the combined attack; then with reinforcements from Britain, he drove the Americans out of Canada. Eventually in 1782 Guy Carleton became the British Commander-in-Chief in America, but by then the war had been lost; the peace treaty was signed the next year. He was knighted in 1779 and created Baron Dorchester in 1786.

A great man starts the postal system

Benjamin Franklin (839) was a man of extraordinary ability who could illuminate most subjects to which he turned his mind. As Deputy Postmaster General for the English Colonies, from 1753, he was responsible for the post in Canada for 11 years. In 1763, after Britain and France had made peace, he went to Quebec to establish the colonial postal service there. Indeed, due to his promptness the Post Office was the first institution of the new government that was established. He opened an office at Quebec, with subsidiary offices at Three Rivers and Montreal; the 5c. stamp (538) issued in 1963 commemorates the 200th anniversary of the start of this service. These were the first three post offices in Canada providing an official, civil, mail service. A monthly service between these offices and New York was arranged so that the courier could make timely connections with the monthly packet boats to Falmouth, England.



The first Westerners

By 1812 settlers from the old American colonies had reached as far as the Mississippi. Canadian settlers were hindered by the barren bleakness of the rocky Canadian Shield above the Great Lakes, to travel west they had to go by boat or canoe. But from the north, via Hudson Bay, came settlers from Scotland to what became known as the Red River Settlement (RRS) centered about Fort Garry. Then it was part of Rupert's Land, the domain of the Hudson Bay Company (HBC). Until then almost all the



land from the St Lawrence to the Pacific had been the territory of the HBC and its rivals in the fur trade. That first group numbered only 22 settlers, out of the 100 who had started on the long, hard journey from Stornaway.



They were sponsored by a Lord Selkirk (523) who had been distressed by the consequences of the 'Clearances' of the Highlanders' lands to make way for sheep-farming. He gained control of the HBC and got the Company to sell him an area, five times that of Scotland, about the fertile Red River to provide homes for the displaced crofters. The price was 10s. but he had to settle 1000 families there within 10 years supply 200 men each year to the HBC for fur-trading, provide land for Company officers and provide all the operating expenses for the venture. Despite the onerous terms he went ahead. By 1864 the population of the RRS numbered about 10,000. The population was mainly Metis, 'Mixed Blood' people of mainly Cree mothers plus either French or Scottish or English fathers. There were a few Indians and about 1000 of European descent. Fort Garry eventually became the HBC's headquarters in Canada.

The only 'Canadian' route to the Red River was by steamer across Lake Superior to Fort William and then by track and canoe through the Lake of the Woods. The alternative routes were the 'American' by Pembina and the 'British' via Hudson Bay. In 1864 civilian mail from the Settlement to Canada went via the USA, the Canadian route having been found too difficult. Local affairs in the Red River were managed by the Council of Assiniboia, appointed by the HBC. The first local post office was opened in 1855, there was no Canadian post office in the RRS until 1870 when the region became part of Canada. In 1864 two trips per week were made by the courier over the 70 miles between Fort Garry and Pembina; by dog-sled in winter and on horseback in summer. American 10c. stamps were needed for pre-payment, they could be bought at Fort Garry.

The Mounted Police move West

The North-West Mounted Police (NWMP) had a tremendous impact on the development of western Canada; it is now the Royal Canadian Mounted Police, the

federal police force. In 1973 the postal authorities issued a set of three stamps (751/3) to commemorate the 100th anniversary of its founding; George French, its first Commissioner, is shown on the 8c. stamp.

In 1867 the Dominion of Canada was formed, its area was 350,000 square miles (1013). In 1870 Britain transferred Rupert's Land and the North-West Territory to Canada; these lands to be called the Northwest Territories (NWT), were vast - over 2,000,000 square miles - overnight the area of Canada had increased by a factor of seven. In 1873 the Canadian Parliament passed an act to constitute a police force for the new territories. Three major problems in the NWT concerned Prime Minister John A Macdonald (266, 272, 693); some 35,000 Indians often waging war amongst themselves, American traders illegally selling whisky to those Indians and Canada's need to assert its authority, vis-a-vis the USA, over the region. All these problems could be moderated to some extent by controlling the whisky traders, who were to be the first target of the new force.



The force gathered at Fort Dufferin, just over the border from Pembina, it was 275 strong. On 8 July 1874 they began an epic march of nearly 1000 miles to the foothills of the Rockies, in less than ten weeks, and then back; the column was 4 miles long. The Winnipeg Daily Free Press of 16 July reported: 'News from the Mounted Police; all goes well; they make 25 miles per day'. Their destination was Fort Whoop-up the centre of the whisky traders' activities. By the end of 1874 the traders had fled back to the USA and good relations had been established with the Indians. The rule of a firm but just law had been established in the west of the new Canada.



Letter from fort Garry marked pressing to captain walker of the NWMP at Differ in

Wells, Fargo & Co's Express cover from Victoria to Sanfran Cisco (sic) with a JUN 19 1886 cancel in violet. My local Chinese restaurateur advises me that the Chinese symbols are a repeat of the address plus the name of a man at that address

In 1874 James Walker was an assistant to Commissioner French, assisting in outfitting the Force that was to travel to the Canadian West; his militia rank was Captain, his NWMP rank was Sub-Inspector. He was one of the 217 men who started from Toronto in June 1874; they travelled by two special trains through the USA to Fort Dufferin. He is mentioned in Commissioner French's annual report for 1874 as being particularly helpful in recording the route of their trek through this largely unknown country. Early in 1881 he resigned from the Force, with the rank of Superintendent, retaining his Militia rank of Major, to become the manager of the 70,000 square mile Cochrane Ranch, just created in the foothills west of Fort Calgary; it is still there.

The backbone of Canada

British Columbia (BC) entered the Dominion in 1871; PM Macdonald looked after the politics with Sir George Cartier (312) responsible for the detailed negotiations. One of the concessions agreed was the construction of a railroad through the Rockies to Ontario. The final contract for its construction was not approved until 1881; then there was about 720 miles of track, in several separate portions, between Lake Superior and the Pacific. The result was a tremendously successful construction project, the next 700 miles were built in 15 months. The track reached Calgary, then a town with a population of 450, in 1883. When the 'last spike' of the Canadian Pacific Railway (CPR) was driven in by Donald Smith (673) at Craigellachie in the Rockies in 1885, there was a continuous railroad in Canada from the Pacific to the Atlantic - its necessary backbone.



Most of the labour for the western section of the CPR was from southern China; over 15,000 Chinese entered BC between 1880 and 1884, including a large number via San Francisco. Their pay was \$1 per day compared with the \$1.60 per day required by the European labourer, alas they were not popular in BC, but actually there was very little unemployment in the province. Many Chinese had gained experience in the USA, when the railways were driven through the Sierra Nevada mountains to California. Their efficiency and hardiness were needed, the first 300 miles east of the Pacific are mountainous even before the Rockies are reached.

The Chinese were hired in groups, which could be as large as a thousand, through six companies in China. These companies were rather like benevolent associations; they handled the shipment of the Chinese to North America, the contract with the employers and their eventual return home in return for their passage money and 2.5 per cent of their wages. The carrier, Wells, Fargo & Co, was formed in 1852; it established an office in Victoria in 1858 when gold was discovered in BC and Victoria grew from 300 to 30,000 inhabitants in a few weeks.

Postscript

Canada now has a population of nearly 29,000,000. During the last century Vancouver has overtaken Victoria as the major city west of the Rockies and Toronto has overtaken Montreal as the major city in the east. Winnipeg has grown around Fort Garry and the province of Manitoba has developed out of the Red River Settlement. Quebec which was a string of villages between Montreal and Quebec City and once extended as far as St Louis on the Mississippi, is now a wide-ranging province of the federal democracy which is Canada.

For two centuries there has been harmony, with only minor interruptions, between the various peoples and cultures in Canada. Let us hope that Canada will remain a united nation, a shining example to the rest of the World.

(Courtesy : Gibbons Stamp Monthly 1996).

* * * *

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