



DISPATCH



KWPS NEWSLETTER



Twenty-three individuals, including four guests from the Oxford Philatelic Society in Woodstock, attended our second “social distancing live meeting”. There were 45 lots in the table auction. Four Members participated in eight “Show & Tell” presentations. Unfortunately future meetings will be online for the foreseeable future.

The December 10th meeting will be a ZOOM meeting at 7:00 pm – sign on information will be emailed a day before the meeting.

David Oberholtzer will be doing a PowerPoint presentation on “An Austrian Stamp Christmas”



Tidbits

Tony Shaman informed the club that Letters to Santa Claus dropped off at any City of Waterloo library, would be answered in the mail by Santa Claus. Tony has collected Dear Santa letters, and Philatelic items for many years.

Giuliano Mastronardi has renewed his membership after a brief absence, and attended the November 12 meeting.

Alan Hills added a few new items to his collection at the Oxford Club ZOOM auction on November 27th

The next auction is Friday December 11th Watch your email for information

Zoom Computer Program

You won't need to install any extra software to join a Zoom meeting. You can do it all through a web browser. Follow the link in the invite to the meeting sent by email to you... A new tab will open on your preferred web browser. If you don't have the Zoom app. installed, click the box on the page to download the app. You can join by audio only or participate if you have a laptop computer with a video camera and microphone. You can also join with a smartphone. Procedures for “Show & Tell” will be emailed.

GRVPA Developments:

Consider volunteering as a club representative Need President, Secretary, and New Collector Coordinator. Elections March 9, 2021 ZOOM meeting

85th Anniversary Dinner

by Olaf Poulsen

will be re-scheduled DUE TO covid-19 restaurant restrictions.

17 tickets were sold at the November 12 Meeting

Canadiana

by Bucky Beaver and Canada Post Perspectives

Stamp Issued October 28, 2020 honours Mary Riter Hamilton

“I made up my mind that where our men went under so much more dreadful conditions I could go, and I am very proud to have been able even in a small way to commemorate the deeds of my countrymen”. – Mary Riter Hamilton



A new stamp from Canada Post features an image, *Trenches on the Somme* (1919), by a woman whose artistic talent was matched by her indomitable resolve: Canada’s first unofficial woman battlefield artist, Mary Riter Hamilton, born in Teeswater, Ontario in 1867, she suffered personal tragedies in her early 20s, including being widowed. However, hardship may have built the strength, determination, independence and survival instincts she would later need. In Winnipeg, she built a popular business teaching women to paint china, then studied painting in Berlin and Paris. On her return, she exhibited work in several Canadian cities, to critical acclaim. In 1912, she moved to Victoria, and developed a reputation as a distinguished artist.

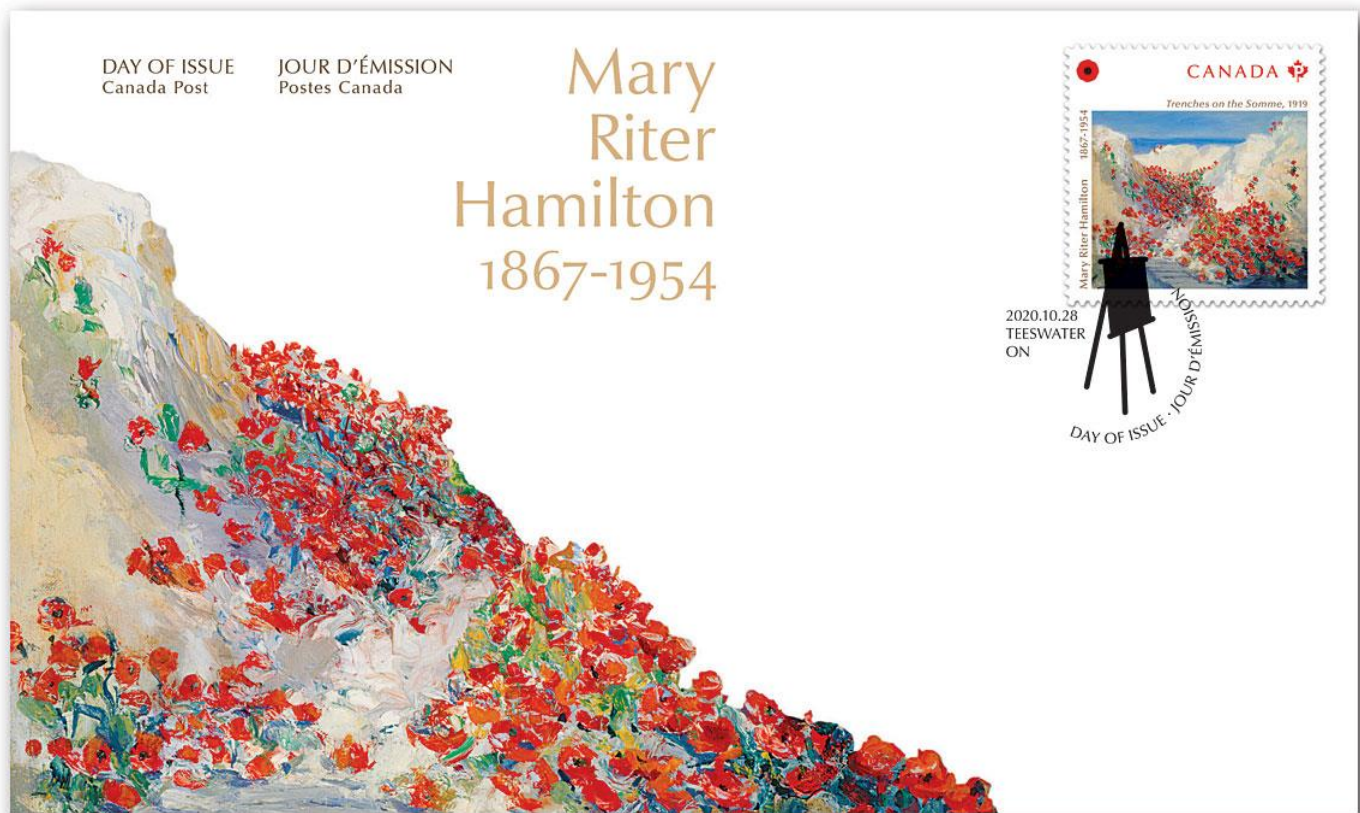
During the First World War, her application to the Canadian War Memorials Fund to serve on the front as a war artist was summarily declined due to her gender. Undeterred, Riter Hamilton found another way to the battlefields in 1919, now silent, the year after hostilities had ended. She secured a commission from the Amputation Club of British Columbia (now The War Amps) to capture the war’s devastation for its membership’s publication. Now in her 50s, she left the comfort of her Victoria home to travel alone through France and Belgium, setting up her easel on the region’s war-ravaged battle sites. Without the official status or income given to male Memorial Fund artists, she lived in a tin hut erected by the Chinese Labour Corps. Painting outside, surrounded by unexploded artillery shells and collapsing trenches – and even surviving an attack by bounty hunters – she completed more than 300 paintings depicting scenes from Amiens, the Somme, Ypres, Passchendaele and Vimy Ridge. Her sombre odyssey, in arduous conditions, lasted two-and-a-half years.

Burning through her small stipend in the first year, she survived on money earned from the occasional sale of a painting back home. Her work completed, Riter Hamilton landed in Paris without the funds to pay her fare back to Canada. Again, she proved her entrepreneurial spirit and sheer grit, painting silk scarves that she sold to fashionable Parisian matrons. Her colourful designs not only earned her passage home but also won her a gold medal at the Exposition Internationale des Arts Décoratifs et Industriels Modernes in Paris in 1925.

Upon returning to Canada, her paintings were rejected by the National Gallery. In a move possibly intended to give meaning to the trials she had endured, Riter Hamilton donated more than 200 of her works to the Dominion Archives (now Library and Archives Canada) as a visual record, in perpetuity, of the devastation of the Great War.

Sadly, Hamilton struggled with ill health and poverty for the rest of her life and never painted seriously again. It wasn't until decades after she died at a mental hospital in British Columbia in 1954 that the art world began to recognize the incredible legacy of this fearless, trailblazing artist.

First Day Cover from Teeswater, Ontario (*approximately 100 km for K-W*)



Stamp Designer Réjean Myette

Quantity Produced 130,000 stamps and 7,000 First Day Covers

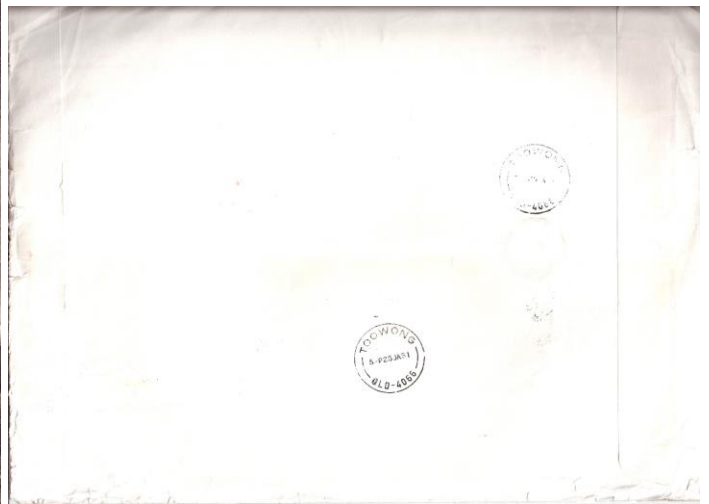
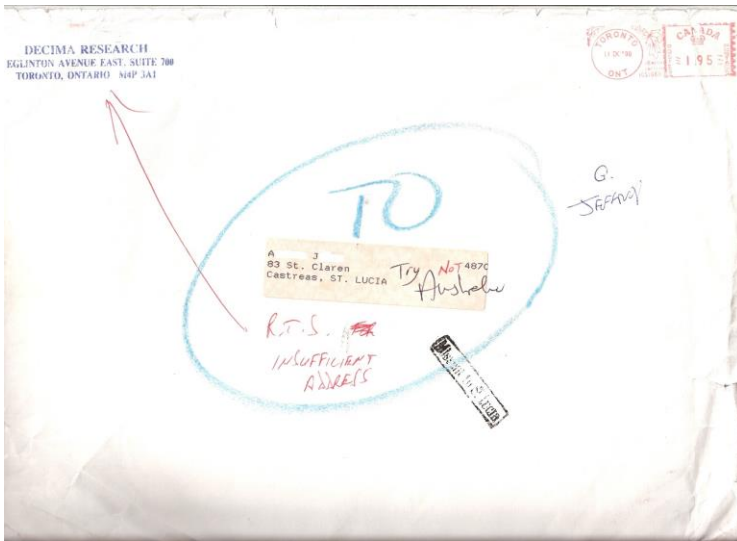
Two Interesting Postal Journeys

by Graham Jeffery

Two Interesting Postal Journeys

One envelope went halfway around the world and back. It was mailed out from Toronto on September 11, 1990, enclosing an opinion poll survey that should have been filled out and mailed back to Toronto. When it correctly arrived at the Caribbean nation of St. Lucia, the recipient could not be found, and there is no St. Claren (or Clarence) street in St. Lucia. So, the postal worker in St. Lucia stamped "Missent to St. Lucia" on the front and wrote "Try Australia" in black pen. That is likely where the large pale blue oval and "TO" were added as well.

Australia was chosen as the next stop for the envelope as the city of Brisbane, on the Australian east coast, has a suburb named St. Lucia. On the back of the envelope is the postmark for "Toowong", another suburb of Brisbane. This shows that the envelope had arrived there by January 25, 1991. As the envelope was still undeliverable, an Australian postal worker added, in red pen, the word "Not" above "Australia" and "R.T.S. INSUFFICIENT ADDRESS". It arrived back in Toronto on April 23, 1991, over seven months after it was first sent out.



The second envelope travelled from Washington DC to Waterloo ON, and did so via Jamaica, as evidenced by the handstamp "MISSENT TO JAMAICA"

There are no other postal marking on the front or back of the envelope.



The Battle of Beaumont-Hamel changed Newfoundland

By Tineke Vos



The battle of Beaumont-Hamel on July 1, 1916

was the beginning of the road, to have Newfoundland join Canada.

Newfoundland had no army in 1914. But when WW1 started 35% percent of the men of military age (19 – 35) joined up eventually. The First Newfoundland Regiment was established and the first Group of 537 left for Europe in October 1914. More followed.

When the battle of the Somme started on July 1, 1916, Newfoundland suffered devastating losses. The British generals had wrong enemy information and basically sent the soldiers to their death. In half an hour, of the 801 Newfoundlanders, more than 700 were lost. Only 68 were able to answer roll call after the battle. There basically was not a family at home, who had not lost a son, brother or cousin. They fought more battles, re-inforced with fresh troupes from home, at Guedecourt, Ypres, Courtrai, Monchy and Cambrai. They were the only regiment awarded a “Royal” designation by King George 5. A total of 1281 (or some say 1305) lost their lives. More than 2200 were wounded.

On January 2, 1919, Newfoundland came out with the 12 stamp series:

“Trail of the Caribou” and “Royal Naval Reserves” to commemorate WW1 Battles, and sacrifices made by Newfoundland and Labrador. The 1st

Memorial Day was organized on July 1, 1917.



Leuchtturm

341 010

At sea there were almost 2000 Newfoundlanders who saw active service, in the Newfoundland Royal Naval Reserves. Some 3000 Newfoundlanders living in Canada joined the Canadian Expeditionary Forces (CEF). Some 500 became the Newfoundland Forestry Corps, stationed in Scotland, made up of experienced loggers and mill workers. Merchant marines and wartime nurses also helped. A few joined the RAF. About 9 % of the men at sea perished. The number of NL casualties in the CEF is not known.

The Newfoundland economy was in shambles after the war (with a generation of men gone or disabled, and pensions to be paid) and the subsequent depression; it lost its Dominion status and was governed from London since 1934. The economy got better again during WW2, because of its strategic position in the Atlantic. In 1948 a referendum was held, with 3 choices: join Canada, stay as a British “province”, or become an independent Dominion again. In a second referendum Canada was chosen by 52 %. Some Newfoundlanders are still not happy about it and blamed Joey Smallwood.

The Beaumont-Hamel War Memorial was purchased from France in 1921 and is the largest battalion memorial on the Western Front. The War Memorial in St.John’s was unveiled in 1924.

Canada had to wait for a memorial till 1939.

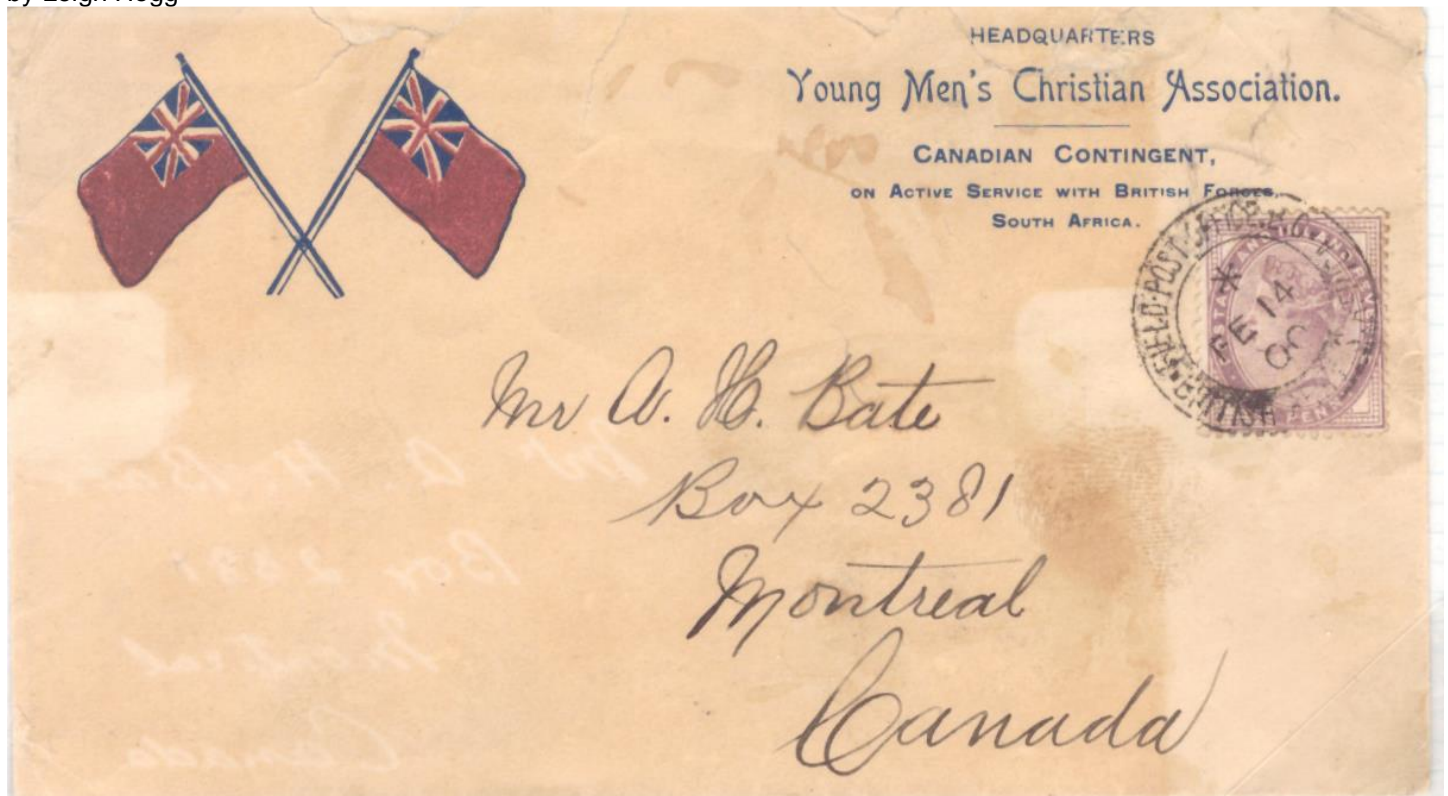


Leuchtturm

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Boer War Canadian Contingent Patriotic YMCA Envelope

by Leigh Hogg



February 14, 1900 cover with British One Penny Stamp prepaying the “Two Cents” Soldier’s rate, mailed from The British Field Post office, South Africa, to Montreal, Quebec. The cover arrived on March 21, 1900. *There are 5 known types of YMCA envelopes given to troops to use during the Boer War. A type III envelope is shown above.*

In a turning point during the second Boer War British Troops invaded the Orange Free State on February 14, with Lord Roberts leading 40,000 troops and 7,000 cavalry, in the first crossing of the Boer frontier since the beginning of the war. On February 17, 1900 - 15,000 troops, including 1,000 from the Canadian Contingent arrived at Paardeburg, where they surrounded the Boers, who surrendered.

*Stay Healthy
and Philatelically
Active !!*

*Become a “Zoomer” to Stay
Philatelically Active !!*