INAUGURAL ISSUE

President's Message

We are all anticipating the first issue of our new chapter newsletter, ***The Postmark***, by Editor Joyce Field. Our chapter has had a newsletter within the memory of some of us, back in the 1990s and early 2000s, under the direction of the late Robin Day.
However, that publication didn't have the technological advantages of colour reproduction, word processing and emailing.

I leave it to Editor Joyce to share with us her vision of the purpose(s) and approach to her newsletter and its format, but I know that I won't be contradicting her by saying how much ***its success will depend on the participation of members as writers and contributors***, let alone as supportive readers.

We now have two regular meetings remaining. The May 9th meeting will also give time for discussion and presentations in small groups, as we've done before.

George Pepall, President

It's not too early to start thinking ***about candidates for the election of a new Board of Directors. start Nominations will at the May meeting, and the actual vote will take place at the June 13th meeting.*** Past President Jim Oliver will look after the election process, so let him know of your nomination ideas, particularly for the roles of President and Vice- President. Also let him know if you would like to become a Director.

The June 13th meeting will feature a called auction which requires that you bring in your lots for sale at the May meeting.

Our chapter has officially entered the CANPEX one-page exhibiting contest, which is to be a collection of 15 pages of military history put together by a minimum of two members. Judging will be done by ballots from the viewing public, October 19th and 20th in London, ON.

George Pepall, President

EDITORIAL

Greetings to all of the members of the K-W Philatelic Society. I'm a recent member of the Club. Likewise my stamp collecting hobby had been 'on hold' for many years. Now, in retirement, I've taken it up again. Since I agreed to edit the Newsletter, I've had support and encouragement from many of you. ***And I sure hope that continues – without your input I'd be lost!***

I began by giving the Newsletter a new name ***K-W Postmark*** and by persuading our graphic artist to create a fresh new masthead.

I want to give the ***K-W Postmark*** a positive tone, sharing articles which are of interest, facts you may not be aware of, and an insight into unique philatelic specialities.

Now that the visuals are in place it's time to get 'to the meat' of the Newsletter. I have enough material for this inaugural issue – contributions have been generous and we've been able to get permission to reprint various articles. In fact, ***K-W Postmark*** is rapidly growing from a 'newsletter' to a 'journal.'

MY CHALLENGE TO ALL OF YOU is to write an article [your favourite speciality, when did you begin collecting, etc.], or freshen up something previously published and send it to me for inclusion in a future issue. I am able to scan photos of stamps, covers, etc. If you have an idea but do not know how to get started, I can help. An article can be of any length, short or long; about a single stamp, a group of countries, or a topical…
[eg I collect literary authors and combine my collection with biographies of the authors].

I look forward to learning more about the subtleties of stamp collecting and its variants and getting better acquainted with all of you. ≈

Joyce
Joyce Field
519-725-5800
joyce@lloydfield.com

Postmark these K-W Philatelic Club meeting dates on your calendar!

May 9th – Nominations for Board positions -- **submit to Jim Oliver** – oliverjim910@gmail.com
Open positions include President, Vice-President, Treasurer, Secretary and Director at large
Also, bring any items for the June called auction
Show and Share items welcome

June 13th – Election of Board of Directors
Called auction
Show and Share items welcome

Philatelist Alan Holyoke pictured with his priceless collection, 2016.
[from Telegraph Newspaper – UK]

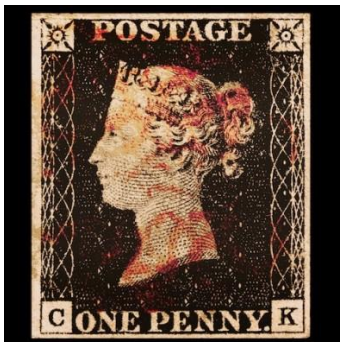
How one man put his stamp on the world of philately

Philatelist Alan Holyoke pictured with his priceless collection of some of the very first British postage stamps

After being gently told they are working too hard and instructed to find a hobby, many a man may have grudgingly taken up gardening, an evening class or signed up to the local gym.

For one businessman, however, that moment was the start of something rather different: a multi-million-pound new sideline which led to becoming a world-authority on stamps.

Alan Holyoake, who made his fortune in the fish business, has become one of the world's most successful stamp collectors, currently honoured at the Smithsonian Museum for the extraordinary discovery of the world's first official stamp.



Penny Black Stamp 1840

The businessman had a lightbulb moment while on a 2001 business flight to Geneva.

With the words of his wife and sons on his mind, he picked up his copy of the Daily Telegraph, spotted an article about the Queen selling parts of her stamp collection, and resolved to make it his hobby.

Some 15 years on, he is now the star of a Smithsonian Museum exhibition on the history of the postal service, owning the key documents and lecturing the leading lights of philately.

Among his unrivalled collection is the very earliest known stamp in existence, a Penny Black approved by Royal Academicians for use in public in 1840.

Other highlights include a handwritten message from the reign of King John in the 13th century; a sealed 1326 letter in the name of Robert the Bruce; a 1564 note from Elizabeth I; the earliest known letter from America from 1690; as well as key examples of the Penny Black.

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He also owns the 1635 Charles I proclamation which marked the very creation of the post

office, a document so rare that even the Royal Mail itself does not hold a copy.

The star of the show at the Smithsonian is the Wallace Document, once belonging to MP and postal reformer Robert Wallace and recording the moment the first official stamp was approved.

The document and included stamp passed from the Wallace family into a private collection, emerging briefly on the market unverified in the 1990s before disappearing into a Swiss collection without experts being aware of its existence or able to see it.

Two years ago, Mr. Holyoake was persuaded to buy it privately, commissioning 18 months of intensive research to get it authenticated by the Royal Academicians and Royal Philatelic Society London as being the first example of a dated one penny black postage stamp, from April 10, 1840. The stamp went into public use on May 6 of the same year.

Philatelist Alan Holyoke and his wife Mitch, pictured with his priceless collection of some of the very first British postage stamps.

It is now likely to be worth many millions of pounds, rivalling the world's current "most expensive stamp" the British Guiana 1856 One-cent Magenta which sold for £5.6m in 2014.

Mr. Holyoake, 70, said he could never have believed an idle thought of taking up a hobby would lead to his change of fortunes, adding his next big challenge was to encourage others to shed their preconceptions and take up philately.

"I've got three boys, and my wife and the boys were always on at me about why do I work so hard and why don't I get a hobby," said Mr. Holyoake.

"So I was flying to Geneva on business when they gave me a newspaper, which was the Telegraph, and there was an article in there which caught my attention."

Alan Holyoke's priceless collection of some of the very first British postage stamps.

That article, on May 7, 2001, was entitled "The Queen Must Sell Her Stamps", and relayed how the Palace was to sell part of her private collection to raise money to buy a key Penny Black.

Mr. Holyoake, interest piqued, determined to visit the Spinks auction upon his return, where - assuming the provenance of the stamps from the Royal collection made them a safe investment - snapped them up before he quite knew what he was doing.

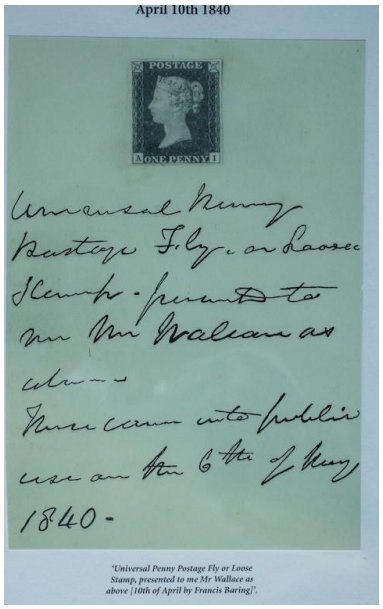
"Everyone wondered who the hell I was," he said, describing how he turned up straight from work and "hadn't even though about" how he was going to pay. He eventually persuaded the auction house staff to accept his American Express card.

"That lit the touch paper and I thought hey, I quite enjoy this," he said.

The father-of-three went on to bury himself in history books to learn as much as he could about the Penny Black and the rarest British stamps; going to spend time with the Royal Philatelic Society and undertake his own research.

His 15 years of work have now culminated in offers to speak around the world, with his wife Michelline by his side.

Telling how his wife's words had inspired him to take up a hobby, Mr. Holyoake joked: "I'm not so sure she's so keen about it now!



"Everyone knows my wife Mitch. She's always been supportive of me and like all lucky men if you have someone like that you really are lucky."

His success, he added, was "a surprise to everyone I can tell you, including my three sons of course."

"I'm a working lad, a reasonably successful businessman, and I'm now a very famous man in the world of philately," he said.

"There's this little guy who read the Telegraph now standing and giving the key lecture to the American philatelic community. It's quite something.

"The popular view of a stamp collector tends to be fairly negative. Their image is someone in a dowdy mac; it doesn't have any credibility.

"That couldn't be further from the truth. I hope other people will try it and get as much enjoyment as I have." ≈

My Favourite Cancel

By David Oberholtzer
Member K-W Philatelic Society

Not a particularly attractive cover of a Kitchener, Ontario Barrel Cancel (Hammer "a" Rarity Factor 60). The postal clerk got carried away when inking the hammer and left a partial fingerprint on the cachet. This cover was the start of my "Barrel Cancel" collection.

This cover was a favourite cancel for a 13-year-old grade 8 student who went to the Post Office to create a First Day Cover. Nine years later Jim Kraemer gave the student a list of the 34 Post Offices in Canada who were issued Barrel Devices. The list also had a strike of the fake Kitchener Barrel Cancel Rubber Stamp dated
29 II 1956, 6 PM.

63 years later I am still looking for more discoveries to add to the collection. ≈

THE STAMPS OF THE SOVEREIGN MILITARY ORDER OF MALTA*

Stamp from Lloyd Field's 'antique maps on stamps' collection [Member K-W Philatelic Society]

The Sovereign Military Order of Malta (SMOM) is a Roman Catholic lay religious order and is the world's oldest surviving order of chivalry. It is headquartered in Rome, Italy, and is widely considered a sovereign subject of international law.

The SMOM started issuing stamps in 1966 with the intent of promoting its activities and raising funds for its charitable activities. The stamps used the traditional SMOM currency of Grana and Scudi. Initially their usage was limited as the SMOM was not recognized by the UPU and it had only been able to negotiate specific postal arrangements with a few countries. The situation changed dramatically in 2005 when the SMOM managed to sign an agreement with the Italian Postal Service according to which the mail of the SMOM could be franked with stamps of the SMOM, now issued in Euros, and circulate through the Italian Postal service to reach Italian or Foreign destinations of all the about 60 countries which had by then signed a postal agreement with the SMOM.

The first stamp issue consisted of nine stamps, illustrated with the Order's symbols and images. Since this first set, stamps have featured the Order's history, its charitable and humanitarian works, its artistic heritage and Religion (St. John the Baptist, Christmas etc.).

The stamps were first printed by Thomas De La Rue in London, but are now produced at Cartor Security Printing, La Loupe, France.

As far as Canada is concerned, a postal agreement was signed in 1993 and since then the SMOM mail can be freely delivered to any postal address in Canada. A stamp celebrating the postal agreement with Canada was issued on March 8th 1993. Unfortunately it contained an error as it referred to Canada as the Republic of Canada. It was immediately withdrawn and replaced by a new stamp with the correct inscription "Postal Agreement with Canada". The "error" stamps were immediately incinerated but a total of 9069 stamps had been already sold and could not be destroyed. *Today the "Republic of Canada" error stamp is the most valuable stamp of the whole SMOM collection and has a market value of around 150 dollars.*

SMOM originally started as the order of Saint John of Jerusalem, founded in Jerusalem around the year 1050. After the conquest of Jerusalem in 1099 it became a Military Order and it ruled the island of Rhodes first and then the island of Malta from 1530 to 1798, when it was occupied by the French Navy.

The Order eventually retreated in Rome where it still has its headquarters in Via Condotti. Both the building in Via Condotti and the Villa Magistrale on the Aventino Hill have the same extra-territorial rights of all other foreign Embassies.

The Military Order of Malta retains its claims of sovereignty under international law and has been granted Permanent Observer status at the United Nations.

Today it has about 13,000 members and 80,000 volunteers plus 20,000 medical personnel in more than 120 countries. Its goal is to assist the elderly, handicapped, refugees, children, homeless, those with terminal illness and leprosy in all parts of the world.

To-day the SMOM stamps have gained a large number of fans all around the world. The printing policy of the SMOM is very conservative with a number of only 10,000 to 20,000 stamps produced for each new issue, which should guarantee good expectations for the future value of the SMOM stamps. ≈

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FEATURE ARTICLE:
1st ISSUE – CENTENNIAL ISSUE POST*

Chris McFetridge – Email: brixton-chrome@hotmail.com
www.brixton-chrome.myshopify.com

Meet Chris McFetridge, CPA, CA

A passionate philatelist Chris has had over 40 years of experience working with and studying Canadian and British Commonwealth stamps. A Certified Public Accountant by training, he left a 21 year public accounting career to establish Brixton-Chrome Inc. in July 2015. Since then Brixton-Chrome has supplied many thousands of stamps and covers to satisfied collectors all over the world.

His Canadian stamp and postal history blog contains in-depth articles that cover every issue of Canadian stamps from 1851 to 1972.

Chris has generously offered to contribute an article to every issue of K-W Postmark.

The 1967-1973 Centennial Issue of Canada has become one of the most popular definitive issues for Canadian specialists. It is on a par with the Machin Heads of the United Kingdom, in terms of complexity, for the six years that it was current. The Machin Heads are of course, much more extensive, having been in continuous use for over 50 years now, but the Centennial Issue is remarkably complex for a series having a life of less than 10 years. Usually most definitive issues that run this long do not yield anywhere near the number of collectible varieties that this one does. This is one of those issues that you can collect for 40 years, and just when you think you have discovered all that there is to discover, another aspect that you either didn't consider to be significant, or just didn't notice will surface.

The inspiration for the designs of the issue was Canada's centennial year in 1967. The desire was to fully celebrate Canada's diversity from coast to coast, and true Canadiana. So, the low values of the series were designed to show different scenes from each different region of the country; alongside Anthony Buckley's portrait of Queen Elizabeth II.

For the high values, the decision was made to feature Canadian landscape paintings by the Group of Seven. There were seven artists, and seven high values. Each one depicted a landscape scene from a different part of the country. So, in this way the entire series was intended to be a pictorial celebration of Canada's diversity and history. Even though the Centennial celebrations were largely over by 1968, the series was kept as the current definitive series and not replaced fully until late 1973.

There were several significant milestones in Canadian stamp production that impacted the complexity of this series. Firstly, postal rate increases resulting from strikes, created the need for additional low values that had not

been issued as part of the original set. By the time these were issued, stamp sizes were changed from Imperial measurements to metric ones, so that the new designs were slightly smaller than the original stamps.

Second, the introduction of multi-colour engraving by the British American Bank Note Company resulted in booklets that contained se-tenant combinations of different denominations of stamps, rather than just separate panes of stamps.

It was also possible now to produce booklets in which the panes were attached to the booklet cover by their selvage tab rather than stapling several panes together between two covers. Thus, the first integral booklets were produced as part of this issue.

Third, the introduction and use of papers that contained whitening agents began during the life of this issue. The whiteness of the paper interfered with the optical scanning equipment that had been designed to read the Winnipeg phosphor bands that had been introduced in 1962, with the result that it became necessary to devise a new way to tag stamps that would work with these new paper types. Thus, Ottawa fluorescent bands came into use.

Fourth, coil stamps had previously been produced in rolls of 500 stamps which were made by splicing together long strips of stamps which had been guillotined from large sheets that were printed for this purpose. However, during the life of this issue, a new method of producing coils was devised in which a sheet consisting of ten full strips of 100 stamps would be rolled up, sealed and then scored along a line between the rolls so that an entire sealed roll of 100 coils could be split off and sold.

Fifth, the abandonment of dextrin gum as the adhesive of choice on the backs of the stamps occurred during this issue. Like many of the innovations introduced during this period, the new PVA gum was introduced in stages, taking more than one physical form before the final chemical formula that would endure to this day was decided upon.

Sixth, both the British American Bank Note Company (BABN) and the Canadian Bank Note Company (CBN) were involved in the production of these stamps at the same time. This was the first issue not to be produced entirely by one printing company. Both companies used different papers, different versions of gum and different perforating equipment, which has resulted in many different perforations.

Lastly, the abandonment of the Cello-paq as an issuing format for stamps occurred during the life of this issue also, so that this is the last definitive issue to exist in the form of miniature panes of 20 or 25 stamps.

Each of these innovations is a separate topic in and of itself, and all of them give rise to many different collectible varieties.

The stamps were all engraved using a single colour. The small low values, from the 1c through to the 8c were all printed in sheets of 600 which consisted of six panes of 100 stamps. The high values, which started at the large 8c and ended with the $1 were all printed in sheets of 300, consisting of six panes of 50 stamps each.

They were all designed by Harvey Thomas Prosser and engraved by both Yves Baril, who engraved the portrait and picture, and Gordon Mash, who engraved the lettering.

The bulk of the issue appeared on February 8, 1967, with additional low values being issued November 1, 1968, January 7, 1970, June 30, 1971 and December 30, 1971.

Unfortunately, I do not have access to the issue quantities, as they were so vast. One thing that does contribute to the complexity of this issue is the fact that these stamps were not printed in discrete print runs that had definite start dates and end dates. Rather, they were printed continuously over the six year period with two plates being used concurrently and then being retired as they wore out and replaced with new plates. The plates themselves lasted much longer than previous issues, so that the maximum number of plates used for any value was 7, with most values having 5 or fewer.

The Designs

1c brown - Northern Lights
and dogsled team
Northwest Territories

4c carmine - seaway lock
at St. Lawrence Seaway
in Quebec

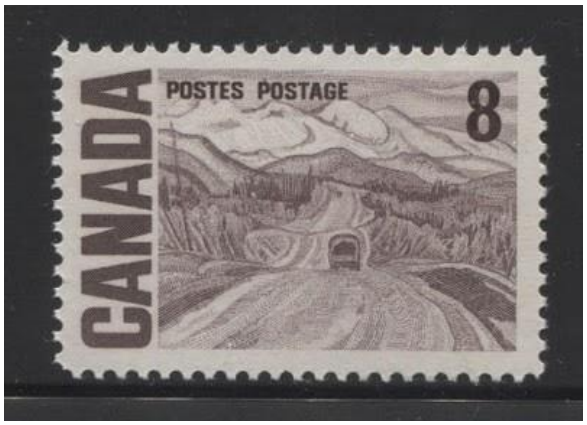
2c green - totem pole and river
British Columbia

5c blue - Atlantic fishing village
the Maritimes

3c purple-combine harvester,
truck and oil rig
Alberta and Saskatchewan

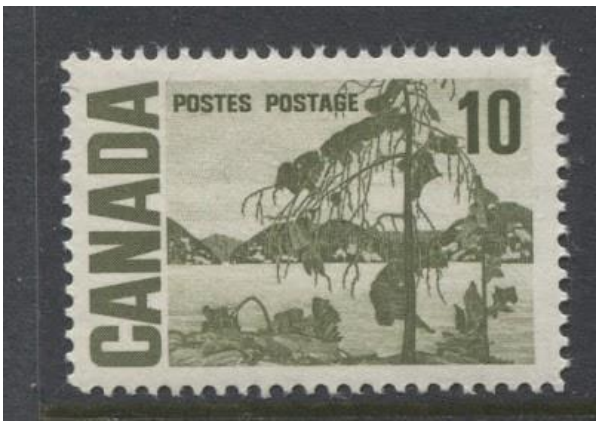
6c orange - train, trucks, ship and airplane
any major city in Canada;
most likely Toronto

6c black – transportation
as above



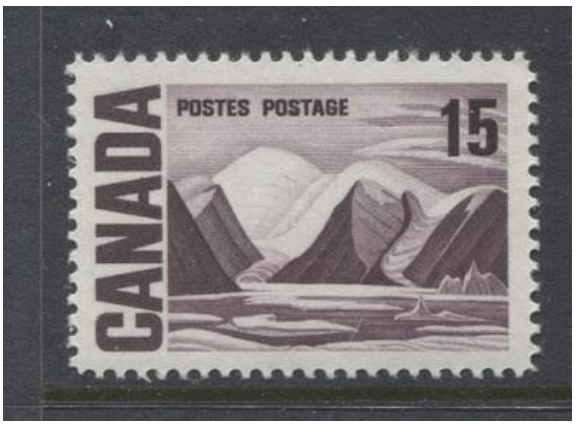
8c violet brown - Alaska Highway
by A.Y Jackson
representing the Yukon

7c emerald green
transportation, as above



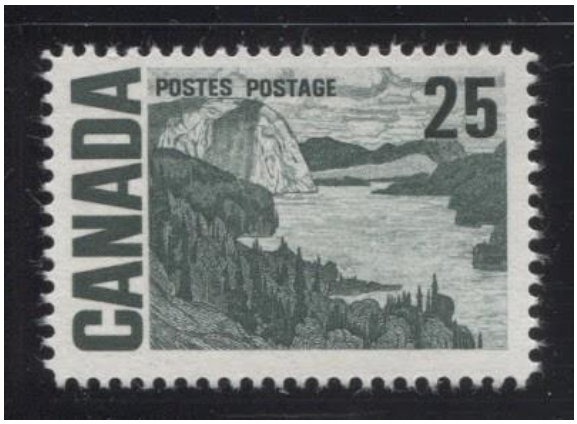
10c olive green - Jack Pine
by Tom Thompson
representing Ontario

8c slate - Parliamentary Library
Ottawa



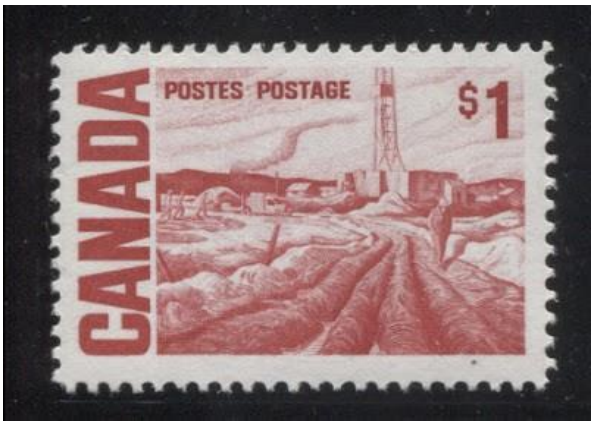
15c purple - Bylot Island
by Lawren Harris
Northwest Territories, now Nunavut

20c dark blue - The Ferry, Quebec
by J.W. Morrice
representing Quebec



25c slate green - The Solemn Land
by J.E.H Macdonald
Algoma region, Ontario

50c brown orange - Summer's stores
by John Ensor
represents the Prairies



$1 carmine red - Edmonton Oil Field
by H.G. Glyde

The designs taken together are supposed to represent and celebrate the diversity and vastness of Canada. I believe they do a fairly good job of portraying the different regions and major industries of the country.
I do notice that mining is not depicted on any of the stamps in this series, although oil and fishing are.

I will now discuss each of the physical aspects of the stamps which form the basis for assembling specialized collections.

Paper

This is perhaps the aspect of this issue that is the most fun to study and has received the most attention from philatelists over the years. There are an almost infinite number of varieties of fluorescent reaction when the stamps of this issue are viewed under a long-wave ultraviolet lamp. All but the most specialized handbooks and journals limit the classification of fluorescence to just a few broad categories such as plain, low fluorescent, hibrite etc. But the reality is far more complicated than this.

For starters, two stamps with the same overall fluorescence level can appear to be different colours under the lamp. For instance, a stamp that is classified as plain can appear bluish white, grey, or light violet under UV. Also, the paper can contain fluorescent fibres embedded into it that react

differently from the remainder of the paper, being usually brighter. The presence of these fibres can make the paper appear more fluorescent than it truly is. The brightness and density of these fibres can vary widely. As a result, there can easily be dozens of different fluorescence levels for a given stamp.

However, fluorescence is not the only property of the papers that vary, and you can have quite a lot of fun and challenge if you expand your horizons to include other properties of the paper used, such as
(1) the direction of the paper weave, i.e. horizontal or vertical,
(2) the presence of any ribbing on either the front or the back, and
(3) whether or not the paper is porous on the surface. For this last attribute, you will need a good magnifying glass, but if you have one, you will find papers that appear to be coated and non-porous, while other ones will be quite porous on the printed surface.

Gum

Many philatelists are aware of two major types of gum on this issue: dextrin gum, and PVA gum. Many will also be aware of a third type of gum which the Unitrade catalogue calls "spotty white gum". Beyond this, not much attention has been paid to the gum on these stamps.

There are several types of dextrin gum and several different types of PVA gum. These different types all vary in terms of their colour, whether they are smooth or streaky, and their surface sheen. The "spotty white gum", described in the Canadian Unitrade Catalogue, is really a glossy and streaky type of PVA gum, for instance.

Many collectors may feel that these differences are too minor and too random to be collectible, or they may think that the different types can be found on the same sheets and are therefore not real differences. I have handled many sheets and large multiples of this issue and I have never come across this phenomenon where the gum varies in the sheet. It is always quite uniform in the sheets I have examined, so the differences often encountered are not random.

I like to use the analogy of comparing gum to paint on a wall. It is common knowledge that different paint finishes are the result of differences in the chemical formula of the paint. I believe that the same is true of gum: a glossy gum has a different chemical makeup from a matte one, or one with a satin sheen.

Some stamps in this series only exist with dextrin gum, while others exist with only PVA gum because that is all that was in use by the time the stamps were issued.

However, most exist with both types, and I suspect many different types of each, though this is an aspect of this issue that would require careful, disciplined study.

Ink

Ink is another physical attribute that has received very little attention in the philatelic literature, which is a pity, I think, because next to paper, this attribute exhibits the most variation of all the other attributes. Unitrade does list a fluorescent ink on the 6c orange, but other than that, no attention is devoted to ink at all.

Firstly, every single value of this set exists with at least two shade varieties. Most of these are subtle at first, but as you become familiar with the colours and you work with lots of stamps, over time, they will become obvious to your eyes.

The early printings had the deepest, dullest colours, which became brighter and more intense as we move closer to 1973. This is of course, the appearance of the inks in normal light. Under long-wave ultraviolet (UV) light, it is possible to see other variations in the colours. In many cases you can have colours that are the same shade under both types of light, while having others that vary widely depending on whether you are looking under normal or UV light.

Some inks completely change colour under UV. The fluorescent ink on the 6c orange is but one example. However, there are other instances. For example, many of the lighter, brighter colours, such as the orange brown of the 50c can appear black under the UV lamp, while others appear brown orange with a violet tinge, being merely the reflection of light from the lamp.

The most specialized literature has considered this in quite a lot of detail, but it is not an aspect of these stamps that has received anywhere near the amount of attention that it warrants in my opinion.

Phosphor Bands and Fluorescent Bands

This attribute of the issue has received a large amount of attention, but again, not nearly as much as I feel it should. Most collectors who use Unitrade are aware that most stamps of the issue exist with Winnipeg phosphor bands that are either in the form of a centre bar on values below 5c, or 2 bars on values 5c and over.

Many are also aware of the fact that two types of Ottawa fluorescent bands are found on most values as well and it is here that most collectors stop.

However, there are many varieties of Winnipeg phosphor bands that can be studied in more detail, such as:
(1) the width and spacing between the phosphor bands,
(2) error shifts of the phosphor bands, that result in single bar phosphor bands when there should be two,
(3) the chemical makeup of the phosphor compound, as evidenced by difference in the colour of the glow under UV light, and (4) the amount of compound applied, i.e. light, moderate and heavy. This affects how obvious and dark the bands are when the stamp is viewed in normal light.

With respect to Ottawa fluorescent bands, two basic types are found, though most values exist with only one type, being the OP-2 bands. The two types are OP-2 and OP-4.

The OP-4 was the first to be introduced and was produced from an unstable compound, which tended to migrate through the stamps onto other stamps. Because of this, it was deemed unsuitable, and was replaced by OP-2, which is completely stable.

In addition to the difference between OP-2 and OP-4 fluorescent bands, there are also differences in the colour of the fluorescent bands under UV, with some stamps showing distinctly bright green bands, whereas others appear very bright yellow. There are also error shifts in these bands where stamps show a single centre band when they should have had two bands.

Some of the specialized catalogues have identified different widths of Ottawa fluorescent bands, with 3 mm bands and 4 mm bands being two widths that have been positively identified as existing on several values.

Finally, although I haven't come across this yet, there may be differences in the spacing between the fluorescent bands.

Perforation

Prior to this issue all Canadian stamps were line perforated. While most of the stamps of this issue were line perforated 11.85, 11.95, 11.85 x 11.95 and 11.95 x 11.85, the stamps printed by the British American Bank Note Company introduced comb perforations into this issue. There were two comb measurements that were introduced: 9.9 and 12.5 x 12.

The coil stamps came in two documented perforation measurements: 9.5 horizontally and 10 horizontally, though it is possible that slight variations may exist.

Plate Characteristics

Most collectors will be familiar with the three die type differences that have been identified in the mainstream literature for the 6c black, die 1 and die 2, as shown above.

However, over the years more and more attention has been paid to studying the design characteristics in more detail, and as a result, many constant varieties have been identified on the 2c, 6c, 7c and 8c values.

I believe that there probably are similar die type differences on the other values as well because I have seen stamps that show weak impressions like the die 1 6c, and then others where the engraving is very strong. Much more painstaking research would be required to determine whether or not there actually were different dies used for the other values.

Unitrade mentions the existence of the 33 different "totem pole eyes" on the 2c, the "airplane in the sky" on the 1c, the line through the 5c, the doubled C on the 6c orange and the extra spire on the 8c.

However, there are very few constant varieties listed for this issue. All these varieties have only been documented in Unitrade in the past 10 years or so.

So, it seems to me that there must be many more varieties out there that are waiting to be discovered on the other values. However, a detailed study of many thousands of stamps may be necessary to identify them all.

Cello-Paqs

Two stamps from this issue only, being the 4c and 5c, were issued in cello paqs (miniature panes of 20 or 25 stamps in cellophane) that sold for $1 each.

The 4c was thus printed in panes of 25 for this purpose, and the 5c was printed in panes of 20. The 5c was also issued with Winnipeg phosphor bands in this form.

Until just a few years ago, there were no listed varieties of the cello paqs. However, in the past several years, Unitrade has started to give recognition to a dead paper variety on the 4c, but nothing on the 5c, even though I can confirm that the 5c too exists with dead paper. In addition to differences in paper, I have seen differences in shade, gum and the design of the cellophane packs themselves.

Coil Stamps

The coil stamps were all printed by the CBN, and as such they exhibit the same types of varieties as coils printed by the CBN for other issues. These varieties include
(1) jump strips, where the horizontal alignment of one stamp in the strip is slightly off in relation to the other stamps, (2) narrow and wide spacing strips, in which the vertical space between two stamps is either significantly greater than 4 mm or significantly less than 4 mm,
(3) coil-join strips, and
(4) cutting guideline strips, in which the strip has been cut so far over to one side as to show the cutting guideline that was placed in the margins between columns of stamps that were to be cut apart. However, in addition to these, I have also seen differences in paper and gum as well.

Booklets

There are differences in the design of the booklet covers, differences in the fluorescence of the cover stocks, and other constant varieties. The booklets can generally be split up into the non-integral, stapled booklets that were printed by the CBN, and those integral booklets that were printed by the BABN, which comprise most of the booklets of this issue.

Postal Stationery

There was a very large range of postal stationery items prepared for this issue, which can be studied in much more detail than is listed in either Unitrade or the Webb Postal Stationery Catalogue.

The postal stationery can be divided into two broad categories: the publicly issued products such as envelopes, postcards, flimsies, and then the private order products, many of which are extremely rare now, especially used.

Postal History

65c registered airmail cover to Germany, paid with a 15c plus 1969 Suzor Cote.

Postal history is an interesting area to collect for this issue, due to three postal strikes during the life of this issue, which, resulted in three rate-increases between 1968 and 1972.

There were also new rates established during this period, and the abolition of other rates and/or services, such as third class mail. An example of a new rate was the "all up" airmail rate of 15c that was introduced in 1971.

The pictures below show two more interesting covers in addition to the registered airmail cover above. ≈

Double weight airmail cover to Germany, paid with commemoratives and a 10c.

Airmail cover to the Netherlands, paid with a 3c and a pair of 1969 ILO Issue.

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FAKES AND FORGERIES

In general, ***philatelic fakes and forgeries*** refer to labels that look like postage stamps but are not. Most have been produced to deceive or defraud. ***Learning to identify these can be a challenging branch of philately.***

To a large extent the definitions below are consistent with those given in the "Brighton forgeries" of the stamps of Jammu and Kashmir, produced by Harold Treherne.

The definitions below are consistent with those given in the introduction to various recent editions of the Scott Standard Postage Stamp Catalogue.

"We use the term ***"forgery"*** to indicate stamps produced to defraud collectors (properly known as forgeries) and to defraud stamp-issuing governments (properly known as counterfeits).***"Fake"*** is used to indicate the alteration of a genuine stamp to make it appear as something else.

Fakes might refer to cancellations, overprints, added or clipped perforations, stamp design alterations, etc." Although some philatelists stick to precise definitions of these terms, one should not assume that this is the case with every writer.

A variation is forgeries produced to defraud members of the public who are buying stamps for legitimate uses, essentially a form of counterfeiting. While difficult to do today, one famous case is the Stock Exchange forgery 1872–73.

Questions are often raised about when a stamp is legitimately produced for postage. The following quotation may be helpful:

Stamps are legitimate if they are recognized internationally in practice, even if they are not recognized expressly, as by a treaty.

Jean de Sperati is among the master forgers in the history of philately. The Vancouver Island forgery refers to a stamp that was originally issued in 1865. He then used a process called photolithography to make an almost perfect copy of the stamp. *In his lifetime, Jean de Sperati forged over 500 stamps*. He sometimes signed his work in pencil on the back. His forged stamps are now often worth more than the originals.

History of philatelic fakes and forgeries

The first postage stamp was issued in Great Britain in 1840, and by the early 1860s or earlier the first postage stamp forgery -- in the sense of a stamp created to fool philatelists into thinking that it is a genuine one -- appeared on the market.

By 1863 forgeries were so common that the book Forged Stamps: How to Detect Them was published and by 1864, forgeries were being produced of both common and scarce stamps from a wide range of issuing countries such as Austria, British Guiana, Finland, India and Spain.

Jean de Sperati is among the master forgers in the history of philately. The Vancouver Island forgery refers to a stamp that was originally issued in 1865. To produce his forgery, de Sperati bleached a real, cheaper stamp of the same vintage.

Postal forgeries or counterfeits

Those who produce counterfeits appeal to a very different market from philatelists. They depend on their stamps being produced in large quantities in order to be able to recover their outlay. The person who would use them must feel that he can purchase them for a price that is significantly lower than what he would pay at a legitimate post office. This makes the most common current stamp used for everyday mailing a prime target for counterfeiting activity.

The earliest forgeries are all postal, and ***the Penny Black was the first stamp to be copied in 1840, its first year.***

Partial forgery consists of changing colours or changing the face values of stamps to imitate a higher value stamp. Other tricks consisted of methods to make the cancellation disappear (chemically erasing, placing a second stamp on it if it just hits a corner). *The Spanish Post Office had to change its stamps almost annually, between 1850 to 1879, to stay ahead of the forgers*.

Notable postal forgeries include

France: 20c (1870), 15c (1886), sower 25c (1923)
Germany: 10pf (1902), 10pf (1909)
Great Britain: 1s (1872), 4d World Cup Winners (1966)
Australia: 2d Sydney Harbour Bridge (1932)
USA: 2c Washington (1894), 13c Liberty Bell (1980)

As a curiosity, postal authorities have published their own forgeries, thus the British Post Office forged its own 1d stamps in 1856 to see if its features were fraud-proof.

Protective measures

Postal services developed, early on, measures to protect the integrity of their stamps. Some of these steps are similar to those used to protect against forged currency. Major steps include

- Watermarks
- Special paper
- Delicate engraving
- Printing methods
- Special ink for postmarks
- Insertion of silk threads
- Secret marks either visible or invisible to the microscope
- Re-issue of stamps

It may not be possible to distinguish between a philatelic and postal forgery if the stamps are unused, merely by looking at them; the techniques utilized in producing them are identical.

However, if the stamps bear cancellations, they may be more readily distinguished. If a stamp has a forged cancellation, it necessarily is a philatelic forgery since it was obviously made for sale to collectors, not to be used to send a letter.

If the cancellation is genuine, it is likely, but not necessarily, a postal forgery, since sometimes forgers have used genuine cancellation devices to "cancel" forged stamps.

A helpful distinction may be to have one of these stamps on an envelope that actually went through the mail, but that too requires caution. Counterfeits that reach the philatelic community are fairly scarce, and that alone makes them more valuable.

There is more than enough incentive for an unscrupulous individual to fake a counterfeit usage by applying a philatelic forgery to an envelope!

Philatelic forgeries

Soon after their introduction, stamps became philatelic objects, and stamp forgery to the detriment of the collector became a problem.

The first book about the topic was written by Jean-Baptiste Moens from Belgium De la falsifications des timbres-poste in 1862. Shortly thereafter Pemberton published Forged Stamps: How to detect them and Robert Brisco Earée Album Weeds. Stamps produced by famous forgers have become collectibles, as well.

Unlike counterfeits these are very common in collections. Many that were produced in the earliest days of stamp collecting in the 19th century are still plentiful. At that time many considered it quite acceptable to fill a space in an album with a facsimile when the genuine stamp was unavailable.

Later, especially in the late nineteenth and early twentieth century, massive numbers of stamps were forged for the packet trade, including very common as well as rare stamps, so that the fact that a stamp is common is no guarantee that it is not a philatelic forgery.

Fakes

Fakes begin with a genuine stamp, which is altered in some way to make it more valuable to stamp collectors. When catalogues show different varieties with significantly different values this can be great motivation to alter the cheap example into something that can be sold for great profit. Sometimes only minor changes can affect the apparent valuation of a stamp.

Knowledge is an important tool in helping to detect fakes and forgeries. A person who is able to identify some of the most obvious forgeries can save a lot of money in expertizing fees, though the information may not yet be enough to establish that a stamp is genuine.

Earee's Album Weeds, and Serrane's Vade Mecum are only two books in the vast literature about stamp forgeries.

Expertizing stamps as protection

As an expert can falsify stamps, often quite easily. It is advisable, particularly when dealing with stamps of value, to have them examined and expertized.

Such experts are highly specialized and generally focused on a selected philatelic area. Falsified stamps may be marked as

such, while a genuine stamp of value should receive a certificate of authenticity by a reputable authority.

It has been pointed out that today homemade forgeries can easily reach the market through the internet.

Government and propaganda forgeries

Political and propaganda forgery is produced by countries in conflict to hurt the opponent. Stamps may be issued to deprive the enemy of revenue, to distribute propaganda material, to cause confusion, and to depict propaganda messages.

Propaganda stamps are very collectable and have been philatelacly forged: a forgery of a forgery. Many propaganda stamps would have been difficult to circulate in the postal system because they would have been immediately removed, thus used propaganda stamps are unusual (but easily falsified).

World War I

During World War I the United Kingdom authorized forging of stamps of Germany, Bavaria, and Austro-Hungary in 1918. Ten and 15 pf Germania stamps of Germany were affected but differ in engraving, paper, and watermark from the original.

Unused forgeries of the 5, 10, and 25 Austrian heller stamps with the image of Emperor Charles I of Austria are known to exist. These stamps do not carry propaganda messages, and were intended to cause economic damage.

World War II

All known German falsifications are propaganda forgeries. Forgeries of the Silver Jubilee issue of 1935 were falsified at the Sachsenhausen concentration camp by order of Heinrich Himmler during the war. The modifications included the insertion of Jewish and communist emblems, placement of Joseph Stalin's head, the inscription that was faulty ("This war is a Jewish war") and the years altered to 1939-1944.

A similar falsification concerned the coronation issue from 1937 in which Stalin's head appears, the Star of David is present, as well as an inscription concerning the Tehran conference.

A third forgery is different and affects the 1937 series with the head of King George VI. The alterations are very subtle affecting emblems. Six values of the series were falsified.

In the short film "Adolph Burger's Historical Artifacts" Sachsenhausen survivor Burger shows examples of some of these stamps that he helped produce. He also describes this in greater detail in his book The Devil's Workshop.

The first stamps to be forged were the common 6 and 12 pfennig Hitler head stamps. The forgeries were printed in Rome by the Office of Strategic Services in 1944. These stamps were applied to letters containing propaganda, marked with false postmarks (Wien 8, Wien 40, Hannover 1), and distributed by drops from airplanes as Operation Cornflakes.

The US modified the 12 pfennig Hitler head stamp by the insertion of a death head and the inscription Futsches Reich ("ruined Reich") replaces Deutsches Reich.

Similarly, the Hitler block from 1937 was altered to show a death head, graves, and gallows; the inscription is Deutsches Reich 1944. Postcards were also forged.

Soviet forgeries for Germany

Soviet forgeries were limited to postcards with propaganda messages that had imprinted stamps.

British forgeries

Great Britain produced forgeries for Germany, France, Italy, Poland (General government), and French Morocco during World War II.

Regarding Germany, the first forgery was the 12 pfennig Hindenburg head stamp, later followed by the 3, 4, 6, and 8 pfennig values, to distribute propaganda material in Germany. Other stamps such as the Hitler heads and some field post stamps may not have reached circulation.

A major effort was the production of propaganda stamps. The Hitler head stamp

Stamps were produced in Great Britain for the General government and used by the Polish underground army to distribute propaganda material.

The Hitler head stamp of the General government was modified to depict Hans Frank on the 20 groszy value. These stamps circulated in the postal system.

French-controlled Morocco received stamps forged by the British authorities that had overprints of Deutsche Reichspost in Marokko to create confusion and suggest an imminent German occupation. Few examples are known.

British Propaganda stamp depicting Himmler

was modified to depict Heinrich Himmler.

For Italy, Britain produced forgeries of the Victor Emmanuel stamps, as well as propaganda stamps with Hitler and Mussolini inscribed Due populi, un führer ("Two peoples, one führer").

Another propaganda forgery concerns the 1943 Hitler putsch stamp that shows General Witzleben (a participant in the July 20, 1944 Hitler assassination attempt) and is inscribed Gehängt am 8. August 1944 ("Hanged on..."). Other forgeries were based on the welfare stamps from 1938, and the 1944 Hitler putsch stamp.

Regarding France, Britain produced forgeries of the Iris series and of stamps depicting Marshal Philippe Pétain.

Cold war: West Berlin for the GDR

Between 1948 and 1954 a group founded by Werner Hildebrandt produced anti-communist propaganda including stamps that were used in the postal system of East Germany (GDR).

The first stamps to be modified were the 12 and 24 pfennig values of the series depicting the President of the GDR Wilhelm Pieck. The propaganda versions showed a noose and the inscription Undeutsche Undemokratische Diktatur ("un-German un-democratic dictatorship").

Other changes were made to the stamps of the Five Year Plan. The group also modified production instructions to factories that caused economic damage. ≈

NOWHERELANDS
An Atlas of Vanished Countries
1840 – 1975
By Bjorn Berge

A multitude of countries that once existed have since been erased from the map, lost to time and with little or no chance of resurrection. Varying vastly in size and shape, location and longevity, the fifty such ***nowherelands*** featured in this book are united by one fact: all of them issued their own stamps. These tiny, ephemeral artifacts not only prove that the states did in fact exist but also, as little slips of propaganda, tell us something about their history and how they wished to be perceived, both at home and abroad.

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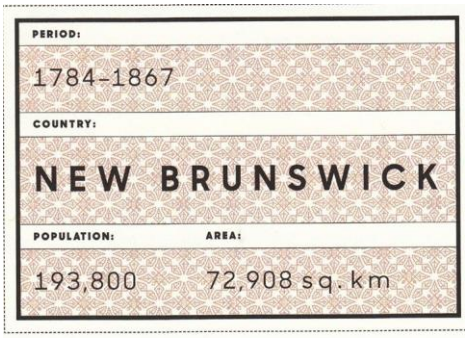

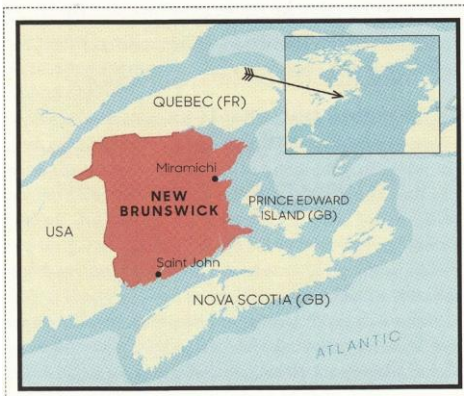

One of the eleven postage stamps that were issued in the British colony of New Brunswick bears the image of a steamship, for the first time ever in the history of stamps. The stamp was issued in 1860 and the ship appears to be the SS *Hungarian,* a transatlantic passenger vessel owned by Britain's Allan Lane. It had been launched the year before and immediately started to transport immigrants across the Atlantic Ocean.

This kind of travel picked up after Ireland's potato harvest was repeatedly blighted by a parasitic disease. The trip usually took 36 days, but the ships were required to have food and water rations for double that time in case of storms. The journey generally took place in late spring, which was thought to be a favourable time to travel.

So the SS *Hungarian* is out rather early in the year when it approaches the coast one stormy evening in mid-February 1860 after crossing the Atlantic Ocean. Visibility is poor and, like so many other ships before, it runs aground on the treacherous sandbanks of Cape Sable Island, south of Nova Scotia. The survivors of the shipwreck are visible from land, clinging onto the capsized hull, but strong winds and high waves prevent any rescue attempts. All 205 people on board died.

For immigrants who had previously arrived in calmer waters, the first impression offered meagre consolation. The arms of the fjord were generally cloaked in thick sea mist and the tidal range could be as much as 16 m [52 ft]. The shoreline had a barren, brutal look, not unlike the western coast of Norway, according to M.H. Perley. He describes the despair an immigrant might well feel:

The naked cliffs or shelving shores, of granite or other hardened rocks, and the unvarying pine forests awaken in his mind ideas of hopeless desolation, and poverty and barrenness appear necessarily to dwell within the iron-bound shores.

But in the next breath, Perley – who was, in fact, a propagandist for the British immigration authorities – draws the sting from this terror. Because, just a short distance from the coast with its Atlantic Ocean climate a transformation takes place. He cites a report prepared for the British parliament: "Of the climate, soil, and capabilities of New Brunswick it is impossible to speak too highly. There is not a country in the world so beautifully wooded and watered," And Perley's colleague, surveyor Alexander Monro, follows up with:

… a healthy climate an excellent soil for agricultural purposes; inexhaustible forests of valuable timber, accessible by an extensive sea-board and by navigable rivers; immense mineral resources, and oft-unparalleled coast and river fishery.

The idea that life in the colony might nonetheless have its downside can be glimpsed when, to keep the record straight, Monro mentions that snowstorms rarely occur more than four times a year. He adds the cold comfort that the low temperature has the advantage of making the snow only half as heavy as at home in England. He also touches upon the dangers posed by wolves and bears. And in passing he mentions the Miʹkmaq – the indigenous population. Although they have been subdued, they are still embittered and disillusioned after their crushing military defeat at the hands of the French in the 1700s.

The Miʹkmaq were nomads. They spent the summer by the sea, where they fished, collected eggs and trapped geese. In the winter, they hunted for moose inland. The moose meat was dried and the skins used to make clothes and tools, and as underlay for their tents, known as wigwams. Wigwams were conical constructions built from fir poles the thickness of an arm and thatched with flakes of birch bark sewn together with thin root suckers. To cope with the harsh winters, they were further insulated with an inner layer of grass matting.

This is how most of the Miʹkmaq are living as boatload after boatload of immigrants arrives in the area. They keep their distance but can't help being affected by the presence of the newcomers. Their hunting areas shrink and alcohol – firewater – becomes all too readily available.

The immigrant ships dock in the harbour at Saint John, an improvised settlement of smallish wooden houses that has rapidly become the most important town in the area. The passengers must remain on the ships for at least forty-eight hours after their arrival to prevent the introduction of infectious diseases. Those who still have symptoms after that, are detained at the town's quarantine station.

If any 'lunatic, idiot, maimed, blind, or infirm person not belonging to an emigrant family' is found, the captain must pay a fine of seventy-five pounds. This is intended to cover the expenses of the person concerned for the first three years. The other immigrants pass through the controls quickly and look for lodgings.

On their first evenings, people step-dance at the hall up by the church. Some of them get jobs in the shipyards at Saint John and Miramichi, while others decide to wait for the wagon trains heading further inland. And then they jump on any old one that comes along – to Northumberland, Gloucester or Kent. Everywhere, land is being sold off in monthly auctions. The going price is three shillings an acre, which can be paid for with labour on the public roads.

Leif Erikson's Vinland expedition almost certainly made it to this area in around AD 1000, but the French Explorer Jacques Cartier stands as the official discoverer of Canada, on France's behalf, in 1534. While the French were expending their energy on subduing the Native Americans in the interior of the continent, the British occupied parts of the outer archipelago, establishing the colony of Nova Scotia – New Scotland. The territory was gradually extended towards the mainland to the west and in 1784 New Brunswick was partitioned off as a separate colony. It was named after the Duchy of Braunschweig in northern Germany, the childhood home of British King, George I. The border with the American state of Maine in the south was a long time coming, and was not defined until some way into the 1800s, during the so-called Aroostook War – which, despite its awe-inspiring name, was a purely legal conflict.

New Brunswick was incorporated as a Canadian province in 1867. Many people protested and, initially at least, proved justified in thinking this would cause it to be assigned lesser priority in relation to central Canada. But the situation changed towards the turn of the century, when the forestry industry took off, supplying raw material for an ever-hungrier paper industry.

New Brunswick is now Canada's only bilingual province with both English and French mother-tongue teaching in the schools. Thousands of Mi'kmaq people still live in the area too. Forestry-related businesses remain important, but in the sea to the east, the ecological cycle has broken down and the fish have vanished. ≈

YOUR ARTICLE

SHOULD APPEAR

HERE IN THE NEXT ISSUE!!!