

Stamps on the Bay



The Voice of the
Owen Sound Stamp Club

Meeting Cancelled due to
Health Safety
Volume 2, Edition 4, May 2021



From the President

Hello my philatelic friends!

What an excellent meeting we had in April! Thank you Phil Visser for inviting Robin Harris to our meeting. Mr. Harris joined us from a room in Manitoba where he is squirreled away with a quarter million or so Machin stamps! The presentation was recorded to be used by the RPSC. I hope that the recording went well,

the presentation certainly did!

We just had our 2nd OSSC auction on May 5th. It went very well indeed. 8 sellers managed to get me to empty my pockets! You might find something too! Join us on the first Wednesday each month at 7:00. Talk to Bill Findlay, Judy Galbraith or Phil Visser (for the Zoom invitation).

Our next Zoom meeting is on Wed. May 19th at 7:00. This month we will try another new feature! We will have Kane Stamps sequestered in a chat room ready to give you their full attention. Once we are done our basic business for the evening feel free to wander into the chat room (or before business starts). You can give Karen and Neil an early alert regarding your wants at kanestamps@gmail.com. This way they can dig up some items to show you that evening.

I know some of our members have mixed feelings about a 'dealers night'. We don't want people who have gone to the trouble of making presentations for the club to be interrupted or ignored. We will ask Phil to do a demonstration about using the chat room without causing a ruckus ...so keep your ears perked up! As for presentations; this would be a good evening to have everybody bring an item for show and tell! So dig deep into your philatelic pockets and find a little gem to tell us about! We'll see how it goes. This could be an opportunity to support some of the dealers who have been a part of our normal stamp shows over the years and a chance to find some new gems to tell us about next month!

Oh, there's my cue, next month we have Gregg Redner with a presentation about Belgian Parcel Post/ Railway stamps. I think it will be quite interesting.

Marion Ace

Owen Sound Stamp Club Acting President

Editors Greeting

Another edition has been formatted and is now presented to my captive audience. Today it is sunny and warm, definitely spring with a hint of summer in the air. With the change in seasons comes temptations to address other areas of interest (gardening etc) but evenings are always available for this wonderful hobby.

Inside this edition are several items and short stories, eclectic (I always wanted to use that word in this newsletter) in nature. Something exciting happened earlier this week. The Royal Philatelic Society of Canada has been hosting "Stamp Talks" and "Stamp Panels" as a way of staying connected. This month the speaker was from Australia speaking about how the collecting has adapted to the pandemic "down under." If you haven't attended this free event in the past, please take this as an invitation to attend one in the future. To attend, a person needs to go to the RPSC website and register for the stamp talks and will also find out what a speaker will be discussing in the presentation. There was over ninety people registered for the talk I spoke about. You will not be hounded by sales flyers from businesses who have your email address on file.

Hopefully, readers will find this edition "tasty." This scan does refer to one of the stories further into the newsletter.



Down a Rabbits Hole

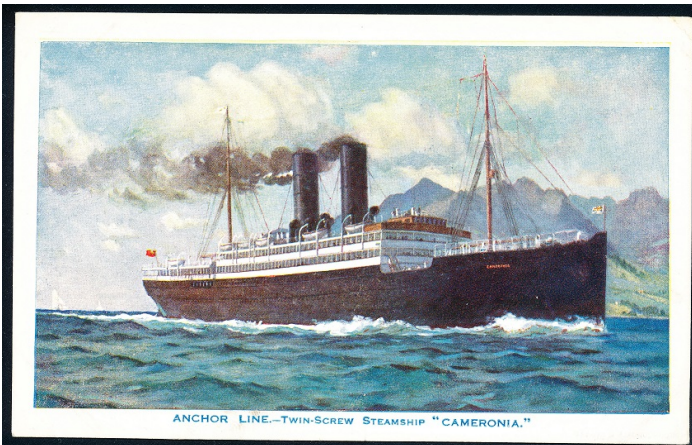
By Phil Visser

Last months article about the Menzies family was the entrance to a rabbit's hole. Without really appreciating it, the story introduced a sidetrack, just like a rabbit's burrow, filled with twists and turns. Laurence Menzies sent a postcard to his elder brother in Toronto indicating a transatlantic crossing to the UK the following day and eventually the frontlines of World War 1 battlefields.

Military records indicated that young Menzies crossed the Atlantic Ocean on board the TSS Cameronia. This information was too much of a magnet to let pass by, with the marine connection of a ship, but also an opportunity to enlighten readers into some aspects of shipping. Now is the opportunity to flip to another story if "the force" hasn't pulled you along to finish reading this one.

One of my favorite tools in researching is the use of Wikipedia. By and large, the information has proven to be reliable, but every researcher needs to bear in mind the chance of reading and accepting incorrect information. Cross referencing information is essential wherever possible, especially in postal history.

From the military records the troop transport that brought Laurence Menzies to England was given. Wikipedia then provided options for research which can be blamed on marine traditions of naming new ships after predecessors. This tradition could easily prove to be the undoing of an unsuspecting researcher, as there were two Cameronia's, which SS Cameronia was the information being provided for? Naturally, a visual would help, and so using Google Images, it was easy to find a postcard of the SS Cameronia.



To begin with, earlier this ship was termed as TSS and now as SS Cameronia. TSS references that this ship was a "Twin Screw Steamship" while SS would simply refer to the ship as a "Steam Ship." Both terms are forms of advertising and descriptors of the ship. SS would refer to a reliable service since power was provided by a steam engine instead of wind (sail), while TSS would provide an impression of a faster, better form of travel using two propellers.

Google images offered several different pictures of the SS Cameronia. Which image was that of the ship that

Corporal Menzies travelled on? At this point, nautical knowledge helped greatly. The ship of interest was built in 1911 and would have been built with the rules established by the British Board of Trade. Looking at the postcards showed that this ship was fitted with seven lifeboats on each side of the ship, standard requirements of the time, just like that of the Titanic which was being built at the same time.

Another factor confirming that this image and postcard was the ship in question was the sight of smoke coming from the funnels. Smoke is really the incomplete burning of fuel, and the fuel in use at that time was coal. To produce a fire, three elements are necessary, a fuel, oxygen and heat which combine to produce a chemical reaction. As a source of fuel, coal is notorious for having different calorific values in power produced by a given amount of fuel, and so smoke coming from the funnels of a coal burning ship is common.

Now that there is an awareness that coal fuel produced steam, where did that coal come from and how did it get on board a ship. Looking at last months newsletter, a Wikipedia picture showed barges laying alongside the Cameronia transferring fuel into the ships fuel bunkers for use at sea. Having read many accounts of coal fired ships, coaling was a messy operation, and the ship was cleaned for a few days after fueling, because the coal dust would reach every part of the ship, and it was messy. That is one of the reasons that the ships hull was painted black, so that the coal dust would not be seen from a distance.

When the SS Cameronia was built, the owners, Anchor Line, used the ship for people to immigrate from the UK to North America. Its primary run was from Glasgow to Moville with a final destination of New York. Moville is now known as Londonderry, Northern Ireland. Both Scotland and Ireland had an abundance of people but a lack of jobs, something that Grey Bruce is also familiar with. Anchor line coordinated its service with Cunard Line so that both companies could have a maximum number of passengers on each trip to North America as well as pick up passengers in North America for a return voyage to the UK, either for business or vacation.

With the commencement of hostilities in 1914, the passenger trade came to a halt. In its place was the movement of troops to serve in the war. Dangers always exist at sea, and that was also the case for the Cameronia. In 1915 a submarine started an attack on the Cameronia but the Captain altered course so as to ram the submarine, both escaping damage. However, the story changed in 1917. In the Mediterranean Sea, U33 fired a torpedo and sank the Cameronia in approximately forty minutes.

A troop movement was listed as the purpose of its voyage, bringing troops from Marseilles to Egypt. Reference 1 mentioned that the attack and sinking occurred on April 15, 1917, but a second story offers different pieces of information. This website recounts the story of a cabin boy of Captain Bone mentions that the ship was carrying 3,005 troops bound from Marseilles to Bombay India (present day Mumbai). According to this story, the sinking occurred on August

19, 1917 although the newspaper account is dated June 16, 1917 (New York Times). Other inputs report the April 15th date as the time of sinking.

This seems like the end of this rabbit hole. Following the conclusion of World War 1, a new SS Cameronia was built and continued into service until the 1950's. Anchor line itself became a story of corporate restructuring. Stand by, this may be another rabbit hole for future editions of this newsletter.

April Meeting Report

It was another successful meeting. Twenty-six people joined in for the meeting, with our guest speaker for the evening being the main attraction. A brief report on the finances shows that the Club is solvent with a couple of outstanding bills to pay. This is also a reminder that if you have not done so already, please renew your membership fees for 2021. Randy made a brief report on the Club Circuit books, with not much activity between March and April. He also mentioned that Circuit Book Explorer was being updated.

Owen Sound stepped forward into having an online Zoom Auction. It was a roaring success, with about seventy percent of the items listed sold generating revenues for the sellers. A reminder was given that the Oxford Philatelic Society was holding an Auction on April 30th. Neil Elson also requested members to contact him before our May meeting with their collecting interests in order for Neil to have the appropriate stock available for club members seeking to fill holes in their collections.

Our Show and Tell portion of the meeting was lively indeed. Randy Rogers began by showing catalogues for revenue stamps from Brazil, Bulgaria and Romania. A number of months ago a budding stamp collector, Kale, received stamps donated by Randy and other members of this club. Randy received and read a letter of thanks from Kale for the support and the help he has received for his collection.



Dave Pugh showed a used turtle box that Canada Post had made available in 2012. Interestingly, this prepaid mailing box is not listed in the Unitrade catalogue. President Marion demonstrated her creative side by showing personalized earrings. Inside the dangling earrings is a Machin, (matching pair). Several jokes and suggestions for other stamps to use, like the fifty cent Bluenose. All joking aside, they looked unique and impressive. For the purists reading this, consider that many millions of these stamps have been printed, so two less will not affect the philatelic market. A final item was shown by Peter Kritz (Vice President of the Saugeen Stamp Club). It was a letter mailed from Glenlyon Upper Canada (Ont). This small

community is south of Mildmay in Bruce County. The cover had a strip of three one cent small Queens on it, presumably Unitrade #35.

This meeting featured a presentation by Mr. Robin Harris, FRPSC. Besides being elected as a Fellow of the Royal Philatelic Society of Canada, Robin is the Editor of the Unitrade Specialized Catalogue of Canadian Stamps, editor of "The Canadian Philatelist", author of several publications on Canadian definitive stamps from the Queen Elizabeth II era and finally an expert of UK Machin stamps.

At the very heart of this topic is the name Arnold Machin (pronounced mei-tjin), 1911-1999. The design shows the sculpted profile bust of Queen Elizabeth 2. This series of design has been in philatelic use since 1967, over fifty years! Wikipedia¹ says that this series has encompassed almost all the innovations and changes in British stamp printing.

Robin's PowerPoint presentation is essentially a guide on how an individual can sort and identify the various varieties of Machins that have been in philatelic use since its inception. While these steps are made with reference to the topic at hand, the principles remain the same for any collector sorting through an accumulation of stamps. The sorting criteria can be split into three levels of sorting, basic, intermediate and advanced.

Basic sorting includes such things as country (regional issues), currency (sterling versus decimal), stamp size, denomination (10p versus 12p) and security features. There are a few more basic sorting guides but the above are provided as an example from which to work with. Robin and his father sketched out a board with conveniently sized squares in which to sort through a large accumulation of stamps, say from a mission mix.

When a collector is then becoming more specific, they transition into an intermediate collector.

"Intermediate" level of collecting usually will require reference material, and for this series of stamps, the main reference is Deegam's "The Complete Machin Handbook²." As new features are discovered, the handbook is updated. Originally printed in paper and put into a four-ring binder, today the collector can get a CD of the Handbook and refer to it as needed. At the intermediate level of sorting, a collector will look at such things as the perforation gauge, value size, value font, self adhesive versus water activated gum and tagging and more.

A final level or sorting would be for the advanced collector. At this level of collecting factors to look for would be paper type, head type, value tablet, gum and backing paper. This level of identification would require a person to collect mint Machins. Each collector can decide to what level of collecting is appropriate for themselves.

A few of this Clubs' members have been in contact with Robin over the past number of years without realizing that he lived in Manitoba. Through his website adminware.ca Robin has made available preprinted pages for a collection. These preprinted pages are divided into four levels of collecting interest, Basic, Novice, Intermediate and Advanced level of

collecting. If you have any interest in organizing this series of stamps, visiting this website is the easiest way to organize a collection.

This presentation was followed by a question-and-answer period which brought us to the end of the evening at around nine o'clock. Robin left us with a challenge on whether the presentation had stirred a latent collecting interest in Machins. Good luck to those who take up the challenge.

- 1 https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Machin_series
- 2 <http://www.deegam.com/seite.mv?20-00-00-00>

For Sale

I have a Brother printer for sale. It has an 11 x 17 scanner bed and can print pages that large too. There is probably over \$100 worth of ink still in it. It has USB port and a SD memory stick port. This has been an excellent printer for me. \$65.00 Don't let this beauty go to waste! Give Marion a call at 519 934-1998

British North America Philatelic Society

Phil Visser

A short while ago, there was an article about a Canadian Philatelic organization that supports and encourages collectors, the Royal Philatelic Society of Canada (RPSC). Following the trend, this article will look at a fellow organization which also actively allows collectors to learn more about Canadian stamps. As the title says, this organization is the British North America Philatelic Society (BNAPS).

This organization has a website that introduces itself to stamp collectors and philatelists alike. The website¹ provides a succinct introduction and reads as follows "The British North America Philatelic Society Ltd. - BNAPS - is an international organization (founded 1943) devoted to the collecting and study of the stamps, markings, and postal history of Canada and the pre-confederation colonies of British North America (British Columbia, Canada, New Brunswick, Newfoundland, Nova Scotia and Prince Edward Island)." Visiting the main page of the website entices a collector with what the organization does.



Across the top of the web page hot links, some with drop down menus, will bring you to sections of what the organization does. A premier effort for this organization is BNAPEX, an annual show and bourse rotating across Canada so that collectors from all parts of Canada can participate as resources allow them to. The Society hot link show a menu of options. These include an invitation to Join BNAPS, Exchange Circuit, Exhibit Awards, Officers Reports, Archives, Order of the Beaver (OTB) Memorials, Youth Program and Philatelic Links

Following the drop-down menus shows what the organization is about. Some of the submenus can be accessed by non BNPAS members, but other menus

require membership to view information. A primary function of BNAPS is to allow members to find like minded collectors on a particular aspect of Canadian philately. The drop-down menu shows two options to choose from under Study Groups, which are Study Groups and Regional Groups. Upon joining a new member has the option to select a particular area of interest and join that study group but will also be "assigned" to a regional study group. In my case, I became a member of the Golden Horseshoe Regional Study Group. Time did not allow me an opportunity to visit the regional study group, but since the pandemic, I have attended Zoom meetings with the study group.

Under the Study Groups, my collecting interests have connected me with the Large Queen and Small Queen group, perfin group and Fancy Cancel and Miscellaneous markings group. There are many study groups with which to participate with and are classed as "active." Other study groups have gone dormant for reasons like nothing new has been found, membership dwindled or migration to other collecting interests. Even though a group may be dormant today does not mean that it will always stay dormant as new members join and wish to reinstitute the group. Study group size will vary with time and where the annual BNAPEX is being held.

For those who wish to soak up knowledge, or discover what information is available, the "Publications and Other Literature" provides a huge cache of material to inspect. The sub menu has hot links to Online Resources & Exhibits, BNA Topics, the quarterly Journal of the organization, BNAPS Books, Harrison Online Library, Study Group Newsletters, BNAPS Forum and the BNAPS eLetter. Much of the information published in "Stamps on the Bay" has a source somewhere from BNAPS or BNAPS members who have offered guidance and background information.

After looking at the top bar of options, the remainder of the webpage provides more hints of what this group does. The main body provides five areas to look at, Member Benefits, BNAPEX Convention, About BNA stamps and Postal History, Member Forum and BNAPS Books. Visiting each section will provide some information but other areas are locked with access limited to members. Visit the website and discover things that may interest yourself.



Membership is on an annual basis with the membership year running from January to December. Membership fee is \$35 per year which is very reasonable because of the large number of collectors in this organization. It may take a while to become an active member, but it is very rewarding on a personal level. A particular interest has been the study of perforations on the Queen Victoria stamps and it seems that now the study group is leaning towards starting a database for that topic. It is an area of Canadian Philately that has not been researched to any great depth and may just change the collecting of these early stamps. Consider membership because participation is rewarding.

1 <https://bnaps.org>

The following article is reproduced with the permission of the author. It first appeared in the Newsletter of the Netherlands Philatelist of Northern California. This group has now ceased operations since the age of many members hindered travelling and meeting. This group was focused on the postal history of the Netherlands and can compare to what has been written above. While the topic may seem uninteresting, it does show that history tends to repeat itself. Some members may remember the hyper inflationary period of the mid 1970's and the government response with Wage and Price controls. Readers can decide which of the two factors was applied to a greater degree.

Broodzetting

by Hans Kremer

When I saw this cover in the January 2008 van Dieten auction catalogue, the word 'broodzetting' caught my eye. I had never heard of such a word, so the first thing I did was get out my Dutch dictionary to see what it said. No luck there, so the next word to look up was 'zetting' since 'brood' means 'bread', no need to look that part up. One meaning of the word 'zetting' was 'to set a price'. At least now I knew that it had something to do with setting the price of bread.

Upon further research on the Internet I've been able to get a pretty good idea what this notice was about.

Broodzetting.

Z. M. heeft bij Hoogstdezelfs besluit van den 25sten januarij 1826 vastgesteld, dat in al de steden en gemeenten alwaar een of meer bakkers of broodslijters gevestigd zijn, de soorten van brood welke tot voornaamste en dagelijksch voedsel voor de ingezetenen dier stad of gemeente dienen, aan eene zetting moeten onderworpen zijn.

In 1826 a Royal Decree (Koninklijk Besluit (KB)) came out instructing local government to set a maximum price for bread. It also said that what

should be taken into consideration as well were the weight, the quality of the bread, and its ingredients. What constituted bread and what constituted a luxury was something the Governor of each province had to give guidelines for. Pumpernickel bread for example was considered 'a primary necessity', but white bread and rusk were seen as 'pastries of luxury'.

Broodzetting.

Burgemeester en Wethouderen

der Stad Zutphen, hebben op Indes bepaald, als maximum of den hoogsten prijs, de Broodzetting hierna volgende:

BROODSOORT.	WYGT.	PRYS.	Marktprijs van het Nederl. Moede.
Brood van ongebleete Rogge	8 Ned. Ponden	59 ct.	Rogge / 5 - 20
	4 " do.	30 "	
	2 " do.	15 "	
Brood van gebleet Rogge met al meergaard de Doerzetting	8 Ned. Onzen	12 ct.	/ 10 - 50
	4 " do.	06 "	
Tarwe Brood	4 Ned. Onzen	11 ct.	Tarwe
	2 " do.	06 "	
Prasch Brood van Tarwe	4 Ned. Onzen	12 ct.	/ 10 - 50
	2 " do.	06 "	
Mengte Brood van Tarwe	4 Ned. Onzen	10 ct.	
	2 " do.	05 "	

Watzen een ieder Inhaber of Nijver van Brood in deze Gemeente, sich zal hebben te getrogen, op de passaliteiten daar tegen getimmerd.

Gelast ten Raadhuise den 7 Mei 1826.

Burgemeester en Wethouders overzand,

S W A V I N G.

Ter ordonnantie van deszelve,

J. A. VAN HASSELT.

Te Zutphen, ter Stadhuiskerk van H. C. A. THIEME.

The maximum price of bread was adjusted on a sometimes daily or weekly basis. The more conservative politicians were against setting maxima; they saw it as an artificial way of jacking up the bread price because all bakers would charge the maximum price they were allowed to charge.

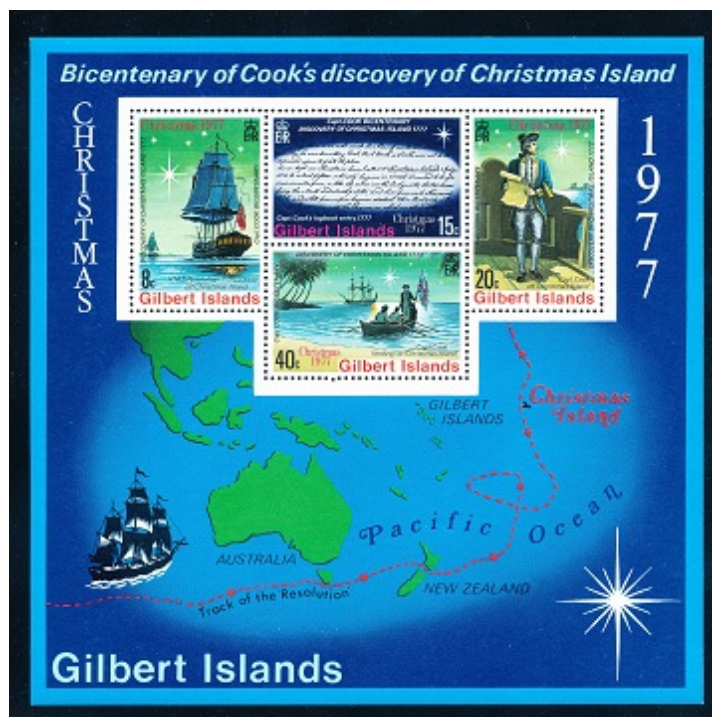
In 1855 the broodzetting was abolished nationwide.

Broodzetting for Zutphen, May 7, 1829

The Southern Islands

by Phil Visser

Down Under has an interesting connotation, but it has a "pull" on my senses. The souvenir sheet below shows the route of Capt Cook on one of his voyages. It commemorates the "discovery" of Christmas Island. Seafaring memories also tells of the challenges Capt Cook faced on this voyage, travelling in the "roaring forties." Other than a peninsula branching out from Antarctica, there is very little land to stop the howl of winds and the build up of the accompanying seas.



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For the moment, this is the safest way to meet. I am hoping that everything is well with all readers of this newsletter, and that everyone can still find pleasure with this common hobby we have. As the editor, I am reaching out to all members, but I am also asking members to reach out to each other. Try calling someone you know and share what things you have discovered from this hobby. Don't be shy, make it a point to connect with three (3) other members you haven't seen or heard from since the pandemic started. Keep safe and encouraged that we will soon meet in person again. The following scan is also tied in with one of the stories above. Which one?



Soapbox

Change, transition, evolve and adjust are all words that apply to life. While it may seem that the pandemic times is leaving us in isolation, we are not alone. Our hobby is helping us find things we hadn't seen in a long time and perhaps even bringing new wonders and excitement with stamp collecting. With the pandemic, changes have come what with meetings being held remotely through Zoom, auctions through the same medium and for some a disconnect with fellow club members. A key thing to remember is that change occurs for everyone everyday, we age, and with that a reminder of the passage of time. There are legitimate questions about the future of our hobby, yet embracing change will keep the hobby going, perhaps in a different way then we have known in the past. Questions abound on whether club meetings will resume, or how about shows? For the moment, electronic means are the best way of staying engaged.

Computers have been involved with the hobby ever since eBay started a stamp collecting sales link. Having this world wide link has not stopped the hobby at all, but has made the hobby truly international. A few days ago I "attended" a Zoom Stamp Talks meeting (hosted by the RPSC and sponsored by Sparks Auctions) with an Australian collector who spoke about the effect this pandemic has brought about. What was really challenging was when he mentioned new mediums such as Instagram, TikTok, Twitter, Facebook and even Etsy as ways of connecting with the younger generation. It was encouraging to hear that through these platforms he has reached many people, and especially has connected with female collectors. It is interesting to note that females have a different focus to collecting than the predominant gender at most stamp clubs. Gerard has a website called "Punk Philatelist" and here he shares/talks about perspectives of the hobby. I encourage everyone to visit that website. He also mentioned another website called "The Digital Philatelist" as one worthy of a visit. If anyone wishes to visit those sites and share their impressions for this newsletter, those thoughts would be gratefully appreciated.