

WEST COAST *Express*



British North America Philatelic Society • Pacific Northwest Regional Group

Philately, Fellowship, Fun

Spring 2019

Number 34 part 1

Chair Chat

Good day, Members of the BNAPS Pacific Northwest Regional Group. This is our first newsletter for 2019 and on behalf of all our members – THANK YOU to Peter and Paula for their hard work as our Editor(s). To those that heeded the call for submissions – thank you for your contributions.

Spring is upon us with the last of the valley bottom snow leaving us a few weeks back. Still a little cool in the yard, but that's not stopping the weeds from emerging as the snow retreated. The sun shining through the snow must be enough to kick start the weeds before the grass even has a chance.

Hope you enjoyed the winter opportunity to spend some time on our favourite hobby. I had some successes distributing several auction purchases into binders- a little closer to where they will eventually go. I work on the "same stuff – same place" organizational system. Eventually everything will be in its home – but just not now – perhaps next winter! Thank you to Gary Fisher who organized my collection of BC Town Cancels – an example of each in a binder and spares in another binder. That was many years in the making with several auction lots from Firmin and others that needed to be compiled.

Gary and Wanda, our Event Co-Chairs have been working diligently on our next annual meeting. As we alluded in the prior newsletter, this event will tie into the VanPex event in September 2019. Save the date and plan for a great week/weekend. The registration form is attached, and we kick off with a meet and greet on Wednesday night at our host hotel – The Coast Cascades Casino and Conference Centre in Langley. Thursday will be a day of educational sessions, with dinner at the buffet and then our keynote and auction following. The VanPex event starts on Friday and it's a short drive from Langley back to Burnaby.

This has been a very difficult event to coordinate as prices in the Lower Mainland are very expensive. Having said that, we have secured a room rate of \$125 per night with either 2 queen beds or 1 king. Share a room and it becomes downright affordable. We have set our agenda with your wallet in mind to give you the best value possible and leave some cash in your pocket for the dealer tables (either casino or stamps – your choice).

We look forward to seeing you in Langley in September.

Mark

Seldom Recognized News Copy Rate

By Bill Pekonen

The main method of communication was by the newspapers before the ages of the telegraph, telephone, teletype, television, Internet, emails, texting, blogs, Twitter, Tweet, and Instagram of the day. The newspapers spread news and opinions about daily or weekly events. The newspapers enjoyed the postal privilege of the Printed Matter Rate as a form of subsidy. The revenue generated by Classified and commercial advertisements resulted in profits for the owners.

Newspapers relied upon a network of both paid and volunteer reporters to submit news reports to the Editors. News “copy” submitted by mail from outlying areas also enjoyed the printed matter rate. The Surrey Leader purchased boxes of #8 size postal stationary from the Post Office. Each box contained 500 envelopes. The prepaid envelopes were then printed by the newspaper and distributed to local reporters headed “News Copy Only”. The envelopes were addressed to “The Editor / The Surrey Leader” followed by the post office mail box number.

The printed matter rate began April 1st, 1868. The rate was one cent per ounce. (April 1st is also the beginning of the Federal Government Fiscal Year ending March 31st of the following year.) The printed matter rate was changed July 1, 1873 to one cent per two ounces and again on October 1st 1875 to one cent per four ounces. After the end of the Second World War, the domestic letter rate became 4 cents per ounce and the printed matter rate was increased to 2 cents for the 1st ounce plus 1 cent per additional ounce. Other rate changes took place thereafter. The following table is for the period between 1948 and 1972.

Applicable Date	Domestic 1st Class Rate for 1st ounce	Printed Matter Rate for first 2 ounces	Additional Rate	Webb # used by Surrey Leader
1948.07.01	4 cents	2 cents	1 Cent per each 2 ounces added	
1954.04.01	5 cents plus 3 cents / oz.	2 cents	1 Cent per each 2 ounces added	
1964.04.01	5 cents plus 3 cents / oz.	3 cents	1 Cent per each 2 ounces added	
1967.04.01	5 cents plus 3 cents each oz.	3 cents	1 Cent per each 2 ounces added	EN 83 + EN83b
1968.11.01	6 cents plus 4 cents each oz.	5 cents	3 Cents / each 2 ounces added	EN85 EN85b EN85d
1971.07.01	7 cents plus 5 cents 2 nd oz.	6 cents	3 Cents / each 2 ounces added	EN86 EN87d, f, g EN87h tagged
1972.01.01	8 cents plus 6 cents 2 nd oz.	6 cents	3 Cents / each 2 ounces added	EN88

The Surrey Leader also provided a commercial service by printing letterheads, posters, flyers etc. This type of service was important to small communities. The printing process was by linotype. The linotype machine was used extensively by newspaper and other printing firms until about the 1980's. The keyboard contained 90 characters. One line of type was set each

time. This method was quicker than setting one cast letter or character each time in a box frame.

The Surrey Leader was the only weekly publication servicing most of Surrey for many years. The offices and plant were located at the northwest corner of 57th Avenue and Pacific Highway. The Surrey Leader editor relied upon various people throughout the municipality to submit local news stories. Before White Rock separated from Surrey, Surrey was the largest municipality within the British Empire. Most small communities within British Columbia also had weekly newspapers. They operated in similar ways to gather news. Mail subscriptions were quite popular. It is conceivable to conclude that similar "News Copy Only" (or similar use envelopes) originating from these other newspapers also exist.

The Surrey Leader editor supplied his correspondents with a prepaid pre addressed envelopes for the purpose of mailing news reports. Often, the rates changed before all of the prepaid postal stationary envelopes had been distributed. That is the reason why some of the insufficiently prepaid returned envelopes attracted a postage due charge. Rather than marking each envelope with a postage due marking, the Cloverdale Post Office bundled up the short paid items. The post office then charged the Surrey Leader with total postage due payable for the entire bundle. I have seen the facing slips with the amounts due for a daily bundle, but did not keep all of them --- not realizing the significance at the time. Consequently, envelopes with short paid amounts can be found used out of period.

The six cent black postal stationary issue was poorly printed. Doubling of the design is evident. One way to identify the doubling is by comparing the lighter black ink on the indicia with the darker ink. The quickest way to confirm the double printing is by looking at the door of the locomotive. In some cases, the doubling of the door frame is easily spotted.

One other historical explanation is important. From the early days of Surrey history, the main post office for the municipality was located in Cloverdale. This fact goes back to the time when the Great Northern Railway track from Ladner to Abbotsford ran south along what is now Highway 10. The Great Northern Railway track from Blaine, Washington to Port Mann followed the Pacific Highway route past Cloverdale. Cloverdale was located at the junction of the two railways....an ideal location for the Post Office. The Surrey Leader rented P.O. Box 100 on an annual basis. Box 100 was the largest size of mail boxes offered by the Cloverdale Post Office.

A new post office was built in Whalley after World War Two. Previously, the postal service to the northwest area of Surrey was provided by the New Westminster Post Office. The North Surrey Area grew much faster than the rest of Surrey. After political influence was applied in Ottawa, the Whalley post office was designated as the Main Post Office for Surrey.

The Cloverdale Post Office was then assigned as Postal Station "A" instead of a sub post office. The box numbering system was also changed from 1-100 series to 1100 series to avoid possible confusion with the lower number boxes at the Whalley post office. The Post Box number for the Surrey Leader was changed from 100 to 1180. The inventory of preprinted postal stationary envelopes needed to be re-addressed. Normal postage stamps were added

to the existing postal stationary inventory to reflect the current rates. Several examples of this change are included in the illustrations.

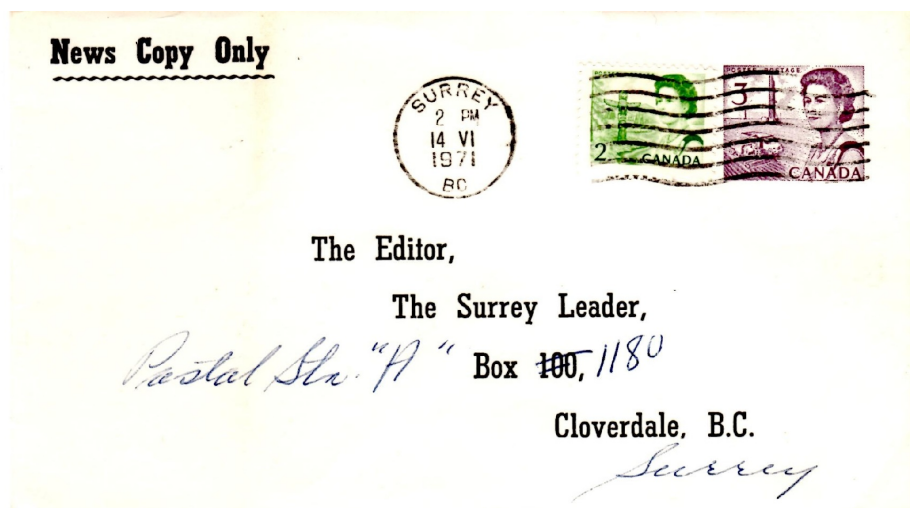


Figure 1 illustrates the Webb EN83 used when the printed matter rate was three cents. A two cent stamp (455) is added to the three cent envelope is dated 14 VI / 1971 to reflect the 5 cent printed matter rate.

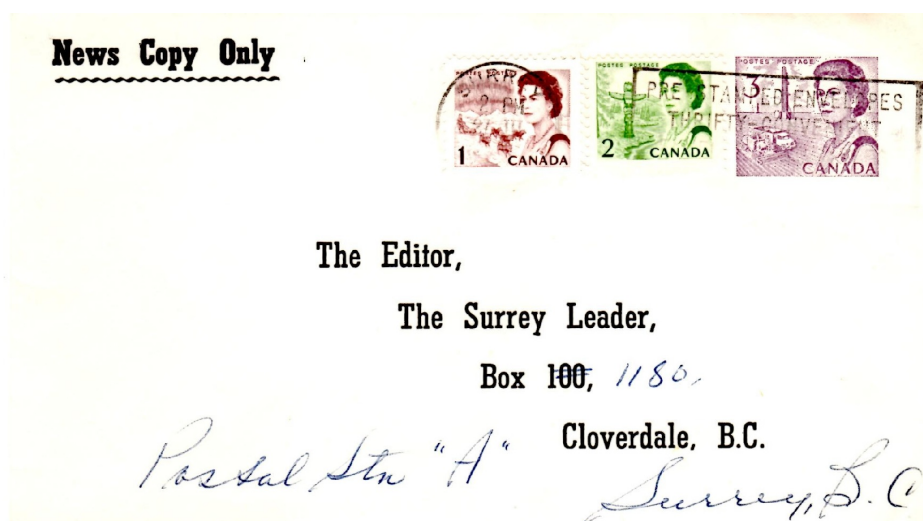


Figure 2 illustrates EN83 with 454 and 455 added to indicate the 6 cent printed matter rate. The mailing date is 27 III / 1971.

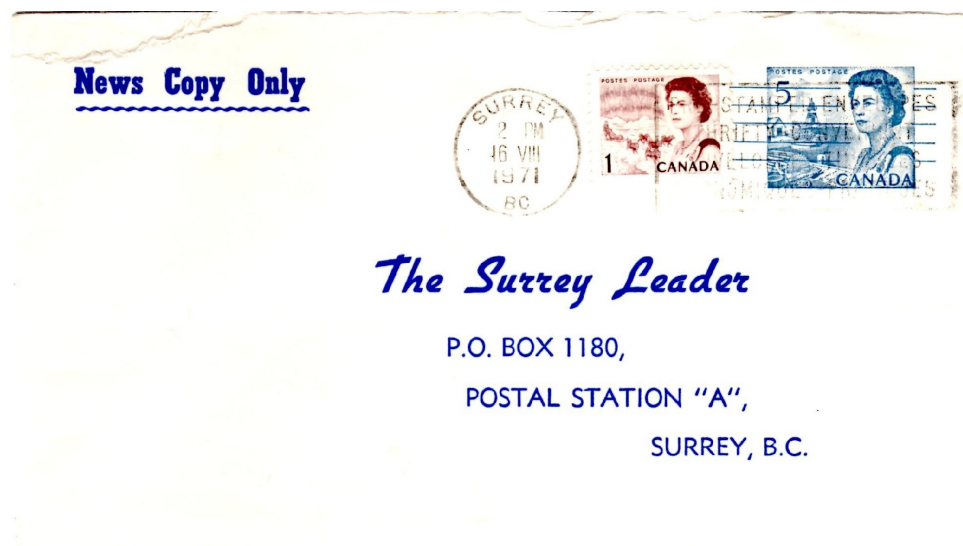


Figure 3 illustrates EN85d plus 454 mailed 16 VIII / 1971 printed matter rate short paid by one cent.

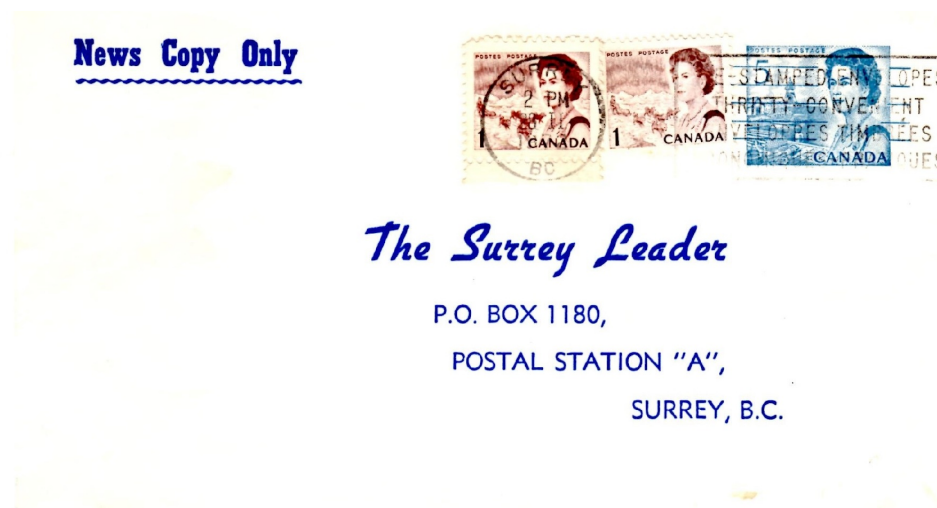


Figure 4 illustrates EN85d plus 2 X 454 indicates the 7 cent printed matter rate. The cover was mailed 28 II / 1972.

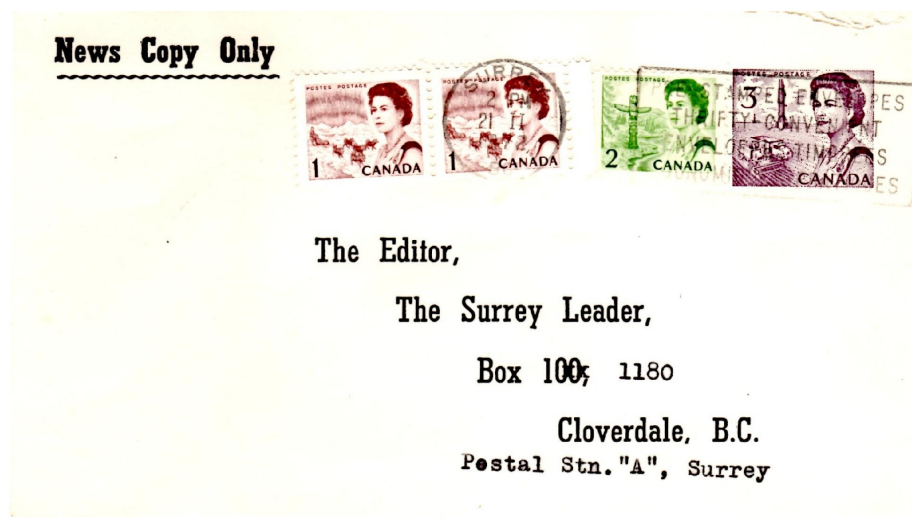


Figure 5 illustrates EN83 plus 2 X 454 and 455 indicates the 7 cent printed matter rate. The cover was mailed 21 II 1972.

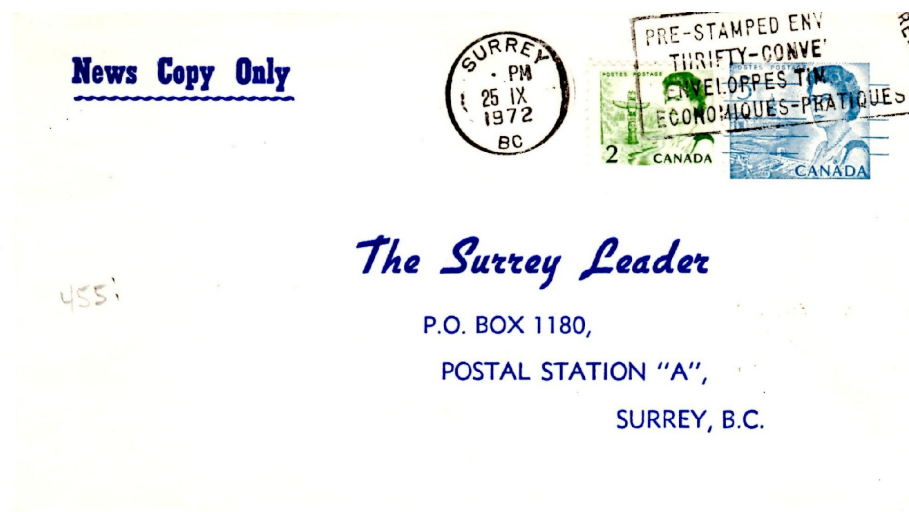


Figure 6 illustrates EN85d plus 455 indicates the 7 cent printed matter rate

News Copy Only



The Surrey Leader

P.O. BOX 1180,
POSTAL STATION "A",
SURREY, B.C.

Figure 7 illustrates EN87d plus 454 mailed JUL 30 / 1972 indicates the 7 cent printed matter rate. This envelope illustrates a fuzzy appearance which shows lesser doubling than Figure 8.

News Copy Only

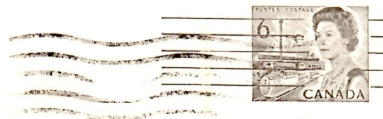


The Surrey Leader

P.O. BOX 1180,
POSTAL STATION "A",
SURREY, B.C.

Figure 8 illustrates the unlisted EN87d plus 454 mailed 17 VII / 1972 indicates the 7 cent printed matter rate. The impression has been doubled and is darker in shade than Fig. 7.

News Copy Only



The Surrey Leader

P.O. BOX 1180,
POSTAL STATION "A",
SURREY, B.C.

Figure 9 illustrates EN87f 19 XII / 1970 indicates the 6 cent printed matter rate. The door on the locomotive indicates that this envelope is the normal design.

News Copy Only



The Surrey Leader

P.O. BOX 1180,
POSTAL STATION "A",
SURREY, B.C.

Figure 10 illustrates EN87f mailed 28 X 1974 indicates the printed matter rate short paid by one cent. The stamp design indicates doubling by the darker black shade and the doubling of the locomotive door.

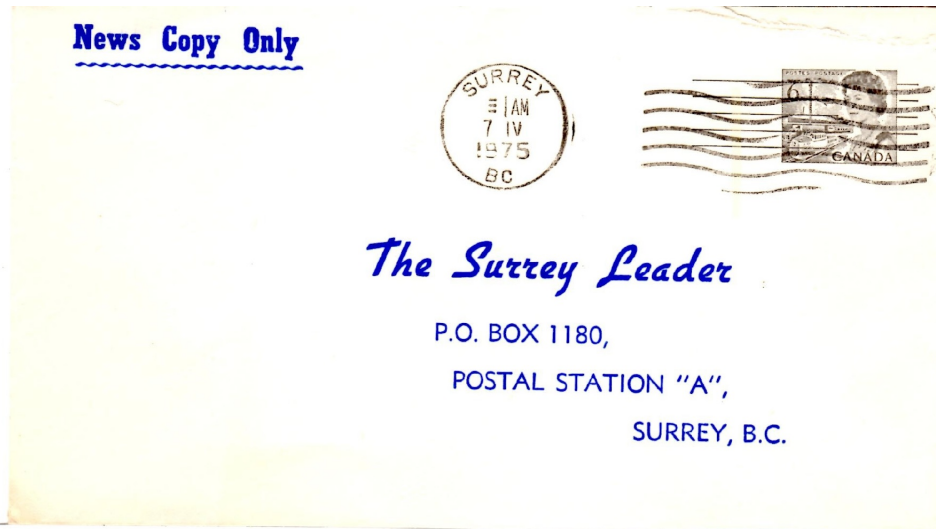


Figure 11 illustrates EN87h mailed 7 IV / 1975 indicates the printed matter rate short paid by one cent. This envelope was tagged in 1973 according to Webb.

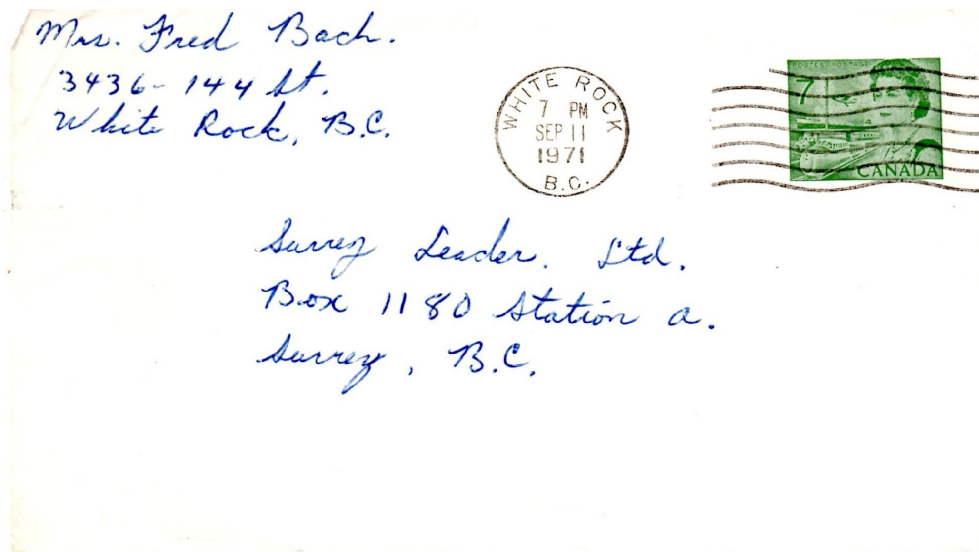


Figure 12 illustrates EN88 mailed SEP 11 / 1971 indicates the domestic use at the 7 cent rate. This envelope is included for two reasons. The first reason is that a News Copy Only was not located in a quick search for examples and a substitute example may surface. The second reason is that this example is a heavily doubled printing.

News Copy Only



The Surrey Leader

P.O. BOX 1180,
POSTAL STATION "A",
SURREY, B.C.

Figure 13 illustrates an unused EN85d indicates the 5 cent printed matter rate.

News Copy Only



The Surrey Leader

P.O. BOX 1180,
POSTAL STATION "A",
SURREY, B.C.

Figure 14 illustrates an unused EN87b updated during 1972 to indicate the 7 cent rate by adding the 454 one cent postage stamp. The 6 cent postal stationary image is similar to Figure 7.

EDITORIAL

Hi again. Here we are once more with details of the next meeting. Seems like a lifetime ago we met in Victoria at the successful annual get together. If planning and hard work mean anything Langley will be better if the executive have anything to say about it. It is too bad more members don't want to take part in sharing the interesting details of our hobby. But those who do choose to do so make up for things with variety of items shared at our meetings.

Let us know if there are any suggestions - ideas - or whatever - you may have with regard to the newsletter and how we do things.

The following item was submitted without name appended - but seems to be interesting enough

Choose which category to which each of the following belongs - How to be a good collector or How not to be a good collector

1. Pick a topic to collect that has an extensive range and is advertised by many dealers
2. Collect only those items which will appreciate with time
3. Use only printed albums or pages - e g Lidner
4. Don't bother to keep an inventory of what you have - you can remember them.
5. Don't keep a record of what you purchase or where
6. Don't learn the extensive vocabulary which lets us know about such things as perforations. paper etc.
7. Collecting is a private affair - don't bother joining collectors' groups or societies
- 8 Never waste time assisting others - particularly the youngsters - in getting into the hobby.
9. Forget that albums - pages - hinges - catalogues - watermark lights - etc cost money and need room to store -
- 10 Forget to enjoy what you are doing.

Peter Fralick

Lost Words from our childhood:

Mergatroyd! Do you remember that word? Would you believe the spell-checker did not recognize the word Mergatroyd? Heavens to Mergatroyd!

The other day a not so elderly (I say 75) lady said something to her son about driving a Jalopy; and he looked at her quizzically

and said "What the heck is a Jalopy?" He never heard of the word jalopy!! She knew she was old....but not that old.

Back in the olden days we had a lot of moxie. We'd put on our best bib and tucker, to straighten up and fly right.

2019 Pacific Jamboree

The Pacific Jamboree is held every four years for the three Scouts Canada Councils in B.C. and the Yukon. This year it will be held at Camp Barnard near Sooke, BC from July 6 to July 13. There will be a Jamboree Post Office on site that will be using a special cancel as shown plus there will be Picture Postage stamps, covers and a postcard available for sale. Contact Alex Hadden at alex-hadden@shaw.ca for further details.



From the **YOU HEARD IT HERE FIRST** file.

Last October 2018 at our BNAPS/PNWRAG conference, Larry Margetish presented a very informative talk on Canada's 12 cent Parliament Stamp. His presentation was just published in the RPSC magazine. I thoroughly enjoyed reading it, but the "in person" was much better. Just another reason to attend BNAPS/PNWRG 2019.



Metlakatla, BC

Furthering my research on this BC Town Cancel, I located an electronic scan of the “Report on the Deputation to Metlakatla”, June 1886. A review of the Church investigation into the management of the Christian Mission and it’s pastor, William Duncan. Difficult reading as it’s a scan of the original text. This dispute with the Church ultimately resulted in the departure of most of the BC town’s residents for the newly formed Metlakatla Alaska, some 110 KM’s NW of Metlakatla, BC . One only can guess at the logistics and approvals needed to move 1,000 individuals across a National boundary!

In my research, I had a newly acquired a cover that I purchased at our BNAPS event last year at VicPex from Tom Watkins. As I was scanning the envelope, answering the phone, installing a backup and reading some emails, just generally multitasking, I was also looking at my prior scans of Metlakatla material and wrongly concluded to myself that I had scanned this item previously. In fact - I had not, but noticed it was the very same addressee, and clearly the same sender as the handwriting was unique. The existing scan was an item received from Andrew Scott last August, my scan acquired in October. It wasn’t until I saw Tom’s holdings of Metlakatla covers that I realized there were a dozen or so – all addressed to the same person. Clearly someone in Metlakatla had actively corresponded with Mrs. L. Mansom or Munson, located in Nanaimo, BC. I was curious to learn more about this relationship. The cover has no sender information, so logically the investigation started on Mrs. L Munson/Mansom. In scanning the 1911 Canada census – no such person living in Nanaimo. Impossible as the postmarks are March 1911 and November 1912 and the census took place June 1 1911. So clearly the person lived there during the census period.

The conclusions from my research 1. Census enumerators are terrible writers 2. We are fortunate to have these records available on-line 3. Metlakatla is now a Canadian National Heritage site.

It is interesting how my interest in a BC place name has turned into a fascinating story of our first nations, the church missionary programs and the personalities of early BC personalities and the impact on First Nations Peoples and their culture. Undeterred, my research continues. Any suggestions on where to go next? Your experience, knowledge and assistance gratefully accepted.





C 1950/60 located on Metlakatla pass about 15 km NW from Prince Rupert

One of the highlights of the Gerald Wellburn Fraser River Gold Rush Collection,

A March 1863 cover from Hanover to Fort Hope, sold for \$9500 in All Nations 23 March auction. Addressee Theodor Kruger helped operate Hudson's Bay Company stores, and is associated with the founding of Princeton, Osoyoos, and Inkameep. There were seven different bidders on the cover, page 16 of Gerald Wellburn's final album in family hands.

Brian Grant Duff

<https://www.allnationsstampandcoin.com>

