



BC Philatelic Society NEWSLETTER

Stamp Collecting in VANPEX 2011 The King of Hobbies and the Hobby of Kings



Stamp collecting has today become one of the most popular hobbies in the world. It is widely known as "The king of Hobbies and the Hobby of Kings", even

though Kings and Maharajas have now become a historical object. The last three kings of England were keen collectors as is the present Queen. In the United States, former President Franklin Roosevelt was a stalwart in philately and ex-president Ford was a secret stamp collector. Over the years, Kings, Queens, Politicians, poor, rich, business persons, accountants, film stars, scientists and many others in different field have pursued this hobby with keen interest.

In short, children, young, old and everyone are involved in this hobby irrespective of their age or positions. It truly is correctly called 'Philately-The King of Hobbies. Stamp collection gives not only enjoyment but also it increases our knowledge. One may get enjoyment by looking at the stamps but will not become knowledgeable by looking at it. For this, one has to search for knowledge in the past and present literatures of philately.

VANPEX 2011---- The BC Philatelic Society's Annual Stamp Show will be held in September 23-24. You are welcome to join us and share such a philately sentiment!

---- by Mulberry Sang, Newsletter Editor



VANPEX 2011 --- A Plea for VANPEX Exhibits

VANPEX is scheduled for Sept. 23-24, with set-up the night on the evening of Sept. 22. Trevor Larden, who chairs the VANPEX committee, offered these "Thoughts on Future VANPEX Exhibitions" at a recent meeting of the VANPEX committee.

Amongst all the frames, one would hold 15 sheets, one each from 15 members, and a title sheet summarizing the purpose of the exhibit. The sheets would not necessarily come from members' albums, but would be purposely designed, like exhibit sheets, to showcase a particular set of stamps, or a cover, or possibly stamps and a cover, or two covers. The idea is to create a stand-alone sheet which *could* be included in a multi-sheet philatelic exhibit.. So far, 11 members have agreed to participate in this project, so we need just four more to complete the frame.

-----by Bob Ingraham, Vanpex Exhibits Chair



ALSO Inside this very intriguing edition:

- **A Bequest from Bill Robinson, BC Phil Society's Life Member**
By Bob Ingraham____page 2
- **The Postal History of Tibet**
By Geoffrey Flack____ page 3
- **Indian CEF Stamps in China**
By Mulberry Sang ____page 4
- **BC Phil Event Schedule**____ page 5,6



The B.C. Philatelic Society Newsletter is printed three times a year and is free to all members of the Society.

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NEWSLETTER

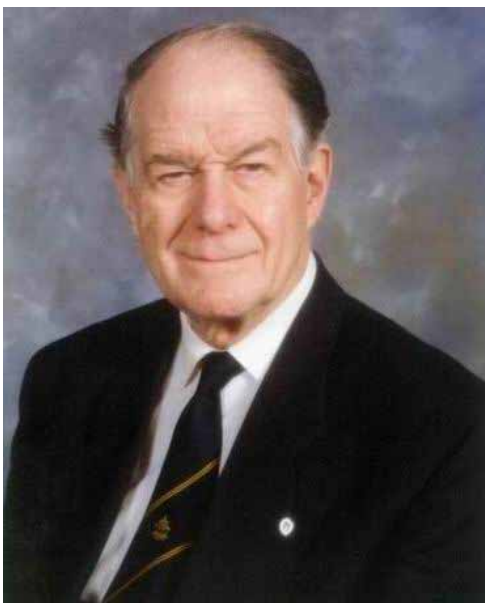
Editor's Note: In this text, Bob Ingraham, member of BC Phil Society tells us a very touching story of our beloved friend, Bill Robinson who left his will and donated all his life-time stamp collection to the Society. Hope you enjoy reading it with smile.



**A Bequest from A Life Member
Bill Robinson Helps Our Library Grow
----- Bob Ingraham**

BC Phil Life member Bill Robinson, who died December 4, 2010, collected a wide range of philatelic books and literature during his lifetime as a philatelist. Now, thanks to a bequest from his estate, many of those books have become a part of our club library.

Some of the books are duplicates of books already in our library, or have no obvious value to our club members. These will be sold in auction by F.v.H. Stamps.



Canadian philately has lost a great friend and student of the hobby. Bill Robinson died on December 4, 2010 in Vancouver General Hospital as a result of complications from pneumonia.

Club Librarian Derren Carman notes that the books we are keeping include useful material about B.C. postal history, Canadian military history (including Canadian forces in Siberia, 1918-1919), railway post offices, and B.C. coastal steamers.

Bill's bequest constitutes the third valuable donation to our club in as many years. Previous


donations (two stamp collections) were sold in club auctions and through commercial auction houses and netted several thousand dollars.



B.C. Phil Librarian Derren Carman sorts through a small portion of the bequest of philatelic literature from the library of Life Member Bill Robinson.

Thanks to Derren Carman, Jan Verster, Trevor Larden, Leslie S.S. Upton, Duff Malkin, and Bob Ingraham for arranging the transportation, storage, and organizing of this valuable bequest, and F.v.H. Stamps for accepting a large portion of the bequest for auction.





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Editor's Note: In this text, Geoffrey Flack, a senior stamp collector in Vancouver, tells us a postal story of Tibet during the twentieth century, which has almost been forgotten so far. I appreciate his expertise and scholarship in this regard. It is indeed very interesting, and I hope you enjoy reading it with smile.



The Postal History of Tibet in China ----- **Geoffrey Flack**

First, let me take this opportunity to welcome you to my website. Although my activities in cyberspace only date from the year 2000, I am not new to philately. I have spent most of my life collecting stamps and postal history. I travel regularly to Asia in search of material and I often attend stamp shows on three continents. Over the years, I have had the opportunity to work with some wonderful people and to share our love for philately. In recent years I have been able to assist many collectors in the building their collections. I invite you to peruse my current offerings and please contact me if any items are of interest.

Tibet is a "Modern Classic" and one of the most exciting 20th Century areas to collect. For many the stamps and postal history relating to Independent Tibet formed the basis of their collections, but this is only one piece in the puzzle. Other parts of the puzzle include: the British-Indian postal connection with Tibet; the Chinese Imperial Post; the Modern Chinese Occupation of Tibet and the postal history relating to the Expeditions to Everest and the Himalayas. I am also very pleased to offer postal history from the Tibetan provinces of Kham & Amdo in Western China.

From 1909 to late 1911 China occupied Tibet and the Dalai Lama and his Government fled to India. For approximately two years, five Chinese Post Offices operated in Central Tibet and a Chinese Post Office at Chambo (Eastern Tibet) was open in 1913 and 1914. Initially the Post Office used regular Chinese Imperial stamps, but in 1911 a set of eleven stamps (surcharged in three languages) was introduced for Tibet.

The British-India postal connection to Tibet lasted from 1888 until the mid-1950s. The military mail that associated with the Sikkim Field Force and Young husband's Expedition of 1903-4 are prized by Tibet collectors and those interested in India used abroad. The treaty signed in Lhasa in 1904 allowed for British-Indian P.O.s to operate in Tibet and they handled almost all Tibet's International mail until the mid-1950s.

The Tibetan Government introduced its own postal system in 1912 and initially produced five values. This First Series was used for more than twenty years and a number of distinctive printings of each value are known. (An additional value as well as several late printings date from 1949-50.) The Second Issue of Tibet dates from 1914-15, but was not "discovered" by the philatelic world until 1942.

1912 & 1914 Issue covers form an interesting and essential section to a Postal History collection of Tibet. A variety of markings exist and present a challenge to a serious collector.



The 1933 issue is probably the most interesting series of Tibet. The plate for each of the five values consisted of twelve individual carved blocks tied together in a frame. This design was used for more than 25 years and a number of different settings exist for each value.

The 1933 Issue covers offer a wonderful opportunity for the specialist. A wide range of shades and different printings exist and over the 25 years of use some very interesting rate covers can be found.

For the last fifty years China has occupied Tibet. The postal history of this period has to a large extent been ignored and represents an affordable challenge for the serious philatelist.

I have the world's largest stock of Tibet and I'm confident I can assist the new collector as well as those interested in exhibiting at the highest level.

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Editor's Note: In this text, Mulberry Sang, member of the BC Phil Society focuses on a postal story of Indian CEF stamps used by Indian military men in China during the Boxers' Uprising Era in 1900, which has almost been forgotten so far. Hope you enjoy reading it with smile.



Indian CEF Stamps Used in China in 1900 -----Mulberry Sang

In the postal history of the world, CEF ---- these initials have been used in two entirely separate spheres. They mainly refer to the international China Expeditionary Force sent to China in 1900; and also to the British forces which occupied German Kamerun later in 1915 (i.e., Cameroons Expeditionary Force).

The C.E.F. stamps consisted of the 10 ordinary Indian definitives from 3 pies to 1 rupee current in 1900, with various portraits of Queen Victoria.

Ordinary C.E.F. stamps were used on mail transmitted by the railway, recognisable by the special railway cancellations incorporating a C.E.F. number with the words 'SET NO.' and 'IN' or 'OUT' to indicate the direction.



In the 19th & early 20th centuries, the Indian Postal Administration extended far beyond the geographical limits of the sub-continent and included such distant points as East Africa and the Straits Settlements of Malaya.

In a number of British-controlled areas Indian stamps were used to prepay postage until the establishment of local postal systems. In the Persian Gulf area the I.P.A. operated a number of Agencies to serve the British and Indian trading houses that controlled all of the Gulf trade at that time.

"India Used Abroad" can be collected as part of an India collection; as forerunners to specific countries or can make a challenging and rewarding area to collect on its own.

In 1900 Indian stamps overprinted C.E.F. (China Expeditionary Forces) were used during the international campaign to quell the Boxer Rebellion in China. In 1914 Indian stamps were overprinted I.E.F. (Indian Expeditionary Forces)

and used in every campaign of World War I in which Indian troops were engaged. At the same time stamps were overprinted to denote the Anglo-French occupation of the German colonies of Togo and Cameroon.

Arguably the oddest war issues of them all were those produced by the British in 1916 when the Royal Navy occupied Long Island in the Gulf of Smyrna. At first Turkish fiscal stamps, overprinted by typewriter, were pressed into service, but were soon followed by stamps entirely produced by this method. Captured German colonial stamps and even registration labels were overprinted by British Imperial forces from West Africa to the Pacific as the various German colonies fell into their hands.



In addition, many countries raised funds for their war effort by imposing a tax on correspondence, denoted by stamps overprinted or inscribed WAR TAX, or its equivalent in other languages. This device, widely used by Canada and many British colonies, had previously been used by Spain during campaigns against rebels in Cuba and the Philippines and latterly during the war with the USA in 1898-99.



World War II resulted in a vast number of stamps issued by the belligerents and these can be divided into several categories. There were the stamps issued by Nazi Germany for the occupation of northern France and Russia, both Hitler Head stamps overprinted and a wide range of local issues.

So far there still exist a very number of the early Indian stamps overprinted with the initials C.E.F. worldwide. They have become a part of the Chinese postal history around 1900 since the Indian soldiers once belonged to the British Corps, one of the eight foreign forces occupied China at the time.



BC Philatelic Society Program Schedule May 2011 -- Sept 2011

BC Philatelic Society Meeting Schedule

August 31, 2011 - Jan. 30, 2012

August

- **Wednesday, August 31**, 7:30 p.m. - 9:30 p.m. — **Swap & Shop Social**: Browse new circuit books from the Royal Philatelic Society of Canada.
- **Monday, September 5**, 10:30 p.m. - 12:30 p.m. — **Swap & Shop Social**: Browse new circuit books from the Royal Philatelic Society of Canada.

September

- **Wednesday, Sept. 14**, 7:30 p.m. - 9:30 p.m. — **These are a few of my favourite things**: a show and tell program in which you take Julie Andrews' place to show us and talk about some of your favourite things, not "Raindrops on roses and whiskers on kittens / Bright copper kettles and warm woolen mittens," but stamps, covers, postcards, and collateral items. You will not be required to sing a song about your items, which is probably a good thing for us all!
- **Wednesday, Sept. 21**, 7:30 p.m. - 9:30 p.m. — **Monthly Auction**: Members and guests are invited to participate, bringing up to six items. The club keeps 10 per cent commission. Please consider donating items, as well. There is no limit to the number of items you can donate.
- ☛ **Thursday, Sept. 22**, 8:00 p.m. — **Set-up for Vanpex 2011**, in the Community Hall, West Burnaby United Church. Please help with this important job.
- ☛ **Friday, Sept. 23**, 10:00 a.m. - 6:00 p.m. — **VANPEX 2011**, the BC Philatelic Society's annual stamp show.
- **Saturday, Sept. 23**, 10:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m. — **VANPEX 2011**, the BC Philatelic Society's annual stamp show.
- **Wednesday, Sept. 28**, 7:30 p.m. - 9:30 p.m. — **Swap & Shop Social**: Browse new circuit books from the Royal Philatelic Society of Canada

October

- **Monday, Oct. 3**, 10:30 a.m. - 12:30 a.m. — **Swap & Shop Social**: Browse new circuit books from the Royal Philatelic Society of Canada.
- **Wednesday, Oct. 12**, 7:30 p.m. - 9:30 p.m. — **Trevor Larden explains why** he no longer collects British (and other) commemorative stamps, and displays some older commemoratives that he considers to be highly collectible.
- **Wednesday, Oct. 19**, 7:30 p.m. - 9:30 p.m. — **Monthly Auction**: Members and guests are invited to participate, bringing up to six items. The club keeps 10 per cent commission. Please consider donating items, as well. There is no limit to the number of items you can donate.
- **Wednesday, Oct. 26**, 7:30 p.m. - 10:30 p.m. — **Swap & Shop Social**: Browse new circuit books from the Royal Philatelic Society of Canada
- **Monday, Oct. 31**, 10:30 a.m. - 12:30 p.m. — **Swap & Shop Social**: Browse new circuit books from the Royal Philatelic Society of Canada

November

- **Wednesday, Nov. 9**, 7:30 p.m. - 9:30 p.m. — **Let's talk books!** — Philatelic literature, of course, will always be a mainstay of "serious" philately, but virtually any book can be a springboard to new philatelic knowledge or may even spark a new collecting interest. For this evening's "show-and-tell," let's share books that have been important in our collecting lives and may be important in yours. If you have come across some great quotes, let us hear them! (This will also be a chance to peruse books willed to our club by the late Life Member Bill Robinson.)
- **Wednesday, Nov. 16**, 7:30 p.m. - 9:30 p.m. — **Monthly Auction**: Members and guests are invited to participate, bringing up to six items. The club keeps 10 per cent commission. Please consider donating items, as well. There is no limit to the number of items you can donate.



BC Philatelic Society Program Schedule May 2011 -- Sept 2011

BC Philatelic Society Meeting Schedule

August 31, 2011 - Jan. 30, 2012

- **Wednesday, Nov. 23**, 7:30 p.m. - 9:30 p.m. — **BC Phil member Bob Toombs talks about** the history of the Royal Air Force Ferry Command: From its roots in Montreal in mid-1940, as the Canadian Pacific Railway Air Services Department (C.P.R.A.S.), to war's end in 1945 as part of RAF Transport Command, Ferry Command delivered more than 10,000 aircraft, substantial war materials, troops and mail to combat theatres around the world. Bob will illustrate his talk with selected Ferry Command airmail covers and collateral material.
- **Wednesday, Nov. 30**, 7:30 p.m. - 9:30 p.m. — **Swap & Shop Social**: Browse new circuit books from the Royal Philatelic Society of Canada

December

- **Monday, Dec. 5**, 10:30 a.m. - 12:30 p.m. — **Swap & Shop Social**: Browse new circuit books from the Royal Philatelic Society of Canada
- **Wednesday, Dec. 14**, 7:30 p.m. - 9:30 p.m. — **Dr. Ron Warneboldt will give a presentation on** some highlights from medical history as portrayed on stamps. His talk will include a discussion of the history of polio, and will also include anecdotes about interesting medical discoveries.
- **Wednesday, Dec. 21**, 7:30 a.m. - 9:30 p.m. — **Monthly Auction**: Members and guests are invited to participate, bringing up to six items. The club keeps 10 per cent commission. Please consider donating items, as well. There is no limit to the number of items you can donate.
- **Wednesday, Dec. 28**, 7:30 a.m. - 9:30 p.m. — **Swap & Shop Social**

January, 2011 — HAPPY NEW YEAR!

- **Monday, Jan. 2**, 10:30 a.m. - 12:30 p.m. — **Swap & Shop Social**: Browse new circuit books from the Royal Philatelic Society of Canada
- **Wednesday, Jan. 11**, 7:30 a.m. - 9:30 p.m. — **Bob Ingraham links stamps, covers, and postcards** in his collection to his photographic record of memorable experiences, including a plane crash, flying in a Lockheed Constellation from San Francisco to Tokyo in only 26 hours, combat with the U.S. Marines in Vietnam, enjoying grog on a Canadian frigate, and solving the mystery of the death of a Canadian observer in the Second World War.
- **Wednesday, Jan. 18**, 7:30 a.m. - 9:30 p.m. — **Monthly Auction**: Members and guests are invited to participate, bringing up to six items. The club keeps 10 per cent commission. Please consider donating items, as well. There is no limit to the number of items you can donate.
- **Wednesday, Jan. 25**, 7:30 a.m. - 9:30 p.m. — **Swap & Shop Social**: Browse new circuit books from the Royal Philatelic Society of Canada
- **Monday, Jan. 30**, 10:30 a.m. - 12:30 p.m. — **Swap & Shop Social**: Browse new circuit books from the Royal Philatelic Society of Canada

