

THE R.P.O. NEWSLETTER  
OF THE CANADIAN R.P.O. STUDY GROUP (BNAPS)

Volume IV No. 1

February 1976

First Things First

Happy New Year to all of you from Lew and Jim.

Annual Report Of Secretary-Treasurer

Membership now totals 52, with the death last year of Voorheis Ditmars. Add #54, L.R. Yow, Box 753, Kamloops, B.C. Also, two address changes:

#16 Mrs. Gayle Mayo - 5443 PASEO, Kansas City, Mo. 64110

#17 George Smalley - 298 John Street, Gananoque, Ontario K7G 1A7

Does anyone know Eldon Godfrey's present address? My last mailing was returned marked moved (I think). The Treasurer's report is as follows:

Balance 12/31/74		\$105.69
Income		59.57
	Dues	\$54.00
	Interest	5.57
Expenses		\$ 78.43
	Newsletter	\$31.90
	Donation To	6.00
	Postal	
	Museum	
	Rarity Factor	40.53
	Project	
Balance 12/31/75		\$ 86.83

Our finances are still in good shape but we should look forward to a probably second dues collection at our annual meeting this year. That is, unless we can get another 20 or more new members.

New Project Moving Slowly

And the reason is you! Joe Purcell tells me that he has received reports from only seven members, with seven more promised. That leaves 38 to go if this project to update the rarity factors is to be successful. Your job is easy compared with Lew Ludlow's. He spent 1-1/2 days counting just Newfoundland and the Maritimes (a total of about 11M). Joe has his

card system all set up, so sit down tonight and get your count off to him.

If you get done quickly, you might still be able to add some to your collection by trading duplicates. I sent my list to Joe and got back 19 of his duplicates which I needed. Then, several others sent me a copy of their listing to Joe and we traded another 25-30.

#### Rarity Factor Isn't The Whole Picture

I've gotten notes from several people asking the basis for trading, and also requests for copies of Shaw's book which is now out of print. Rarity factor is a logical basis for trading, but so are the % of the strike visible, the condition of the strike, the value of the stamp itself, etc. Let's quote a section from the Shaw book: "This 'R' is for clear, complete, cancellations on stamp or piece. Covers would bring a premium of 100%; while backstamps and facing slips would be worth only 50% of this scale. Partial strikes can be valued if sufficient is visible to decide the type run and serial number by proportioning 'R' to the amount visible, e.g., 60% complete takes 60% 'R'."

While on this subject, it might be worthwhile commenting on some of the pricing being used on R.P.O. cancellations --- like \$2.00-\$5.00 or more for common cancellations with rarity factors of under 50. This will kill off any chance for new collectors to get interested or for present collectors to expand their collections. This is still another reason for the Study Group to encourage trading of duplicates.

#### Notes From #13-Ken Ellison

Have two notes from Ken with some nice info: 1) He has found M29B on stamp (#270, the 14¢ black brown of the 1946 "Peace" issue.) This had been listed as on facing slip only. 2) He has a nice cover stamped "Recovered by Divers from the Wreck of the S.S. Empress of Ireland" and back stamped "Branch Dead Letter Office, September 15, 1914, Ottawa, Ontario". The ship, while in a heavy fog, was in collision with the Danish collier Storstad near Father Point on the St. Lawrence River and sunk within 15 minutes (1024 lives were lost). 3) The attached xerox of an article and cover of a "floating post office". Many thanks for sharing these with us, Ken.

#### And Some More Notes - From #6-Jack Wallace

Jack sent me a listing of about 40 Western runs he has on postcards. And I mean he has some toughies! As he said, "The R.P.O.'s I have will certainly raise hell with the rarity factors - Thank goodness I threw away all those poorer strikes"! He also includes some very interesting facts.

- 1) (Of interest in recording train numbers in B.C.) Canadian Pacific - odd numbers - West (to Vancouver), Esquimalt and Nanaimo - even numbers - South (to Victoria), Canadian National - odd numbers - West (to Vancouver), Great Northern - even numbers - North (Seattle to Vancouver), Pacific Great Eastern - even numbers - South (towards Vancouver)

- 2) Of the 134 cards he has for runs W27 and 30 (Calgary-Vancouver) the breakdown by train number shows almost 90% to Vancouver.

	<u>Wallace</u>		<u>Lehr</u>	
	<u>West</u>	<u>East</u>	<u>West</u>	<u>East</u>
Train No. 1	22	-	5	-
2	-	3	-	2
3	20	-	9	-
4	-	1	-	8
5	4	-	2	-
7	73	-	5	-
8	-	11	-	1
59	-	-	1	-
93	-	-	1	-
96	-	-	-	1
E	-	-	-	1
Totals	<u>119</u>	<u>15</u>	<u>23</u>	<u>13</u>

Jack commented that "this, of course, is accounted for by the source of my cards". However, I went through my collection and duplicates (only 2) and have listed my count also. As you see, it is more balanced but is still 2/1 west over east.

- 3) He raised the question why R-158 (and its varieties?) is not included under run W-153 as W-153A, since they are both the old P.G.E. (now British Columbia Railway) between Squamish and Quesnel. That track has been extended south to North Vancouver and north through Prince George, Dawson Creek to Fort Nelson. What is the answer Lew?
- 4) Attached is an excellent map of the Canadian Pacific Railway route from (Seattle) Vancouver-Prince Rupert-Skagway through Alaska to Dawson and the names and dates for the various ships employed (all Princesses") and some of his covers of the various steamer routes. If you have any questions on these B.C. routes, Jack is obviously your man.

Graham Noble (#26) Has A Nice Find

A beautiful copy of Mont, and St. Albans (Q133A) which until now was only known as a proof book strike. "This is undoubtedly the most unique Canadian R.P.O. hammer being the American duplex type with RMS". I'm drooling!

As Does Hugh Aitken (#29)

Two of them in fact, on letters from New Zealand and Peru to Canada

(See xerox copies).

W27D - C&V R.P.O./B.C. without ornaments.

Type 5J (a new type), Train 4, Period 135, RF 200 (56)

W102M - N. PORTAL & M. JAW/JNO. F. KERR

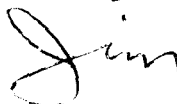
Type 7B, Train 13, Period 211, RF 200 (56)

Updating Collectors Holdings

I've gotten some more listing and updating of previous ones. Here's what it looks like now (attached - Page 5).

Keep the letters, examples, questions, comments, etc., coming. As you can see from this issue, your letters form the backbone of the Newsletter.

Good hunting!

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Jim".

Jim Lehr

	Listed #	Lehr	Purcell	Mayo	Robinson	Ludlow	Belanger	Shaw	Burchill	Smalley	Ellison	Hill	Ave. Total	% Of List #
Newfoundland	157	12	19	26	55	77	24	26	25	17	8	6	27	17.1
Maritime	261	97	92	30	85	169	97	127	98	114	54	48	92	35.2
Quebec	558	150	163	39	164	360	227	268	154	206	85	84	173	31.0
Ontario	719	258	245	77	267	453	261	366	286	308	173	192	262	36.4
Western	775	113	112	62	192	507	130	272	138	166	225	161	189	24.3
Railroads & Steamers	368	33	34	11	63	196	37	97	70	84	45	10	62	16.8
Depots	71	16	14	4	21	39	21	27	20	16	15	11	19	26.7
Totals	2909	678	679	249	847	1801	797	1183	791	911	605	512	826	28.3

# Ferry post office for Seymour Arm

Starting this week residents of Seymour Arm are enjoying something a little different: the services of a floating post office.

Howard Johnston, MP for Okanagan-Kootenay, advises that effective immediately, a sub post office has been established on the Shuswap Lake Ferry Service operating out of Sicamous.

On behalf of Seymour Arm residents, Johnston has been engaged in correspondence with postmaster Bryce Mackasey and officials of his department for some time.

Earlier investigation toward a solution proved unsat-

isfactory. In the words of G. M. Sinclair, assistant deputy postmaster general: "this case was somewhat unique and it was found that standard services would either be inadequate or could not be justified from a cost-benefit standpoint. It was therefore necessary to examine the matter on a completely individual basis."

In a letter to Johnston, Sinclair stated these subsequent studies proved more successful and led to the decision to establish the sub post office aboard the ferry.

The mobile post office will operate Monday, Wednesday  
Continued on Page 12.

From the Salmon Arm Observer,

September 24, 1975.

"M.S. PHOEBE ANN"

DANIELS' STORE AND MARINA  
SEYMOUR ARM, B. C.

# Ferry

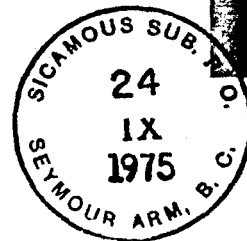
Continued from Page 1  
and Friday during Summer months; Tuesday and Saturday during the winter.

Mail for residents of the area should be sent to them marked: Seymour Arm, via Sicamous, B.C., V0E 2V0.

In addition to providing for general delivery of all classes and types of mail, Sinclair said the arrangement "will also enable our customers to conduct other postal business such as the purchase of postage stamps and the mailing of C.O.D.s, registers or parcels at the ferry sub post office."

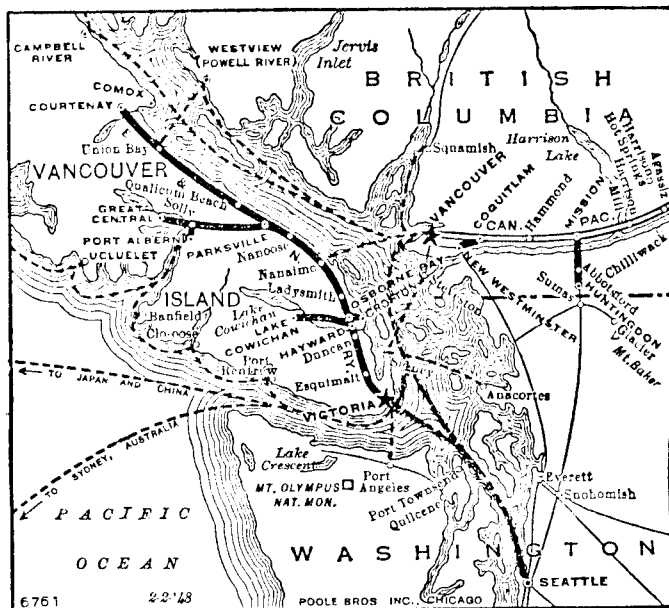
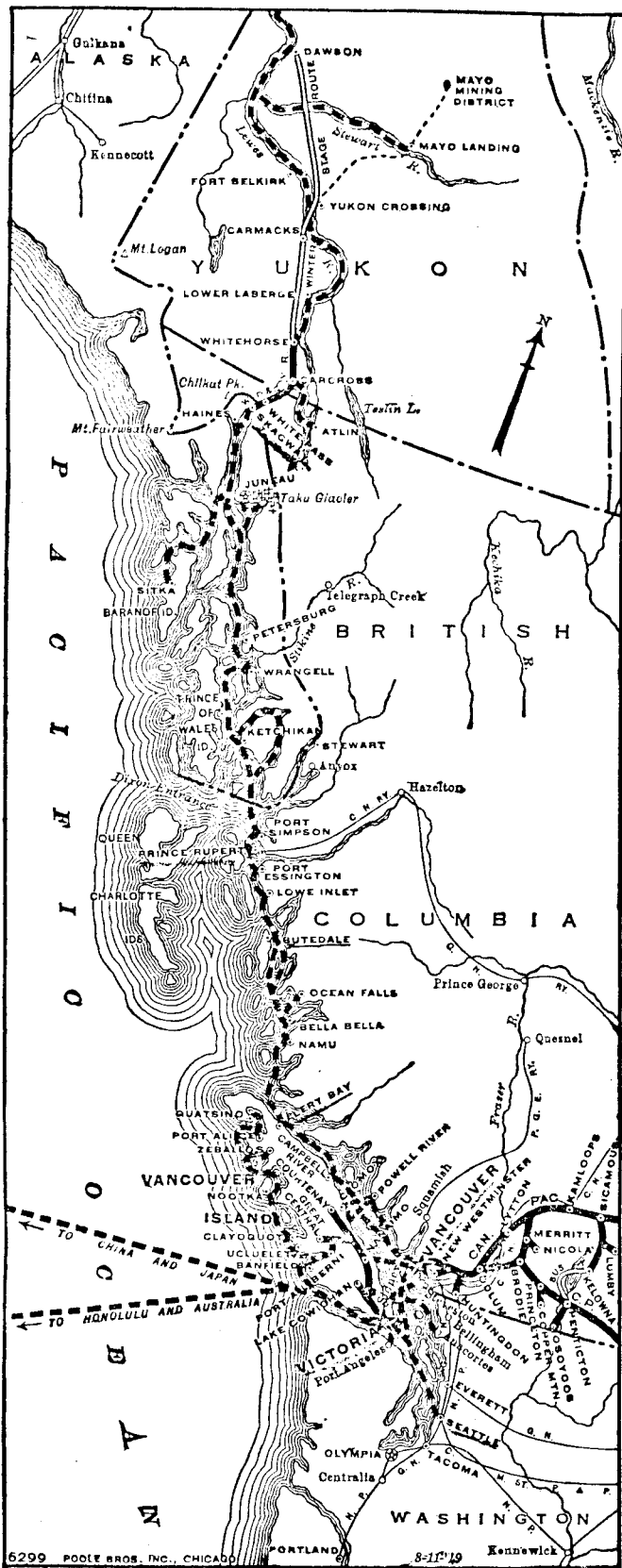
Shuswap Lake Ferry Service Ltd. is being named postmaster under an arrangement which will see the company receive remuneration for postal service operations plus a commission on the sale of stamps.

Commented Sinclair: "In summary, I am very pleased to say the residents of Seymour Arm will soon be provided a very unique postal service and one which, I am sure, will adequately meet the needs of that community."



# CANADIAN PACIFIC RAILWAY

## BRITISH COLUMBIA COAST STEAMSHIP SERVICES



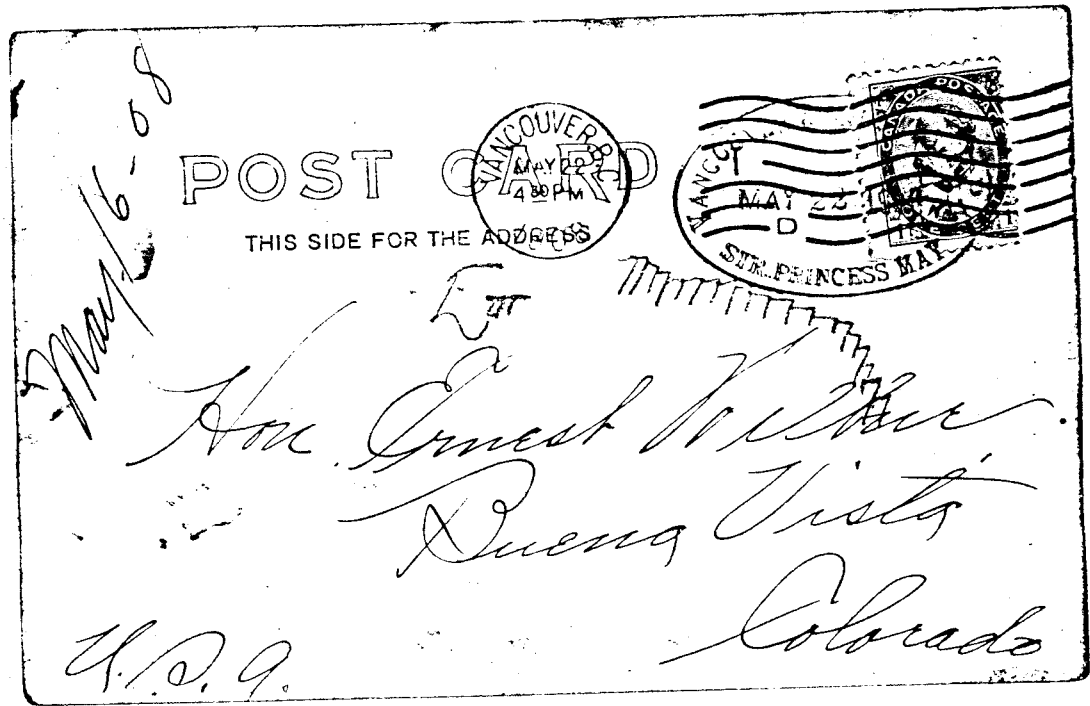
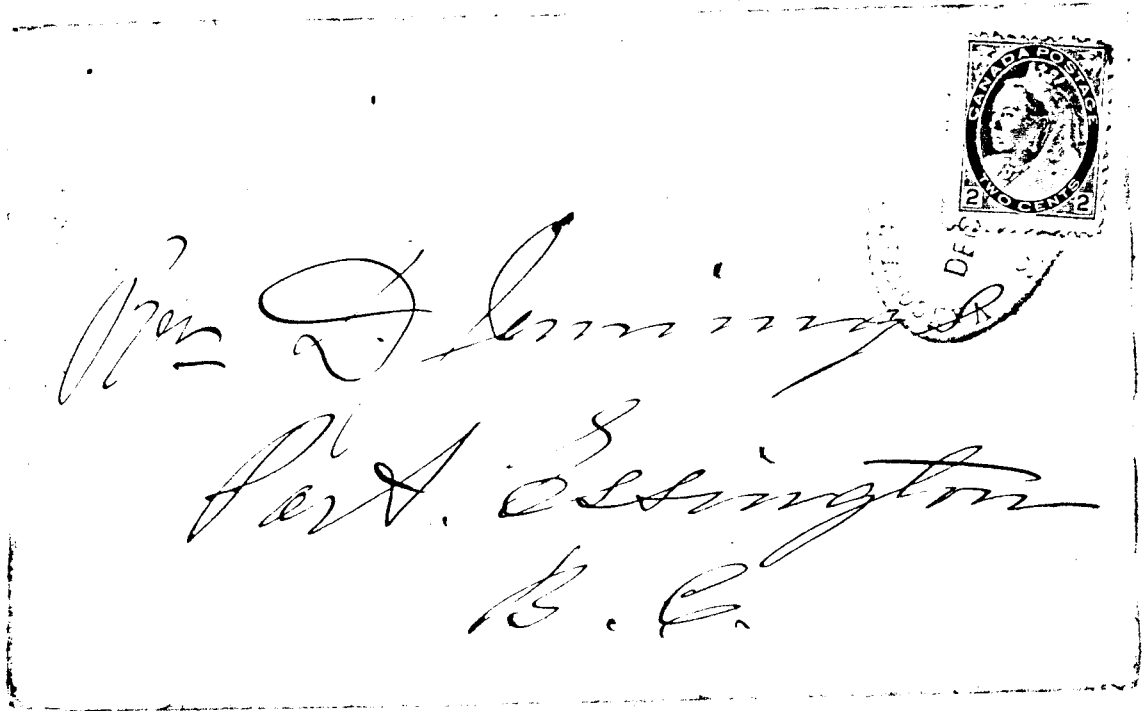
### THE "TRIANGLE" SERVICE

VANCOUVER-VICTORIA-SEATTLE-VANCOUVER

SHIPS THAT HAVE BEEN EMPLOYED ON THESE SERVICES - ALL "PRINCESSES"

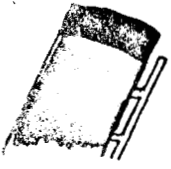
PRINCESS MAY	1901 - 1921 <sup>?</sup>
" BEATRICE	1903 - 1928
" VICTORIA	{ 1903 - 1934 1939 - 1954
" CHARLOTTE	1909 - 1954
" ADELAIDE	1910 - 1949
" ALICE	1911 - 1949
" MARY	1911 - 1952
" SOPHIA	1912 - 1918
" PATRICIA (1)	1912 -
" MAQUINNA	1913 - 1953
" LOUISE	1922 -
" KATHLEEN	{ 1925 - 1941 1947 - 1952
" MARGUERITE (1)	1925 - 1941
" NORAH	1929 - 1955
" ELAINE	1928 -
" JOAN	1930 - 1961
" ELIZABETH	1930 - 1961
" OF ALBERNI	1945 -
" PATRICIA (2)	1949 -
" MARGUERITE (2)	1949 -
" OF NANAIMO	1951 -
" OF VANCOUVER	1955 -

VANCOUVER - PRINCE RUPERT - SKAGWAY





CANADIAN PACIFIC RAILWAY

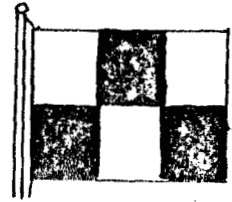


SS. "PRINCESS ALICE"

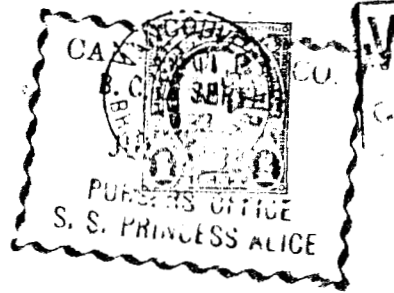
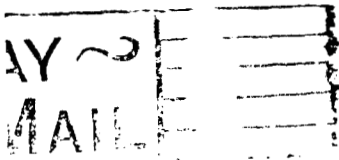
BUILT 1911

G.R.T. 3,099

BY SWAN HUNTER,  
WALSSEND



SOLD TO GREEK OWNERS 1949



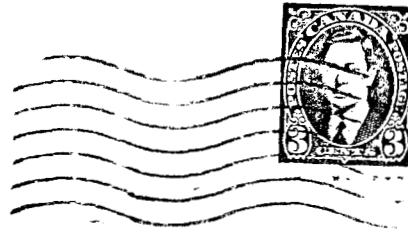
*Professor*  
*43 Bryson Rd*  
*Edinburgh Scotland*

SS "PRINCESS MAQUINNA"

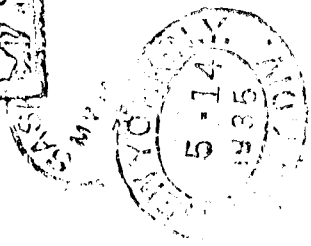
BUILT 1913

AT VICTORIA B.C.

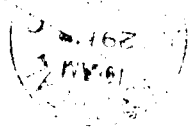
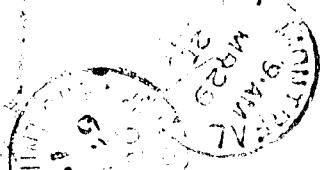
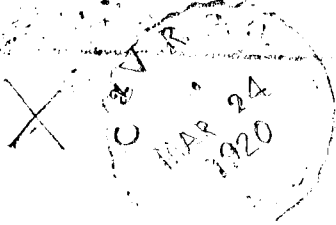
GRT 1777



*A* *04/11*



W109.M  
W102.M



W 211 D  
W 212 D