

Kingston Stamp Club Chapter 49 of the Royal Philatelic Society of Canada

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1932-2012 Our 80th Anniversary Year

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Upcoming Meeting Listing

March 11	Meeting Night
March 25	Auction Night
April 8	Meeting Night
April 22	Auction Night
May 13	Meeting Night
May 27	Auction Night
September 9	Meeting Night
September 23	Auction Night
October 26	Kingston Stamp Festival

1) President's Message

Exhibits and Awards Night December 10, 2012

We had a wonderful night with many exhibits and good discussion among our members that night. More details are provided along with photos below.



Ron Barrett presenting the award to Richard Weigand

Donald Thompson Award 2012-2013

I want to take this opportunity to thank all the club members and executive committee for honouring my work at our club with the award this year. There is a place in my study where this plaque is hung for all to see.

Herbert L Mc Naught Award – 2012-2013

Article on Herbert L Mc Naught from RPSC is enclosed as an attachment to this newsletter, that provides a wonderful background on Mr Mc Naught.

This year's award for Novice Exhibit was awarded by a vast majority of our club members to Don Jennings. The full article and pictures are below.

Food Gift Card Charity Donations Christmas 2012

Our club decided at our last meeting in November to donate \$500 from our funds to charities in the Kingston area. As a group we chose the following charities and donated a \$100 Gift Food Card from Loblaws Chain to : St Vincent de Paul, Martha's Table, Lunch by George, Partners in Mission Food Bank and In from the Cold Part of Home Base Housing. Don Mann was kind enough to hand deliver our letter and gift card and they were warmly received by all.

Richard Weigand

Richard Weigand, President
 218 Richmond Street, Sandhurst, ON K0H 1G0
 Tel 613-352-8775, Email rweigand@kos.net

2) Editor's Comments

We are pleased to present a four part series on "Block of Four Issues", our third installment.

If you have any suggestions for articles, please let me know.

Editor – *Richard Weigand*

3) Block of Four

Canada Post Third Block of 4 All Different
 "Keep Fit" Summer Fun

Issued March 22, 1974
 Scott No 629-632



a) Swimming



b) Running



c) Cycling



d) Hiking

Printer/Quantity: Canadian Bank Note Company, Limited, 15, 133, 300, Perforation: 12
 Designed by David Hunter
 Picture engraved by Donald J. Mitchell

Historical Notice:

The second issue of Canada's Olympic stamps, anticipating the 1976 Montreal summer games, reflects the enjoyment and the reward of participation in physical exercise, which inspire the magnificent achievements of athletes in world competition and which are shared the world over by people of all ages and circumstances. Even while the very accomplished athletes of all countries pursue their rigorous programmes in preparation for the games, children, youths, adults and family groups are being attracted to physical pastimes. These recreational activities generally reflect something of the land, the seasons, and the people. Canada, in summer, is represented typically by the subjects of the four designs which are featured on this postal issue. Children diving from a dock, symbolize water activities, the summer sport enjoyed most frequently in Canada. People seek

water to sit by, to swim and to fish in, to ski across, to dive into and to float over. The effects of water temperature and buoyancy create a sense of exhilaration. The very young and the handicapped can participate. Canadians are, therefore, fortunate to have been endowed with the world's longest seacoast and hundreds of thousands of lakes, rivers, streams and ponds. Perhaps as a result of this, the nation now has approximately twenty thousand competitive swimmers. Thus, water activities, jogging, bicycling and hiking typify a renewed appreciation of the benefits of conditioning, a healthy mind and a healthy body, and these sports demonstrate the wisdom of the Olympic creed "The most important thing... is not to win but to take part...". These new issues are being produced with the latest image technique, a first on stamps in Canada and the world. Viewed straight on, one of the four recreational activities will be seen, but when observed at an oblique angle, the Montreal Olympics symbol will appear. The designs for these stamps were created by Hunter Straker, Templeton Limited. Those of the joggers and the cyclists were derived from photos taken by Mr. Crombie McNeill for Information Canada.

Bibliography
 Canada Post Archiva Net Web Site



4) Exhibits and Awards Night 2012

The following members created a single or multiple frame exhibit (s), as outlined below:

Roy Lingen Three Frames
 Autographs of World Dignitaries on UN FDC

Ernie Radtke Two Frames
 Duck Stamps

Ted Luhtala One Frame
 Germany 1945 Allied Military Government Issues
 (A.M.G.)

Val Mayers One Frame
 War of 1812

Richard Weigand One Frame
 History of United Postal Union

Richard Weigand One Frame
 International Red Cross



Winner of the Herbert Mc Naught Memorial Award for Novice Exhibitor for 2012 is:
 Don Jennings One Frame
 "Canada Far North"

5) Eupen and Malmedy

History before 1795

Historically, those territories have little in common. While the Northern part around Eupen was originally part of the Duchy of Limburg, which depended from the Duchy of Brabant, and eventually ended up in the possession of the Austrian Habsburgs, as a part of the Austrian Netherlands, the Southern part, (i.e. more or less what is now the district of Sankt Vith), belonged to the Duchy of Luxembourg. However, the small village of Manderfeld-Schönberg belonged to the Archbishopric of Trier. Malmedy and Waimes, except the village of Faymonville, were part of the abbatial principality of Stavelot-Malmedy which was — like Luxembourg and Trier — an Imperial Estate of the Holy Roman Empire.

1815-1915 Prussian Administration

At the Congress of Vienna, the whole area was awarded to Rhenish Prussia. In the North West of the area, Moresnet, coveted by both the Netherlands and Prussia for its calamine, was declared a neutral territory. After 1830, the 50% guardianship of the Netherlands was taken over by newly independent Belgium, and this remained so even after 1839, when Belgium relinquished its claims to neighbouring Dutch Limburg.



This change didn't significantly affect the inhabitants of this region. Even in the French and Walloon speaking Malmedy, changes went smoothly since the municipality was allowed to continue to use French for its administration.

For instance, during a visit to the city in 1856, the King Frederick William IV would say "I am proud to have in my kingdom a little country where people speak French". For the people of Malmedy, this would eventually change when Bismarck came to power in Prussia and, within the framework of the Kulturkampf, imposed German as the only official language for the administration. If this was not a problem in Eupen and St.Vith, it obviously became one in Malmedy-Waimes. There was some resistance to this and, for instance, Roman Catholic priests who were forbidden to preach in French, started to preach in Walloon in order to avoid to have to preach in German.



However, after several decades, the inhabitants became used to speaking German (which was also the only language tolerated in the schools) with their administration, although Walloon was still widely spoken. At the beginning of the First World War, most of

the inhabitants considered themselves German and fought for that side during the war.

Postal Rates 1914 to 1918

100 Centimes = 1 franc

1919-1925 Provisional Belgian Administration

In 1918, as the First World War was drawing to a close, the French government was determined to increase the size of Belgian territory at the expense of Germany. Frustrated in its own attempt to annex the Saarland, and in getting the neutral Netherlands to agree to an exchange of territory claimed by Belgium in 1830 but relinquished in 1839 (Dutch Limburg and Zeeuws Vlaanderen) with German territory that had once been Dutch (Bentheim, Emden and the Land of Cleve), it sided with Belgium's claim on the "lost" cantons of Eupen, Malmedy and Sankt Vith. As always (under pressure by the United States whose war aims had included popular sovereignty) a plebiscite was planned, but not a secret ballot - inhabitants of the cantons who objected to the annexation had to register (by name) at the village hall. This procedure opened the way to mass intimidation: people were led to believe that anyone objecting would not receive Belgian nationality, and be deported to Germany.



Postal Rates

1920 Initial Issue 100 pfennige = 1 Reichsmark

1920 Later Issues 100 centimes = 1 franc

1925-1940 Integration into Belgium

In 1920, the Treaty of Versailles awarded all communities on a provisional basis, to Belgium. A five-year transition period under the command of the Royal High Commissioner, General Herman Baltia, ensued. Between 26 January and 23 July 1920, a plebiscite for the inhabitants of the region was held under Article 34 of the Treaty on Baltia's orders. The results showed 271 of 33,726 voting for the communes to remain in Germany; the vote was not secret and voters strongly feared being expelled or at least having their food ration cards taken away if they voted to stay in Germany.

In 1925, the area around Eupen, Malmedy, and Sankt Vith, together with the former Neutral Moresnet (Kelmis) was finally included in the Belgian state. However, in 1926 Belgium and the Weimar Republic conducted secret negotiations which would have led to the return of the East Cantons to Germany in return

for 200 million gold marks - but the fury of the French Government on hearing about the plan, led to the break-up of the talks.

After the inhabitants of the East cantons finally received full Belgian nationality and the vote, parties clamouring for a return of the East Cantons to the German Reich got between 44 and 57% of the vote in the East Cantons, achieving high scores even in French-speaking Malmedy. After the accession to power of Adolf Hitler, the socialist party of the East Cantons stopped agitating for a return to Germany. This caused a drop in the irredentist vote but also meant that the pro-Germany vote was now dominated by the openly Nazi "Heimattreue Front".



1940 1945 Annexed back to Germany Again

During World War II the East Cantons (also including a number of small villages that had been Belgian but German-speaking in 1914) were annexed by Nazi Germany, with the clear consent of most of the inhabitants. Support for the German takeover eroded sharply after the German invasion of the Soviet Union and the subsequent conscription of most of the male population in the German army (out of 8,700 drafted new Germans, 3,200 perished in the East). In December 1944, bomber raids first destroyed Malmedy, then Sankt Vith almost completely. Many communities were similarly affected by the Ardennes Offensive of 1944-45. Indeed, the southern part of the East cantons was the theatre of hard battles including St. Vith, Rocherath-Krinkelt, Bütgenbach and many others.



1945 Back to Belgium

After the war, the Belgian state reasserted sovereignty over the area which caused the male inhabitants of the area who had served in the German Army, to lose their civil rights as "traitors to the Belgian state". After the war, the Belgian authorities opened more than 15,000 inquiries procedures against citizens of Eupen-Malmedy, which represents 25% of the population. In comparison, for Belgium, these inquiries concerned less than 5% of the population. Even if the ratio of the effective trials and convictions in comparison to the open files, is lower than the Belgian national average, it is clear that this repression has left scars that needed time to disappear.

The bad blood caused by the reluctance of the Belgian government to remedy the legal situation concerning the annexation (only remedied by an amnesty law in 1989), would lead to the emergence of a German Belgian national party, the PDB, the Party of German-speaking Belgians. The PDB (which at the European level co-operates with both the Scottish National Party and the Greens) has never agitated for a return to Germany, but advocated increased rights for the German minority in Belgium, including full equality with the Flemish and Walloon ethnic groups. This has caused many commentators on recent developments in Belgian politics to muse that the German speakers are now the last Belgians!

The nine German-speaking communities of the East Cantons now comprise the German-speaking Community of Belgium, while Malmedy and Waimes are part of the French Community of Belgium. There are special privileges for the minority language in both areas.