



## **“Stamps: King of Hobbies and Hobby of Kings”**

### **1957 ROM Exhibition by the PSSC**

The Philatelic Specialists' Society of Canada (PSSC) was founded in 1954. Just three years into its existence it had forty-four members when they decided to hold a major philatelic exhibition to promote the hobby and kindle interest in philately in all its forms. The exhibits would include philatelic rarities never before put on public display. At the April 17, 1957 regular meeting of the PSSC Douglas Patrick announced that arrangements had been made with the Royal Ontario Museum (ROM) to hold an exhibition for nine days in November. It would be the first time any museum in Canada had featured an exhibition of stamps.

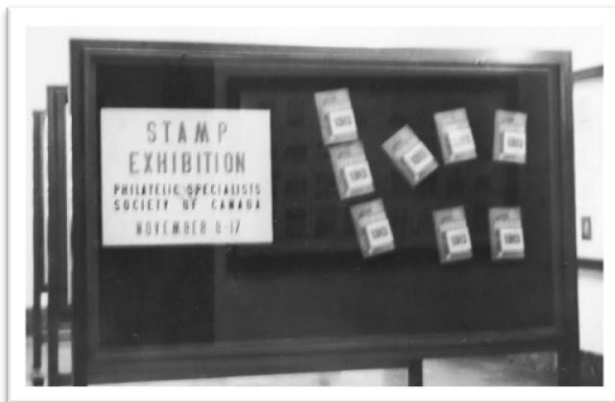
Douglas Arthur Patrick was heavily involved in stamps. He was a long-time employee at the Globe and Mail in advertising sales. During his career he wrote over 1000 scripts for the *CBC Stamp Club of the Air* which ran from 1950 to 1975. At the Globe he wrote a stamp column for 33 years. Together with his wife Mary he wrote ten books on stamps.

Professor Russell Waines was appointed Chairman of the Exhibition Committee. He hoped to have approximately 1200 pages displayed in the non-competitive exhibition. Each member was invited to submit a maximum of thirty-two pages, which a "hanging committee" would select from their submissions. These pages had to meet rigid standards of quality and attractiveness. No duplication of items was allowed so that the viewers would see the many ways to collect. In all forty-three exhibits ended up going on display.

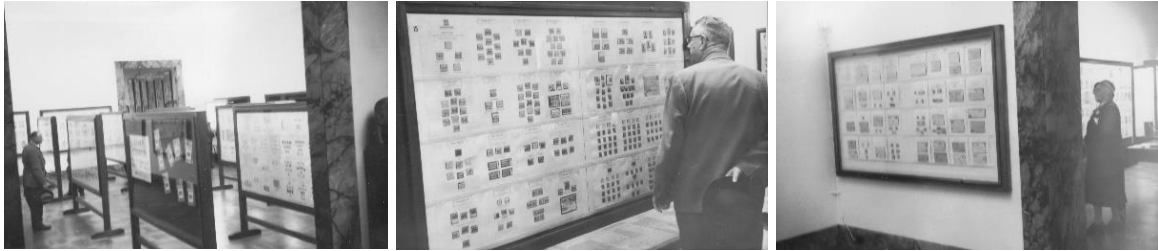
Because of his professional background in advertising sales, Doug Patrick was appointed Chairman of the Publicity Committee. He conducted a number of radio and television appearances and sent letters to a large number of stamp organizations to publicise the exhibition. Harry Sutherland, Dr. Richard Maresch and William Maresch assisted the Chairman. Max Werner assisted with hand-lettering and illustrations. Many other members assisted where needed.



**Harry Sutherland ready to welcome visitors**



**The items on the right are Exhibition Catalogue**



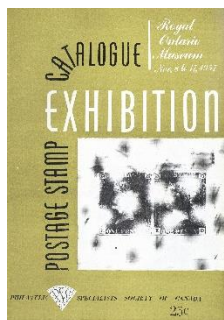
The exhibition title was “*Stamps: King of Hobbies and Hobby of Kings*”. It ran on the third floor of the ROM from November 8 to 17, 1957. Admission was free. In total there were 43 exhibits by PSSC members. Over 800 pages were displayed from some of the outstanding collections owned by PSSC members valued at over a million dollars.

The exhibits were arranged into three groupings: Topical, Specialization, Postmarks and Cancellations and Postal History. The Postal History category was subdivided into four sections:

1. The creation of stamps illustrated with an exhibition by Elizabeth Wyn Wood, widow of Emanuel Hahn: drawings, sketches and photographs of Canadian stamps. The exhibition covered the preparation of artwork for the Moose stamp of 1953, the Walrus and beaver of 1954.
2. Forerunners like the Chinese Treaty Ports by Harry Sutherland and Richon Le Zion post by armoured car by Dr. Jack Sachis.
3. Pre-adhesive postage stamp material including forwarding agents mail, India pre-stamp covers, Sweden and Vienna postal system items.
4. The ROM put on a display of Babylonian Clay Tablets, Persian Manuscripts, Egyptian letters on papyri and other related items.

## PARTICIPANTS

### GLOBE AND MAIL



The Globe and Mail newspaper where Douglas Patrick worked supplied the Exhibition Catalogue with multicolored cover that had articles related to most of the exhibits. A total of 1,010 catalogues were sold at 25¢ each. The Catalogue can be viewed in the Publications section of the PSSC website, [click here](#).

## ELIZABETH WYN WOOD [HAHN]



**Emanuel Otto Hahn**  
[1881-1957]



**Elizabeth Wyn Wood**  
[1903-1966]



Elizabeth Wyn Wood, wife of the late Emanuel Hahn lent drawings, sketches, photographs and original sculptures Hahn used in the creation of the moose, walrus and beaver stamps in his wildlife series.

## THE CANADIAN POST OFFICE

The Post Office displayed additional sketches and proofs and final stages in the production of the three stamps created by Hahn as well as the end products.

## BRITISH AMERICAN BANK NOTE COMPANY

The British American Bank Note Company displayed a frame of items produced in its Montreal plant in the 19<sup>th</sup> Century together with a selection of Victoria Head Bill Stamps.

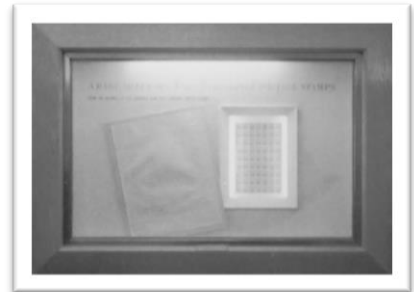
## THE CANADIAN BANK NOTE COMPANY



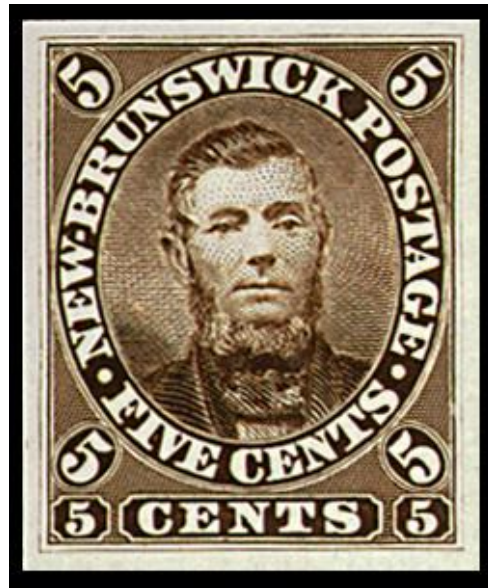
Essays and die proofs of stamps not issue due to WWI



Full sheets of early stamps



Half-sheet of the New Brunswick Charles Connell stamp



Charles Connell

The Canadian Bank Note Company displayed a set of essays and die proofs of the 1914 MacDonald-Cartier Centenary stamps, prepared before World War I, but never put on sale; plate proofs of the Three Penny and Five Cent Beaver; a sheet of the Seventeen Cent Jacques Cartier; a full sheet of the Three Penny Beaver; a half-sheet of the New Brunswick Charles Connell stamps and 10 other sheets.





They also displayed a frame of Bank Notes including a \$50,000 bill dated 1924 believed to be the largest denomination note ever issued in Canada which were only used for bank to bank transactions.

## ROYAL ONTARIO MUSEUM

The ROM displayed postal artifacts including Egyptian letters on papyri, Babylonian clay tablets, Persian manuscripts and other items of communications in the days of antiquity.

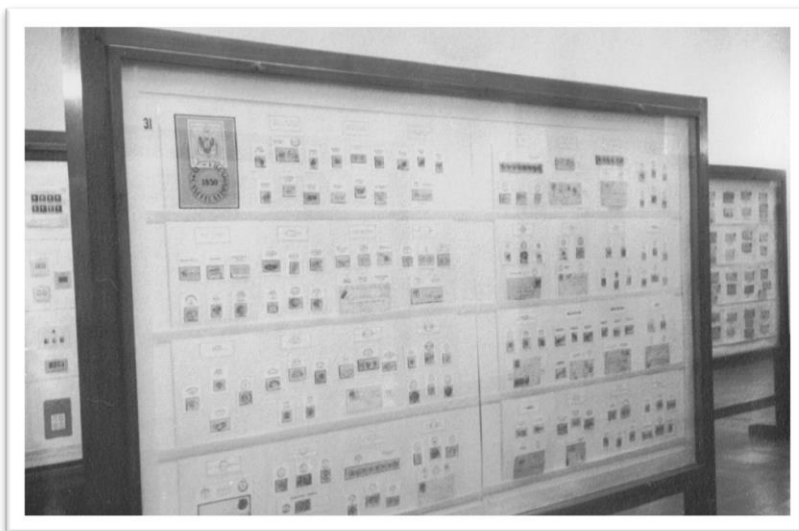
## DISPLAYS BY PSSC MEMBERS

Twenty-eight PSSC members contributed displays to the Exhibition. Nearly all of the exhibits had been written up over the years by Douglas Patrick in his regular column in the Globe and Mail. These articles are reprinted in the Exhibition catalogue, [click here](#).

**William J. Banks** Member #038 (1956-1992):

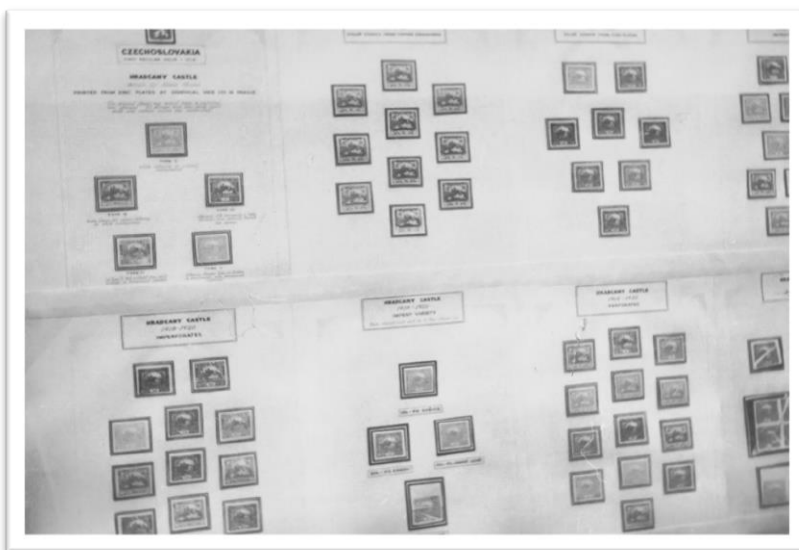
- *Denmark - A specialized study of the engraved Wavy Lines Issues of Denmark.*
- *Birds on Stamps - A showing of the many varieties and species of birds.*

**Dr. Norman O. Boyd** Member #037 (1956-1964) of Windsor - *German South West Africa - A representation showing the elusive provisional or "Wanderstempel" cancellations.*



### Austrian Cancellations

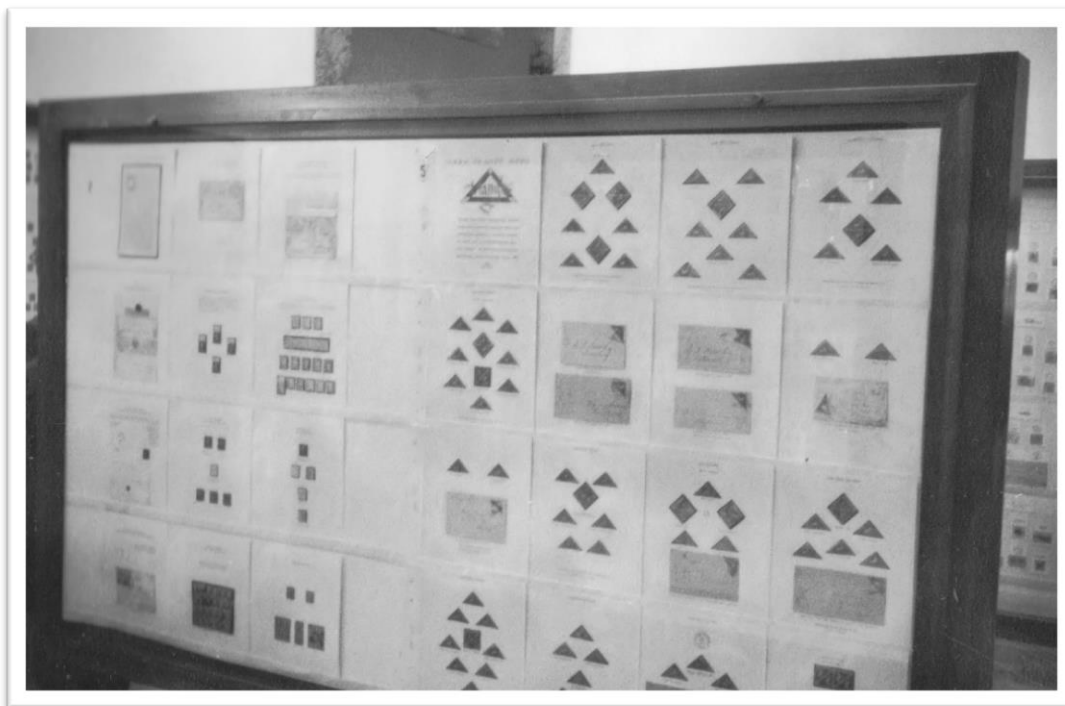
**Herbert Dubé** Member #001 (1954-1972) - *Austrian Cancellations* - A display of the variety of cancellations used on the first issue of Austria in 1850, including mute, registered, special cancellers and covers.



### Czechoslovakia

**C. K. Elder**

- *The Birth of a Stamp* - A showing of a projected issue for Czechoslovakia designed in England during World War II, including autographs of Sir Winston Churchill.
- *Czechoslovakia – Army Post in Serbia* including letters from Churchill, Eden, Masaryk and Benes.



### **Cape of Good Hope Triangles on the right**

**A. Graham Fairbanks** Member #026 (1954-1977) of Montreal:

- *A study of registered mail in all aspects, up to and including the 1875 registration issue with original essay, showing all values in blocks and on covers including a unique pair of the eight-cent value.*
- *Cape of Good Hope Triangular issues - a specialized showing, including proofs, reprints and forgeries; showing all values on covers, many blocks, town cancels, coloured cancellations and "Wood blocks" in pairs.*
- *Guatemala - A specialized selection of 19<sup>th</sup> Century items, showing pre-stamped covers, proofs, reprints and forgeries, coloured cancellations, covers, bisects and inverted centres. Also, three covers carrying the rare 4¢ purple of the first issue and a pair of the 5¢ inverted Quetzal.*

**Arthur L. Guess** Member #045 (1957-1964) - Malta - *A selection of items, including Great Britain used in Malta, covers, specimen markings and censorship markings.*

**Andrew H. Hinrichs** Member #024 (1954-1982):

- *India - First issue (1854) showing the various dies*
- *India - Postal History - A selection of hand-stamped markings*

**Ivry Member** #017 (1954-1973) of Montreal - *Austrian Fiscals and Re-prints - A showing of fiscal stamps used to pay postage and a complete showing of the reprints of the first five issues of Austria.*

**Count Alphonse Kinsky** Member #012 (1954-1998):

- *British Colonies - Victoria Heads - A representative showing of the many different types of design used to portray Queen Victoria.*
- *Greece - Large Hermes Heads – A frame of the classic Greek issues.*

**James Law** Member #005 (1954-1973) - *"Large Queens" a specialized showing of the first issue of the Dominion of Canada including some unusual cancellations on covers.*

**Hans T. F. Lundberg** Member #046 (1957-1962)

- *Sweden - Royal letters with autographs written by the Swedish kings, recognized as one of the most fabulous collection of these in the world*
- *Norway – blocks of the classic issues including No. 1 and the very rare Oscar eight skilling, which is possibly unique.*

**William H. P. Maresch** Member #039 (1956-2008) - *Letters from and to Vienna - The development of Austrian Postal History illustrated with rare letters.*

**Douglas A. Patrick** Member #010 (1954-1973) of Port Credit - *Papua Air Mails - A display showing the first air post stamps of Papua, including the various printings and dates of issue. A variety of stamps and a full sheet of Papua's first airmail stamp.*

**Mirko R. Rasic** Member #016 (1954-82?)

- *Trieste - postal history of the city up to 1882, showing cancellations on all issues, starting with postmarks during Napoleon's occupation of 1811 - 1812 including the rare Yellow Mercury stamps on a newspaper.*
- *Serbia-Prince Milan Issues from 1869 to 1880 - displaying the five printings, multiples, covers; bisects of 40 pars used as 20 para.*

**Jules Reissman** Member #002 (1954-1965) - *Ballon Montes - An early example of Air Mail letters flown out of the City of Paris during the siege of 1870 to 1871.*

**Marino Roberti** Member #043 (1957-1958):

- *Souvenir Centenary Sheets - A selection of stamps issued to commemorate the anniversary of the first postage stamps of various countries.*
- *Publicity Labels - A selection of items with publicity or advertising labels attached from various countries.*

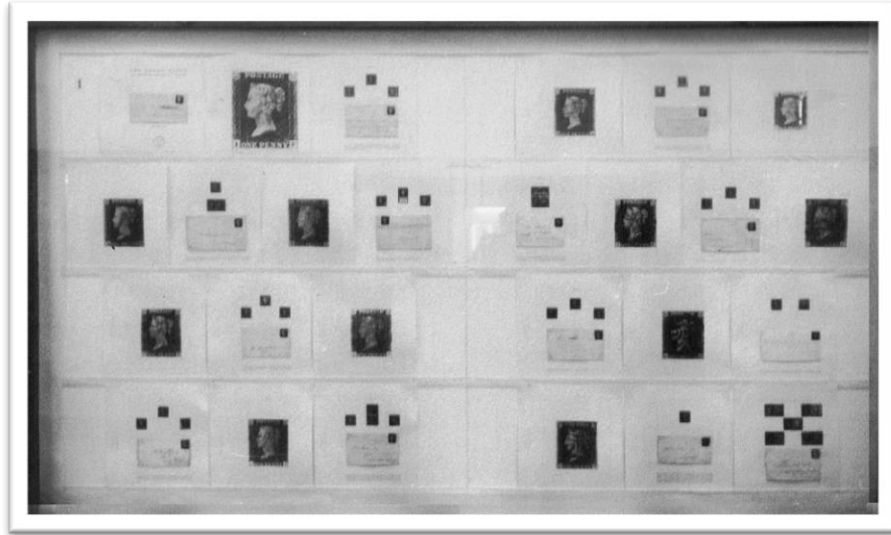
**Dr. Jacob H. Sachis** Member #035 (1955-1989) - *Israel - Forerunners of regular government issues of Israel.*

**Frank J. Seger** Member #006 (1954-1984) - *German Post Offices in China - A specialized showing, including many covers.*

**James N. Sissons** Member #044 (1957-1980) - *Early Canadian items.*



**William H. Slate** Member #015 (1954-1980) – *19<sup>th</sup> Century Philatelic Literature* - A display of catalogues and magazines relating to philately of the 1800s. These were shown in two cases. The display included many rarities, classic books such as the massive volume on the Royal collection, the Hind catalogues, and illustrated books on Russian Locals and the Austrian Post.



**Major Alex Crosby Snively** Member #011 (1954-1958):

- *Penny Blacks* - plates and a first day cover of May 6, 1840.
- *Great Britain* - selected pages of items including an Anti-Graham Wafer.

**Henry Stockwell** Member #023 (1954-1983) of Ottawa - *Early Issues of Denmark* - including a strip of three from the Kranhold collection and covers.

**Hedley Stokes** Member #036 (1955-2005) - *Jugoslavian propaganda stamps* - A showing of how stamps may be used for propaganda or advertising.

**Harry Sutherland** Member #034 (1955-2006) - *Chinese Treaty Ports* - A showing of the local issues, including multiples and covers.

**Kenneth Rowe** Member #014 (1954-2014) - *Forwarding Agents* - A showing of a selection of his collection of 450 forwarding agent covers together with a description of how their operations were carried on.

**Professor Russell T. Waines** Member #033 (1954-58, 64-70):

- *Killer Cancellations* - The development of the killer cancellation in Great Britain
- *Fancy Cork Cancellations* - of the U.S. and Guatemala.

**Max Werner** Member #042 (1956-2008) - *Sweden - Military Reply Stamps* - A presentation of all issues of these stamps during the Second World War, including colour and paper varieties.

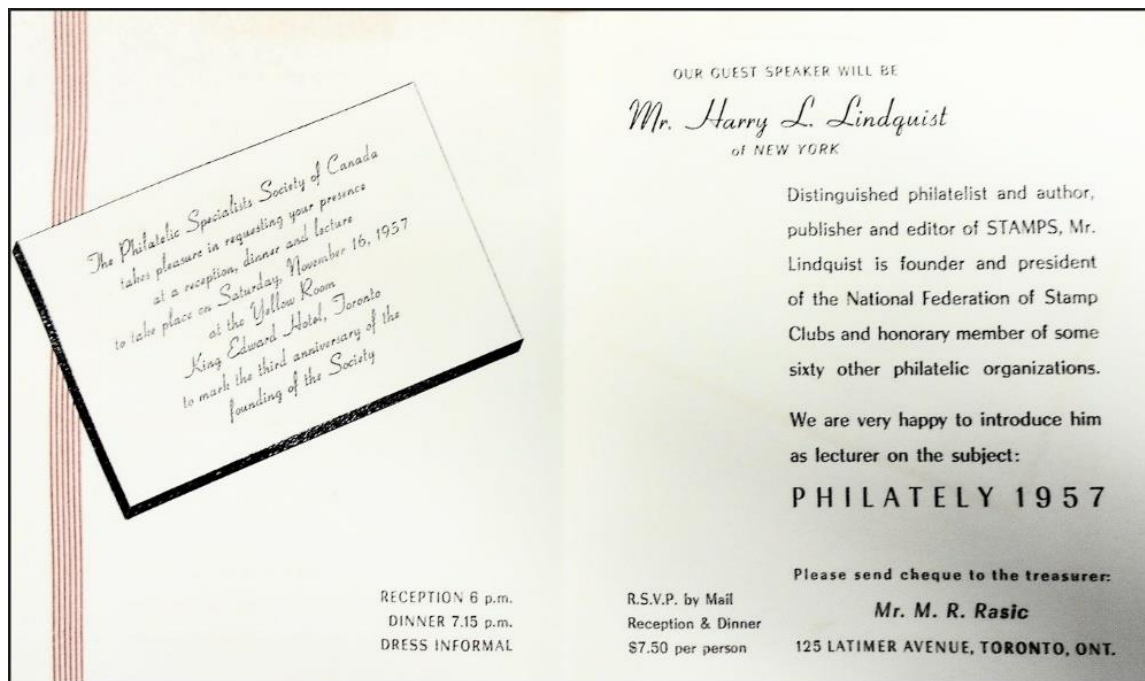
**Harry Zifkin** Member #013 (1954-1983) - *Israel* - A specialized study of the first issue.

## VISITORS

This was the first-time a philatelic exhibit was held at a Canadian museum. Understandably the ROM was rather concerned about the attendance. However, these worries were dismissed when over 1,500 people crowded the exhibit on the opening Sunday, and at the time of the banquet on the following Saturday, over 3,500 had registered. Many others had not bothered to register and it was estimated that probably twice that number had viewed the exhibits.

In total 4,400 attendees passed through the official entrance and several hundred more through the irregular doors. Sunday November 10<sup>th</sup> saw the largest attendance at 1,483 visitors. A total of 1,010 catalogues were sold at 25¢ each.

## BANQUET



*The Philatelic Specialists Society of Canada  
takes pleasure in requesting your presence  
at a reception, dinner and lecture  
to take place on Saturday, November 16, 1957  
at the Yellow Room  
King Edward Hotel, Toronto  
to mark the third anniversary of the  
founding of the Society*

OUR GUEST SPEAKER WILL BE  
*Mr. Harry L. Lindquist*  
OF NEW YORK

Distinguished philatelist and author,  
publisher and editor of STAMPS, Mr.  
Lindquist is founder and president  
of the National Federation of Stamp  
Clubs and honorary member of some  
sixty other philatelic organizations.

We are very happy to introduce him  
as lecturer on the subject:

**PHILATELY 1957**

Please send cheque to the treasurer:

**Mr. M. R. Rasic**  
125 LATIMER AVENUE, TORONTO, ONT.

RECEPTION 6 p.m.  
DINNER 7.15 p.m.  
DRESS INFORMAL

R.S.V.P. by Mail  
Reception & Dinner  
\$7.50 per person

The PSSC held a banquet on the evening of Saturday November 16, 1957 in the Yellow Room of the King Edward Hotel. Fifty-two members and guests attended the cocktail party that preceded the banquet.

Herbert Dubé, who had been president of the PSSC since its inception, acted as Master of Ceremonies. He introduced and thanked all of the workers who had made the exhibition possible. He then presented Secretary Harry Sutherland with a medal for "*services beyond the call of duty.*" Everyone agreed that this was well-deserved recognition.



**President Herbert Dubé, Harry L. Lindquist (guest speaker),  
Professor Russell T. Waines, Doug Patrick, Harry Sutherland**

The guest speaker was Harry L. Lindquist, editor and publisher of *STAMPS*. He spoke on “*Philately-1957*” the trends, questionable practices by certain governments, the activities of the US stamp Advisory Committee and his recent visit to the Tabil in Israel where he was a judge at the International Philatelic Expo. He ended his talk by applauding the PSSC on organizing an excellent exhibition.

### **Members of the PSSC present**

- William J. Banks
- Dr. Norman O. Boyd
- Fred B. Brookbanks
- Herbert Dubé, president
- C. K. Elder
- Vincent Greene, joined the PSSC in 1961
- Arthur Guess
- Andrew H. Hinrichs
- Fred Jarrett, joined the PSSC in 1965
- Dr. Clair M. Jephcott, joined the PSSC in 1965
- James Law
- Dr. Richard A. R. Maresch
- Fred Myaty
- Douglas Patrick of Port Credit
- Mirko R. Rasic
- Kenneth Rowe
- Jacob H. Sachis
- Frank Seger
- William H. Slate
- Frederick F. Stockinger
- Henry Stockwell
- Harry Sutherland
- Professor Russell T. Waines
- Albert H. Ward of Ottawa
- George S. Wegg
- Max Werner
- Harry Zifkin

## Guests

- Walter Bayley, representing the Royal Philatelic Society, London
- A. Bouchette, vice president of the Canadian Bank Note Co. Ltd., Ottawa
- Fred Carter
- Leslie Davenport, Toronto stamp dealer
- M. Day, colleague of J. N. Sissons
- Everett Drake, president of the Toronto Stamp Club
- Reginald Haldeman
- Carl Jennings, from Hamilton
- Alden Johnson, Toronto dealer
- Louis M. Lamouroux, president, Canadian Philatelic Society
- Eric Rushton, director of Canadian Philatelic Society
- Lloyd Sharpe
- Arthur Teare of Victoria, B.C.
- Dr. A. D. Tushingham, Head of the Department of Art and Archaeology, ROM

## References:

Cronenberg, Milton: *Now Royal Museum Spotlights Stamps*, Column on STAMPS, [no source nor date?]

Script: THE CBC STAMP CLUB, Saturday November 9, 1957 12:30-12:45 pm EST, script by Doug Patrick, guests: Mr. Herbert Dubé and his son Pierre Dubé, topic includes the PSSC Exhibition

*Philatelic Specialists Society of Canada Holds Exhibition at Royal Ontario Museum, Toronto, November 8/7, 1957*, STAMPS – A Weekly magazine of Philately, vol 101 No. 9 whole no. 1316, November 30, 1957

*Canadian Stamps Worth \$250,000 in Display at Royal Ontario Museum*, no author, Toronto-Star, 7 NOV 1957, page 9

DOUGLAS A. PATRICK: BNA TOPICS Vol. 41, No. 1, January-February 1984 Whole No. 399, page 27

*Douglas Arthur Patrick - Globes stamp writer for 33 years*: The Globe and Mail; September 27, 1983, page 18

*POSTAGE STAMP EXHIBITION CATALOGUE – ROYAL ONTARIO MUSEUM* – Nov. 8 TO 17, 1957, Philatelic Specialists society of Canada, 1957

Dubé Scrapbook, Vincent Graves Greene Philatelic Research Foundation