



POSTVIEW

The Newsletter of the
Vancouver Postcard Club

www.vancouverpostcardclub.ca

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Two club cards offered on eBay this spring: the RMS Saxonnia in Quebec, and a Caravan park at Port Eynon in Wales. Bon voyage!

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“Spring Cleaning” at the VanPostcard Club

We’ve all done it. Open the closets, and stand there with perplexed paralysis. What to do with all these boxes?! The Vancouver Postcard Club was provoked to do a little spring cleaning a bit early this year, as our storage facilities at the Hastings Community Centre formally expired in January. It seems that our boxes posed a potential threat in the event of an earthquake.

No longer will we have to reach atop the cupboard to pull down the club card boxes. We have effectly cleared our club archive of cards, focussing on maintaining a core set of British Columbia cards for members to review and purchase at club rates. In the future, we will store our club cards offsite, and bring a small number to each meeting.

As an experiment, we spent an extra hour before our January meeting and did a quick sort of all our cards, spread across all the boardroom tables. Cards were hastily and generally sorted in the following categories: USA, UK, Canada,

British Columbia. Disney, World Fairs, Alaska Cruise Ships, Coca-Cola, and other cards of note.

Upon gathering up all the boxes, I took them home and continued to sort them. After setting aside a small series of Manitoba cards for our allies at the Manitoba Historical Society, I created a few lots for auction at All Nations Stamp & Coin which sold for \$84. Three boxes of US cards went to the USA for \$30. I was left with a baker’s dozen smaller special interest lots I decided to post on eBay. These cards were posted from \$1-15. The results are in! The sale generated another \$30.00!

In the future, I expect we will be turning our incoming donations at a faster rate; cards from outside the province will be sorted and dispensed of more readily. This should make for happier collectors the world over. We thank all those who have donated cards to the club over the years – your donations are greatly appreciated! – JV


Early B.C. Postcards by the Major Publishers

A New Series of Articles by Ron Souch

This issue contains the first of a series of short articles about major publishers of B.C. postcards and the cards they published. The articles were derived from introductions in postcard listings prepared over the last 15 years. The coming articles will each cover one publisher, and contain estimates of their B.C. postcard production, along with notes about their time period, their various printings, and the parts of the province that were covered. After listing the cards in each collection, it was noted that the majority of the numbered series were substantially complete. This is the main basis for the estimates on the numbers of cards that were originally published. Many of the cards viewed over the years have different homes now, but a scan of a couple will be included with each article.

Thanks to the encouragement of Dr. Richard Moulton and the loan of many of his largest and most extensive B.C. postcard collections, Ron was started on a hobby of making postcard listings 15 years ago, and he is still working at it. Since that time, he has had the pleasure of viewing other major B.C. postcard collections including some that were put together by the late Abe Charkow and Chris McGregor and parts of the large collections of Philip Francis and John Keenlyside. In addition, he has received input from other collectors by mail and email. The contributions of Bill Buchanan of Toronto, Ken Ellison of Vernon, and Jack McCuaig of Edmonton became substantial parts of some of the listings. The assistance of the late Albert Tanner was also a major contribution to the making of the listings. Over the years from time to time, it was a big help being able to view the large postcard stocks of the Cheramy's and several other dealers.

*As Accurate
and Unfailing*
— AS THE 9 O'CLOCK GUN



Electric Time

Great astronomical observatories with their wonderfully precise instruments scrupulously record the exact time by rigid and careful observation of the heavens.

It is this fundamental exactness which has made possible the amazing accuracy of the 9 o'clock gun—the same exactness controls the electric clock.

NO SPRINGS OR WEIGHTS
Discarding springs, weights and all former methods of time recording, the electric clock assures a flawless accuracy that corresponds exactly with the computations of official observatories.

THE MASTER CLOCK
The Master Clock is controlled by radio waves from these official observatories. It in turn controls the huge generators which transmit electric pulsations through a light circuit. In this way your electric clock is kept absolutely accurate.

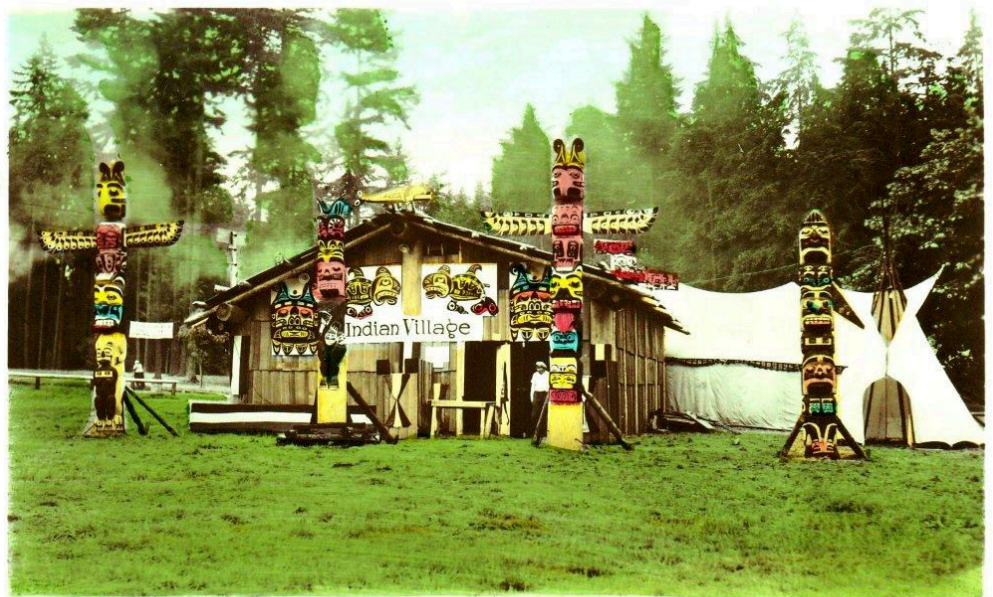
NO ATTENTION NEEDED
No winding, no regulating, simply connect to your electric light circuit.

COUNTLESS MODELS
Electric time is sweeping the country—models for every room in the home have been designed in rich, tasteful styles. Call and see the wonderful selection in our showrooms—models priced from \$10 up to lovely chime Grandfather Clocks at \$250. If you can not visit the showrooms, mail coupon or phone for further particulars about electric clocks.

COUPON
Please send me further information about electric clocks.
Name
Address

B.C. Electric
APPLIANCE STORES

BRITISH COLUMBIA ELECTRIC RAILWAY CO.



AN INDIAN VILLAGE IN STANLEY PARK, VANCOUVER, B.C.

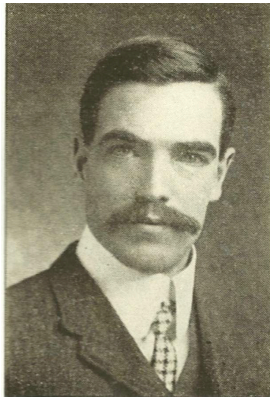
Vancouver Series No. 145

Stanley Park c.1935 Totems & Village, C.P., Spalding Cpy. courtesy of Ron Souch.

Advertisement: *As Accurate and Unfailing as the 9 O'clock Gun - Electric Time*, a BC Electric advert from the Vancouver Sun, on page 2 of Sep 8, 1931. via IllustratedVancouver.ca, a visual site curated by Jason Vanderhill.

The Postcards of the Camera Products Company of Vancouver

by Ron Souch



The Camera Products Co. was a sole proprietorship formed by J. Fred Spalding (shown at left) in 1930. Fred Spalding had been a well established photographer in Fernie for about 20 years from 1905 to 1925 when he came to Vancouver. His biography is included in the Biographies of B.C. Postcard Photographers published by the Postcard Club

in 2006. This article will summarize cards published under the Camera Products name.

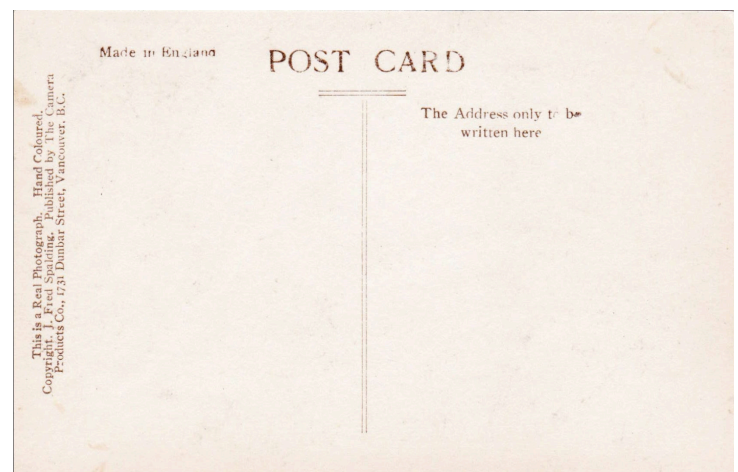
There are sixty-eight different numbered and titled series of cards of Western Canada identified to date, and many un-numbered ones; some of which could be considered to be a series such as a twelve card set of MacKenzie River Transport. The un-numbered cards include a very small number east of Manitoba, including Ontario, Quebec, New Brunswick and Nova Scotia. Almost all of the cards in the various series are colour tinted photographs. For some reason there are just a few that did not get coloured. However, amongst the un-numbered cards there are many uncoloured real photos. Most of these, and perhaps all of them, appear to have been issued shortly before Spalding started the numbered series. In total there are close to 3000 different images depicted on the cards of the Camera Products company. Almost half are views of British Columbia. The cards provide a very good pictorial record of Western Canada in the nineteen thirties and forties. The company's postcard production ended early in the nineteen fifties. Almost all of the photographs appear to have been taken just before the card was published; however a few of the series include views from an earlier time.

A very large number of the cards contain the notice of copyright by J. Fred Spalding . Here is an alphabetical listing of other identified photographers including companies: Allen, J.H.; Brown, R.H.; Canadian Airways Ltd.; Canadian National Railways; Clegg Studio; Cowie, J.T.; C.P.R.; Great Northern Rly. Co.; Higgs, H.; Hughes Studio; Jackman, F.A.; McDougall,

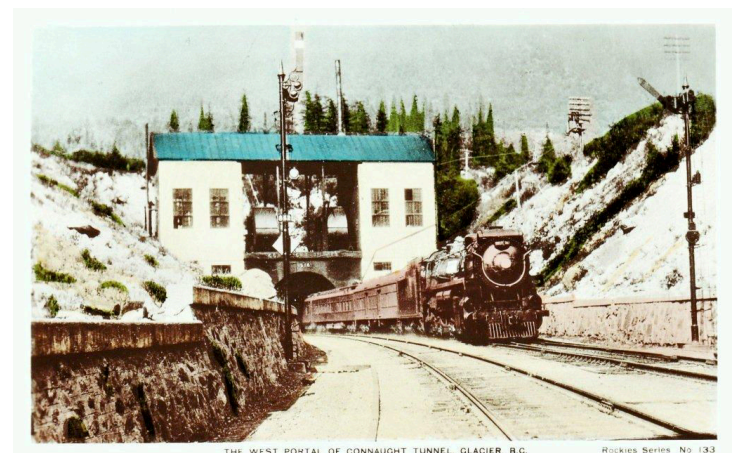
J.C.; R.C.A.F.; Ribelin Studio; Robertson, J.; Russell, V.C.; Stock's Studio; Schwarze Photo; Taylor, G.M.; Wood, C.S.; and Wrathall's Studio.

The twenty largest series with the number of cards known in each are as follows: Vancouver 237; Rockies 226; Jasper 123; Victoria 108; ; Kelowna 87; Penticton 83; Winnipeg 80; Kamloops 76; Cranbrook 70; Edmonton 69; Courtenay 68; Vancouver Island 68; Waterton 68; Nanaimo 62; B.C. Coast 60; Saskatoon 56; Nelson 55; Regina 51; Cariboo Highway 50; Stocks 47.

The Camera Products cards mostly sell in the range of \$5.00 to \$20.00, but there are also many better and scarcer ones that will sell for considerably more.



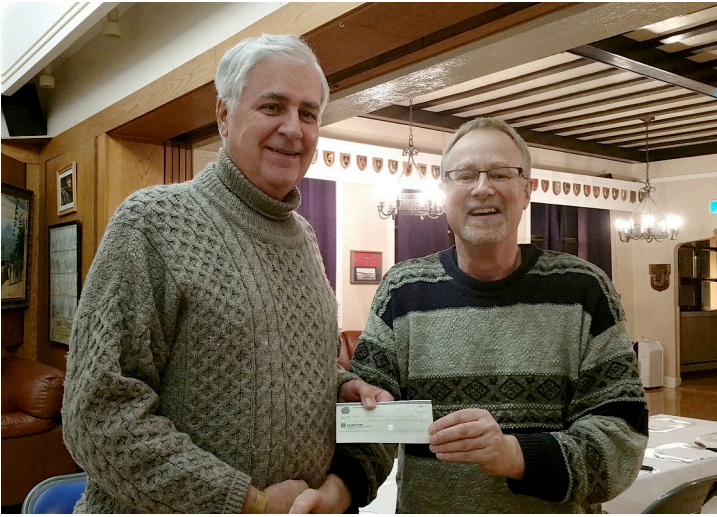
Back of the card from previous page, courtesy of Ron Souch.



Glacier Circa 1940 Connaught Tunnel, Camera Products Cpy. courtesy of Ron Souch.

For more on Spalding, visit the Fernie and District Historical Society's micro site:
www.maltwood.uvic.ca/spalding/introduction.html

A Prize Awarded



Presentation of the grand prize for the club's "Oldest Picture Postcard of BC" contest last year goes to John Keenlyside for his June 12, 1898 card. Presented by Tim Woodland on behalf of the club on January 10, 2017. John also receives a lifetime membership in the club. More images from the contest on the following pages. Congratulations John!

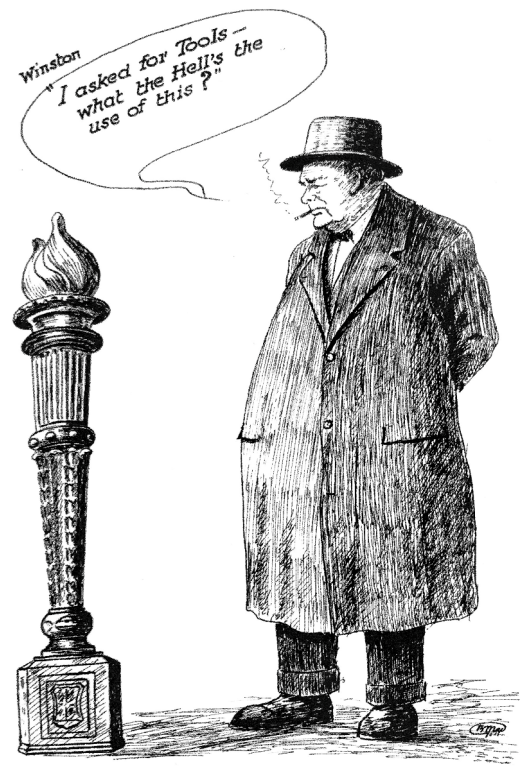
February Meeting Recap

by Jason Vanderhill

February 15 – “Celebrating Canada Through Patriotic Postcards” with Philip Francis

February's meeting with Philip Francis was a rare opportunity for the club to get together for an evening presentation. This deviation from our regular meeting time was a one-time affair, but on the day after Valentine's Day, attendance was good, and the audience was both enthused and impressed with a collection that spanned eras from the Boer War to World War II.

One compelling curiosity emerged from the talk came from an unlikely candidate. In fact, it may have been the one card that did not fit the classic definition of a patriotic postcard. The 'Made in Canada' AZO backed card featured a comic with Churchill and a torch, and the text balloon **"I asked for Tools – what the Hell's the use of this?"** and the caption **"Canada's 'War' Effort"**.

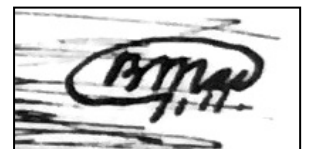


CANADA'S 'WAR' EFFORT

An intriguing postcard, courtesy of Philip Francis.

Attendees thought at first, the torch might be a hand grenade, but closer inspection revealed it was more akin to the Statue of Liberty's torch. It turns out this editorial comic was referencing two things – first, Churchill's speech on February 9, 1941 was titled "Give Us The Tools". The torch, it turns out, was an oversized trophy presented to Churchill as part of the Victory Loan campaign in the summer of 1941. It was the infancy of Canada's Victory Loan campaign, and from Churchill's sombre reaction, it was a bit premature to be celebrating. Still, Canada would end up running 9 separate Victory Loan campaigns, raising almost \$12 billion. Now that's nothing to scoff at! The torch you might recall would end up as a recurring symbol for the campaign, and even made it on to the 'Victory nickel'. The only part of the riddle we haven't been able to solve is who drew the cartoon. It's possible it ran in a Canadian newspaper, but it also might be a British cartoonist. The stylized surname is barely visible: P. Mutitt? B. Mutitt? If anyone knows, please let us know.

Rein located a video of the presentation, a Pathe newsreel:



<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=c1OD-YyOYQI>

Some of the Oldest Picture Postcards of British Columbia



Last year we held a contest to try and identify the oldest surviving picture postcard of British Columbia. The contest attracted much fanfare, and this was the card that was awarded the grand prize. Dated June 10, postmarked June 12, and received in Montreal June 17, 1899, it was published by the Province Publishing Coy. Ltd, (not to be confused with the Province Newspaper).

From vintagepostcards.ca, "The Province Publishing Coy. Ltd. was formed in 1898, and operated until 1899 when it changed its name to The B.C. Printing & Engr. Corp. Ltd., which continued until 1905." The view shows Stanley Park, English Bay, and the English Bay Pavilions.

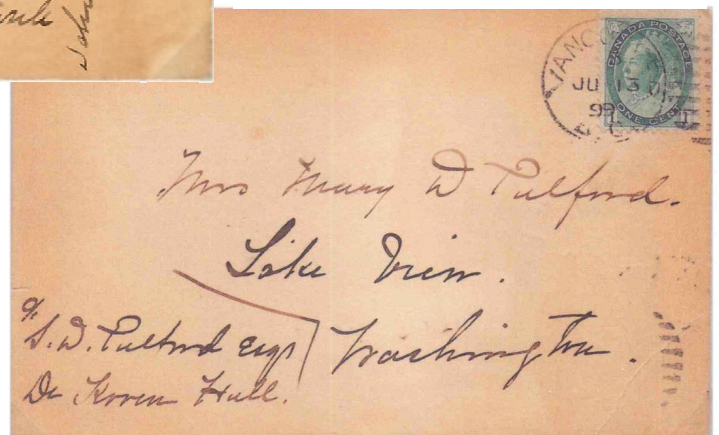


This card receives runner-up acknowledgement, also from the same series. In fact, it was also dated June 10, 1899, but wasn't sent until June 13, 1899. It appears to be sent from one sister to another, from Vancouver, BC to Lakeview, Washington, with no visible receiving date postmark.

This card shows Vancouver from Mount Pleasant, and Stanley Park.

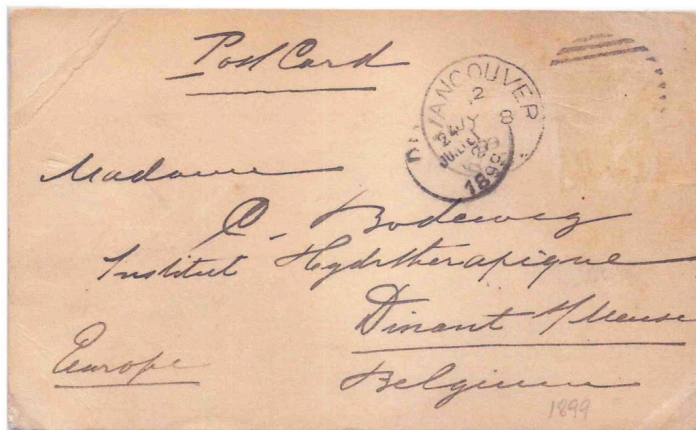
More cards from this series can be seen at:

vintagepostcards.ca/collections/EarlyCanada/ProvincePublishing



From the Postcard Collection of John Keenlyside

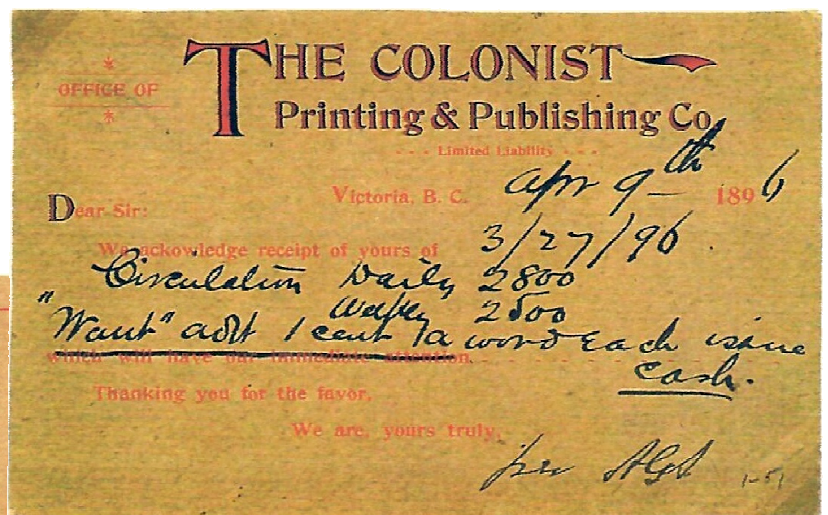
This card receives third runner-up acknowledgement. It is postmarked July 8, 1899, and appears to have been received July 24, 1899 in Belgium. The stamp has been removed, perhaps added to someone's stamp collection. Note the handwritten words "Post Card" atop the back of the card, just to ensure everyone at the Post Office was clear what they were dealing with.



This card shows the E.C.E. Wharf, an annotated caption indicating the Empress of China, and the Court House on Hastings Street (now Victory Square). This same card appears (unposted) in the SFU postcard collection, which was donated by Philip Francis not long ago, but it also contains a business caption in the top corner for Mellon & Scott, Shipping, Financial & Insurance Brokers, 419 Cordova Street, Vancouver.

<http://digital.lib.sfu.ca/pfp-822/msc130-06214-02>

And one more card from John's collection! This is not a picture postcard, but is a private postcard that predates the Post Office's approval of private post cards mailed to USA. Postmarked April 9, 1896, it was produced by the Colonist in Victoria, an early example outside of postal regulations.

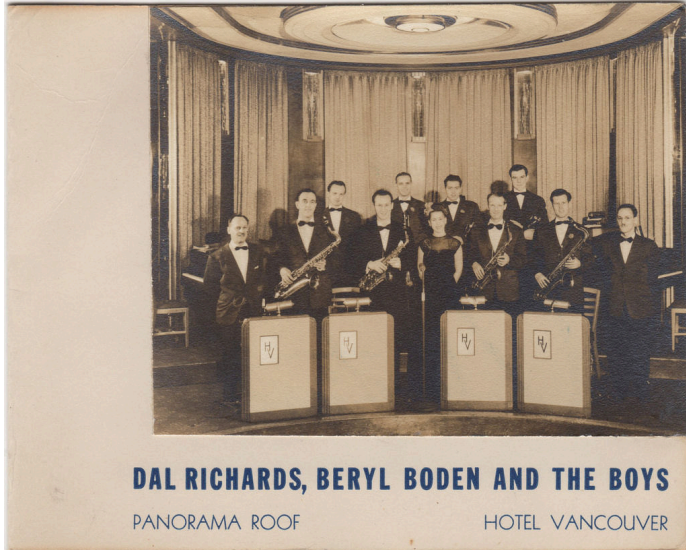


Time will tell if we ever see any earlier examples that predate these. What's the oldest British Columbia postcard in your collection?

March Meeting Recap

by Jason Vanderhill

March 12 – Maurice Guibord – “Vancouver Area Night Clubs of Yore”



A photograph of Dal Richards, Beryl Boden and the Boys at the Panorama Roof of the third Hotel Vancouver.

Maurice Guibord began his talk with a special acknowledgement to Tom Carter, who provided many of the images used in the presentation.

One of the special treats in the slideshow was all the souvenir photo folders that were sold by candid table photographers at the various downtown night clubs. The attire, the expressions, and the odd assortment of characters are always a source of fascination!

There were varying degrees of night clubs as well; from the high class ballrooms to the supper clubs, to the dine and dance halls, and finally, the dives!

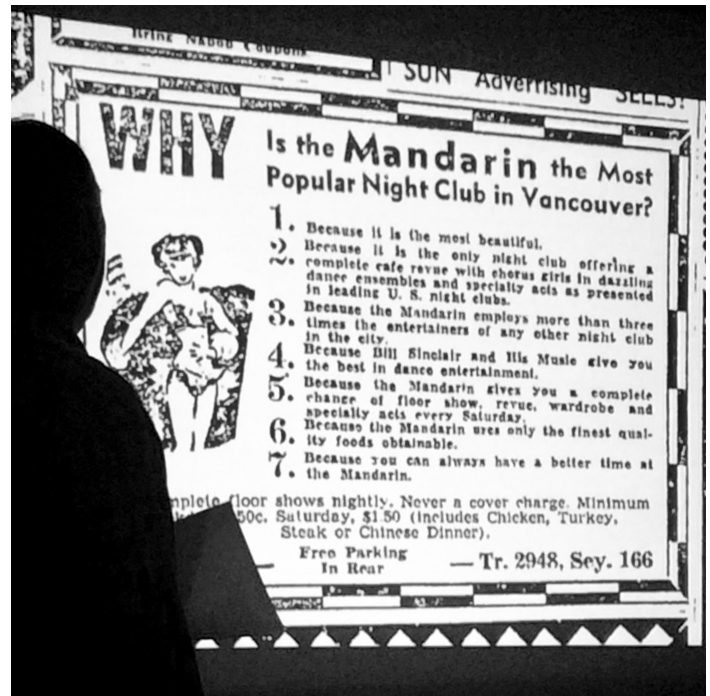
It turns out there are few actual postcards of the night club scene, so it's a rare genre worth collecting. A few of the clubs discussed are as follows:

The Panorama Roof
The Press Club
The New Orleans
Principe's Dine & Dance
The Latin Quarter
The Gai Paree
The Flame Supper Club
W.K. Gardens

Mandarin Supper Club
The Smilin Buddha
The Forbidden City
May Ling Club
The Commodore
The Palomar
The Cave
Izy's

Upcoming 2017 Events:

April 9 – Fred Hazell – Commemorating WWI
April 29-30 – FVACC Antique Show, New West
May 14 – Ron Hyde – 'The Sockeye Special'
Tram of Steveston
May 28 – **VPC Annual Show and Sale!**
June 11 – Andrew Martin – The Glory Days of
Vancouver Theatres
Sept 10 – Photographic Gems from the VPL
Special Collections
Oct 7-8 – Greater Seattle Postcard Show
Oct 8 – Thanksgiving Weekend – Speaker TBD
Nov 12 – Neil Whaley – Christmas in Vancouver
Dec 10 – AGM & Christmas Party



Maurice Guibord, giving his presentation on Vancouver night clubs with a newspaper ad featuring the top 7 reasons why the Mandarin Night Club is the most popular club in town!



**All Aboard! Join the
Vancouver Postcard Club!**

vancouverpostcardclub.ca

Follow @vanpostcard on Twitter
and NOW on Instagram!

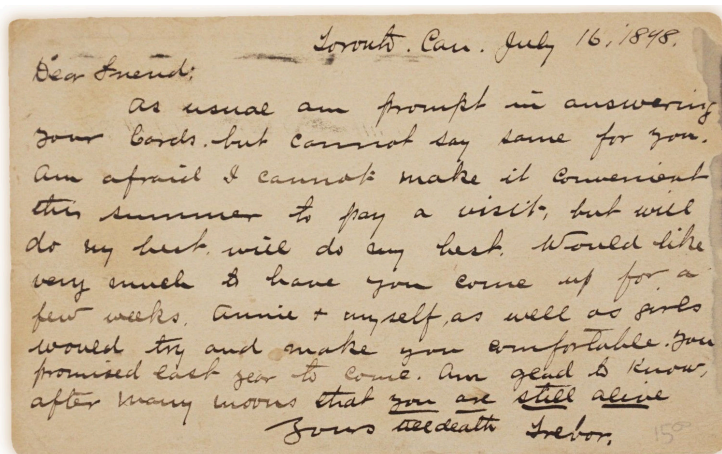
Postscript

by Jason Vanderhill

Finally, few last words from the world of postcards, podcasts, and photography. First, a recommendation, sent out via our Twitter account. Last year, the podcast *99% Invisible* published an episode about the history of the Bauhaus movement. The episode featured on the photography of Lucia Moholy. Her photographs documented the origins of the Bauhaus movement, and remarkably, her collection of glass negatives survived WWII when she herself was forced to flee Germany in the years leading up to the war. The episode delves deep into issues of authorship, attribution, ownership, and the preservation of history through photography. Highly recommended.

99percentinvisible.org/episode/photo-credit-negatives-bauhaus/

The card below was spotted on eBay, and is a fitting follow-up to our last issue on Canada's 150th anniversary. Described as an 1898 Canada Patriotic Postcard Flag cancel Toronto to USA, it has a cancellation date of July 15-16, 1898, and it sold for \$22.72 USD.



The card seems to be addressed to Mrs. Chas. Amen, c/o Mr. Sharpe in Worchester, MA. The back of the card reads as follows:

Toronto, July 16, 1898

Dear Friend:

As usual, am prompt in answering your cards but cannot say same for you. Am afraid I cannot make it convenient this summer to pay a visit, but will do my best, will do my best. Would like very much to have you come up for a few weeks. Annie & myself as well as girls would try and make you comfortable. You promised last year to come. Am glad to know, after many moons that you are still alive.

Yours till death, Trevor.

And lastly, the documentary *C.D. Hoy: Portraits From the Frontier* is available for Unlimited Viewing online at the Knowledge Network. It's a fascinating local documentary that explores Hoy's life from his arrival in Vancouver in 1902 to the gold mines, forts, and ranches of early BC. As a young immigrant from China, it was a bold move to established himself as a photographer in a foreign land. The film features 1,400 images, archival footage, excerpts from Hoy's memoirs, and contemporary commentary. Well worth a watch!

<http://www.knowledge.ca/program/cd-hoy-portraits-frontier>

Postview

Postview is the newsletter of the Vancouver Postcard Club. Published four times a year it contains articles about the postcard collecting hobby and related matters. The views contained in the newsletter are those of the Editors and Contributors, where shown, and do not necessarily reflect the views of the Vancouver Postcard Club.

Although every effort has been made to check the accuracy of articles, neither the Vancouver Postcard Club nor its officers or members are liable for any errors or omissions. The Editor of the current issue Jason Vanderhill, a board member and social media editor for the Club. Any questions or concerns may be addressed to him at jasonvanderhill@yahoo.ca.