

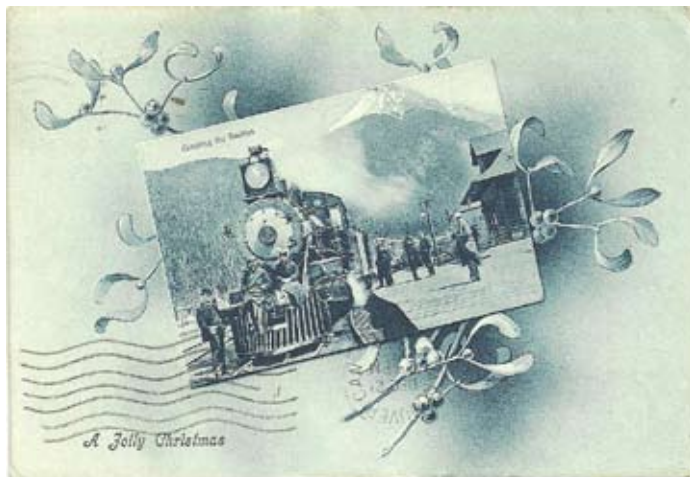
Vancouver Postcard Club

Newsletter

December 2010

www.vancouverpostcardclub.ca

Volume 28: No. 4



"Climbing the Rockies" (#1338) - one of a limited series of seasonal greetings cards published by J. Howard A. Chapman in 1907.

Come to the AGM!

As announced in the last issue, this year's Annual General Meeting of the Club will be held on Sunday, 19th December at 12 noon at the Hastings Community Centre. Those accustomed to attending corporate AGMs need have no fear - the VPC AGM is altogether different and much more enjoyable!

In addition to receiving the President's report and an update on the Club's finances, an auction of postcard ephemera will be held (proceeds to donors) and the annual photograph will be taken. Following this members are invited to linger over tea and cake. As usual there will be plenty of postcards to trade.

The annual auction is a very good opportunity to clear out some unwanted items that may have seemed a good idea at the time but are now taking up much needed shelf space or are otherwise stuffed into a desk drawer - books about postcards, ancient magazines, old newspapers, early photographs and any other items of a postcard collectible nature. The chances are that a fellow member will have a better use for this than you. Bring it along to the auction! And bring your postcards to trade!

The AGM is also the time when members express their appreciation for this year's hard working club executive and elect next year's club officers. Why not consider nominating yourself for one of the several positions that need to be filled? See you at the AGM!

Where The Postcards Are

It seems that a significant anniversary for the club may have come and gone sooner than expected!

Margaret Waddington writes -

For a long time it has been assumed that the Club was started in 1981. Vol. 1, no. 1 of the newsletter - entitled the "Album" and edited by Bob Ahern - is dated March-April-May 1981.

However when Stan Stewardson handed over some early club publications, it became evident that the first club meeting was on November 11th, 1980. A membership application (filled out by Abe Charkow), reads as follows:

NOTICE

The Vancouver Postcard Club
(WHERE THE POSTCARDS ARE)
meets

Tuesday, December 9, 1980
7:30 p.m.

The Dickenson Room
Upstairs, Stry Co-op Building
144 East 7th Ave. (at Main St.)
Vancouver, B. C.

Bring Postcards To Buy -- Sell -- Trade

Our first meeting, held on November 11th, 1980 was highly successful. 24 postcard people, including wives and friends, filled the huge table - 17 of whom immediately joined as members.

The notice continues -

"Meetings - with the emphasis on the trading of postcards - will also feature guest speakers. Members can expect to learn more about their hobby, meet new friends and old picture postcards."

Based on Margaret's careful review of the Club's archives it therefore appears that Remembrance Day 2010 also marked the 30th anniversary of the first Vancouver Postcard Club meeting. Thirty years and still going strong! We honour the founding members still among us and thank all club members for their continued support.

ARTHUR LYMBERY'S GRAY CREEK POSTCARDS

An article by his son, Tom Lymbery.



Arthur William Lymbery, Gray Creek, BC, 1934 (passport photo by George A. Meeres, Nelson, BC).

Photo: Tom and Sharon Lymbery collection

Arthur William Lymbery was born in Nottingham, England in 1878. His father was a lace merchant, and the first secretary of Notts Forest Football team. Arthur took an arts degree at Cambridge, qualified as a lawyer and practised in Nottingham. In 1910 he became interested in the fruit land promotions which were being distributed from British Columbia. In 1911 Arthur and a friend, Guy Ford, came to BC and travelled through the Kootenay and Okanagan looking at available properties. He paid attention to the advice, "Make sure there is sufficient water," and purchased 100 acres of lakeshore land in Gray Creek on Kootenay Lake. A small part of this was already cleared and a few apple trees planted. The land was well served by Croasdaile Creek, Oliver Creek, and a small unnamed stream that ran all year, so that nearly all of his land could be watered by ditching.

Arthur had the property closest to the sandy beach where the sternwheelers landed, bow-in to the sand with a plank to unload passengers and supplies. In 1912 the Dominion Government built a floating cedar log wharf to make docking easier. In 1913 several friends talked him into opening a small store to be open on boat days three times a week. Tom Oliver, the Gray Creek Postmaster, said, "Arthur, you might as well take over the Post Office – it only pays \$25 a year," so his store became the Post Office.

Arthur served in the trenches with the 16th (Canadian Scottish) Battalion CEF from 1915 to 1918. Returning in 1919, he tried to catch up on the missed years of developing his fruit ranch. Trees were of much greater interest to him than customers, so his store hours were as brief as possible.

Meanwhile, big changes were coming to Gray Creek. The CPR steamer service provided access to all of Kootenay Lake, as there were few roads. In 1931 the CPR completed the missing link of their Crows Nest and Kettle Valley line by opening a new track on the west side of the lake between Kootenay Landing and Procter.

Since 1898 a daily express and passenger boat had been running between Nelson and Kootenay Landing, and cars travelling across BC could board at Kuskanook for Nelson. But when the new rail line opened on January 1st 1931, the steamboats no longer made this trip, and most of the boats were tied up at Procter. The BC Public Works Department had started road construction on the east side from Kuskanook north, with plans to build all the way to Pilot Bay and have a ferry cross to Balfour, to enable vehicle traffic across the province. The Depression changed that project. The ferry would run from Gray Creek instead.

Arthur knew that the highway from Creston was approaching, and that it would connect with the ferry at the new Gray Creek wharf constructed in 1928. He moved his small store 400 feet to the south side of the landing by placing it on rollers pulled along with a stump puller, then built a house underneath. Material came from the CPR Hotel at Balfour that was being demolished. The road from Creston arrived, and in April 1931 the SS Nasookin started operating three trips a day ferrying cars and a daily Greyhound bus. Customers daily – for a formerly very isolated store! My mother Kathleen said a whole dollar was taken in on the first day! (Previously nearly all purchases were charged, and payments between residents were usually handled by a credit on one account and a debit on another.)

Arthur had a folding Kodak camera which used 118 roll film, and he seized the opportunity to sell postcards in his store. The camera had been dropped in the Ganges River by its previous owner Major Sherlock Gooch of Crawford Bay, but it still worked well. 118 roll film is smaller than the traditional postcard size, so this is why Arthur's postcards have a substantial border. He had these printed by Gowen, Sutton Co. Ltd. in Vancouver, and sold them for five cents. G. S. Co. Ltd. lightly tinted the black and white photos – I can remember my father writing out instructions as to the colours to be used, and that the tints must not be too heavy.

Arthur's postcards can be identified by the script which G. S. Co. Ltd. printed on the face of the cards, but he never named himself as the photographer. Also, he did not keep a list of the cards printed, but we do know that around 40 postcards photographed by Arthur Lymbery were published. I can set an approximate date on most of his postcards, and the seasonal lake level will often tell me the month. For instance – Ron Hyde's "Windows of the Past" shows the postcard of the Nasookin and the Moyie approaching our Gray Creek dock with the date "circa 1920". The actual date is 1941, taken in late summer or fall.

As we were located on the only highway across BC, we had a steady stream of decrepit vehicles from Saskatchewan passing through each fall, escaping the dust bowl and depression. But unfortunately Arthur never realized the value such a picture would be to historians today. Nor did he photograph the truckloads of Doukhobors moving west from the



Postcard photo by Arthur Lybery, "At the Ferry, Gray Creek, Kootenay Lake B.C.," early 1930s, published by Gowen, Sutton Co. Ltd., Vancouver. View of Gray Creek Store looking northwest from the highway, with roofed gas pump at left behind car, and sternwheeler docked at Gray Creek wharf in the background. The woman next to the car is believed to be Kathleen Lybery's friend Fi Francis, of Crawford Bay. Photo: Tom and Sharon Lybery collection

Prairies, who arrived standing up in the back of stake-body trucks. (They stood as it was more comfortable than sitting while travelling on a rough gravel road). Dad would send me to ask them to back up if they parked in the wrong place in the ferry line up, but the response I always got was "No spik Inglis." (I have used that on many Jehovah's Witnesses.)

The classic Gray Creek pictures are those of the SS Nasookin carrying a Greyhound carefully balanced across the bow. This ship was built in 1913 originally to transport CPR rail passengers on daily return trips across Kootenay Lake between Nelson and the eastern rail terminus at Kootenay Landing at the south end of the lake. With a steel hull and steel main deck, four decks high, the Nasookin was the largest of all the stern-wheelers from the San Francisco to Alaska. It was chartered by BC until it was purchased by the BC Public Works Dept. (now Ministry of Highways) in 1933, when the upper cabin decks and the forepeak over the bow were removed for ferry service. The Moyie wasn't big enough to carry the Greyhound bus, so we would have a coach parked in our yard and board a Greyhound mechanic if the Moyie was being substituted during the Nasookin's boiler cleans or inspections.

My sister Alice and I ran the phone messages to the Greyhound drivers as well as to the boat. Captain Malcolm MacKinnon would wait for ten minutes or so on the 4.30 p.m. trip (the last trip of the day) if someone phoned. However we had specific instructions from Captain MacKinnon to say NO if the call came from Kuskanook - Kuskanook had the only beer parlour on this side of the lake.

One of Arthur's postcards is a picture taken from about 3000 feet above the lake showing the lake all covered by an October cloud bank, while the photographer is in sunshine.

Captain MacKinnon modified one card by painting the stern-wheeler's smokestack showing above the cloud, and entered



Postcard photo by Arthur Lybery, "S.S. Nasookin at Gray Creek, B.C.," shows Captain Malcolm MacKinnon on the Gray Creek wharf, with the Nasookin docked behind him, c. 1941. Capt MacKinnon skippered the Nasookin on her maiden voyage in 1913, and was captain of the Nasookin from 1933 until her final trip in 1947. Postcard photo published by Gowen, Sutton Co. Ltd, Vancouver. Photo: Tom and Sharon Lybery collection

this in the Procter Fall Fair!

Arthur always took his camera on our family's regular Sunday hikes high in the hills above our ranch. From here, he captured the view looking over the peninsula and down the West Arm - a very popular postcard.

The only postcard that I took using my dad's camera was that of the 400 foot high tower which Cominco (Consolidated Mining & Smelting Co, now Teck Resources Ltd) used when they built the world's longest power line free span across Kootenay Lake in 1951-2. This was an interesting card but did not sell well, so likely only 50 were printed. (This tower was blown down by the Sons of Freedom Doukhobors some years later, but since cables longer than two miles were then available, the tower was replaced by structures higher up from the lake level on the eastern shore.)

Aside from the store, Arthur started Gray Creek Auto Camp in 1931. There were cottages and campsites to accommodate those who missed the last daily sailing of the Nasookin, along with a seasonal dining room. Through the winter months he served sandwiches over the store counter, made by his wife Kathleen in her kitchen below. The camp operation proved very popular with summer people and continued in business until 2008 - all thanks in part to the unusual sand beach that allowed the sternwheelers easy access back in 1911!

Arthur was married in 1921 in Crawford Bay to Kathleen Warren, from Wick Farm, Downton near Salisbury, England. Arthur met Kathleen in Crawford Bay after the war where she was visiting her friend Anne Gooch and her husband Sherlock. Kathleen, a teacher and artist, and Anne had served together in the Women's Land Army in England. Arthur and Kathleen's two surviving children are Alice (Bruce), born in 1925, and Thomas, born in 1928. (Continued on page 4)



Postcard photo by Tom Lymbery, "Tower on East Shore of Kootenay Lake Carrying Longest Power Span in World", 1952. Postcard photo published by Gowen, Sutton Co. Ltd, Vancouver. Photo: Tom and Sharon Lymbery collection

Arthur Lymbery *(Continued from page 3)*

Arthur belonged to Men of the Trees, an international movement promoting tree planting and conservation, because of his great interest in trees of all types. Before the highway was built from Gray Creek to Kootenay Bay in 1947, Arthur planted a row of London Plane trees.

These trees are still a feature along the highway because Arthur had protected them from road-widening projects and sometimes carrying a rifle to prove his point! He grafted local wild thorns to 'Medlars', an unusual fruit that is still producing close to the Gray Creek Store. This family operation begun by Arthur is going strong close to 100 years later, with one of Arthur's great grandsons working seasonally. Because Arthur came to Gray Creek specifically to grow fruit, we were still shipping apples and plums up to Arthur's death in 1969, at the age of 90.

Arthur is buried in the Gray Creek Cemetery, on an acre of land that Arthur had donated to the community about 1922.

(Editor's note - We are most grateful to Tom Lymbery and Frances Roback of the Gray Creek Historical Society for their submission of the above article and postcard illustrations).

Can You Help?

The Boundary Historical Society is going to compile a book called "Boundary Postcard History". The Society is looking for images of postcards related to the Boundary area of British Columbia - geographically going east from Bridesville and Beaverdell to West-bridge, to Rock Creek, to Midway, to Boundary Falls, to Greenwood, to Phoenix, to Eholt, to Grand Forks, to Christina Lake, BC.

Contact Sue Dahlo: aldahlo@shaw.ca or Boundary Historical Society, Box 1687, Grand Forks, V0H 1H0 - Submitted by Diane Rogers

CLUB NEWS

Vancouver Postcard Club members have once again enjoyed an interesting Fall schedule.

The September 19th meeting was a Show and Tell. Don Steele showed his very own MaxiCard. Published by "The Phantom Publishing Co.," it featured a picture of "The Vigilant," which later became the "City of Alberni," plus a matching stamp. Philip Francis displayed his collection of Kathleen Shackleton's artist-signed sketches of CPR employees. Joyce Beaubien had Molly's Reach cards. Tim Mustart showed postcards of relatives. Margaret Waddington circulated two Yoho National park map cards from John Walker's Geographical Series. Gordon Poppy brought along an album containing cards of coastal ships, dogs, cats and White Rock (quite an eclectic mix!). Art Davies showed a card of the S. S. Cardena while Tim Woodland brought views of shipments of pulp in Port Alberni. Mike Hocevar's contribution was a card of the North Vancouver ferry ca 1905.

At the Club meeting on October 17th, Art Davies gave a talk on the life and work of the Sunshine Coast photographer, Helen McCall.

Fourteen members, including new member Lorraine Irving who collects views of B. C. cemeteries, turned up on November 21st to hear Milt Blackburn's well-researched presentation on Frank Gowen and Alfred James Sutton and their cards. Milt circulated many fine Gowen & Sutton cards from his collection. Those attending also had the opportunity to purchase some items from Fred Thirkell's research collection - books, periodicals and prints generously donated to the club by Lill Thirkell.

As noted earlier, the Club AGM will be held on Sunday 19th December.

UPCOMING MEETINGS

Jan. 16; Mike Hocevar - Bus lines of B. C. with particular focus on the Pacific Stage Lines in the lower Mainland.

Feb. 20; Don Steele - the postcards of Kitselas

Mar. 20; Philip Francis - J. Howard. A. Chapman - one of BC's finest early photographers and a significant postcard publisher. Over 500 Chapman postcards from Philip's collection will be offered for sale, including First Nations, ships, scenes along the CPR railway and Vancouver views.

Apr. 17; John Davies - Yellowstone National Park

May 15; Tim Woodland - Lake Cowichan

BIOGRAPHIES OF B. C. PHOTOGRAPHERS

VIPOND, JAMES CHRISTIAN (JIM), 1905-1971

Compiled by M. Waddington



Alexandra Lodge

Vipond

A part time photographer, Vipond's name is found on real photo cards of Nakusp and the Hope area. He also provided photos to the Gowen, Sutton Co.

James was born May 29, 1905 in Trout Lake City, B. C. to Edward Russell Vipond and Lena M. Eichhorn. The family moved to Nakusp five years later.

He joined the CPR at Tadanac, B. C. in 1925 and worked in this district and other West and East Kootenay centres, Revelstoke, and Vancouver as agent and operator for many years.

According to the directories he lived at Trail in 1927, 1930-2, 1935-6, and 1939-45; then at Hope from 1946 to 1948 before returning to Trail ca 1953.

In 1957 he left the railway to open a very successful travel agency in Trail.

He died February 28, 1971 in his home at 2090 Riverside Avenue, Trail, survived by his wife, Elizabeth Margaret ("Betty") Kissell, and two brothers, Edward of Victoria and Fred of Eckville, Alberta.

Vipond was very active in community affairs, including the Trail Chamber of Commerce, St. Andrew's Anglican Church, the Masonic Lodge and the Rotary Club. He was immediate past governor of Rotary International, District 508, and a member of Fidelity Lodge 32, Friendship Lodge 144, Scottish Rite and the Trail Shrine Club. He was instrumental in organizing the Creston Rotary Club, a past member of the Trail Gyro Club, and a past district deputy of District 7, AF & AM.

References:

BC Archives death registration 1971-09-003671
(in mfm B13309)

B.C. directories: (Hope) 1946-1948
(Trail) 1927; 1930-32; 1934-36; 1939-45;
1953; 1959-70

Creston Review, Mar. 3, 1971, p. 6: "Well-known area man dies suddenly"

Rossland Miner, Mar. 4, 1971, p. [1]: "Former Trail man dies at Trail home"



Hope, B. C.

Vipond



Vipond

Nakusp, BC

W.G MacFarlane Handbook

W.G. MacFarlane was one of Canada's most prolific publishers in the early part of the 20th century. Many of us have a copy of Mike Smith's "The W.G. MacFarlane Picture Postcard Handbook, 1902 - 1912" on our shelves.

The Second Edition of the Handbook, now including the MacFarlane view cards, has just been published and it has something in it for everyone. Beginner collectors will be fascinated by the variety and quality of MacFarlane postcards, while seasoned collectors will no doubt dive right into the patriotic, artist-signed, novelty and other special series. Order your copy from Mike Smith at msmith67@rogers.com or phone 519-612-1021. See accompanying flier for further details.

American Views - "Shrinking Shows"

By Buzz Kinnimont

Last month, Southern California postcard dealers Norm and Bess Sturgis officially retired after a long career on the West Coast show circuit.

Lee Brown, owner of the only postcard store in Southern California (or anywhere in North America, perhaps...?) is wrapping up that aspect of her business and is trying to decide whether or not she'll continue to do shows.

And, over the past few years the two biggest San Diego County show dealers have been participating in shows less regularly.

Other dealers are finding that they can do as well, or better, at some of the Sunday-only antique flea markets in this area than they can at the two-day or even three-day paper shows.

Increased costs of long-distance travel and accommodation have made it impractical for many dealers to do far-away shows. Most of the Southern California dealers can no longer justify the expense of doing shows in Seattle or Portland, and some have even dropped out of the San Francisco Bay Area shows. Ditto, for some Northern CA dealers with respect to Southern CA shows.

So, what's going to happen?

So far no one seems to have a clear idea, but now that some of the old-time dealers who brought enormous stocks of material to the shows are retired or retiring, it seems likely that the remaining dealers will be happy – perhaps happier – to do small one-day shows, a format that the large-stock dealers always objected to.

The first test of such a show came on Saturday Dec. 4th when a mere nine dealers participated in the first one-day postcard and paper show that I can remember being held in this area in many years.

Oddly, it was not intended as a test... rather it was the winding-down of the small, previously two-day-format Granada Hills show which had run for about 12 years. Instead of being held in the gymnasium where as many as 20 dealers used to set up, it was held in a smaller meeting room. And it was a good show for most of the sellers, with many of the usual shoppers turning out.

As well, one of the nine dealers was happy because he was able to set up at the big Pasadena City College swap meet the next day, and at least three more of us were happy because we could shop at that swap meet at our leisure without having to worry about getting back to Granada Hills by 10:00 A.M. for what would likely have been a very dull Sunday segment of the show.

On Saturday the 12th, a brand new one-day show was held in northern Orange County in the city of Fullerton, about ½ hour S.E. of downtown L.A. (... ½ hour on a Saturday morning, that is... an hour or more at many

other times of the week...!)

It was, in part, the revival of an old Orange County show that was last held 5 years ago, but mainly it was a substitute for the long-running but now abandoned December San Diego show. Henceforth there will only be one San Diego show each year, in April.

The Fullerton show had 12 dealers, a decent turnout of shoppers early in the day including some new faces and some faces not seen in the past few years, but sales for most of the dealers were slow and the room was very quiet for the final hour or two.

Given the number of currently-active dealers in this area, I'm encouraging the promoters to emulate the local stamp shows (with which we might eventually have to amalgamate) by settling on five or six geographically diverse show locations with two one-day Saturday shows per year at each location. That would allow for a core group of dealers to do most or all of the shows, with some of the regional sellers filling out the rooms.

Then the biggest show in this area – currently held three times per year in Glendale – could be cut back to once or twice a year and hopefully held on back-to-back weekends with a big San Francisco show to try to lure a variety of dealers from far-away places.

Finally, a note for travellers - if you're heading down this way and hoping to get to a show or two, be careful with the listings that you find online and in the postcard publications. Check ahead with the promoters, because I've noticed that old ads were still running for shows that no longer exist....

Happy New Year ...!



Cheramy's Chatter

By John Cheramy

Sept. 3, 4, 5, - BNAPS at the Victoria Convention Centre and Empress Hotel. WOW – fantastic displays! I eavesdropped at several exhibits listening to the owner explain some subtle nuances about his display. Also, I eavesdropped listening to John Keenlyside (head judge) explaining some of Bob Foster's fabulous BC Colonial Postal History collection 1858-1871.

The 15 dealers had a wide variety of scarce to reasonably priced material. MJR, Edmonton (John & Simone Bucci), Don Kaye, Jim Miller, John & Bev Attrell, and our own locals Tom Watkins, Bill Bartlett and Firmin Wynfels. We also ran into and enjoyed conversations with quite a few Vancouver Postcard Club members, including Earle Covert, Ron Leith, Lee Dowsley, Ron Greene, Ian & Robin Mowat, Gray Scrimgeour, Keith Spencer, Rein Stamm, and Tim Woodland.

Sept. 10 – Boarded the ferry to Vancouver for the NSNS Coin (& Stamp) Show Sept. 11 & 12th. Don Steele came in early Saturday and then Peter Zezchuk showed up later in the day and traded for some nice lower Mainland cards. Sunday we saw Ron Souch, Philip Francis, Marg Waddington, Gordon Poppy, Milt Blackburn (both days), Brian Grant Duff, Tim Mustart, and Ron Greene.

Sept. 14 – Muffin Break. Don Stewart Jr. (McLeod Books, Vancouver) and Jack & Dorothy McCuaig were our visitors. Jack had several show & tell cards, some scarce early BC.

Sept. 24 – and off to Nanaimo where we'll be staying at our daughter Vicki's home for the Beban Park Antique Show on Sat. Sept. 25th. We got some nice BC postcards from a collector who was reluctant to part with his cards as they were addressed to his dad and grandfather. Some of the cards that I showed interest in, he pulled back – although I did end up trading for a few good ones.

Late October – We got a phone call from a Colin Campbell from North Vancouver asking us if we'd be interested in a large collection of postcards and covers, mostly Canadian. He'd been referred to us by Don Steele, our VPC Club President. After hearing positively from us, he brought the collection over on Monday, Nov. 1st. It was mostly bulk material, but he had some super gems here and there amongst the common. I fell in love with the few pieces I spotted that turned me on, e.g. a Colonel Sam Steele postcard from the Boer War period. Anyhow, I offered him way too much for the whole lot and after he checked with someone else in Victoria, he

decided to sell it to us. Kept me busy for two weeks to weed through it and pull out the better items, not enough as I finished but still satisfying overall.



I had met his father, same name, at a stamp show in Westbank quite a few years ago, being bourse table-mates. Colin Sr. was the editor of a postcard club that Don Kaye was heavily involved in too, about various Canadian postcard issues, sending out a quarterly bulletin of interesting subjects. Small world!

Nov. 28th – Sunday at Don Shorting's one-day stamp & coin bourse, I met a man from up-Island with whom I had traded for super cards earlier this year at the Nanaimo Antique Show in late September. Well he showed me 2 albums of cards, mostly addressed to his dad and his grandfather. After a few hours I was able to extract a few, about 50 or so, in trade which made me very happy, a couple being Indian Potlatch cards from Quamichan! A nice addition to our stock.

At this show I also looked at a large collection of Canadian paper money, going back to pre-1900, unfortunately in lower grades of condition. The widow said she'd get in touch with us early next year. Looking forward to going over the collection.

While it's been quiet locally for the last 2 months, except for Muffin Break Tuesday mornings, I've been kept busy by bringing home some boxes of postcards and covers to play with. One box contained about 40 covers from Ireland addresses to the nuns at Our Lady of Lourdes school in Maillardville. Most were dated 1942 and about half of them were "Mourning Covers". Father Teck, who was Belgian, was a good friend of my father and because of that, I was given the covers as he knew I collected stamps. Thank God I left the covers intact and didn't rip the stamps off. One of the covers was addressed to Sister Bernard, who was my teacher in grades 7 & 8 in 1946 and /47. *Continued on page 8*

Cheramy's Chatter (contd.)

I also found quite a few First Day Covers addressed to Dr. Beaudoin, who rented offices in my parents' building in Maillardville at 902 Brunette St. Some are huge size envelopes, around 8 X 10", mostly stamps from the late 1940's to mid-1950's. Some others I had bought from Bob's Stamp Store on Clarkson Ave., New Westminster in the 1950's.

We're hoping to have Christmas dinner at our daughter and son-in-law's home in Nanaimo (haven't told them yet!), and have a couple of house calls to make during our stay. More on this next bulletin. In the meantime, Glenda and I wish all our members the best for the Holidays and for 2011, with many new, super postcard acquisitions



PRAISE FROM CARD TALK

These days Vancouver enjoys so many advantages over the folks back east in Toronto - better weather, a stronger economy and a far superior hockey team. But we have to admit that the Toronto Postcard Club newsletter - *Card Talk* - sets a very high standard when it comes to postcard newsletters! It's a great read, three times a year! So you can understand our excitement to read the following comments "From the Editor's Desk" in the latest issue -

"This brings up the broader issue of joining other clubs where you may not get to meetings but you get an informative newsletter. A great case in point is the *Vancouver Postcard Club*. Their 8-page very professional newsletter arrives by email and is always an interesting read. I don't collect Western Canada cards but there is other "postcardiana" (there, I've just invented a new word!) to expand my store of knowledge even if it's only appreciating the great extent of work being done to catalogue B.C. postcard publishers by members such as Ron Souch. A favourite column is John Cheramy's *Cheramy's Chatter*."

Season's Greetings to all our Postcard friends in Toronto!

Can You Identify?



In the last issue we asked for help in identifying the above couple in a real photo postcard from Victoria. Michael Rice of Fenian Antiques has kindly provided the following information -

"This photo was taken in front of the main branch of the Bank of Montreal on Douglas Street, with the couple walking south on the east side of the street, south of the Yates Street intersection. This was a regular location of "street photographers" who would snap informal shots of passersby and then thrust slips of paper at them, with the address of their business. If the passersby were interested, they could visit the store and view proof sheets of any particular day's photos which were taped up in the window. If they liked how they looked, they could pop in and order prints, which could, at that time, be developed onto postcard stock. Sometimes the photographer's name and business address would be rubberstamped on the back, sometimes not. My own collection includes "real photo" cards of my grandparents taken at exactly the same spot and dating from the same era.

Thanks and Best Wishes

Special thanks to Margaret Waddington for her assistance with this issue and, as always, to John & Glenda Cheramy and Buzz Kinninmont for their contributions. Particular thanks also go to Tom Lymbery and Frances Roback of the Gray Creek Historical Society.

We wish all our readers a safe and enjoyable holiday season and every success in growing your postcard collections in 2011.