

Birmingham - Ferndale Stamp Club Newsletter



November 2025

On November 1st, 1957, the Mackinac Bridge opened as the largest suspension bridge in the world. Construction began on May 7, 1954, but it took three and a half years to complete because work could only be done during the summer.

Scott
#4438



On November 2nd, turn your clocks back one hour; on the 11th, honor those Veterans who served our country; and finally, have a happy and safe Thanksgiving holiday on the 27th.

The family of well-known Michigan postal history expert Ernest Scott announced his passing on October 18th. Ernie developed the "erniesmichigan.com" searchable database of Michigan postal history and genealogy. Please keep Ernie's family in your prayers.

The American Philatelic Society has confirmed that Jay Bigalke, David Fritz, and other

investors, including Mystic Stamp Company, have formed Scott Stamp LLC and acquired the *Scott* catalogs, *Linn's Stamp News*, and *Scott Stamp Monthly* from Amos Media.

There was good turnout at our October 7th meeting and October 21st banquet. The restaurant accommodation was very poor and there were many complaints. Next year will be different!

Club Meetings –
November 4th and 18th, 6:00 p.m. at the NEXT Senior Center, Birmingham.

Upcoming Events –
October 31st and November 1st, Ann Arbor Stamp Club Bourse & Exhibition, Washtenaw Community College, Morris Lawrence Building.

December 5th and 6th, BIRMPEX stamp show at Sokol Cultural Center, Dearborn Heights.

December 6th, Modern Stamps Public Stamp Auction #533, at their Oak Park facility.

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Canada Postal Cards (Webb P20 & P21)

Walter Koster

In November 1897 the Canadian Post Office Department began to replace "Small Queen" stamps (Scott #34 – 40) with new issues featuring a vignette of Queen Victoria, adapted from a photo taken at the time of her diamond Jubilee celebration. These became known as the "Maple Leaf Issue" (Scott #66 - 73) because of maple leaves in each corner of the design. Denominations were written in English under the Queen's portrait.

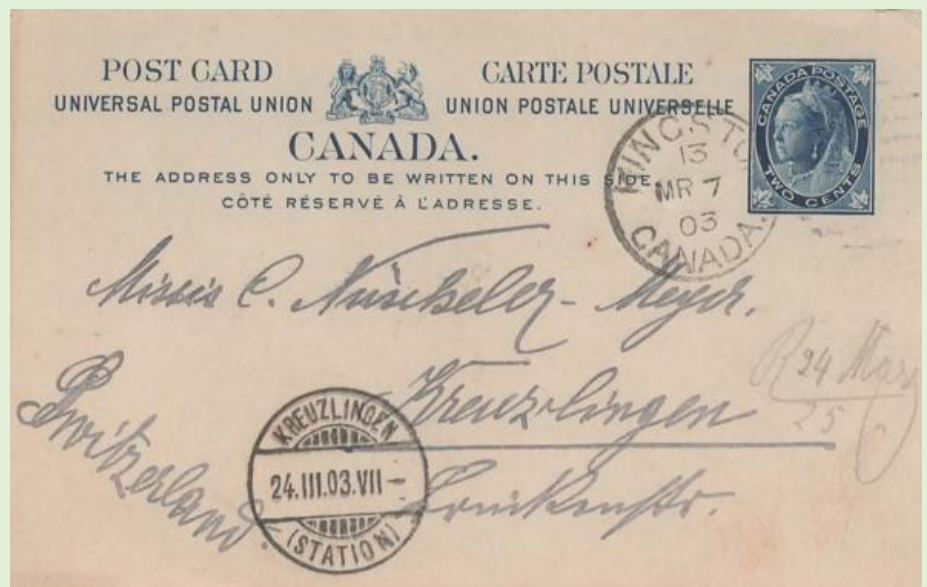
Two new, 2¢ Universal Postal Union (U.P.U.) postal cards were soon issued. Each featured the same frameless design, bilingual inscriptions, and reproduction of the British Coat of Arms as the P15 card. The stamp in the upper right-hand corner of each resembles the 2¢ purple Maple Leaf Issue (Scott #68), printed in orange for the P20 and printed in deep blue on the P21 card. The earliest reported postmark (ERP) for the P20 card is February 11, 1898. The ERP for the P21 card is September 19, 1898.

The P21 card includes a Kingston, Canada, CDS cancel and a Kreuzlingen, Switzerland receiving cancel. Kreuzlingen

is a municipality in the canton of Thurgau in north-eastern Switzerland, approximately 70km (45 miles) southeast of Zurich.



Webb P20



Webb P21

References:

The Postage Stamps and Postal History of Canada, by Winthrop S. Boggs, Volume 1, Copyright 1945

Canada & Newfoundland Postal Stationary Catalogue, Fourth Edition, J. F. Webb, 1983

Canada, Its Postage Stamps and Postal Stationery, by Clifton A. Howes, [eBook #37457]

The British North America Philatelic Society, Ltd. (BNAPS) Postal Stationary Study Group, *Postal Stationary Notes*, Vol.1, No. 2, February 1982; *The Postal History of the Post Card in Canada 1878 – 1911*, Allan L. Steinhart, 1979

National Air Mail Week

Michael Swope



National Air Mail Week was a nationwide public relations campaign held from May 15th to 21st, 1938, to commemorate the 20th anniversary of the U.S. Post Office's airmail service. It was created by President Franklin D. Roosevelt and Postmaster General James A. Farley, and was designed to boost support for and usage of the service, which was recovering from the 1934 airmail scandal and struggling financially during the Great Depression.

However, in 1946, President Harry S. Truman proclaimed the week of October 27th to November 2nd as National Air Mail Week to promote airmail usage. A key event during this week was the reduction of the domestic airmail rate from 8¢ to 5¢ per ounce, effective in August 1946, following an act of Congress. The week was designated to encourage the expansion of the nation's airmail service. Numerous special flights and events took place across the country to highlight air mail delivery during this week, such as the first helicopter mail pickup which occurred in Boston on October 29, 1946.

The air mail cover featured above bears the imprinted cache - "National Air Mail Week – Oct 27 NOV 2; Sponsored by the Exchange Club of Birmingham Mich, Detroit's Beautiful, Residential Suburb". It is franked with the 5¢, red, DC-4 Skymaster postage stamp, Scott #C32 and cancelled at Birmingham, Michigan, on November 8, 1946.

References: Cover from Author's collection; AmericanAirMailSociety.org