



CANADA AND EMPIRE

A PHILATELIC HISTORY

LUCY SMITH

The First Christmas Stamp - 1898

- 🍁 This Imperial stamp was the first Christmas stamp produced
- 🍁 It was the first stamp not to feature the monarchy
- 🍁 First stamp to use 3 colours
- 🍁 927,000 of these stamps were issued
- 🍁 The quote "We hold a vaster Empire than has been" comes from the ode – 'A song of Empire'



Imperial Penny Post

- ❖ One of the inter-Empire stamps issued after the London Imperial Conference of 1897
- ❖ This was to discuss a standard price of 1d across the Empire
- ❖ Not all countries adopted this new price (see next slide)
- ❖ Canada's new rate became 2c per ½ oz for empire postage
- ❖ The design comes from Postmaster General Sir William Mulock, who wanted a stamp to commemorate the role of the Empire in the Alaskan Border issues and for the victory of the First Boer War
- ❖ Mulock and John Henniker Heaton were key advocates for the penny post



The New Penny Post



Postmasters are also informed that, in this case, the new stamp may be sold to the public as soon as supplies of it are received.

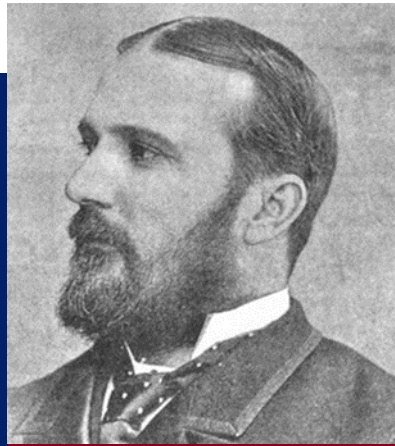
The countries which, in addition to Canada, have given their adhesion to the scheme for reduced inter-Imperial postage up to the present date, and to which, consequently, letters may be sent from Canada prepaid at the rate of 2c. per half-ounce, are :

The United Kingdom of Great Britain and Ireland,
British India,
Newfoundland,
British East Africa,
Uganda,
British Central Africa,
The Niger Coast Protectorate,
The Niger Company's Territory,
Jamaica,
Bahama Islands,

From the Canadian Post Office Circular, dated 2/12/1898

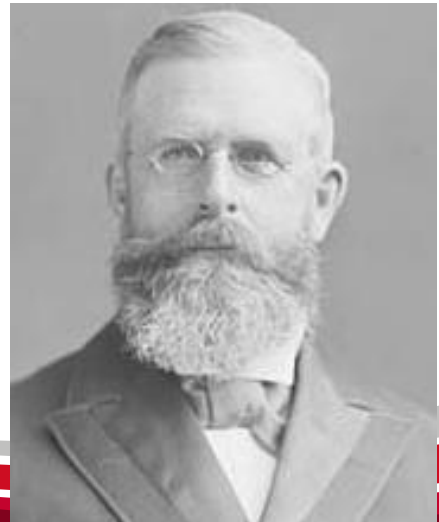
The Australian Connection

- ✳ The key players in the creation of the Imperial Penny Post, Mulock and Henniker both played important roles in the telegraph connections between Britain, Canada and Australia
- ✳ Mulock helped in the creation of GB/Can/Aus telegraph cables
- ✳ Henniker Heaton whilst in Australia helped lower the cost to use these cables
- ✳ Heaton returned to the UK and became MP for Canterbury in 1885
- ✳ In 1886, Heaton started his campaigning for a cheaper unified postage rate through out the empire



Mulock's and Heaton's Success

- ✳ Both Heaton and Mulock were journalists and could use this skill to help in their speeches at the London Conference
- ✳ Mulock was the first to use the Map Stamp in correspondence to the Duke of Norfolk in letters outlining Canadians discontent with the new rate
- ✳ The Map Stamp depicts Canada as a united nation, showing Mulock's vision clearly (one which he saw most of in his lifetime! [1843-1944])
- ✳ Mulock, like Heaton, also became an MP, for North York
- ✳ Mulock was a great influencer in his life, he was the first person to introduce free braille copies of Post Office printed materials, he also helped nationalise Canada's telephones from the Bell monopoly, and he even served in WW2 as the head of the YMCA



1998

- ❖ 100 years after the release of the Canadian Imperial Map Stamp, a commemorative issue was released, it featured the stamp-on-stamp with decals of Sir William Mulock and St Edward's Crown
- ❖ There were 7,000,000 of these issued



Canadian Stamps of the Empire

Only stamp ever to show Edward VII as a child

Newfoundland stamps were encrypted with 'American Bank Note Copy (company)', all the Canadian stamps were printed at the British American Bank Note Company, who also used to print money

A stamp from 1915, one of the Empire countries to release war tax stamps to help with the war effort

Stamps issued up until today still feature the Queen

Stamp showing 100 years (1951) since the 3c Beaver (stamp-on-stamp)



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