

From: The Official American Airmail Catalogue
Fifth Edition
Volume 4
Page 1681

Commercial Airways Ltd. flew the first commercial airmail flight from Edmonton to Athabasca on February 23, 1931 with 873 pieces of mail on board. The semi-official flight was one of several flown by Wop May, co-owner of the airline company. Wop May was also the pilot for the return flight to Edmonton on February 24 with 1044 pieces of mail on board.

Commercial Airways Ltd. was started in November 1929 to provide airmail service from Edmonton to Grande Prairie. The company lasted only three years, however, until it was purchased in April 1931 by Canadian Airways Ltd., a company which soon became the largest air service operation in Western Canada.

The cachet, a hand stamp or marking to celebrate a special date, on the front of the letter to Mr. Le Mercier is the official identification for Commercial Airways. It was usually found to be purple. The label on the back of letter was sold for 10 cents at time.

While there is no value on the label, Richard Toop at the National Postal Museum, says the letter addressed to Mr. Le Mercier would be valued at about \$15 on a philatelic basis.

PO. Card No. 2

HLFX. CH ST. J. QUE. SHFR. MON. OTT. TOR. LON. N.BAY WPG. M.J. SASK. CAL. VAN.

OFFICE

ATHABASCA 8046

PROVINCE ALBERTA

ELECTORAL DISTRICT

DATE OFFICE OPENED 22-1-01

ATHABASCA

RURAL P.O.	SUB P.O.	ACCT. P.O.	SAVINGS BANK	POSTAL NOTES	NON-ACCT. P.O.	SUMMER P.O.	WINTER P.O.
		16-3-38					
POSTMASTER					DATE OF APPOINTMENT	DATE OF VACANCY	
Jas Alex. Minns							
Isabel E. Minns T					28-12-36		
Harold V. Bayliss P					20-7-37		

LOCATION	DATE
Lot 13 Blk 1. Litchfield Ave. Athabasca.	30-4-30
N.W. 20-66-22-4.	
SE Lot 13 Blk 1. Plan V. H.B. Reserve	

Athabaska Alta 8046

Athabasca Alberta

PC-REV-1842 (NAME OF OFFICE) (Semi-Staff)

DATE OF ESTABLISHMENT- 22-1-1901

OFFICE RE-OPENED-

OFFICE CLOSED-

CHANGES IN NAME

FORMER NAME- Athabaska Landing

DATE OF CHANGE- 1-1-1914

9-8-1950

NAME OF POSTMASTER	MILITARY STATUS	DATE OF BIRTH	DATE OF APPOINTMENT	DATE OF VACANCY	CAUSE OF VACANCY
William Pennison			22-1-1901	18-4-1905	Resignation
J. McKernan			1-9-1905	2-2-1912	Resignation
A. Minns			4-4-1912	28-12-1936	Death
Mrs. Isabel Etta Minns			28-12-1936	Acting	
Harold Victor Bayliss	OAS	-2-1888	20-7-1937	1-3-1955	Retirement
Donald James McLevin	OAS	7-2-1917	7-6-1955	Acting	
Donald James McLevin	OAS	7-2-1917	1-8-1956		Transferred to Leduc
Donald J. McLevin		18-6-21	30-9-71	1-7-76	Retired

O.B. 39 - 23-11-61

Athabaska

PROVINCE

Alberta.

ELECTORAL DISTRICT ATHABASCA

DATE OFFICE OPENED

~~XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX~~[illegible]

OFFICE

Athabaska

8046

PROVINCE

Alberta

ELECTORAL DISTRICT

DATE OFFICE OPENED

Athabasca

Govt.
Rented.

22-1-01

[illegible]

Atkasht 9,

Alta.

8046