Parcel cards from and to Canada

Parcel cards (properly known as *despatch notes* or *bulletins d'expédition*,) accompany postal items sent by parcel post. After delivery of the item, they were supposed to be signed by the recipient, then returned to the country of origin, and subsequently disposed of. For Canada, this meant destruction—so very few Canadian parcel cards have survived. Parcels sent between Canada, US, UK (and a few other countries) did not require despatch notes. Canadian stamps never appear on parcel cards.

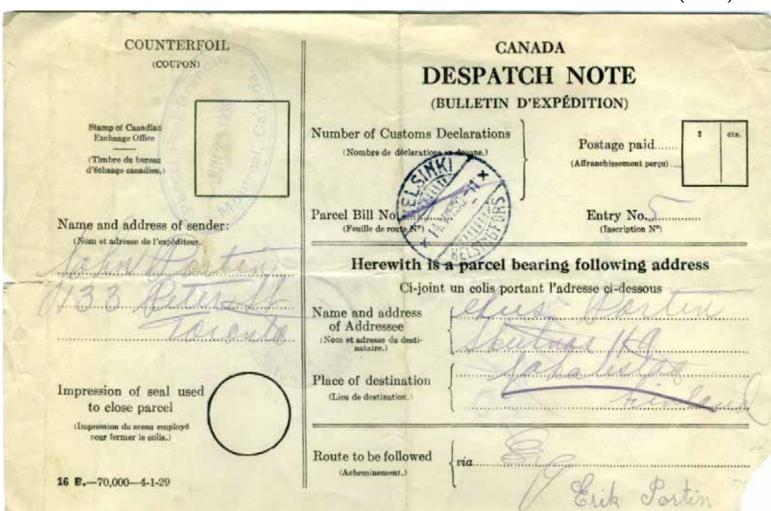
We treat the cards associated to both outgoing and incoming parcels. Registration, insurance (*valeur déclarée*), COD were not (normally) permitted on international parcels to or from Canada.

The first half ("From Canada") shows the evolution of Canadian parcel cards from 1929 to 1970 (print-order dates). Among the **highlights** are a refused and returned 1934 parcel card from Germany (charged a German fee for the trip back), and a 1947 example to the former concentration camp at Bergen-Belsen.

The second half ("To Canada") shows incoming cards, showing the wide variety of formats (all card thickness, unlike Canada's), methods of franking, and use of stickers for routing instructions and recording the parcel (these are not *registration* stickers).

Highlights include the 1916 card from Norway (earliest recorded to Canada), 1930 Palestine (with two customs forms), the 1935 Italian example erroneously sent with VD and erroneously accepted by Canada, and the 1955 card from DDR (a surprising direction!).

From Canada To Finland (1930)



Toronto to Jakobstad via Montreal, England, and Helsinki, 1930. • Signed at lower right. (Routing information reads Eng, for England.) • No indication of postage paid

• Print-order data 70,000—4-1-29

• No printed text on reverse.



Bradford (ON) to Berlin via Montreal and Hamburg, refused, and returned to sender, 1934. Rated 45¢, for under one pound via England.

• Print-order data 60,000—21–10–31

• No printed text on reverse.

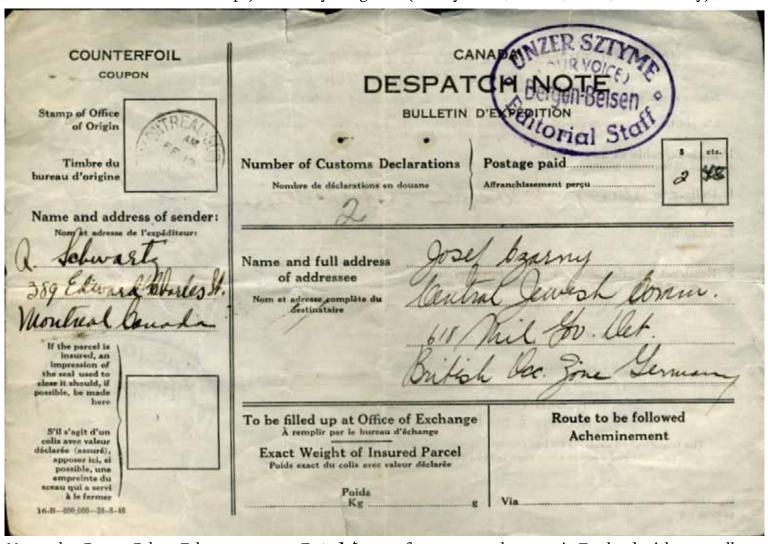


The 595 endorsement may represent the German fee (in Pfennig) for returning the parcel (minimum fee is for 1 kg).

The parcel was refused, and the customs (and storage and handling) fees that would have been charged were rescinded (*Zoll abgesetzt* handstamp on reverse); these were itemized on what remains of the label (intended for remailed or returned international parcels).

To Bergen-Belsen (1947)

Nazi concentration camp 1943–45 (at least 35000 murdered); on liberation, contained 60000 people, of whom 13000 died within a few weeks. Post-War, it housed the survivors (almost entirely Jewish—others were moved to other camps) until they emigrated (mostly to US, Canada, Israel, and Norway).



Montreal to Bergen-Belsen, February 1947. **Rated** \$2.45, for two parcels sent via England, either 3–4lb and 4–5lb or 2–3lb and 5–6lb.

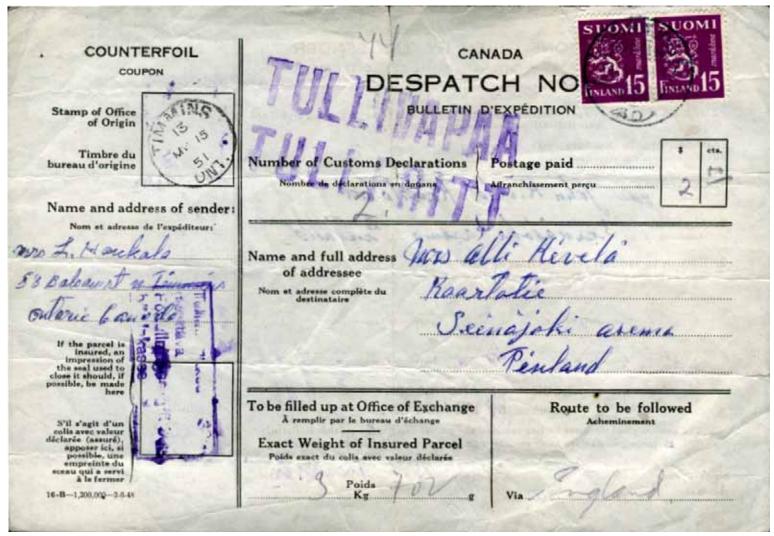
• Print-order data 600,000—28–8–46

• Printed text (sender's instructions) on reverse.

	NO DAY TO SERVICE STATE OF THE PARTY OF THE
INSTRUCTIONS GIVEN BY THE SENDER	110012/11
INSTRUCTIONS À DONNER PAR L'EXPÉDITEUR	And the second second
Sender must provide for an alternative disposition, by striking out instructions not intended, as follows:—	BELLEVILLE OF
L'expéditeur est tenu de mentionner une autre façon de disposer de l'envoi, en biffant les indications ci-après qui sont inutiles:—	BERTHAM TO BE
If undeliverable as addressed: As cas of non-brishon is cells dolt time. 1. Deliver to Buy Jewesh Chaplain live a	Suppose to the suppose of the suppos
2. Abandon	dela to I
3. <u>Ratures de servicer soluem charges guerra</u> nteed. remoyé à l'espéditeur qui s'engage à payer les frais de veteur.	Control of the same
Signature of Sender - Signature de l'expéditour	ic lbirone
Address of Sender - Adresse de l'expéditeur	Boss
RECEIPT OF ADDRESSEE RÉCÉPISSÉ DU DESTINATAIRE	(°, 192198-19779 8 °
The undersigned declares he has received the parcel designated on this bulletin. Le soussigné déclare avoir reçu le colis désigné sur le présent bulletin.	COLLIZS HALL
Signature 19	
16-B-28-8-66	I the same of the same of the

If undeliverable as addressed, ... deliver to *Any Jewish Chaplin*

The year on the one postmark is unreadable. The camp newspaper, *Unzer Sztyme*, changed its name in late 1947; since the print-order date is late August 1946 and the postmark is dated February, the year must be 1947.

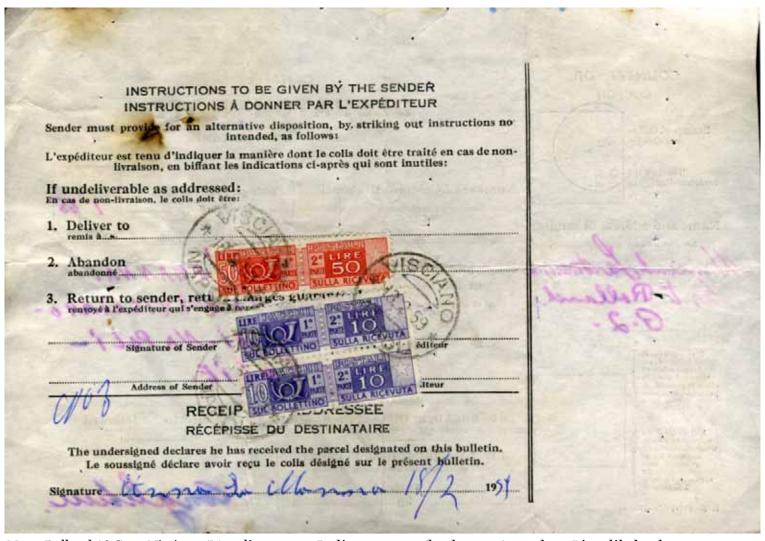


Timmins (ON) to Finland, 1951. Rated \$2 for 7-8lb via England. Purple bilingual (Finnish/Swedish) handstamp means duty-free. Finnish stamps pay customs handling fee (30 Markaa).

• Print-order data 1,200,000—2-6-48

• Properly signed by recipient.

	RECEIPT OF ADDRESSEE
	RÉCÉPISSÉ DU DESTINATAIRE
The unders	gned declares he has received the parcel designated on this bulletin.
	ssigné déclare avoir reçu le colis désigné sur le présent bulletin.



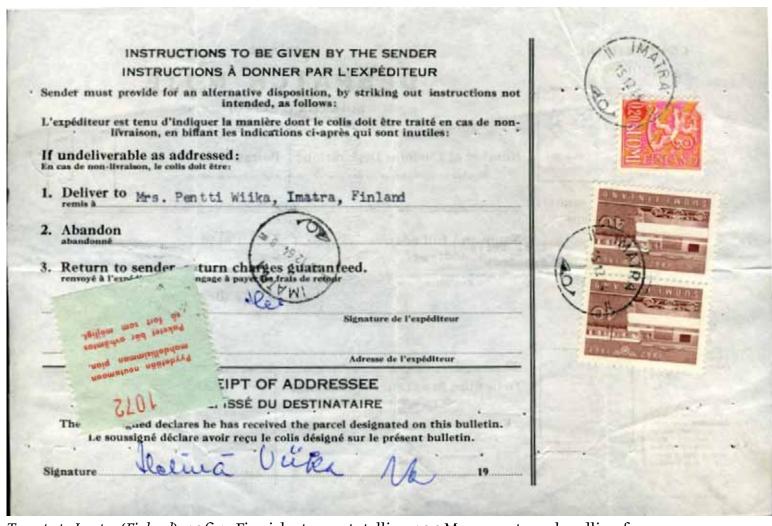
Mont Rolland (QC) to Visciano (Napoli), 1959. Italian stamps (both parts) total 70 Lire, likely the customs handling fee.

• Print-order data 8 M - pads — 19 – 8 – 53

• Properly signed by recipient.

COUNTERFOIL	CANAI	DA
. COUPON	DESPATC	H NOTE
Stamp of Office of Origin 20	BULLETIN D'E	XPÉDITION
Timbre du bureau d'origine		stage paid
Name and address of se		
Nom et adresse de Verpéditei Andrés de l'Andrés Andrés de l'Andrés Andrés de l'Andrés If the parcel is insured, an impression of the seal used to close it abould, if possible, be made here	Name and full address MR.PAS2 of addressee Nom et adresse complète du CORSSO-	U.L. Nº 9 VISCIANO DI-NA POLI- ALIE
S'il s'agit d'un colls avec valeur déclarée (assuré), apposer icl, si possible, une	To be filled in at Office of Exchange A remplir par le bureau d'échange Exact Weight of Insured Parcel Poids exact du colls avec valeur déclarée	Route to be followed Acheminement

Rated \$1.65, 3-4lb, surface via England.



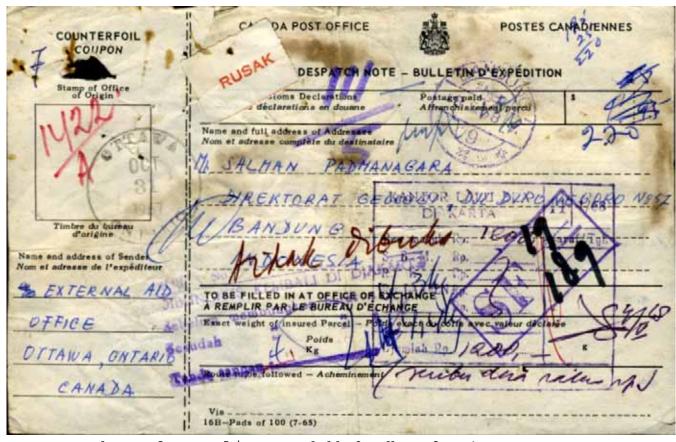
Toronto to Imatra (Finland), 1964. Finnish stamps totalling 100M pay customs handling fee.

• Print-order data 8500 PADS OF 100—31–1–62

• Properly signed by recipient.

COUNTERFOIL COUPON Stamp of Office of Origin Timbre du bureau d'origine Name and address of sender: Nom et adresse de l'expéditeur	DESPATCH NOTE BULLETIN D'EXPÉDITION Number of Customs Declarations Postage paid			
Mrs. T. Wiika 61 Tilson Rd. Toronto 7, Ont. Ganada If the parcel is insured, an impression of the seal used to close it should, if	of addressee Nom et adresse complète du destinataire	IMATRA PINLAND		
S'Il'a'nglt d'un colis avec valeur déclarée (assuré), apposer ici, si possible, une sceau qui a servi à le fermer	To be filled in at Office of Exc A remplir par le bureau d'échang Exact Weight of Insured Pr Polds exact du colls avec valeur décl Polds Kg	Acheminement Achem		

Rated \$1.50, probably 2-3lb surface via England.



Ottawa to Bandung, 1967. Rated \$2.20, probably 8–9lb, surface via US.

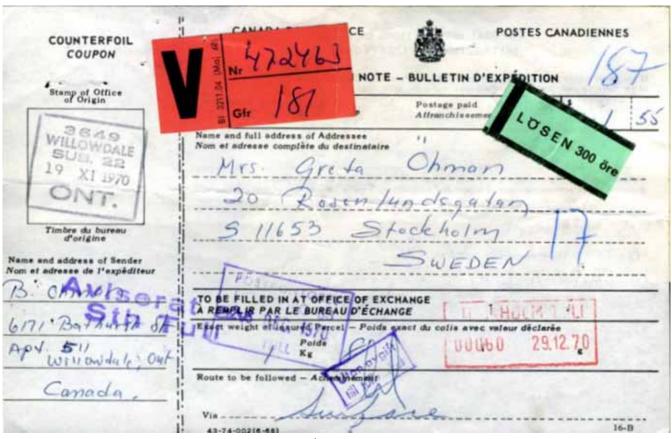
• Print-order data 8500 pads of 100 (7–65)

• Properly signed by recipient after arduous trip.



Total of 100 Rupiah paid in fiscal stamps—the parcel was valued at 1200 Rp, according to the three attached fee schedules.

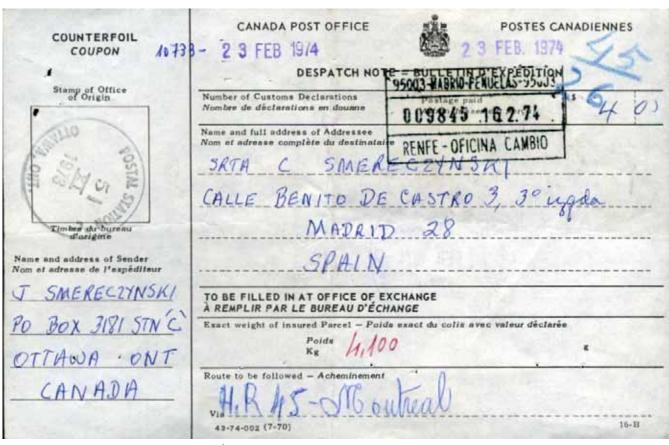
To Sweden (1970) and Spain (1974)



Willowdale (ON) to Stockholm, 1970. Rated \$1.55, probably 3-4lb by surface via England. In Sweden, V (valeur déclarée) sticker added. Charged 3Kr customs duty in Sweden.

• Print-order data 43-74-002 (6-68)

• Not signed by recipient.



Ottawa to Madrid, 1974. Rated \$4, 9–10lb surface via England and France.

• Print-order data 43-74-002 (7-70)

• Properly signed by recipient.

To Canada

Somewhat easier to find than despatch notes from Canada.



Trondheim (Norway) to Winnipeg via Bergen-Newcastle, 1916. Rated 2.34 Kr.

Des Empfängers
Récépissé du destinataire (lorsqu'il le colis désigné les colis designé les colis designé les colis désigné les colis désigné les colis désigné les colis désigné les colis designé les colis des colis designé les colis designé les colis designé les colis des colis designé les colis designé les colis designé les colis des

• Not signed by recipient.

The small purple **R St J** handstamp (lower left) is a registration marking known in fewer than five examples, here simply recording the parcel post number (the parcel was *not* sent registered).

The large blue \mathbf{H} is a Hamburg transit mark.

Dentjebland. — Administration der Postes dessen.

Univerlangabe
Valeur assunde

Um Geniummnesort) in A Facolos R. E. L.

(Semiummnesort) in A Facolos R. E. L.

(Dent der une benaummer)

Dottaewing Genium der Postes dessen.

Dottaewing Genium der Genium der Postes dessen.

Dottaewing Genium der Genium der

Marggrabowa (Germany—now Olecko in Poland) to St Jacobs (ON) via Hamburg and Halifax, 1925. **Rated** 3.4 marks...

• Signed by recipient.

From Switzerland (1929)



Zürich to Edmonton via Germany and England, 1929. Rated 6.55 marks.

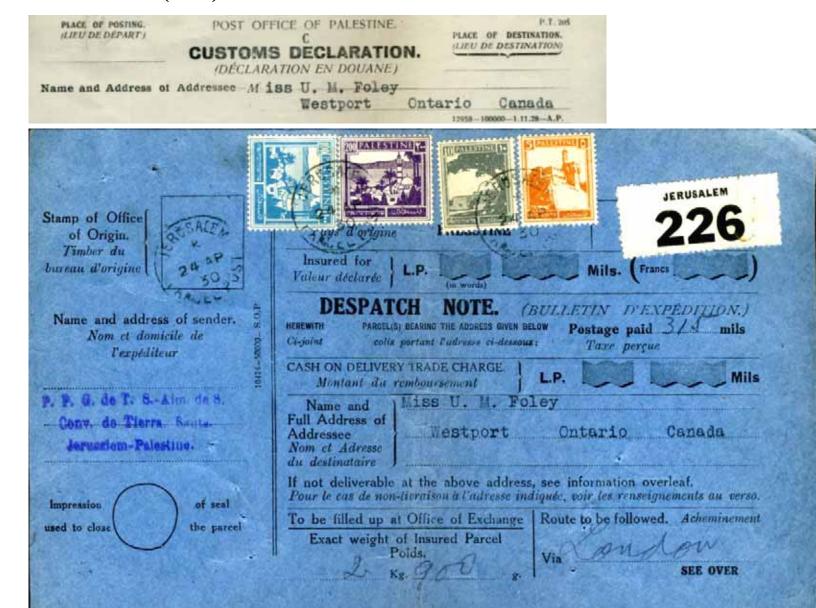
Contained a package of vegetable seeds weighing 1.06kg, and a pruning knife (serpette).

• Not signed by recipient.

Paket (Kiste, Korb usw.) Wertschachtel oder Briefsendung			Einzelwert der Ware in Paket, Wertschachtel	Gewicht - I	oids — Peso	surus	
aquet (caisse, panier etc. olte avac valeur déclaré ou lettre, etc. acco (cassa, cesta, ecc.) scatola con valore glichiarato o lettera, ecc. Zahl Rombra Buttern Sprii	Désignation		oder Briefsendung * Valeur par espèce de merchandise dans paquet, boite avec va- leur déclarée ou lettre * Valore di ogni singola merce nel pacco, nella scatola con valore di- chiarato o nella lettera*	roh brut lordo Gramm-grammes grammi	rein net netto Gramm-grammes grammi	Bemerkungen Observations Osservazioni	
1 The	frainces 1 sorpet	potagere	45 5.50	1860	1200		
Ursprungs-od, Herkunfts land der Waie - Pays d'ori gine ou de fabrication de la marchandise - Paese d'origine o di fabbrica- rione della merce.	• Veir au verso. • Vedi a tergo. Unterschrift des A	éditeur:	50.50 Kirich Jo: Hav	den d	7. Har	lo 1929	

Customs declaration, attached by paper clip and pin.

From Palestine (1930)



Jerusalem to Westport (ON) via London, 1930. Rated 315 mils—Palestine packet rates are unknown in this period.

• Not signed by recipient.

	Parcel	* (Colls postaux)	Contents (Désignation du contein) To be described, it possible, in both French and English N.B.—The nature and varine of the contents should be accurately stated and, as far as possible, in accordance with the classification of the customs tariff of the country of destination. The name of the country word of signification the name of the customs where the goods were produced or manufactured should be given in all cases, whether it is Falcation or not.		Value of Contents (Value)		Weight			
	Number (Nomb)	Description including special marks & numbers of the sender (Espèce et marques et numéros spéciaus de l'expéditeur)					Gross (hrar)		Net (net)	
2	26		Religious articles		500	2.5	200			
			1500					7		
		1							•	
	Stamp e Office o Posting (Timbre du durena de dipari	SEROSAL *	*Eliberty DECLARE that the above partics which this Declaration relates does not contail exported from Palestine absolutely or to the Cother than the following goods namely: P. G. de T. S. Aim do B. exportation	n any place of w	y goods to to which	the 1	prohit parcel	in di	to b	
		70% delene	Co Tierra Santa	-	and a	m de i			-	

Rest of customs form (two copies), showing contents of package, religious articles with a value of only 500mils (cf, postage).



On reverse of card.

From Netherlands (1933) and Surinam (1934) STROOK kan door den geadresseerde behouden worden.
COUPON peut être détaché
par le destinataire. Stempel van het kantoor van atzending. Timbre dubureaud'origine. 's Gravenhage to Pine Falls (MB),Les unités en toutes lettres 1933. Rated ADRESKAART 6.55Guilden EXPEDITION • Not signed by recipient. verpakking: Nasm en woonplaats van den afzender. Nom-Declarations en double Certificates of factures Nom al domicile de l'expéditeur. Certificate ou factures He van Malse Bachmanstraal Zegelafdruk bij The Haque Holl waardeaangitte. Straat en nr1. Douene-stempel. Timbre de la douene. Gewicht Dougne - rechten: Verzendingsweg: Acheminement: Droits de douane : Uitwisselingskantoor: Bureau d'echange Nr:38 a Paramaribo. BUREAU D'ORIGINE PLAATS voor sanhechting MINDING A NE VAN ET NUMÉRO D'ENvan frankeerzegels. INSCHRIJVING REGISTREMENT. (LIMBRES POSTE) Stempel van het kuntoor van afscutting. Unbie du butzan d'origin SURINAM (GUYANE NEERLANDAISE) WALEUR DECLARED Paramaribo to Toronto, 1934. ADRESKAART Rated 3.22½Gu Not signed (BULLETIN D'EXPÉDITION) by recipient. Douaneverklaringen Certificaten of facturen Certificats ou tectures om et domicile de Hedrag der verrekening (Moutant du remboursement) Zegelafdruk bij waardeaangifte. Rue et numéro Donanc-stempel (fimbre de la douaux) Droits de douane Burenn d'echs orm, form, H.6. 125 x 176 mM, April 32, 5000 ex.

From Sweden (1933) and Portugal (1936)

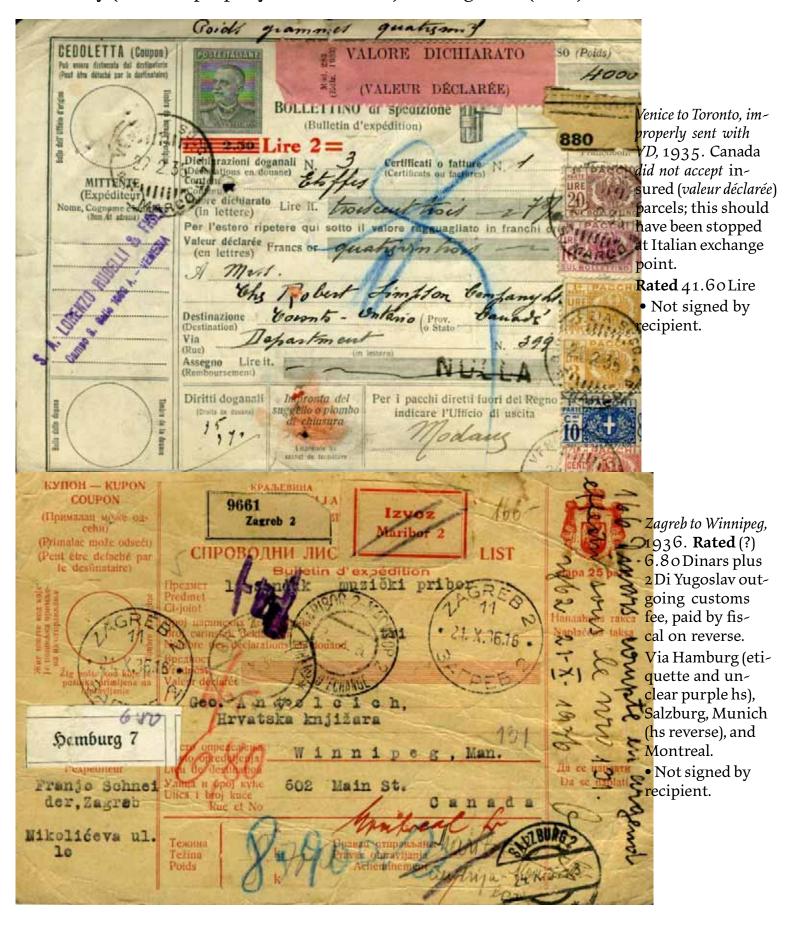




Funchal to Tillsonourg (ON), for three parcels, 1936. **Rated** 13.30 Escudos.

- Not signed by recipient.
- weight and rates unknown

From Italy (1935; improperly sent with VD) and Yugslavia (1936)



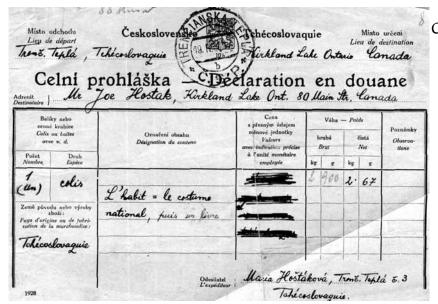
From Czechoslovakia (1937)



Trencianska Tepla (now in Slovakia) to Kirkland Lake (ON) via Bohumin and Bremen, 1937. **Rated** 54.15 koruna (including 50 hal imprinted)

Contained a local costume and a book, weighing 2.9kg.

Not signed by recipient.



Customs declaration, attached by paper clip.



On reverse of card

From West Germany (1950) and East Germany (1955)

West German parcel cards to Canada are common, but those from DDR are not.



Solingen to Hamilton via Cologne and Antwerp, 1950. **Rated** 13.75 Marks.

 Not signed by recipient.

Seehausen (DDR) to Saskatoon (SK), via Magdeburg, 1955. Rated 3.20 M (on the black market, equivalent to about 32–45 West German Pfennig).

 Not signed by recipient.