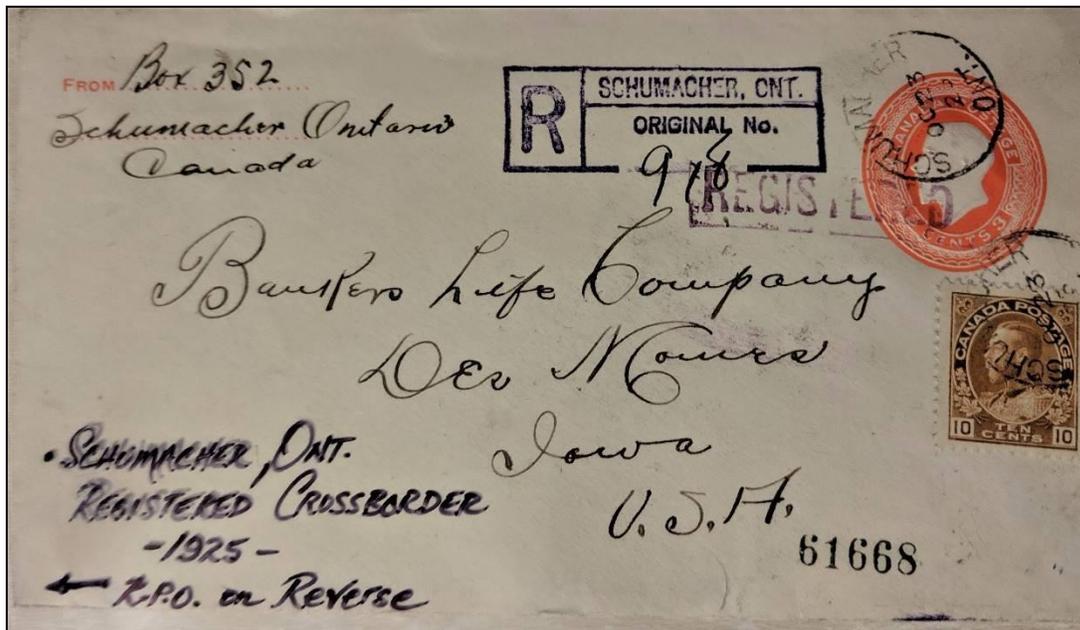


# Oh, The Things You Can Learn Stamp Collecting!

An Exciting & Interesting Find at FLOREX 2019

by Mike Schumacher

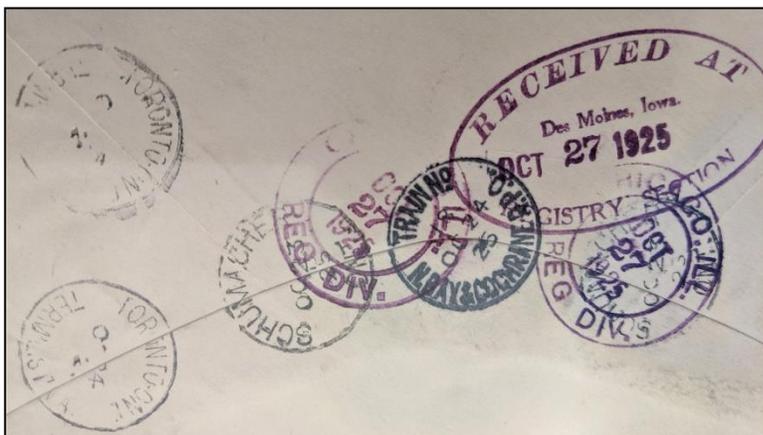


What you may wonder makes a 1925 “Registered Canadian cover to Des Moines, Iowa” an exciting and interesting find? Well the first thing that caught my attention was the boxed registered stamp marking which indicated that this cover was from “Schumacher, Ont.”

Talk about new meaning for having a hometown, I never knew there was a town named Schumacher. This was certainly a fun find!

The more I looked at this cover and its markings the more interesting it became.

- It has mixed franking – a Canadian envelope imprinted with a 3-cent stamp and a 10-cent Canadian stamp added to pay the registration fee.
- Postmark cancels on the front show it is from “Schumacher, Ont.” as well as postmarks on reverse side.
- The senders address is also from Schumacher, Ont.
- The various reverse side postmarks provide plenty of information of the route that this envelope took to get from Schumacher, Ont. to Des Moines, Iowa. (**Route:** Schumacher, Ont. to Toronto, Ont. & then by the N.Bay & Cochrane train to Chicago, Ill. & then onto Des Moines, Iowa).



Schumacher, Ont. Oct. 23, 1925

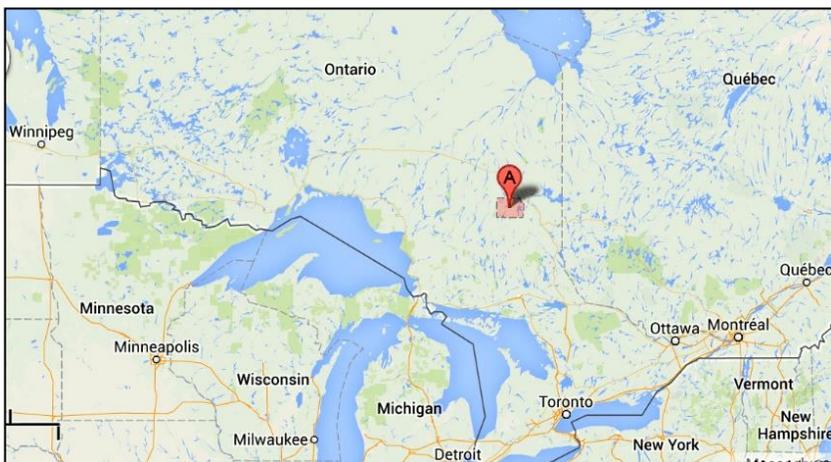
Toronto, Canada Oct. 24, 1925

N.Bay & Cochrane train Oct. 25, 1925

Chicago, IL Oct. 27, 1925

Des Moines, Iowa Oct. 27, 1925

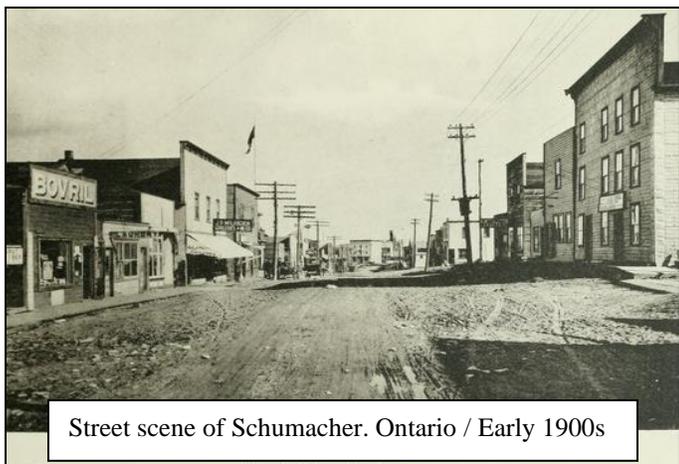
Of course, the first thing I needed to do was to find the location of Schumacher, Ont.



**Schumacher, Ontario is located in the Porcupine District approximately 339 miles (as the crow flies) northwest of Canada's capital - Ottawa.**

(‘A’ marks location of Schumacher, Ont.)

**History:** In 1910, Schumacher was just a train stop known as Aura Lake, but with the discovery of gold in the Porcupine mining camp, it attracted the attention of Frederick W. Schumacher, a mining investor from Columbus, Ohio. Upon arriving in Aura Lake, he built the Schumacher Mine, purchased several mining properties and then subdivided the “surface rights” into lots for a planned town site. In exchange for a railway “right-of-way” and train station, the Temiskaming & Northern Ontario Railway Commission and Ontario Post Office General changed the name from Aura Lake to Schumacher, Ontario on March 1st, 1912. Between 1914 and 1918 the Schumacher Gold Mine produced 27,182 ounces of gold and 4,195 ounces of silver. During the early years, Schumacher, Ontario was home to the largest Croatian population in Canada.



Street scene of Schumacher, Ontario / Early 1900s

### “Santa Lived in Columbus, Ohio”

Starting in 1916, Frederick W. Schumacher donated money to provide gifts for the local school children in Schumacher, Ontario. To keep the tradition going in his will he left \$1,000 annually to provide Christmas presents for the local school children.

There is much more to this story (including hockey Stars and **Ty Cobb** playing baseball for the local team)!

**Frederick W. Schumacher**  
Born: September 13, 1863  
Copenhagen, Denmark  
Died: June 3, 1957 Columbus, Ohio

Philanthropist, philosopher, art patron and civic leader

*Pictured above and below*

