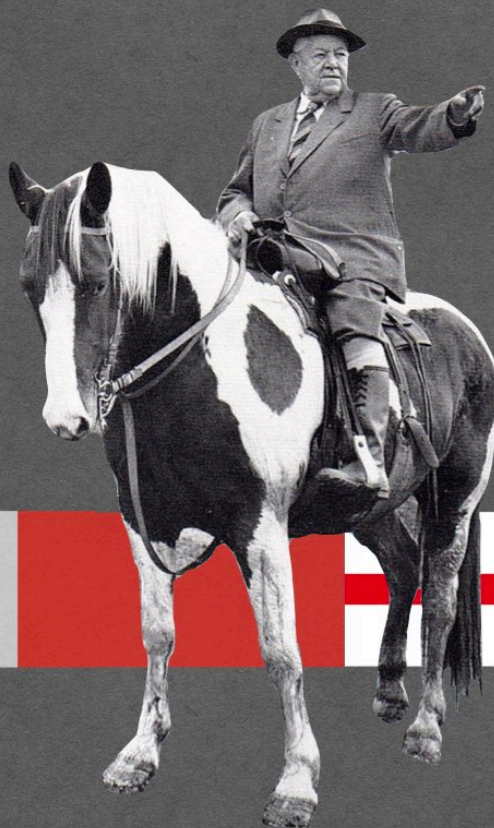


Joseph W. Hobbs

1891 - 1963

The Last Whisky Baron?



1891

1900

1963



Joseph W. Hobbs

The Last Whisky Baron?
A remarkable person in the whisky trade

Background

-1900

1900-1918

1918-1932

The Prohibition

The Marine Building

1932 - 1963

The Distilleries (1930s)

The Companies

The Distilleries (1944-)

Ind. Whisky Assoc.

- Emigration to Canada
- Pilot training and WW1

- The move to Vancouver
- The business in Vancouver
- The First Trans-Canada Flight (Basil Hobbs)

PART 2

- Rumrunning
- The ships
 - When Prince Albert cut the the Frisco Honolulu cable
- The Hobbs messages

- Back in UK
- DCL and National Distillers - The cooperation plans that failed
- Ferrolene and the patent
- The Great Cattle Ranch
- Inverlochy Castle
- Torlundy and Ocean Mist
- Hobbs passes away 1963

- Glenury Royal
- Bruichladdich
- Glenlochy
- Highland Esk/North Esk/ Montrose/Hillside/Glenesk
- Benromach
- Fettercairn
- Strathdee

- W.A Gilbey
- W.H Holt
- Associated Scottish Distillers (ASD)
- Train & McIntyre
- McNab Distilleries

- Glenmavis
- Lochside
- Ben Nevis

JOSEPH W. HOBBS – The Last Whiskey Baron? - part 2

After the First World War, the brothers Joseph and Basil return to Canada.

1918 Mabel Dell Mabel Dell and Joseph have a son. He gets the same name as his father, grandfather, and great-grandfather – Joseph, and later in life will be active in whisky.

In late 1919, Joseph W. is on an expedition to find suitable sites for air bases along the coast of British Columbia. He is on the ship Stadacona. He buys the ship in March 1924 and sells it a month later. This ship is involved in rum-running. 1920 Joseph W. moves from Sault Ste Marie, Ontario to Vancouver. He is appointed head of the Vancouver Air Service Association, becomes president of the Vancouver Flying Club, and becomes a member of the Vancouver Automobile Club. He starts a business and both he and his wife quickly become part of the society in Vancouver.

Joseph W. was a person who liked speed and he and a friend are fined for racing their cars in downtown Vancouver. He makes many trips to England and becomes an agent for W.A. Gilbey, Peter Dawson and the Taylor Brothers. An example of his sense of business is when he makes a "deal" with a Canadian company to deliver 50,000 wooden boxes to Gilbey in England.

He early registers the "Sandy MacNab" whisky brand. A whisky brand that has an interesting history and will become his whisky much later.

In 1917, all provinces in Canada, except Quebec, had alcohol prohibition, but it ended completely in 1921. However, the sale of alcohol in Canada is regulated.

In 1924 he was appointed head of the Royal Naval Volunteer Reserve (RNVR). The appointment is delayed "when it was discovered the nautical experience of the proposed commander, J.W. Hobbs, included rum-running."

I will return to rum-running in later parts.

Things are going well for Joseph W. and in 1924 he has a residence built on the fashionable Laurier Avenue in Vancouver for \$25,000.

The brother Basil gets top positions in the build-up of Canadian air defence and becomes a major. In October 1920, the first trans-Canada flight takes place. Basil Hobbs and Roger Leckie who shot down the Zeppelin in 1917, first fly the first part in a Fairey seaplane. The flight will not be completely undramatic. In the turbulent weather, the engine cover tears off and hits the fuel pump. The two are soaked in gasoline and forced to make an emergency landing on the Saint John River. They order a new plane and continue the flight. In total, the flight across Canada takes 10 days and the total flight time was 49 hours and the distance 5250 km. It is performed by 8 people in 6 different aircrafts.

1925 Basil resigns from the Royal Canadian Air Force and becomes a partner in his brother's company, but he is stationed in Montreal. The third partner in the firm is Colonel. O.F. Brothers. In 1925, the brothers visit W.H. Holt, Manchester (who own Aberlour distillery) and

they both become directors of this company. The history of this company will come in a later part.

Joseph W. makes lots of trips to England. In 1927 he has travelled across the Atlantic 22 times and in November of that year he and Fred G. Johnston buy the Merchants Exchange Building in Vancouver from A. Melville Dollar for \$400,000. Joseph and Fred were schoolmates from Sault Ste. Marie, Ontario. On the ground the Marine Building will be built – Joseph will lose a lot of money on this project. Fred will be sentenced to prison. More on this in a later part.

The full story of Joseph W. Hobbs - The Last Whiskey Baron - is on the website <https://glenlochy.com/pages/12/65>

and the summaries you can find here: www.respect.se/joseph_hobbs.html

A Last Minute Public Announcement

Henry Wootten & Son

Take this last opportunity to inform the public and the dealers that they have made a final clearance from bond of 500 cases of
TRAIN & McINTYRE'S "VETERAN" SCOTCH WHISKY
TRAIN & McINTYRE'S "SPECIAL LIQUEURS"
TRAIN & McINTYRE'S "GREY LABEL"

While they last, these standard whiskies can be obtained at our warehouse—we won't deliver—for
\$19.00 Per Case. \$22.00 Per Case. \$28.00 Per Case.

Each case contains one dozen quarts.

Dealers will be given usual trade discount.

Henry Wootten & Son

WHOLESALE IMPORTERS

343 WATER STREET VANCOUVER, B. C.

Phone SEY. 230



Photo 1923 - Vancouver Board of Trade - trip to England

Joseph W. Hobbs - No 4 from right

Free Press Evening Bulletin - March 3, 1924 - 25 year old whisky !!!

Don't let false
economy spoil
your enjoyment

A Few Cents

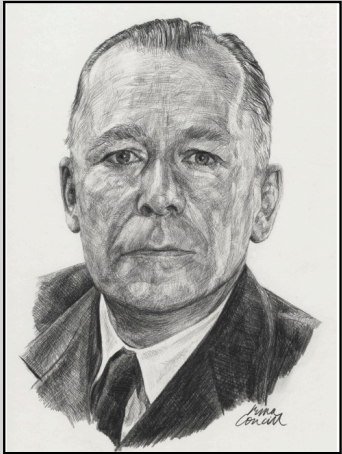
—make a big difference in the quality of Scotch Whisky.

Don't let false economy spoil your enjoyment. "Grannie Taylor" is guaranteed 25 years old—matured and bottled in Scotland. Just try it!

Grannie Taylor's CHOICE OLD LIQUEUR Scotch Whisky

Taylor Brothers & Co.
(Glasgow) Ltd.

The Free Press Evening Bulletin
September 1, 1925



Basil Hobbs



Robert Leckie

Images from Canada's Aviation Hall of Fame

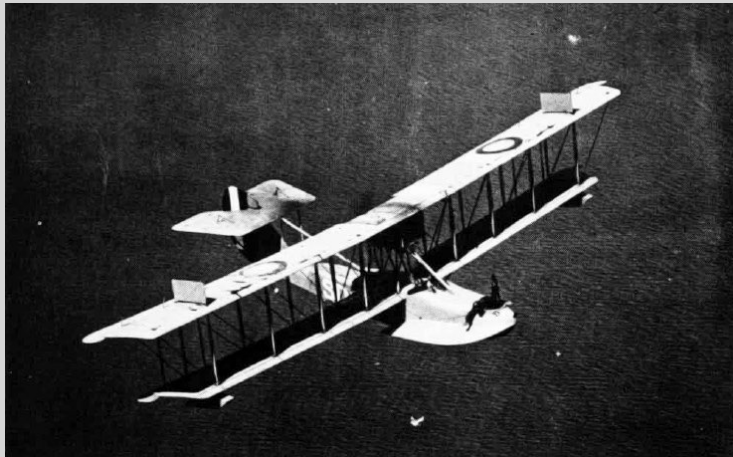
Trans-Continental Aviators Meet With Disaster at Start

Seaplane Wrecked Northeast of St. John Shortly After Commencement of Coast-to-Coast Flight; Colonel Leckie and Major Hobbs Uninjured.

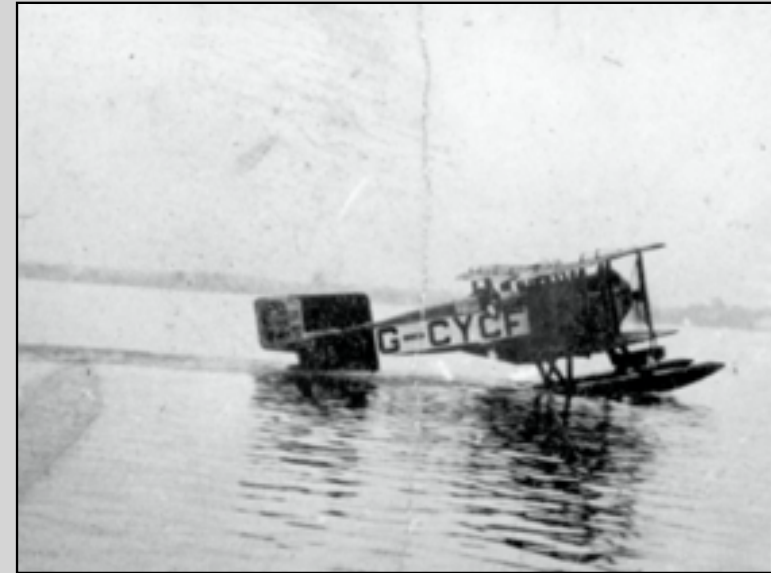
St. John, N.B., Oct. 7.—Colonel Robert Leckie and Major Basil Hobbs, who hopped off this morning from Halifax for a trans-Canada flight to Vancouver, crashed a short time later at Long Beach, twenty miles northeast of St. John. Their light seaplane was wrecked but the aviators apparently were uninjured, as Colonel Leckie telephoned here for another flying boat.

The two Canadian Air Force aviators, who took off at 8 o'clock for Riviere du Loup on the first leg of their journey, sped over this city at 10.45 apparently going strong. Colonel Leckie's urgent message for another seaplane was interpreted here as meaning that he intended resuming his flight immediately.

The Victoria Daily Times October 7, 1920



Curtiss HS-2L seaplane Photo: Wikipedia



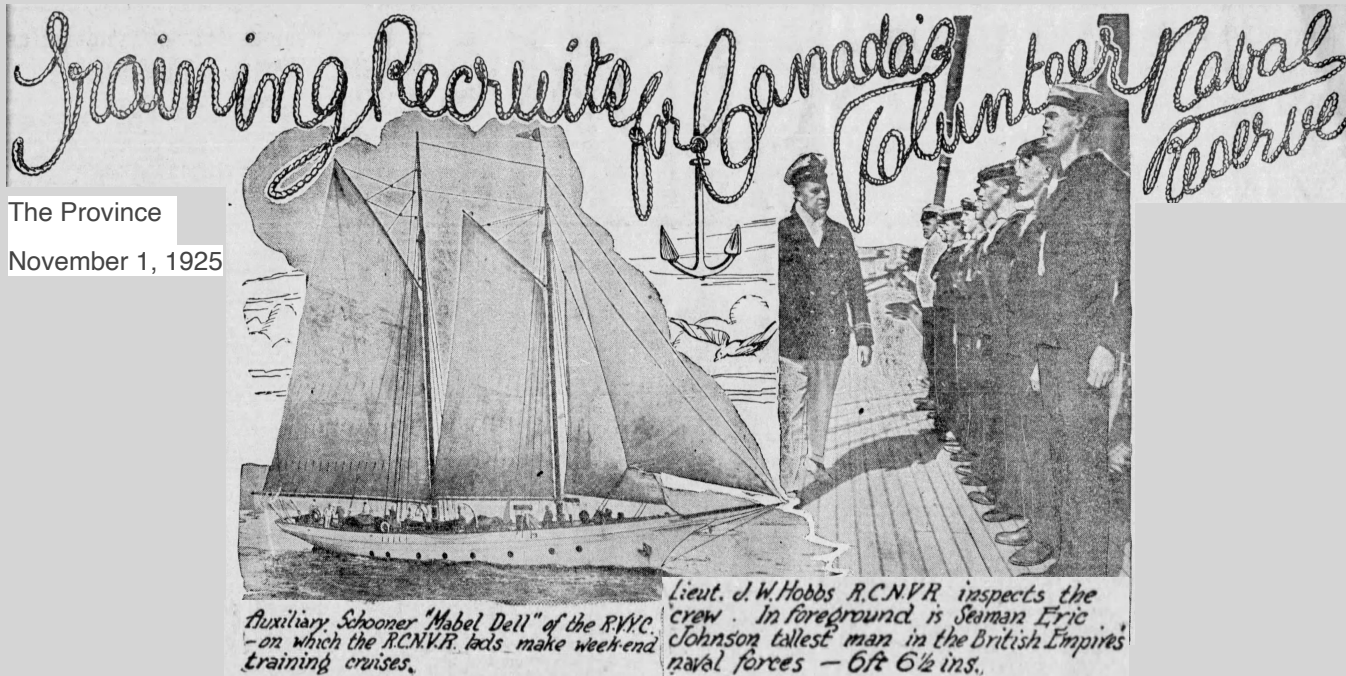
Fairey III C seaplane Photo: John Orr/CASM

☆☆☆
Looking For Aeroplane Basis.— Yesterday Capt. Hobbs, of the Canadian Air Board, left on board the patrol steamer Stadacona to survey the southern British Columbia coast. He will make a very comprehensive search for suitable aeroplane bases. Accompanying Capt. Hobbs is District Engineer C. C. Worsfold, of the Department of Public Work, and two representatives from the Provincial Forestry Department.

138073	Stadacona	..	Ottawa, 1917	Philadelphia, Pa., U.S.A.	1893	Iron	168 0	30 5	22 7	520	780	99	Sec.	Minister of the Naval Service for the Dominion of Canada, Ottawa, Ont.
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Lloyds register 1918

The Victoria Daily Times December 11, 1919



The Province
 November 1, 1925

SPEEDERS FINED
 SOUTH VANCOUVER, Aug. 25.—J. Wright, 511 Dunsmuir Street, and J. W. Hobbs, 1211 Standard Bank building on Kingsway, were arraigned before Magistrate T. F. Johnson and fined \$45. George McLaughlin of Coquitlam was fined \$10, and H. S. Massey, 1048 Main Street, \$10 and costs, for speeding. The case of Lee Yim, a Chinese charged with the theft of approximately \$100 from Young Luck, and who was to have appeared for hearing this morning, was postponed until next Wednesday.

The Vancouver Sun - August 26, 1922

308,210. (CLASS 49. DISTILLED ALCOHOLIC LIQUORS.) JOSEPH WILLIAM HOBBS, Vancouver, British Columbia, Canada. Filed Aug. 12, 1933. Serial No. 340,648.

*Sandy Macnab's
Old Liqueur Scotch
Whisky*

For Scotch Whisky.
Claims use since Dec. 31, 1923.

Official Gazette of the United States Patent Office 1933

Cable Address: "HOBCO," Vancouver. All Codes. Phone Seymour 2215.

W. A. GILBEY, Ltd.
(THE HOUSE OF GILBEY)

THE PANTHEON OXFORD STREET LONDON W.

THE LARGEST
Wine Merchants and Distillers
IN THE WORLD.

J. W. HOBBS, Representative for Western Canada.

1130 Standard Bank Building Vancouver, B.C.

Advert in Wrigley's BC Directory 1923

SEVENTEEN NEW
FIRMS READY TO
START BUSINESS

Activity in many lines of British Columbia business continued during the last week with the incorporation of seventeen new concerns to operate in this Province. They were as follows:

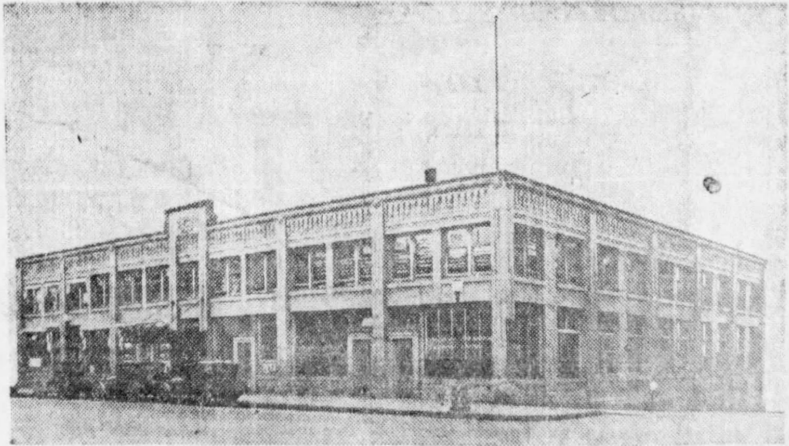
Hobbs Brothers Limited, \$250,000, Vancouver, private.

The Victoria Daily Times March 18, 1926

2677	HOBBS	Joseph	W. A. Gilbey			Broker
✓	✓	Mabel	The Pantheon Oxford St	do.		Hwife
✓	✓	Joseph	London	do.		Bluel
				do.		
				do.		
				do.		
				do.		
				do.		
				do.		
				do.		

From passenger list 1925 - address in London W.A. Gilbey, The Pantheon Oxford Street

PROMINENT DOWNTOWN PROPERTY SOLD



THE MERCHANTS EXCHANGE BUILDING.

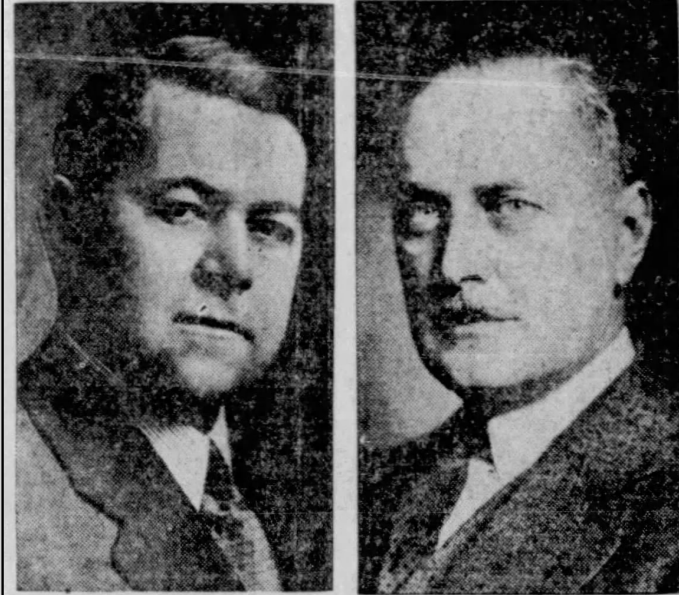
The Province, Vancouver November 20, 1927



1656 Laurier Street, Vancouver 2014 - Photo by Eve Lazarus

<https://evelazarus.com/tag/1656-laurier-street/>

Developing Business Property



CAPTAIN J. W. HOBBS,
Vancouver Associate of Toronto Bond
House.
MAJOR L. E. CLARK,
Vice-president and General Manager
G. A. Stimson & Co.

The Province, Vancouver November 11, 1928