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B·N·A TOPICS

Official Publication of The British North America Philatelic Society

VOL. 11 — NO. 4 WHOLE NO. 112





APRIL 1954

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Notes on Postage Rates

1897 to 1951

F. W. L. KEANE (#565) sen-Caractians that they were unable to read the denom-

These notes are intended as an attempt to set out briefly the principal Canadian rates of postage from the Maple Leaves issue of 1897-98 to the Centenary issue of 1951. Mention will be made of the changes of color and denomination which have taken place in our adhesive postage stamps during that period, and an effort will be made to explain, so far as possible, the reasons for these changes. The facts are not new, but it may perhaps be a convenience to readers to have them concisely and chronologically presented. Errors and omissions will no doubt be found in the article, and I shall be very grateful if readers will draw these to my attention, so that they may be corrected. For much of the information I am indebted to the standard reference works of Howe, Jarrett, Holmes and Boggs, and to various issues of the Canada Postal Guide. Readers who desire greater detail regarding some of the rates are referred to these authorities. Some additional facts have been gleaned by the study of many hundreds of covers mailed during the period and by correspondence with students of postal history and with official agencies.

The Maple Leaves issue, which appeared from 9 November, 1897, to January, 1898, consisted of eight values, which seem to have been intended primarily to serve the following purposes:

et Huchermore, there had been

1/2 f—for the domestic rate on transient newspapers, (i.e. those not mailed by the publishers), not exceeding one ounce in weight.

1¢—for domestic postcards: for postcards to U. S. A.: for drop letters where there was no city delivery service: for domestic printed matter per four ounces, (subsequently amended to two ounces): for international printed matter up to two ounces: for transient newspapers per four ounces: for certain classes of samples. This denomination was coloured green in order to conform to the scheme adopted by the U. P. U. Convention of 1897, whereby green was specified for the international printed matter rate, red for the international postcard rate and blue for the international letter rate.

2¢—for drop letters, up to one ounce, in cities with delivery service: for postcards to U. P. U. countries, British and foreign, other than U. S. A. It should be noted that the purple colour of the stamp did not conform to the U. P. U. specification for the latter purpose.

3¢-for the single letter rate, up to one ounce, throughout Canada and to

Newfoundland and U.S. A.

5¢—for the single letter rate, (up to half ounce), to all U. P. U. countries, British and foreign, except Newfoundland and U. S. A. The colour was blue to conform to the U. P. U. scheme.

6¢—for the minimum domestic parcel post rate, (up to four ounces): for the two-ounce letter rate throughout Canada and to Newfoundland and U. S. A.

86-for the single letter rate, plus registration fee, throughout Canada and to

Newfoundland and U.S. A.

10¢-for parcel post: for the double letter rate, (up to one ounce), to U. P. U. countries other than Newfoundland and U. S. A.: for the single letter rate plus registration fee to the same U. P. U. countries.

tor us for the partiese were resund on that date. BNA TOPICS BUA TORICH 5.659 Because of the carry-over of 15¢, 20¢ and 50¢ stamps from earlier issues,

higher values than 10¢ were not included in the Maple Leaves series.

The original Numerals issue of June, 1898, to 29 November, 1900, did not involve any change in usage or in colours: the change in design was rendered necessary to conform to a U. P. U. request that stamps used on international mail should show the denomination in figures. Furthermore, there had been complaints from French-Canadians that they were unable to read the denominations of the Maple Leaves stamps.

On 25 December, 1898, the single letter rate, (up to ½ once), between many countries of the British Empire, including Canada, was reduced from 5¢ to 2¢, (one penny), and on 7 December, 1898, the Canadian "Map" stamp was issued in anticipation of the change. On 1 January, 1899, the Canadian domestic single letter rate and the single letter rate to U. S. A., (both up to one ounce), were reduced from 3¢ to 2¢. It is interesting to note that for a week it had been cheaper to send a letter from Montreal to Ceylon than from Montreal to Toronto!

These changes necessitated the issue of a 2ϕ stamp in red, since this colour had come to be recognized as appropriate to the single domestic letter rate, as well as being specified for the postcard rate to U. P. U. countries. Consequently the two surcharges of July and August, 1899, appeared, to be followed on 20 August, 1899, by the definitive 2ϕ "Numeral" in red. This change incidentally produced a 2ϕ stamp in the correct colour for postcards to countries of the U. P. U.

On 29 December, 1900, the 20ϕ was added to the Numeral series, principally for parcel post purposes, including the one pound rate to a number of Empire countries, and on 23 December, 1902, the 7ϕ denomination appeared, to

provide for the 2¢ letter rate plus the registration fee.

On 1 July, 1898, Special Delivery service was established in certain cities for first class mail, including drop letters, and the first Special Delivery stamp, value 10¢, was issued. Special Delivery stamps were not valid for other purposes, and, conversely, postage stamps were not valid at first for payment of the Special Delivery fee, although this latter restriction was later removed.

The King Edward VII stamps of 1 July, 1903, from 1¢ to 10¢ in value, and the 20¢ denomination of 27 September, 1904, were issued in colours similar to the corresponding values of the "Numeral" issue which they superseded, and the denominations were intended for the same purposes. The 3¢, 6¢ and 8¢ values were not included in the Edwardian series, as their main usefulness had ceased with the rate reductions of 1898-99. The ½¢ was also omitted, presumably because sufficient stocks of the ½¢ "Numeral" remained to cover the limited demand for this value. On 19 November, 1908, the 50¢ denomination was added, chiefly for parcel post purposes.

From August, 1908, the 1¢ rate covered all drop letters, including those

serviced by city delivery.

On 19 May, 1909, the $\frac{1}{2}$ ¢ rate for single transient newspapers up to one ounce was abolished, but the rate of 1¢ per four ounces or fraction thereof remained in effect. This rendered superfluous the $\frac{1}{2}$ ¢ stamp, the Quebec issue of 16 July, 1908, being the last occasion on which this denomination appeared.

On 1 July, 1905, Mexico was added to the list of countries covered by the 2ϕ single letter rate. The parcel post rate to the United Kingdom and certain other Empire countries was reduced to 12ϕ per pound from 1910 onwards. Newspapers mailed in bulk were carried at a rate of 4ϕ per pound up to 300 miles, (1903), and five years later this rate was extended to cover delivery anywhere in Canada.

The use of postage due stamps began on 1 July, 1906, and 1¢, 2¢ and 5¢

stamps for the purpose were issued on that date.

BNA TOPICS

The Quebec Tercentenary issue had no special relation to postal rates. It included a 15¢ denomination which had not been embraced in any issue since the "Large Queens" and which was not to be included in subsequent issues until 1951. I have not been able to discover the reason for the inclusion of this value in the Quebec series.

The first issue of King George V appeared at various dates in January, 1912, and consisted of the same values as the Edwardian issue. Colours remained similar, except for the 50¢ which was changed from purple to black.

In April, 1914, domestic parcel post rates were amended. The new schedule of rates was quite lengthy and varied up to a maximum of 12¢ per pound according to distance travelled and number of provincial boundaries crossed.

So far the history of Canadian postage rates since 1897 had been one of consistent reductions, in keeping with the policy of encouraging wider use of the mails for all purposes, with consequent reduction in unit costs. However, the outbreak of war in 1914 put a stop to this tendency and led to far-reaching changes in the opposite direction. On 15 April, 1915, a war tax of 1¢ on each first class letter, on which the ordinary postage rate did not exceed 2¢ per ounce, became effective. This covered all domestic and intra-Empire letters as well as letters to U. S. A. and Mexico. The tax of 1¢ each applied also to domestic postcards and those to U. S. A. and Mexico, but not to intra-Empire postcards which had remained throughout at the 2¢ U. P. U. rate. On the same date, 15 April, 1915, a 1¢ green war tax stamp was issued for payment of the tax. In the previous month a 2¢ red war tax stamp had been issued, primarily to pay the tax on cheques, but on 16 April, 1915, both the 1¢ and 2¢ war tax stamps were made interchangeable with the ordinary postage stamps of those values for postal and war tax purposes.

On 1 January, 1916, a combined postage and war tax stamp, value 2ϕ plus 1ϕ and printed in red, was issued. This colour naturally resulted in confusion with the ordinary 2ϕ red postage stamp, which was still required for postcards within the U. P. U., and also possibly with the 2ϕ red war tax stamp, which may still have been required for cheques, although it is probable that it had been largely superseded by the regular 2ϕ revenue stamp issued on 15 April, 1915. This confusion was obviated by a change in colour of the 2ϕ

plus 1¢ stamp to brown on 28 August, 1916.

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On 15 September, 1917, the brown 3¢ Confederation stamp appeared, prepaying the single letter rate of 2¢ postage plus 1¢ war tax. This marked the end of the policy of showing the amount of the war tax separately on the stamp, and on 6 August, 1918, an ordinary 3¢ brown stamp was issued.

On 1 October, 1921, the U. P. U. single letter rate was raised from 5ϕ to 10ϕ , and this resulted in the colour of the 10ϕ value being changed to blue and that of the 5ϕ from blue to violet, both changes occurring in February, 1922. About this time also, the intra-Empire rate for single weight letters was raised from 3ϕ to 4ϕ , resulting in the issue of a stamp of the latter value on 3 July, 1922. On 6 and 7 June, 1922, the 2ϕ value was changed from red to green and the 1ϕ from green to yellow, in order to provide for a doubling of the printed matter rate to U. P. U. countries. At this time the U. P. U. postcard rate was also raised, from 2ϕ to 6ϕ , so that the 2ϕ red stamp was no longer needed for this purpose. On 14 December, 1923, the 3ϕ denomination was changed from brown to red. This was in contravention of the U. P. U. specification, since the international postcard rate was then 6ϕ , but presumably was done to conform once more to the unwritten rule, (ignored since 1916), that the stamp for the single domestic letter rate should be red.

It is said that the change in colour of the 7ϕ from olive to brown on 12 December, 1924, was to avoid confusion with the 4ϕ stamp. However, I am not clear as to the necessity for a 7ϕ stamp at all, subsequent to 1915, since

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Flo Cashee Terestlenary issue had no special relation to postal relesthe combined postage and registration rate, (including war tax), became 8¢ at that time, at holdered ad on

On 1 September, 1921, the Special Delivery rate was increased from 10¢ to 20¢, but a Special Delivery stamp of the latter value did not appear until .21 August, 1922. During this interval it was necessary to use two 10¢ Special Delivery stamps for this service, or to use regular postage stamps for the Special Delivery fee. The former usage is rather scarce.

About this period the registration fee was raised from 5¢ to 10¢, but I have been unable to find a record of the date of the change. When the Confederation and Historical issues appeared in 1927, each contained a 12¢ value to provide for the postage rate plus the revised registration fee on single do-

mestic letters and on those to U. S. A.

o e On 2 July, 1925, a \$1.00 stamp was issued, principally for parcel post and heavy registered letter usage. Valuable mail sent by the chartered banks often was insured for large amounts, and this denomination was used, frequently in blocks, to pay these charges. The \$1.00 stamp was also widely used by postmasters and by rural carriers to prepay bulk mailing charges on circulars, etc., to be delivered unaddressed to each boxholder. The stamps so used were affixed to a slip of paper, cancelled and kept on file at the local post office. o L. S. A. and Mexico, by d. bna abusolang prisamab of onle

Beginning in 1925, there was a tendency to reverse the upward movement of postal rates which had commenced ten years earlier. On 1 October, 1925, the single letter rate to U. P. U. countries was reduced from 10¢ to 8¢, and a stamp of the latter value, in blue, was issued on 1 September, 1925, in anticipation of the change. The 10¢ already had been changed from blue to light brown on 1 August 1925, to avoid confusion with the 8¢. About this time the postcard rate to U. P. U. countries would appear to have been reduced from 6¢ to 4¢. theor wilstand and co

On 1 July, 1926, the 1¢ war tax on first class letters and postcards was abolished. The rate for domestic letters and for those to U. S. A. and Mexico reverted to 2¢, and the intra-Empire rate to 3¢. The domestic postcard rate and the postcard rate to U. S. A. and Mexico, however, did not revert but remained at 2¢. The intra-Empire postcard rate was of course unaffected, since this had not borne the 1¢ war tax. The 3¢ red stamp was surcharged 2¢ as an experiment intended to use up the large surplus of 3¢ stamps. The experiment was unsuccessful and the 2¢ green became the ordinary value used on single domestic letters.

The issue of 1928-29 continued, for all values up to the 8¢ inclusive, the final denominations and colours of the Admiral series. Usages for the most

part remained the same and were as follows:-

If orange-for the domestic printed matter rate, up to two ounces. .

2¢ green—for the domestic single letter rate and the single letter rate to U. S. A. and Mexico, all up to one ounce; for the drop letter rate; for the domestic and intra-Empire postcard rate; for the post-J A G and card rate to U. S. A. and Mexico: for the U. P. U. printed mat-

ter rate, up to two ounces.

3c red for the single letter rate to the United Kingdom and other Empire di countries.

4¢ histre-for the U. P. U. postcard rate: for double-weight domestic letters. 5¢ violet—probably mainly for parcel post use. 8¢ blue—for the U. P. U. single letter rate, up to one ounce.

The usage of the higher denominations would appear to have been largely for parcel post and heavy registered mail, with the exception of the 12¢ which was the combined postage and registration rate on single letters in Canada and to U.S.A.

> BNA TOPICS BNA TOPICS

On 21 September, 1928, the first air mail stamp appeared, value 5¢. This and all subsequent air mail stamps have been available for one ounce domestic air mail letters and could also be used, if desired, as ordinary postage stamps, although the latter usage has never been encouraged by the Post Office Department.

When the "Arch" and pictorial issue of 1930 first appeared, the values and colours were similar to the superseded "Scroll" issue, and the stamps were intended for the same purposes. The same remarks apply to the air mail and Special Delivery issues of 1930. The latter was not fully bilingual and this feature was corrected in the similar stamp issued on 24 December, 1932.

About 1930 the 2¢ rate on postcards was further extended to include France and all countries in North and South America.

On 1 July, 1930, there appears to have been an all-over reduction in rates to U. P. U. countries, resulting in four colour changes. The U. P. U. printed matter rate became 1¢ and the stamp of this value became green instead of orange: the U. P. U. postcard rate became 3¢: the U. P. U. single letter rate became 5¢ and this stamp became blue instead of violet. To avoid confusion, the 8¢ was changed from blue to orange and would appear thenceforward to have been used mainly for parcel post. Also to avoid confusion, the 2¢ stamp became red instead of green, restoring the traditional colour for the domestic letter rate.

A year later, on 1 July, 1931, the effects of the depression were reflected in an increase in the domestic letter rate from 2ϕ to 3ϕ for the first ounce, the 2ϕ rate for each additional ounce remaining unchanged. The increase also applied to single weight letters to U. S. A. This change necessitated the reappearance of a 3ϕ stamp, which was issued in red, (incidentally providing the correct colour for the U. P. U. postcard rate). On 24 June, 1931, the 3ϕ "Admiral", perforated 12x8, was issued as a provisional, to be followed by the regular "Arch" 3ϕ red on 13 July, 1931, and by the 3ϕ on 2ϕ surcharge on 21 June, 1932. The 6ϕ on 5 air mail surcharge was similarly issued on 22 February, 1932, providing for a 1ϕ per letter increase in air rates. The 2ϕ "Arch" was changed from red to brown on 4 July, 1931.

The Ottawa Conference issue of 12 July, 1932, including the air mail stamp, consisted of four values in wide use, the other three being the 3¢ red for the single domestic letter rate, the 5¢ blue for the single U. P. U. letter rate, and the 13¢ for the combined postage and registration rate on a single domestic letter.

The "Medallion" issue of 1 December, 1932, repeated the final values and colours of the "Arch" issue, and the denominations were for the same purposes:—

1¢ green—for the domestic and U. P. U. printed matter rate, per two counces. 2¢ brown—for drop letters: for domestic postcards: for postcards to all countries in North and South America, to the United Kingdom and

other Empire countries, to France and to Spain.

3¢ red—for single domestic letters and those to the United Kingdom and other

Empire countries, to all countries in North and South America, to France and to Spain: for U. P. U. postcards.

4¢ ochre-probably mainly for parcel post use.

5¢ blue-for single U. P. U. letters: for double weight domestic letters.

8¢ orange—for parcel post: for double weight U. P. U. letters.

13¢ violet—for postage and registration on a single letter in Canada and to the United Kingdom and other Empire countries, to all countries in North and South America, to France and to Spain.

The commemoratives of 1933-34 were issued in various denominations.

100

The 5ϕ value was chosen for the Postal Union issue in order to obtain wide publicity on foreign letter mail, but it is difficult to understand why 5ϕ and not 3ϕ was chosen for the Royal Wlliam stamp, as this was intended to celebrate an intra-Empire centenary. The domestic single letter rate was used for the Cartier stamp, but I do not know why 10ϕ was chosen for the United Empire Loyalist issue and 2ϕ for the New Brunswick stamp.

The Silver Jubilee series of 1935 appears to have no special bearing on

postal rates, the six values in most common use being selected.

The regular issue of 1935, including air mail and Special Delivery stamps, did not involve changes in postal rates, and the colours and values up to 8¢ inclusive resembled those of the 1932 "Medallion" issue. Again in 1937-38, the first issue of King George VI resembled in denominations, in usage and in colour of the lower values, the preceding issues.

In March, 1939, a reduction in the Special Delivery rate from 20¢ to 10¢ necessitated a surcharged stamp and later a definitive 10¢ value. The reduction was effective for first class mail only, the Special Delivery rate for par-

cels remaining at 20¢.

The original "War" issue of 1 July, 1942, was again patterned on preceding issues, but there were differences in the colours of the 4¢ and 8¢ stamps, as well as the values 10¢ and upwards. An Air Mail Special Delivery stamp of 16¢ was added to the series at this time.

On 1 April, 1943, rising war costs necessitated an increase of 1ϕ per first class letter and postcard, within Canada, to the United Kingdom and other Empire countries, to all countries in North and South America and to Spain. For nine days the 4ϕ greenish-black was the only single stamp available to pay this rate, but on 10 April the 4ϕ red appeared, to supersede the 3ϕ red. Also in April new 3ϕ , 7ϕ , 14ϕ and 17ϕ stamps were issued, superseding respectively the 2ϕ , 6ϕ , 13ϕ and 16ϕ values for drop letters and postcards, for air mail letters, for registered and Special Delivery letters, and for Air Mail Special Delivery letters. The 2ϕ value of the original series was little used from 1 April onwards, except for double weight printed matter, (up to four ounces), and to make up the double weight rate for first class letters. It would appear that the issue of the 3ϕ in purple and the 4ϕ in red was in contravention of the U. P. U. ruling, as the U. P. U. postcard rate remained at 3ϕ .

The "Reconstruction" issue of 1946 and the various 4¢ commemoratives of 1947 to 1951 have no special significance in relation to postal rates, and the same applies to the new designs for some of the higher values which were issued in 1950 to 1951.

The "Revised" and "Unrevised" issues of 1949-50 repeated the final values and colours of the "War" issue, and were intended for the same purposes.

On 1 April, 1951, the domestic and U. P. U. printed matter rates, which had remained unaltered for many years, were increased. The rates were raised from 1ϕ per two ounces to 2ϕ for the first two ounces and 1ϕ for each additional two ounces or fraction thereof. On 1 August, 1951, the colour of the 2ϕ stamp was changed to olive-green to conform to this change in rates.

Also on 1 April, 1951, the registration fee was raised from 10¢ to 20¢ and it would seem possible that a 24¢ stamp may be forthcoming in due course to provide for this increase. Increases in parcel post rates also became effective on the same date.

In 1951 it appears to have at last become apparent to the Canadian authorities that our 3¢ and 4¢ stamps were contravening in colour the U. P. U. specifications. On 1 August, 1951, the colour of the 4¢ value was changed from red to orange, in order to leave the red colour available for the 3c value, (the U. P. U. postcard rate). The issue of this latter denomination in red was intended, but was halted by the death of King George VI.

BNA TOPICS

CANADIAN POSTAL RATES — 1897-1951

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The Centenary issue of 24 September, 1951, consisted of 4ϕ , 5ϕ , 7ϕ and 15ϕ values, all being denominations in common use. The 15ϕ value appeared for the first time since the "Quebec" issue of 1908 and was intended for the payment of the half ounce air mail letter rate to the United Kingdom and most other European countries. It appears that this value of the Centenary issue is being kept on sale as part of the regular series.

In 1952 the Universal Postal Union at last gave up the struggle to maintain, in face of constantly changing postal rates, their scheme of colour uniformity in stamps intended for certain basic usages. The scheme, which had been in effect since 1897, was abandoned by resolution of the U. P. U. Congress at Brussels in 1952. This resolution will be given formal effect at the next Congress, which meets on 1 July, 1953.

The story of Canada's postal rates during the past fifty-five years has been rather a complicated one, and it may perhaps be of assistance to the reader to have a few of the more important usages and rates set out in tabular form. The table on page 107 has been prepared for this purpose.

PLATE NUMBERS

The new Canadian issues of April 1 will be printed from two plates for each issue, Nos. 1 and 2. Plate number blocks will only be supplied from the Philatelic Section of the Depart-

ment with orders for these stamps in mint condition and where they are specifically ordered. Hundred stamps, full panes, must be ordered for each plate number block of the 4 cent and 5 cent denomination stamps and blocks of 25 for the 15 cent stamp.

H. E. HARRIS & CO EXPANDS IN DERRY, N. H.



The Derry, N. H., branch of H. E. Harris & Co., the world's largest stamp company, has been expanded and made a permanent part of the company's organization, it was announced today. Also announced was the appointment of David C. Finlay (inset) as branch manager.

Located 50 miles from the main Harris office in Boston, the Derry branch, shown above, was first opened about a year ago on an experimental basis, with ten employees. It has grown steadily since then, and now employs more than 50 local residents, engaged in assembling and packaging the firm's well-known "Honor-Bilt" line of sets, packets, collectors' outfits and other philatelic items, and in mailing its various catalogs.

AN EARLY CONVENTION

From the Philatelic Advocate, Berlin (now Kitchener), Ont., August, 1897:

The second annual convention of the Dominion Philatelic Association was opened on the afternoon of July 21st at Berlin, Ont. . . . The letters D. P. A. on the flag in front of the hall aroused much curiosity among the uninitiated, and many guesses were made as to the meaning of them . . . Some of the boys invested in limburger cheese and pretzels, two German delicacies which were new to them . . . And after the convention the 47 members had their photo taken.

"ARCTIC PHILATELIST" WANTS ARTICLES

New BNAPS member Richard S. Calhoun, editor and publisher of "The Arctic Philatelist," has written the editor seeking articles on B. N. A. for publication in his magazine. If any member wishes to help Mr. Calhoun out get n touch with him at Box 75, Sitka, Alaska. He is interested in articles on any postal history of B. N. A., stories behind the stamp or cover, expeditions into the Arctic by Canada, etc. Material previously published in BNA Topics will be welcomed by Mr. Calhoun if the subject is of interest to his readers.

REMITTANCES

Remittances for Canadian first day covers are to be made payable to the Receiver General of Canada, and sent to the Postmaster, Ottawa 2, Ontario.

Remittances for mint stamps are to be made payable to the Receiver General of Canada and sent directly to the Post Office Department, Philatelic Section, Financial Branch, Ot-

tawa 4. Ontario.

Remittances should be made by means of Postal Money Order or bank draft in Canadian funds, made payable to the Receiver General of Canada. Patrons from countries other than Canada or the United States should forward remittances by means of an International Money Order. Postal Notes cannot be accepted. If cash is sent, it should be in a registered package. At this time, United States funds are subject to a discount when converted to Canadian funds. Postage stamps are not accepted as a remittance.

POSTAGE RATES

The Canadian Parliament is considering legislation that will increase postage rates. Approval of this legislation will mean that the rate of postage applicable to a first day cover for first class mail service will be. effective 1st April, 1954, 5 cents for delivery outside of Ottawa, and 4 cents for delivery within Ottawa.

Trail of the Caribou By Frores Moyorson

We heard from Cyril Harmer the other day concerning our bit in the February issue about an unrecorded First Flight from Gander to Helsinki that took place about June 19, 1947. Cyril didn't have too much time to check as he was shuttling back and forth between London and Cairo in preparation for the sale of the Palace collection of ex-King Farouk. However Cyril did teil us where to look and we are very pleased to advise that the flight in question has been located. It is an extension of the U. S. flight FAM 24 which was extended to Helsinki. We are happy that we found the solution so quickly and can pass it on to our readers.

We have always been exceedingly jealous of Canadian cover collectors because the Canadian covers seem to have such a wide variety of markings such as "NOT CALLED FOR". "AD-VERTISED", "TOO LATE", "MORE-TO-PAY", "MISSENT", etc., as we felt that these additional markings added materially to the desirability of the cover and lent a spice to the collecting. Evidently Newfoundland covers have some of these markings but they certainly seem few and far between. It is at least 7 or 8 years ago since we found our first Newfoundland marking on cover, it was on a cover franked with the 3¢ blue. Scott #49, from St. John's to Harbor Buffett. The cover was posted at St. John's on Oct. 10, 1887 and in the upper left corner there was a handstamped TOO LATE in black upper case letters. The handstamp was 29 mm long and about 4 mm high. Just recently we came upon a second cover also franked with the 3¢ blue, Scott #49, and also used during 1887. This second cover was posted at St. John's on Dec. 19, 1887, and addressed to Harbor Grace. The marking on the cover is a black hand-stamped "MORE-TO-PAY", 36 mm long and 5 mm high. In addition the cover also bears a black handstamped "6", 21 mm high and 14 mm wide. Do any of our readers have covers with any other markings.

The New York firm of Harmer, Rooke & Co., have an item in their sale for Mar. 10, that has not been previously recorded to the best of my knowledge. The item in question is a mint copy of the \$1 Airmail, Scott #C8, with an imperforate right margin between the selvedge and the stamp. It stands to reason that if one such stamp exists then there must be at least 9 more. Where have they been until now?

The auction catalog for H. R. Harmer's sale #2447, to be held on Mar. 16, 1954, has just crossed our desk. There is one very interesting item for the Newfoundland specialist. Lot #398 is described "1897-1918 2¢ scarlet (Scott #82), used on wreck cover showing "RECOVERED FROM WRECK OF S. S. LABRADOR". We know nothing of this wreck and would appreciate any information that we can pass on to our fellow members. We see that we omitted to say that the sale is being held in London.

It seems a shame, but matters always seem to happen that way. We've been amassing and compiling a list of Newfoundland Plate Numbers for years and when Maj. White asked to include the list in the forthcoming Plate Block Book being published by the Stanley Stamp Co., we were pleased to comply as we thought we were pretty nearly complete. However we've just had a letter from a correspondent in Newfoundland and he adds three new numbers and givefurther information on a fourth. We have seen one of the additions and are writing for further information

(continued on page 111)

INDEX TO CANADIAN PHILATELIC MAGAZINES

By R. J. DUNCAN, Librarian (#37)

THE POSTMAN'S KNOCK

Published at Saint John, New Brunswick, by the Excelsior Stamp Association.

Vol. I, No. 1 to Vol. II, No. 18 inclusive, size 51/4 x8".

Vol. II, Nos. 19, 20 and 21, size $6\frac{1}{4}x9\frac{3}{4}$ ". Vol. I, No. 1, May 1866, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8.

Vol. I, No. 9, Jan. 1867 10, 11, 12, 13, 14, 15, 16 (Aug. and Sept.), 17,

18 (Nov. 1867), 19 (Oct. 1869), 20 (Nov. 1869), 21 (March 1870).

Small supplement erratta stuck to last number. Vol. I No. 9, Jan. 1, 1866, should be 1867.

B. N. A. Contents

The English Mail—How and When It Comes from Halifax to St. John. Vol. I No. 4.

Review—Price List of Andrew D. Robertson, Box 24, P. O. St. John, N. B., also the price list of the Excelsior Stamp Association, which is similar in many respects to the above. Vol. I No. 4.

Postal Matters in New Brunswick, Vol. I No. 5, 6.

Three Varieties of Nova Scotia 3 pence Stamp—Light Blue on White, Blackblue on White, and Blue on Blue Paper. Vol. I, No. 10.

Newfoundland. Vol. II No. 14.

Connell-The Essay of Essays Vol. II No. 14.

One Penny New Brunswick, Vol. II No. 15.

Obliteration, Vol. II No. 18.

New Issues—Canada. Our own 1 cent stamp is now printed in two or three colors, viz. orange, yellow, etc. Vol. II No. 19.

Postage. Our publishers desire to remind collectors living in the United States that postage from thence to the Province of New Brunswick is six cents. Letters not fully paid are fined 10 cents. Vol. II No. 19.

Announcement of New Catalogue by Excelsior Stamp Association of American, Foreign and Colonial Postage Stamps, containing a description of the form, color, date of issue and market value of every stamp issued by every country from 1840 to the present date. 34 pages. Vol. II No. 19.

Miscellaneous—Our publishers have in their possession a Canada 5 cent envelope printed in blue instead of red. Vol. II No. 20.

Notes and Queries-Canada Surcharged Stamps. Vol. II No. 21.

Forged Stamps—New Brunswick three pence, Nova Scotia three pence, Nova Scotia six pence, Vol. II No. 21.

The Blue Canada Envelope. Vol. II No. 21.

Eminent Philatelists-George Stewart Jr., E. A. Craig. Vol. II No. 21.

New Issues-Canada, 3 cents red reduced in size to that of 1/2 cent.

Errata—Take notice: E. A. Craig was unable to leave St. John on March 17th as expected owing to the heavy storm then prevailing. He will consequently remain here until March 31st. All orders which arrive after that date will be forwarded to him in California. St. John, N. B., March 19th, 1870.

This is YOUR Magazine.
Support it with YOUR contributions of INFORMATION

NEW CANADIAN STAMPS







On April 1st, 1954, four new design postage stamps were available in post offices throughout Canada. A 5 cent blue stamp portrays a more recent likeness of Her Majesty, the Queen (see cover); a grey-colored 4 cent stamp illustrates a walrus; a blue colored 5 cent stamp shows a beaver and a 15 cent black stamp illustrates a gannet.

The 5 cent H. M. Queen Elizabeth II stamp was engraved from a photograph supplied by the Dorothy Wilding Portraits, Limited, of London. This stamp is an ordinary issue and will be used for several years to come.

The 15 cent stamp is also an ordinary issue and will replace the 15 cent "Postal Administration Centennial" commemorative in current use. The gannet was selected as an appropriate symbol for the 15 cent stamp which is used extensively for airmail. In the Gulf of St. Lawrence on Bonaventure Island, there is a bird sanctuary which is the summer home of the largest colony of gannets in existence. The bird is illustrated against a night sky which includes the North Star or Polaris as a symbol of the North American sky and the im-

portance of navigation in airmail. The design for this stamp was created by Laurence Hyde of Ottawa.

The two wild animal design stamps being issued to commemorate Canada's National Wildlife Week. By issuing these postage stamps the Post Office Department wishes to emphasize to all the importance of securing and restoring the wildlife resources of Canada, not only for their considerable economic value but also because they are a constant source of pleasure to thousands in every walk of life. The designs for these two stamps were created by Emanuel Hahn, R.C.A., S.S.C., a sculptor of Toronto.

The stamps are being engraved and printed by the Canadian Bank Note Company, Limited, Ottawa. They will be issued to Postmasters in panes of 100 stamps each. For the present, none of the stamps mentioned above will be overprinted with the letter "G" to indicate their use by Government Departments.

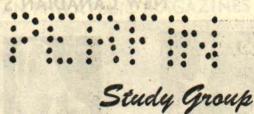
The 5 cent "beaver" design stamp will be assembled also in booklets. This booklet will contain one pane of 5 x 5 cent postage stamps and will sell for 25 cents.

TRAIL OF THE CARIBOU - From page 109

on the others. We can definitely report that the 3¢, Scott #174 exists with plate #3 in the upper right corner. The stamp is perforate 13.5 x 13.8. The others reported are all in the Caribou issue. The 1¢, Scott #115 was formerly listed with plate #3 but no position was specified. Our latest report is that it is in the left hand

margin alongside stamp #41. Plate #3 is also reported for the 2¢ and 3¢ values in the same position. This means that plates #1, 2, and 3 have been recorded on Scott's 115, 116 and 117 and it is very strange that no examples of plate #4 have ever been found since these plates come in pairs. We suppose they will turn up someday.





R. J. WOOLLEY, Sec.

Before we advance further into the study of Perfins, it might be as well to have an idea as to how the machines which produce them operate.

There are several companies who make stamp perforating machines, most of whom manufacture other types of business equipment.

As we mentioned in a former article, the first patented machine in England would perforate a full sheet of stamps at one operation. We do not know if any of this type was ever made for a Canadian company, but it would appear doubtful.

The machine which has had the widest distribution in Canada is made in two sizes. The smaller has a width to accomodate a row of five stamps which necessitates a sheet of stamps being folded, and the larger is wide enough to take a full row of 10 regular or five large-size Canadian stamps.



Figure 1

The groups of pins forming the initials are so spaced that when sheets

of normal sized stamps are perforated, the design appears in the centre of each stamp. Double sized stamps will contain part of an extra set of initials.

The machine shown in figure 1 has a base measuring 12½ x 5 inches and weighs 23 lbs. Stamps are perforated in rows of five, using half sheets lengthwise. The capacity per stroke is as follows:

Three or less initials on each stamp (20 stamps at each stroke, row of 5; four sheets thick.)

Four initials on each stamp (15 stamps at each stroke; row of 5, three sheets thick.)

Five or six initials on each stamp (Ten stamps at each stroke; row of 5, two sheets thick.)

Stamps can be perforated at the rate of 300 to 500 per minute.

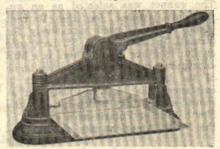


Figure 2

The machine shown in Figure 2, has a base measuring 171/4 x 5 inches and weighs 33 lbs. It has double the capacity of the smaller machine, as stamps are perforated in rows of ten instead of rows of five.

The perforations made by these machines conform to the requirements of the Post Office Department i.e. holes not over one thirty-second

of an inch in diameter, and total space covered not over one half inch square. The stamps lie flat on the plate and are pushed forward by the operator one row at a time.

Usually the pins are so arranged that, when sheets are fed through the machines from top to bottom, face up, the initials will be horizontal, and properly oriented when viewed from the face of the stamp. Occasionally the pins are so arranged that the initials read vertically, but more often vertical initials are produced by sheets being fed in the wrong way.

A sheet of stamps can be fed into the machine in eight possible different ways. Any of the four sides of a sheet with the stamp design face up, and any of the four sides with the gummed side up, so it is possible to find a design in any of the eight different positions. Students of the OHMS varieties have classified and catalogued the relative scarcity of the different positions on these officially perforated stamps, but it is not the purpose of this study group to deal with this phase of the problem.

In addition, the smaller machine, due to the sheet being folded when fed in, produces center pairs with one perforation normal and the other reversed. These pairs are very scarce indeed, for if they are not separated when applied to mail, they will generally become separated before reaching the hands of a perfin collector. Your writer has seen only three such pairs, and has only one of them in his collection, a pair of WU, Western Union Telegraph Co., of St. John, N. B.

Carelessness on the part of the operator produces stamps with double perforations, some perforated obliquely, and occasionally some with two impressions, one of which is reversed.

Some mention should be made here of the extra hole or holes which are added, but which do not form an integral part of the design. These are used for purposes of office identification. International Harvester Co., has around twenty different "position dots" for Canadian offices, and

other companies with branch office identification marks include New York Life Insurance Co., Parke Davis Co., C. P. R., Royal & Queen's Ins., Cos., etc.

These branch office markings form part of the study which has been undertaken by the group.

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Nelson Bond's APRIL SPECIAL

CANADA POSTAL NOTE 4c blue

vertical pair, imperf between

This recently discovered Postal Note variety is a "must" item for the collection of anyone interested in Canadian revenues.

Vertical pair _____ \$17.50 Block of four ____ \$35.00

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to deals approximate to

"almool" naihana

BNA TOPICS 113

Bringing News About People and Stamps

Came across Nova Scotia, Scott #8, 9, 11, 12 and 13. Also New Brunswick Scott #8. Each of these copies has what I believe to be a forged cancellation. It is circular, and is embossed in the stamp, with inked outline appearing on some copies. A reconstruction of the wording from the various copies appears to read "___se & Carnation" and in the centre a flower which looks like a rose to me. I have never seen anything to resemble such a cancellation. Would like to hear from others who might be able to shed some light on the subject.

BNAPS

BNAPSer W. T. White sends a philatelic advertising cover with the corner card of L. M. Staebler, London, Canada, the well known dealer and philatelic publisher of a bygone generation. It is franked with 16 copies of the Canada small Queens 1/2 cent stamp, Scott #34. These make up the 8¢ registered mail rate in effect at that time. On the back of the cover is a square label with a reproduction of the New Brunswick 121/2 ¢ stamp under the caption "Old Stamps Wanted". He then offers to pay from 1¢ to \$10.00 for stamps before 1869 of Canada, Nova Scotia, New Brunswick, Prince Edward Island, British Columbia, Newfoundland, and the United States. They are preferred on cover! This is truly a philatelic cover with a philatelic story. This cover also has some remarkable clear strikes of the "squared-circle" from London-East and Mount-Forest.

BNAPS

A very interesting piece of information came to my desk a few months ago concerning those fascinating items—Canadian "locals". We all re-

member the story of how Mr. Nutter produced the Bancroft local and how the wily S. Allan Taylor appropriated the design. This full face type of Nutter's has never been illustrated. There is now in a philatelic expert's hands an India proof of what appears to be Nutter's design. There are a number of differences and this proof will distinguish the reprints. Slowly but surely philatelic questions are being answered.

BNAPS

In recent issues of "Weekly Philatelic Gossip" the celebrated copy of the New Brunswick 5¢ Connell owned by BNAPSer Bainbridge has been discussed. The story of how he acquired that stamp is equally interesting. In perusing an auction catalogue one day, BNAPSer Bainbridge noted an illustration of the 5¢ Connell. In the description it was stated to be in unused condition, but the illustration showed it to be clearly but lightly cancelled! He put in a bid and secured it. Later a certificate from the Royal Philatelic Society, London, England, stated it to be a genuine cancel! A philatelic gem picked up while others passed it by.

BNAPS

Let me urge our readers to contribute any items on cover to the "PERFIN" column. In particular, I would like to see any reports of the Canada 1898 Map stamp showing "perfins" on cover. Once a despise i item, perforated stamps are now eagerly sought after. The bulk of them have been destroyed. This means that even the commoner items will command prices that will seem high when compared with the regular stamp. The thing to remember is that they are scarce. If you doubt my words try and find them!

BEHIND THE POSTMARK*

By CARL A. ANDERSON (#361)



Indian Head, Assa.

The hobby of collecting early postmarks, a sideline to stamp collecting, can be both interesting and educational particularly as it concerns our own Province of Saskatchewan before 1905.

One sees and hears very little of the postal system of that period now-adays. True there are in our libraries many fine volumes written about the North-West Territories, the Mounted Police, The Riel Rebellion of 1885, the coming of the railroads and the growth of the West in general. However, the story of the various early post offices still operating and those long since extinct is far from complete.

Looking at an early map of the North-West Territories we find a number of provisional districts, two of which, Assiniboia, bordering on the United States, and Saskatchewan, immediately to the north of it, include all of the area which later became the province of Saskatchewan as well as the extreme eastern part of Alberta. The abbreviations Assa. and Sask. were commonly used in addressing mail and for post office cancellations. During the territorial period, 408 post offices were opened in Assiniboia and 127 in Saskatchewan. Of the combined total of 535, 497 were still in operation in 1905. Only nine of these post offices were located in that portion of the two districts which was incorporated in the province of Alberta, so that 526 post offices were actually opened in the present-day area of Saskatchewan.

Many towns in these districts no

longer appear on present day maps: the names of others were changed for one reason or another. Mail for Saskatoon was addressed to Saskatoon. Sask., N. W. T., and until 1890 was sent to Moose Jaw by rail and then by wagon trail to its destination. Regina mail was addressed to Regina, Assa., N. W. T. Prosperity post office, so named pecause the wife of an early settler thought the district looked prosperous, was situated twelve miles north-east of Wapella. Several post cards which have come into my possession were postmarked in this manner: Prosperity, Assa. via Wapella, Assa., 1894. The latter was located on the railroad so presumably the mail was carried the rest of the way by horse and wagon. This post office was closed on December 1. 1917.

When tracing the early railroad line from Regina to Prince Albert, I was puzzled about the location of Bonnington. Reading a copy of "Saskatchewan History", I ran across a letter from a contributor in Kenaston who mentioned the fact that Bonnington was changed to Kenaston before 1905. Picking up pen and paper I proceeded to write to this contributor for any further information relative to postal service. I learned there had existed a post office with Bonnington cancellation but search among old time residents of the district failed to unearth a single item with this postmark. If one were ever found it would be a valuable

Aside from the satisfaction gained

^{*} Reprinted from "Saskatchewan History"

from feeling much like a research worker in a comparatively unknown field, there is another fascinating side to this hobby. "Saskatchewan History" carries letters submitted by oldtimers mentioning places in which they were born or to which they had come with parents as new settlers. I directed my first inquiries to these people and requested that they look for letters with postmarks of the districts in which they lived. Then came the rewarding experience of watching the effect which was similar to a catalyst setting off a chemical reaction. My original correspondents may not have had much information for me, nor any early postmarked letters, but many of them knew of others who could help me. Often they either forwarded names or wrote letters themselves. This sentence has appeared often in the replies I have received, "You have me really interested in this." I find that people are eager to co-operate perhaps because it helps to recall pioneer experiences and friends who were almost forgotten, and perhaps because they feel that in their small way they are unearthing some of Saskatchewan's interesting history.

One of my correspondents, now an enthusiast, told me of a visit to a long time resident of Rocanville. The aged man was most obliging and brought down packets of old, musty letters. The collector spent a happy hour or two going through the old covers. He put his treasures in the back seat of his car and headed for home some twenty miles away mentally congratulating himself on his good fortune. It is not enough to say he was extremely disappointed when upon his arrival home he found all his envelopes, with the exception of a few, gone. They had blown out the open car window.

Undaunted, this same man was out in a district west of Hazelcliffe looking for postmarks when he arrived at a certain farmhouse. It turned out they did not have any old letters or papers but a relative living nearby had stacks of them left to him by his father. A phone call was put through right away and what do you suppose happened? After having been preserved for sixty years they had gone up in smoke the other day. My correspondent was indeed a sad man. However, his enthusiasm has not waned in the slightest.

To those whose interest may have been aroused by this article, I should like to mention a few rules to follow. An old stamp should never be clipped or soaked from an envelope. The same applies to cutting out cancellations. The covers are always worth more intact. Occasionally an envelope will be badly damaged and beyond saving. In this case care should be taken in cutting around the stamp or stamps (leave them in pairs if they come that way) allowing a good margin.

If this enthusiasm continues to spread, the number of early letters, cards or documents turned up will be amazing. Postmarks of the period before 1905 deserve a place with other objects of historical interest. They are as much a part of the daily life of the pioneer as the early type plow, reaper, oxcart, steam engine and newspaper which historically minded people of today are endeavouring to collect and preserve for posterity.

NEWFOUNDLAND AIRS

A recent H. R. Harmer sale brought the following prices for Newfoundland air mails: 1919 Hawker 3¢ o.g. but off centre and tiny pin hole, \$770; 1921 Halifax 35¢, inverted opt., o.g., \$220; 1932 Do-X, mint blk. of four, \$105.

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Send in your B. N. A. and British Empire want list.

PARAMOUNT STAMPS Box 55, Station D Toronto 9, Canada



Column No. 22

During the past month or two several very interesting letters have been received concerning items which have been illustrated and discussed in this column. Several have written, including Messrs. Gray, Halliday, deVolpi and Campbell, with information, corrections, etc., while others have expressed appreciation for the efforts being made to keep the Horn blowing and the Bag open.

As a result of showing the Chippawa and Gananoque errors we now have a Napanee error to go along with them via the courtesy of Mr. Gray. Data

on this new error appeared in the last issue.

Much information has poured in on the Quebec Triangle—from Messrs. Gray, deVolpi and Halliday. About ten copies have been accounted for and all are dated in 1841 and all are addressed to Kingston. From the evidence now available it is obvious my statement that this marking was used concurrently with the Quebec Steamboat "Q" Oval is incorrect. Halliday and deVolpi have both expressed the view, with which I must concur, that the Quebec Triangle was very probably a Steamboat Letter marking and preceded the Quebec Oval as the earliest of the Contract Steamboat markings. We will have more on this marking later.

On the "SHIP LRE" marking two additional copies have been turned up



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by deVolpi and they also bear the 11½d rating with an indistinct town name. Charlie offers the thought that an 11½d trans-Atlantic rate may have been in effect at that time. If anyone can offer further information on that point it would help clear up the remote possibility that the marking might have been applied in England.

Illustrated herewith is an interesting cover which came into my posses-

sion through the courtesy of Capt. Hopkins as a Purdy bargain at Capex.

This cover originated in the Crimea early in 1854, bears a poor strike of the POST-OFFICE BRITISH ARMY marking on the reverse, and as will be noted in the upper left corner is an "officers letter".

According to Robson Lowe outgoing letters from the Crimea were charged at 3d per ¼ oz. and I presume this rate applied to letters addressed to Britain. This cover carries the customary 3d in British stamps and is ad-

dressed to Belleville C. W. B. N. America.

The "stampless" feature of the cover lies in the 10d cy marking and the 7d marking both of which appear on the face. I hazard a guess that the 10d cy is the overall rating of the letter to Canada and the 7d is a postage due handstamp allowing 3d credit for the stamps which have been applied. Any confirmation or correction of this thought would be appreciated as would any further information regarding Crimea covers to Canada.

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H. E. HARRIS & CO.

108 Massachusetts Ave., Boston, Mass.

TO THE EDITOR ...

Vancouver Member Passes

Dear Edtor: I regret to have to advise you that we have lost a good member.

C. S. Neville (#697) passed away on March 2 in his 64th year. His funeral was held on Friday, March 5, and was attended by many of his business associates and a large number of stamp collecting friends.

Nev (as we called him) was a fine fellow. He was the Booking Agent for Famous Players Theatres in British Columbia, having been associated with that firm for many years.

He has been a Director of the Canadian Philatelic Society, and was a Past Presidenet of the B. C. Philatelic Society. Besides his B. N. A. collecting interests he also had a fine collection of Barbados.

B. C. Binks (#74)

On Perfins

Dear Editor: Having read the report of the "Perfin" study group in the last issue of TOPICS, may I come forth with a few comments, relevant to the forerunners of that branch, the initialled Small Queens. As Mr. Woolley states, the "W.J.G." types are the most common, and it might be added that they occur in various settings, such as normal, reversed, inverted, misplaced, slanting, and also in combinations of these varieties.

The "W.J.G." initials are found most frequently on the 1¢ and 3¢ Small Queens, and I believe that they are rare on all other values, including the 2¢. Dr. C. M. Jephcott's collection contains a copy of the 5¢ (the only one I know of), and I have a specimen of the 6¢.

Of the other two types of initials, both Dr. Jephcott and I have "J. H. S." on the 1¢, and I have heard of copies on the 3¢. I have only one example of "I. C. R.", on a 3¢, and no doubt it will be of interest that it

is clearly postmarked Moncton, N. B. May 7, 1894.

Peter J. Hurst (#583)

IRC Perf on Cover

Dear Editor: In answer to Mr. R. J. Woolley, secretary of the "Perfin Study Group", I would like to say that I have a registered cover dated September 30th, 1893, sent by the Intercolonial Railway of Canada. This cover carries a 3 cent Small Queen perforated I.C.R. and a 5 cent green Registration stamp.

The envelope was mailed from Montreal to Pittsburgh and the envelope is a printed Intercolonial Railway of Canada envelope.

W. H. Pollard (#551)

Newfoundland Perfins

Dear Editor: I wish to compliment you on the current issue of TOPICS, which I consider unusually interesting. This is due in part to the noticeable boost given revenues and perfins, both of which interest me very much.

While reading "Trail of the Caribou" I noticed the article on the Perfins of Newfoundland.

I have the following perfins on the stamps of Newfoundland, positions being mentioned and Scott's numbers used:

AN

D

#116 normal, reversed, inverted, inv.rev., read down, read down reversed.

163 reversed.

164 read up, read up reversed, read down reversed.

166 normal, reversed.

169 read up.

185 normal.

187 normal, inverted, inverted-reversed.

189 normal.

193 read down reversed.



AYRE (each letter lower than the preceding one)

#164 read up.

164 read up. (Revenue Precancel).

191 normal.

227 normal.

245 inverted.

247 inverted.

C19 read up.

IHC (International Harvester) in the form of monogram.

#270 normal.

CNR (Montreal Type) (diagonally down)

#257 read up-reversed.

CPR (Diagonally up)

#257 read up, read up-reversed, read down.

K G·K (K G·?, G·K?) #83 normal.

The third, fourth, fifth types I mention were perforated from current stock when Newfoundland became part of Canada. I have mint plate blocks of the CPR perfin, which I obtained in the fall of 1951 from the huge sheets in which these stamps appeared.

I have limited numbers of Newfoundland Perfin duplicates for those

who might be interested.

I also noted with great interest the mention of having three covers with the A N D Perfin. If the owner will sell, I will pay a good price, if required, for one cover.

P. D. van Oudenol (#684) Vice Chairman, BNAPS Perfins Study Group

Advance Notice Wanted

Dear Editor: At one time Canada gave out advance notices of new first flights due to take place, but the last few years this has not been done. New air mail routes are opening up almost every month, according to the Monthly Supplement to the Canadian Official Postal Guide, which comes out as a rule after the new route has already started.

This state of affairs is not fair to first flight cover collectors. Also, air mail is a great and important part of Canadian history—why should it go unrecorded? If enough collectors wrote to Ottawa about this, perhaps the powers that be might realize the interest there is in first flights and again start giving out information in the form of advance notices. Members of BNAPS who are interested in first flights are urged to write to Postmaster-General Alcide Coté on the above matter.

D. Amos (#967)

Interesting Item

Dear Editor: An interesting item recently picked up at the Philatelic Agency is shown above—a strip of the 1951 2¢ coil, with paste-up and mashed frame varieties occurring at the same point.

Jack Gordon (#1030)

RESULTS OF VOTING

Results of the recent voting to elect three members to the Board of Governors were as follows: Vincent G. Greene 202, Richard P. Hedley 174, Dr. Alfred Whitehead 169, James N. Sissons 161.

Voting on changes to the Society Constitution, with amendments as outlined in Topics (pages 341-343, November 1953) resulted in all amendments being approved by very large margins.

IMPORTANT NEW VARIETY IN 71/2d GREEN

Reported by FRED JARRETT and JIM SMART

to pleb up a plate proof hortly after acquiring the stamp.





Illustrated on the right is a 7½d that had a place in my collection for its condition, and also for an odd blur above the "½" of 7½, similar to the "Burr over Shoulder" variety in the 17¢ Cartier. On the left is another fine copy of this rare stamp, with this same "burr" variety, in the Smart collection.

The photograph below illustrates the variety quite clearly. The explanation is that something hard enough to make an impression was dropped on the plate, and at a sufficiently late period to be missed, otherwise it would have been corrected. It was never corrected, for post-contemporary proofs of the 7½d show the variety. Mr. Smart's luck was such that he was able





BNA TOPICS

to pick up a plate proof shortly after acquiring the stamp.

We would be glad to hear from anyone who may have this variety, and especially from members who may have it in proof form.

Sketches of BNAPSers by V. G. Greene

No. 55-GERALD E. WELLBURN

Mr. Gerald E. Wellburn was born in England in 1900 and at an early age moved to British Columbia where he entered the lumber business and is now associated with the H. R. Mc-Millan Export Co., one of the largest concerns on the West Coast.

Mr. Wellburn, or "Gerry" as he is known to his countless friends, is in the very forefront of Canadian philately and is the only Canadian who is on the Roll of Distinguished Philatelists as well as being a Fellow of the Royal Philatelic Society, London and of the Canadian Philatelic Soc . ety of Great Britain. His collection of British Columbia is the finest in existence and won the Grand Award at CAPEX in 1951 and also won a Gold Award at London in 1950. Being a draughtsman of the first rank. he has used his talents to illustrate with diagrams and maps, every cover in his albums and the result is a collection of incomparable beauty and interest.

Many philatelists are unaware of the historical interest in connection with the pre-stamp or stampless cover period. Mr. Wellburn has assembled a magnificent collection of the postal history of Great Britain beginning with the early Dockwra post of 1680 and written up in the same inimitable manner as his British Columbians. He also has collections of the first rank of Canada, New Brunswick and Nova Scotia, each volume abounding in choice stamps and covers.

Mr. Wellburn has served as a judge at many philatelic exhibitions including CIPEX in 1947 and is a member of the Postal History Society and other societies in Canada and the United States. At our last convention in Montreal many members had the



-Photo courtesy "Popular Stamps"

pleasure of meeting Mr. and Mrs. Wellburn and all hope they will be able to find time to attend our convention in Niagara Falls next October.

EASTER SEALS

Canada goes into its Eighth Easter Seal Appeal. This is the fund raising medium for services to crippled children through which eight Provinces throughout the Dominion provide a substantial proportion of funds necessary to promote the welfare of the crippled child.

Orders for these seals, or requests for information or complete price list should be directed to The Canadian Council for Crippled Children, 52 St. Clair Avenue East, Toronto 7, Ontar-

io.

PERFORATIONS OF THE 1859 ISSUES

By H. G. BERTRAM (#523)

The observation by Dr. Reford in 1925, that the above stamps were issued in three perforations, deserves further examination by specialists wishing to

classify the shades of different printings.

When Arnold Banfield and I examined some 2000 of the 10¢ Prince Consorts in our collections, we were disturbed to find the distinctive stamps—red violet, of the last four orders, sometimes perforated 11%x11% and 12x11%. Mr. Jim Sissons and Mr. Bert Benton recall seeing this late shade on early dated covers, but we do not find them in our rather limited collection of covers and dated material.

To pursue the matter further, we examined our imprint copies and also

our late dated copies, and here again, we found 11% perforations.

The writer, in attempting to plate the 17¢ Cartier in the three perforations, ran into a similar situation. Using Senator Calder's figures, the production of the 17¢ Cartier is shown in the table below, and we would normally expect to find the 12x12 more numerous on account of the large quantity and the late date of issue. The reverse appears to be the case, as shown by the figures from my plated collection. Unfortunately, I have not kept a record of the hundreds of stamps I have examined from dealers, and I am not expert enough to sort the shades with confidence and confirm the implication.

 PERF. 11%x11%
 200,000 printed
 180 in collection

 PERF. 12x11%
 150,000 printed
 82 in collection

 PERF. 12x12
 250,000 printed
 58 in collection

These 17¢ stamps are found also with the wide variety of perforations, such as 12 at the top, 11% at the bottom and so on, but I have not set aside these varieties as encountered.

The 2¢ stamps of 1864 on my pages are also irregular, especially a mint

block of four, clearly punched and perforated 11 % x11 %.

All this adds greatly to the uncertainty when striving to sort the 10¢ Alberts into the shades associated with the different orders. On the other hand, recognition of the existing variations in perforatons, warns us to be on guard and separate strays. It does look as though the 11¾ punching equipment was used from time to time in producing the stamps for the later issues, possibly on account of breakage or while the 12x12 punches were being reconditioned.

New York Group—BNAPS

Program Schedule 1954 Season

Meeting of April 20, 1954-19th CENTURY CANADA by Joseph F. Burke

" May 18, 1954—20th CENTURY CANADA by Harry W. Lussey

" June 15, 1954—1st CENTS ISSUE OF NEWFOUNDLAND by Kenneth Minuse

" Sept. 21, 1954—TRANS-ATLANTIC MAIL by William C. Peterman

" Nov. 16, 1954—CANADA by Robert S. MacCallum

" Dec. 21, 1954—19th CENTURY NEWFOUNDLAND by Daniel C. Meyerson

Meetings of the New York Group are held the 3rd Tuesday of each month at the COLLECTORS' CLUB of NEW YORK, 22 East 35th Street, New York City, at 8 p.m.

RNA TOPICS 123

BULLETIN NO. 15

MINT CANADA—19th & 20th
USED CANADA—19th & 20th
MINT NEWFOUNDLAND 20th
USED NEWFOUNDLAND
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22		ic red brown, superb mint, a showpiece	. \$25.00
23		le yellow orange, v.f. unused, no gum	10.00
215	*	3c deep red, superb mint, magnificent	25.00
27		6c brown, superb mint, perfect centering	27.50
218		1214c bright blue, superb mint	
29			
29b			
30		15c blue gray, superb mint	
30x		15c slate blue, superb mint, rare shade	
HEMRI	Thir	papers	or Michigan
21c	*1	1/2c jet black, superb mint	7.50
24b		2c deep green, v.f. mint	
25b	100	3c dull red, fine mint	
27c		6c dark brown, superb mint	
28b		121/2c blue, superb mint	
	111/2	x12 perfs. Talkam 2 today of Adir 7 An alen at	you
21a	1	1/2c gray black, v.f. mint	5.00
26		5c olive green, superb mint, beautiful	
NELS	ON	BOND 1625 Hampton Ave., SW, Roanoke 15	, Virginia

CANADIAN ILLUSTRATED COVERS

By E. L. PIGGOTT (#629)



No. 9

The many illustrated covers advertising Nova Scotia's Provincial Exhibitions held at Halifax, N. S., during the Queen Victoria era and later years up to the time of its discontinuance have generally been most colorful. The first provincial exhibition was held in 1854. During World War 1 the old buildings were destroyed in the devastating explosion in Halifax Harbour in 1917 and the exhibition was not re-established until 1928, being discontinued after the 1939 fair was held, owing to the sec-

ond world war. The cover illustrated was issued in connection with the 1937 exhibition and is done in orange and black.

While no Provincial Exhibition has been held since 1939, various small county fairs continue to be held annually in Nova Scotia and the Hants County Exhibition held at Windsor, N. S. claims to be the oldest in Canada. Worthy of mention also is the Nova Scotia Fisheries Exhibition. known throughout Canada and held at Lunenburg, N. S. where the world famous schooner "Bluenose" was built. This annual fair is unique in Canada and probably in North America. Because it is a fishermen's rather than a farmer's exhibition, its exhibits are quite different from those found at the usual Fall fair and many of them have a great fascination for the land-bound citizen to whom the sea and everything connected with the sea spells romance.

A Stamp Artist's Autograph

The pair of current 20¢ Forestry Products stamps of Canada shown here has the autograph of the designer A. L. Pollock, on the selvage. This stamp was issued April 1, 1952, and portrays in symbolic form the metamorphis of a tree into paper, one of the many products manufactured from Canada's forest wealth. The stamp is steel-gray in color, and comes in panes of 50 stamps each. Mr. Pollock is a noted industrial designer of Toronto, Ont., and also is responsible for the current 50¢ Textile Industry stamp.

This autographed pair of stamps was donated by BNAPSer Douglas A. Patrick, well known for both a radio stamp club and a newspaper column on stamps, to the Christmas auction of the North Toronto Stamp Club. The writer obtained this autographed pair with a bid of \$2.30. I don't know if this is a typical price for auto-



graphed stamps, but if I could get any other Canadian stamps similarly autographed at this price, no matter what the face value, I don't think I would hesitate to buy them.

Donald G. Hicks (#1158)

Where we maky

B·N·A TOPICS Official Section

From the President ...

It is probably no news to any member that our Society has, during the past few years, experienced a very healthy growth. From a position of relative obscurity among philatelic organizations BNAPS has become an important, if not a major, Society.

To some degree our progress has been due to the sharply increased interest which has developed in the B. N. A. field. However, much of our growth has been due to the efforts put forth by the membership over the years and the broader interest in B. N. A. could perhaps be accounted for, in part at least, by the activities of B. N. A. P. S. In any event B. N. A. is extremely popular today and a flourishing BNAPS has not hurt it in the least.

As we grow in size and importance the Society and each individual member is confronted with the problems which always accompany a successful or-



gamization. Of late membership in B. N. A. P. S. has begun to carry a certain recognition in philatelic circles—perhaps to a point where it may be looked upon as a form of reference. We may as well face the fact that all individuals interested in philately, either professionally or as a hobby, are not 100% honest. Naturally the undesirable element pays little attention to a small struggling group but we are approaching the point in terms of importance where we may begin to attract philatelic operators of questionable character.

Accordingly we must all exercise greater care in our solicitation of new members, advertising, etc., in order to protect the membership. For example, our application for membership provides that "any applicant proposed and seconded by members need not give references". I sincerely trust that all members will appreciate the responsibility which they assume to their fellow members when they become either the "proposer" or "seconder" of a new member. When you do this an applicant could possibly become a member without any check being made as to his integrity.

Be fair to your fellow members. Do not propose or second anyone whom you do not know personally. Give a prospect an application by all means, but allow the "references" to determine his qualifications for membership. The same goes for the solicitation or the acceptance of all types of advertising. Being a "good fellow" or even a go-getter can have its drawbacks if carried to an extreme.

Report of the Secretary ...

MARCH 15, 1954

NEW MEMBERS

- 1153 Arons, Mark L., 204 Williams Street, Ithaca, N. Y.
- 1154 Churchill, L., 3257 W. King Edward Avenue, Vancouver 8, B. C., Canada
- 1155 Davis, Franklin O., 633 Concord Circle, Trenton 8, N. J.
- 1156 Daw, Rev. William Henry, Box 125, Dundas, Ont., Canada
- 1157 French, R. DeL., 7481 Upper Lachine Road, Montreal 28, Que., Canada
- 1158 Hicks, Donald G., 53 Salisbury Avenue, Toronto 5, Ont., Canada
- 1159 Hill, James R., 1309 Osler Street, Saskatoon, Sask., Canada
- 1160 Loukin, Alexander, 710A West 173rd Street, New York 32, N. Y.

- 1161 Millman, W. Logan, 435 Christina Street orth, Sarnia, Ont., Canada
- 1162 McMahon, J. S., R. R. #1, Headingly, Man., Canada
- 1163 Wilson, Charles B., 2700 Park Drive, Bellingham, Wash.
- 1164 Woods, Walter H., 18 Glengowan Road, Toronto 12, Ont., Canada
- 1165 Young, Dr. Cecil, 122 Bloor Street West, Toronto 5, Ont., Canada

LIFE MEMBER

L935 Wilkinson, Allan A., M.D., The Cottage Hospital, Old Perlican, Nfd., Can.

APPLICATIONS PENDING

Bowley, H. S., 10039 - 87 Avenue, Edmonton, Alta., Canada Fraser, R. Thurlow, P. O. Box 8, Rossland, B. C., Canada Freeman, F. G., P. O. Box 28, Midway, B. C., Canada Jones, Inwin G., 220 Walnut Lane, Ambler, Pa. Lenny, Allen, Ste. 7, 910 Rosser Avenue, Brandon, Man., Canada Olivier, Dr. Jacques, 245 Heneker Street, Sherbrooke, Que., Canada Rutenburg, Dr. A. M., 6 Elba Street, Brookline 46, Mass. Shapley, Rev. George A., 2115 Caroline Street, Utica 4, N. Y. Tinker, Richard L., Huntingdon, Que., Canada Tucker, George E., 10804 Jasper Avenue, Edmonton, Alta., Canada Zuckerman, Bert M., 508 Fairlawn Drive, Urbana, III.

APPLICATIONS FOR MEMBERSHIP

(Objections must be filed within 15 days after month of publication)

Carlsen, Irina M., c/o Dept. of Slavonic Studies, U. of B. C., Vancouver 8, B. C., Canada (CC) CAN—20th century (Geo. VII-Eliz. II) mint and used postage and blocks. 1st Day covers. Plate Blocks. Colls. Mint and used booklet panes and complete booklets. Precancels. Mint and used airmails. Stationery entires and cut-squares. Slogan and Town (B.C.) cancellations. Proposed by H. A. MacMaster, No. 484. Seconded by F. B. Eaton, No 608.

Drake, Everett N., 136A Walmer Road, Toronto 4, Ont., Canada (C) CAN—19th and 20th century mint and used postage and blocks. Postcard, views and patriotic covers. Seals. Flag cancellations. SPECLALITY—Postcard, views and

patriotics. Proposed by R. W. Lyman, No. 959.

Duncanson, A. A., 358 Russell Hill Rd., Toronto, Ont., Canada (C) CAN—19th century mint and used postage. Pre-stamp and stampless covers. R. R., Territorial, 2 and 4-ring and other cancellatins. Proposed by H. A. Mac-Master, No. 484. Seconded by F. B. Eaton, No. 608.

Kemp, H. Douglas, 462 Greenwood Place, Winnipeg, Man., Canada (CX) CAN— 20th century mint and used postage and blocks. Coils. O.H.M.S. Mint booklet panes. Precancels. Mint and used airmails. Proposed by Dr. M. Campbell,

No. 577.

MacDonald. Dr. John J., P. O. Box 38, Antigonish, N. S., Canada (CX) CAN, N. S.—19th and 20th century mint and used postage and mint blocks. Plate Blocks. Coils. O. H. M. S. Mint Airmails. Literature, Small Queen and Victoria Numeral plate flaw varieties. SPECIALITY—N. S. Proposed by R. P. Hedley, No. 164.

Nystrom, David, 512 Anderson St., Duncan, B. C., Canada (CX) CAN—Mint and used postage. 1st Day and 1st Flight covers. Plate Blocks. O.H.M.S. Proposed by H. A. MacMaster, No. 484. Seconded by F. B. Eaton, No. 608.

Risteen, F. R., 122 Smythe St., Fredericton, N. B., Canada (C) CAN, NFD, N.B., N.S., P.E.I.—Used postage. Pre-stamp and stampless covers. Airmails on cover. N.B. "Grid" cancellations. SPECIALTY—N.B. Stampless and Cents Issue on cover. Proposed by W. S. MacNutt, No. 886.

Rutherford, George Albert, 747 Spruce Street, Winnipeg, Man., Canada (CX)

Proposed by Dr. M. Cambpell, No. 577.

Stewart, Willard, 535 Teaneck Road, Teaneck, N. J. (D) Proposed by H. W.

Lussey, No. 167.

Watson, H. J. Michael, 71 Flatt Ave., Hamilton, Ont., Canada (C) CAN, NFD, PROV—19th and 20th century mint and used postage. Plate blocks. Colls. Mint and used Airmails. SPECIALTY—B. C. and VI. Proposed by J. M. Young, No. 846. Seconded by J. N. Sissons, No. 17.

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CHANGES OF ADDRESS

Brophy, Allard F., 6151 Cote St. Luc Rd., Montreal, Que., Canada Coveliers, Robert J., 1703 No. 75th Court, Elmwood Park, Ill. (from Chicago) Crane, David B., c/o Kelowna Golf & Country Club, Kelowna, B. C., Canada (from Murrayville, B. C.)

Galley, "Mac", 1163 Steele Street, Denver 6, Colo. (from Fayetteville, Ark.)

RESIGNATIONS RECEIVED

674 Brown, F. L. K., Stone Farm, Stone St., Stelling, Nr. Canterbury, Kent, Eng.

RESIGNATIONS ACCEPTED

Romaine, Theodore K., 1204 Martin St., Klamath Falls, Ore. Walls, Clarence W., 4023 S. W. Tualatin Ave., Portland 1, Oregon.

MEMBERSHIP SUMMARY

TOTAL MEMBERSHIP, February 15, 1954	796
NEW MEMBERS, March 15, 1954	13 809
RESIGNATIONS ACCEPTED, March 15, 1954	2 2
TOTAL MEMBERSHIP, March 15, 1954	807

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CANADA, British Empire. Want lists please. E. K. Allen, 240 Spring Garden Road, Halifax, N. S., Canada.

WANTED

TOPICS—Issues of October, November and December 1947 (Vol. 4, Nos. 8, 9 and 10), to complete my library files. Ed. Whiting, 11 Moreland Rd., Paoli, Penna., U. S. A. (111-2t)

SQUARED CIRCLE postmarks on 1898 Map Stamps. G. P. Lewis, 34 Jessie St., Brampton, Ont., Canada. (99-tf)

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RARITIES

Shortly after you receive this issue I will be nearing the end of my tour of the western United States and Canada. For a short period I will undoubtedly have some interesting and valuable properties accumulated during this trip. Your early enquiries are invited so I may deal with them on my return to Toronto.

Recently I have computed the number of single items (not multiple pieces), which I sold for a price of over \$100.00 net during the past three years. Possibly it might be of interest to publish my results:

British North America	65	stamps
The rest of the Americas	18	stamps
Great Britain and non-American Cols.	14	stamps
Europe	9	stamps
Rest of the world	4	stamps
Total	110	stamps

When one considers, this is quite an imposing total. I mention these figures to demonstrate a background of experience in handling high priced items. I will be glad to apply this experience toward any problems you may have regarding the disposal of your collection of any country.

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