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FROM THE EDITORS DESK:

This issue has the following inside:

Marcuss' usual interesting chatter and about his travels down East this fall.

An answer to Barry Clarks' question on Morden research station, an update on the ABC survey, and the first half of Mike Hargrafts' "F" Perfin Factors.

I am still waiting for new material?

You asked about the Morden Experimental Station

Mark Fennell

This is now named Research Station
Research Branch
Agriculture Canada
Morden, MN

It was established many years ago by the Department of Agriculture for Canada to experiment in the fields of Agriculture and Horticulture, but today its mandate is to develop alternative crops for the prairie region, to conduct food research and enhance the marketability of these crops.

Their buildings house food research labs, cold storage plant, processing units, phytotom greenhouse facilities and a pathology containment unit. The Prairie Farm Rehabilitation Administration and Food Production and Inspection Branches are housed there.

As a department of the Canadian government they would have been provided with OHMS perforated stamps.

Now aren't you sorry you asked.

November 19, 1993
UPDATE ON the ABC SURVEY

We are on the last legs of the survey with all reports in. The results themselves will take longer to tabulate than expected. Conrad Trembley has (ask a busy man) agreed to search the original reports to have included those items that we know exist but have not been reported. The problem was outlined in my last update which can most easily be explained by the fact that we only have one third the number of participants that we did in 1982. To quote Conrad "It is a big job - but absolutely necessary to make the list complete and accurate for future reference." I couldn't agree more and will hold off on any final counts until this next phase has been completed.

Thanks for your patience
Lorne James

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At the end of September I attended a Navy Minesweepers Reunion in the Maritimes and decided to 'touch base' with any study group members who lived in places where I might be visiting.

The reunion was in Lower Sackville NS and from old lists saw that we once had Gary Steele from there as a member, and as he was still listed in the phone book, gave him a call. He came to the motel to pick me up and took me to his home where I met his wife and young daughter and then spent a couple of hours discussing philately. Gary no longer collects perfins and has sold his collection as he felt he had come to a dead end with them, but has recently formed the Dead Letter Postmarks Study Group. He has an interesting collection of these as well as of the 1st Victoria Jubilees. He has a tremendous library of philatelic books and is keen to discuss our hobby with any fellow collector. We were unfortunate to lose him as a member. Our evening concluded with an enjoyable lunch.

I had written to Russ Deveau, a current member, of Dartmouth NS to tell him I was coming to Halifax, and we arranged to meet. As I flew down and was just using public transport, Russ offered to pick me up at the Waverley Inn where I was staying but I said no, meet me at the ferry terminal as I want to make the crossing for nostalgia's sake. He took me to his home where I met his wife and two public school age boys and then we spent a considerable time looking at his perfin collection, which were the only perfins I saw on the entire trip. Russ discovered the new Type #2 perfin in a lot of assorted perfins that he had bought. He also specializes in perfins on Newfoundland stamps and is willing to complete, if possible, the Newfoundland survey started in the July 1987 issue of the Perforator, mentioned several times after that, but no report was ever published. Our get together ended with another fine lunch - they sure make good apple pie down east - and back to the ferry terminal.

I phoned Allison Steeves another member who lives in Halifax. He is a retired engineering professor, but at the age of 84 said while still collecting perfins the enthusiasm has wained, He did appreciate my getting in touch.

When in St. John's Newfoundland, contacted member Don Wilson, who is rather inactive with perfins at present but very involved with the St. John's Philatelic Society and in collecting Newfoundland stamps. In spite of the fact that his wife had just returned home from hospital after surgery, Don picked me up at the hotel and we spent the morning driving to several outports in the vicinity of St. John's, places I would not otherwise have seen, and he tried to help me with my research on the CH and CSO perfins on Newfoundland revenues.

I did visit the Colonial Building in St. John's to try to research the CH and CSO perfins without any success. The Newfoundland archives are housed in the old Colonial Building. More about that aspect, hopefully in future chatter.

Tried, but never did locate a stamp store in Halifax, Sydney or St. John's.

Just before leaving on my trip, I had a phone call from member Owen White of Toronto saying he would be in Saskatoon for a meeting and wondered if we could get together. Unfortunately, at the time he was to be in Saskatoon I would be down east. On the way home I had a 2 hour stop-over at the Toronto airport, so we were able to meet there to discuss our hobby and study group over a long cup of coffee. I had hoped Steven Koning could also have met with us, but that was the weekend he was going to close up his cottage at the lake and couldn't make it.

Stamp collectors are wonderful people!!!

- A8 74, 118, 132, 133(1), 134(1), 135(1), 137(1), 139(1), 142(1), 146(24), 147(2), 148(2), 149(2), 150(2), 151(2), 153(2), 156(2), 157(2), 158, 164(2), 165(2), 166(12), 176(12), 168, 169(2), 170(2), 171, 173(2), 174(2), 175(12), 176, 177(2), 178(2), 179, 180(2), 181(2), 212, 226(2), 236, 247, 269.
- B11 104, 105, 106(1357), 107(1357), 108(1357), 109(1357), 110(3), 111(15), 112(1357), 113(135), 115(135), 116(1), 117(5), 118(135), 119(1357), 120(1357), 122(15), 123, MR1, MR3, MR4(135), 135, 141, 143, 145, 147(147), 148, 150(1357), 151, 152(15), 154(357), 155(1357), 157(7), 164(1357), 165(157), 165a(15), 166(1), 166b(5), 167, 168(5), 170(5), 173(1), 175(15).
- C8 104(1357), 105(13), 106(13), 107(13), 108(13), 109(1), 110, 111(1), 112, 116, 117, 118, 119, MR1(1), MR2(13), MR3(1), MR4(135), MR5, 130, 135(13), 142(135), 149(1), 150(1), 155(1), 164, 165, 166, 167, 169, 170, 173, 190(1), 193, 196, 197, 204(1), 215, 218, 219, 221, 281, FWT (24), FWT8(4), FWT10(4), FWT11, FWT12(6), FX3, FX7, FX10, FX13, FX27, FX34(4), FX36(4), FX38, FX39, FX40(4), FX41(4), FX42(4), FX43(4), FX67.
- C13 105, 106(1357), 107(135), 108(13), 109(13578), 111(3), 112(145), 116(13), 117(13), 118(1), 141, 142(15), 146, 148, 150, FWT8, FWT12, FWT13(4).
- C14 89(13), 90(137), 91(13), 92(17), 93(1), 104(13), 106(137), 107(1), 108, 110, 111, 112, 113(1), 114(3), 115, 116(1), 117, 118(1), 142(3), 144, 145, 150(1), 154, 155(1), 157(1), 164(137), 167, 191(13), 192, 195, 196(1357), 197(5), 199, 213(5), 218(134567), 219(45), 223(147), 232(123457), 233(1235678), 241(8), 243(135), 247, 248(1234678), 249, 251, 254(5), 261, 283, 284, 306, C1(1).
- C20 89(17), 90(3), 104(15), 106(1357), 107(137), 108(135), 109, 111, 112, 117, 118, MR1, MR3, MR4, 135, 141(17), 142(15), 146, 148(1), 149(35), 150(1357), 153(15), 155, 163, 164(7), 165(15), 165a, 166(137), 167(1), 173, 190, 191, 192, 195(5), 196(5), 197(17), 197b, 199, 202, 208, 214, 217, 218(15), 219(5), 221(7), 223, 231(15), 232(135), 233(135), 235(57), 237, 241(248), 246(15), 247(245), 248(1357), 249(5), 250(35), 251, 252, 254, 255, 257, 260, 338(2), 340, 341(23), 386, 394, FX64(2456), FX68.
- C22 90, 91(15), 92(5), 93(135), 104, 105, 106(17), 107(1357), 108, 110, 111(135), 112, 113(135), 116, 117, 119, 120, MR1, MR3(3), MR4(13), MR5, 135, 141(258), 142(1345), 146, 148, 150(1357), 152, 153, 155(12347), 164, 165(15), 166(1), 167(5), 168, 173, 190, 191, 196(15), 197(135), 197b, 199, 202(5), 203, 203, 212(13), 214, 218(15), 219(15), 221, 223, 225(3), 231(15), 232(1357), 233(1357), 235(135), 241(2458), 241a(2), 243(1), 249, 250(3), 251, 252(13), 254(13), 257(2), 260(5), 384, FX64.

- C23 89, 90(13), 93, 104(13), 105(5), 106(1357), 107(3), 108(135), 109(135), 110, 111(1357), 112, 113, 116(15), 117, 119, 120, MR1, MR3(3), MR4(35), MR5, 135, 145(15), 146, 150(135), 152, 154(5), 155(135), 162, 163(3), 164(135), 165(135), 165a(7), 166(157), 167(5), 169, 170(15), 173, 175(3), 190, 192(135), 193, 196(135), 197(1357), 199(3), 200, 202, 203, 209, 212, 213, 217(1), 218, 219(1), 220(7), 221(7), 225(7), 231(15), 232(1357), 233(1357), 235(157), 241, 247, 249(5), 251(57), 252, 254(15), 257, 320(12348), 325, 340, FX36(5), FX38, FX68.
- C27 89(157), 90(13457), 104, 106(135), 107(15), 108, 109(13), 116, 118, MR1, MR3, MR4(137), 141(3), 142(13), 149, 150(1357), 153(5), 154, 155, 163, 163b, 164(1), 165, 166(15), 167, 169, 170, 173, 190, 191, 192, 193, 195, 196(5), 197(13578), 199(7), 202, 204, 217(1357), 218(137), 219(135), 221, 223(12357), 224(3), 231(13), 232(1357), 233(12357), 235(135), 237(2), 241(248), 241a(248), 242(1234567), 243, 244(3), 248, 249(1), 250, 251(35), 252(1357), 254(7), 255, 257(6), 328, 337, 371, 404(28), 405(268), 427, 454, 455, 457(246), 459(2), C1, FX64, FX68, prec 1-104(17), prec 1-106(15), prec 1-106I(13).
- C29 89(13), 90(137), 91, 98, 104(1234567), 105(15), 106(1357), 107(137), 108(157), 109(1357), 111(1357), 112, 116(8), 117, 118, 119, MR1(1357), MR2, MR3(157), MR4(137), 135, 142, 146, 150(135), 153(137), 155(1357), 162, 163, 163a, 164, 165, 166, 167(1), 170, 192(1), 195(135), 196(135), 197(1357), 199(15), 202, 213(13), 214, 217(3), 218(3), 219(1357), 221(5), 223(1357), 231(1357), 232(1357), 233(1357), 235(167), 241(2468), 241a(8), 242, 249, 250(13457), 251, 252(1345), 253(268), 254, 255(15), 257(46), 267, 286, 306, C6(5).
- C30 89, 90, 91(457), 92, 93(345), 104(135), 105(7), 106(1357), 107(135), 108, 109(1), 110(357), 111, 112, 113, 116(15), 117, 118(3), MR3(57), MR4, 135, 146(1), 150(13), 151, 152(137), 155(18), 163(15), 165, 166(15), 167, 168, 173(7), 190(5), 195(5), 196(15), 197(1357), 199, 202(4), 204(7), 211, 212, 214, 217(15), 218(15), 219(137), 221(5), 223(3), 231(15), 232(1357), 133(13567), 235(135), 241(2468), 241a(2468), 243, 248(145), 249, 250, 251, 252, 254(15), 260, 271, 282, 286(137), 287(5), 301, 303, 305, 318(137), 319, 323(3), 324(3), 325(4), 327(3), 329(3), 336, 338(4), 339, 340, 341(1357), 351(12), 352, 356, 357(3), 358, 359, 362(23457), 370, 374(478), 382, 387(2), 403(5), 404(5), 405, C6(15), C8(13), C9, prec 1-89I(35), FX41, FX67.
- C31 89, 90(1357), 91, 104(135), 105(3), 106(13457), 107(13), 108(13), 109(137), 110(1), 111(13), 112, 113(1357), 116(13), 117(3), 118, MR1(135), MR3(3), MR4(13), 135(13), 141, 142, 144(13), 146(3), 149(13), 150(1357), 153, 155(13), 163, 163b(37), 164(13), 165(137), 165a(13), 167(17), 170(15), 175, 190(137), 195(13), 196(7), 197(1357), 199(13), 202(15), 203, 210, 211(5), 217(157), 218(15), 219(357), 221(135), 223(5), 225(7), 231, 232(1357), 233(1357), 235(1357), 237(1), 241(246), 242, 243(5), 249, 250(135), 252, 254(135), 255, 257, 260(1), 287(13), prec 4-231(17), C6, FX36.

- C32 89, 90(1357), 91, 92(17), 104(13), 105(3), 106(1357), 107(1357), 108(1357), 109(1), 111(5), 113(35), 116(15), 118(1), MR3(37), MR4, 135(12), 142, 150(1357), 153(13), 155(15), 163, 164(13), 165, 166, 167, 170, 173(15), 175, 190, 192, 194, 195, 196(1), 197(13), 197b, 202(3), 204, 213, 214, 217(15), 218, 219(137), 221(3), 223(13), 231(3), 232(13), 233(13), 235(13), 241(1234), 241a(24), 247(2), 248(3), 249, 250, 251, 252, 254, 255, 257(24), 260, 325, FX42.
- C33 90(137), 91, 104(157), 105, 106(135), 107(145), 108(1357), 109(135), 112(1), 113, 116, 120, MR1(135), MR2, MR3(37), MR4(157), 135(135), 141(5), 142(135), 144, 146, 149, 150(13), 153(13), 155, 163, 165, 166, 167(1257), 169, 175, 176(1), 190(3), 191(5), 192(1), 195(1), 196, 197(137), 197b, 199(1), 202, 203, 212, 213, 214, 215, 217(15), 218(134), 219(13), 221(13), 224(3), 225(3), 226, 231(13), 232(13), 233(123), 235(135), 237(3), 241(24), 241a, 242(135), 243(13), 244(17), 247(4), 248(13), 251, 255, 340, 404, 432, C6(7), FWT8. ²²³
- C36 163(1357), 166(135), 167(135), 168(35), 172, 174(1), 175(1237), 176(1235), 190(1234568), 192(13), 193, 195(134568), 196(1367), 197(13568), 198(13), 199(13578), 200, 201(12347), 202(15), 203, 204(5), 209, 211(135), 212(1), 213(3), 214(3), 215, 216, 217(135), 218(135), 219(1357), 221(1357), 222, 223(123457), 224(1367), 225(1235), 226(136), 231(1234678), 232(12345678), 233(124567), 235(1467), 241, 247(4), 248, FX64(15), FX67(124567).
- C37 89, 90(13), 92(1), 104(1), 105(1), 106(12), 108, 110, 111(1), 112, 113, 117, MR1, MR2, MR3(1), MR4(1), 167, 175.
- C40 89(13), 90(1), 91(4), 92, 98, 99, 104(13), 105(13), 106(135), 107(13), 108(13), 109(13), 110, 111(1), 112(13), 115, 116, 117(1), 118(1), MR1(13), MR2, MR3(1), MR4(13), 135(12468), 141(135), 142(24), 143, 144, 146, 152, FWT13, FWT16, FX3, FX6, FX7, FX8, FX9, FX36.
- C44 104, 105(13), 106(1), 107(13), 108(13), 109(13), 110(13), 112(13), 113, 117, 118(13), 119, 120(3), MR4, 133, 141(13), 144, 149(13), 150(13), 155, 191(1), 195, C1, FWT16(4), FX8(2).
- C54 104(13), 105(13), 106(135), 107(1), 108(13), 109(13), 110, 111(13), 112(1), 113(1), 114, 116(3), 117(1), 118(1), MR1(13), MR2, MR3, MR4(1), 127, 130, 141, 144(1), 150(1), 151(1), 153, 155(13), 162, 163(1), 164(15), 166(1), 167, 169(1), 170, 173, 175, 190(1), 191, 192, 193, 195(1), 196(1), 197(13), 199(1), 202(4), 204(4), 209(1), 212, 215(15), 217, 219(5), 221, 223(1), 225, 231, 232, 233, 235, 237, FCD2(1).
- C61 104, 105, 107(13), 108(1), 109(13), 112(1), 115(13), 118(15), 119(3), 120, MR4, 141(3), 142, 143(3), 144(3), 146(1), 148(3), 149(3), 150(3), 151(1), 155(13), 157(15), 158(1), 163b(13), 164, 166, 170, 173(3), 175(13), 176(13), 190(13), 192, 193, 195, 196, 197(1), 199, 203(3), 217, 219(3), 221(1), 223(13), 225(13), 226(13), 231, 232, 233(13), 235(1), 248(3), 249, 251, 254, 255, 269, 271(1), 284(12), 285(1), 286(1), 287(1), 288, 293, 294(1), 301, 305, 306(13), 313(3), 316(13), 318, 320(13), 321(1246), 327(13), 328(1), 329(1), 334(1), 335, 337(13), 338(1), 339(1), 340(138), 341(1345), 351(13), 358(1), 359(1), 361(3), 362(134), 363(4), 369, 370(15), 372, 373, 374, 375, 383(13), 404(2), 410, 432, C1(7), C9(1), prec 1-107(13), prec 1-112(3), prec 1-118(357), prec 4-118(13).

- C63 104(3), 105(13), 106(123567), 107(135), 108(13), 109(134), 110, 111(13), 112(13), 113(13), 114, 115, 116, 117(1), 118, 119(1), 120(3), MR1(1), MR2(15), MR3, MR4(13), 135(12345), 141, 142(1), 143, 144(1), 145, 146, 149(1), 150(3), 151, 152(3), 154(13), 155(13), 157, 162, 163(13), 163b, 164(3), 165(1), 165a, 167, 168, 170, 171, 173, 174, 175, 176, FWT8, FWT10, FWT12(4), FWT13(4), FWT16(2), FX7(4), FX8(23), FX9(2).
- D4 104, 105, 106(1), 107(123), 108(13), 109(13), 112(13), 117(1), 118(1), 144, 150, 155, 163(3), 164, 165, 165a, 166, 167, 169(1), 170, 172, 173, 175(5), 190, 193, 195, 196, 197(5), 198, 199(135), 201, 202, 203, 204, 209, 212, 214, 217, 219(15), 221(5), 223, 224, 225, 241, 254, C2, E2.
- E2 109, 156, 162, 163(3), 165, 166(13), 166, 167, 170(4), 173, 174(135), 176, 184, 190(13), 191, 192, 193, 195(135), 196(135), 197(125), 199, 204(1), 210, 212, 213(1), 217(1), 218(137), 219(13), 221, 223, 231(135), 232(135), 233(1357), 235, 249(13), 250, 251(1357), 252(1357), 253, 254(3), Nf196, FWT15, FX36, FX38(3), FX41(2), FX64(1234568), FX67.
- F4 104, 105, 106(1), 107(1), 108(1), 109(1), 110, 111, 112(1), 113, 114, 116, 118(1), 119, 120, MR1, MR4(1), 141, 144, 146, 149, 150(1), 151, 155, 157, 158, 162(1), 163, 164(1), 165(1), 165a, 166, 167, 168, 169(1), 170, 173, 174(4), 176, 190(1), 191, 192, 195, 196, 197(1), 197b, 199(1), 202, 204, 211, 212, 213, 214, 215, 217, 218(1), 219(1), 221, 223, 224, 225(1), 226, 231, 232(1), 233(1), 235(1), 236, 241, 241a, 242, 243(134), 244, 246(2), 247, 248, 249(1), 250, 251(1), 252(1), 253, 254(1), 255, 257(12), 258, 260, 261, 268, 269(14), 270, 271, 272, 276, 285, 287(1), 288, 291, 292, 304, 306, 312, 318, 324, C9.
- G1 104(1357), 105(13), 106(13578), 107(13), 108(15), 109(134), 111(1), 112(12), 116, 117(1), 119, 120(3), MR1(13578), MR2(15), MR3(137), MR4(1357), MR4a, MR5, 135(24), 148, 177, FWT7(12468), FWT8(248).
- G8 89, 90(135), 91(1), 94, 104(1), 106(1357), 107(1357), 108(1357), 109(1357), 110, 111(13), 113(1), 116(1357), 118(13), 119(135), 120(7), MR4(157), 142, 143(7), 149(15), 150(135), 153(5), 155(15), 157(5), 163(1), 164(15), 165(15), 166(15), 167(15), 170(13), 173(15), 175(135), 176(15), 190(15), 191(15), 192(15), 193, 195(15), 196(15), 197(15), 197b(15), 199, 200(5), 202, 211(15), 213, 214(15), 215(5), 217(1), 218(15), 219(15), 221(15), 223(1235), 224(15), 225(15), 226(5), 231(5), 233(5), 235(5), 236(1), 241(2468), 241a(2), 243(15), 244, 247(6), 249, 252(13), 254(1), 269(15), 282(1), 285, 286(1), 287(1), 305(1), 306(1), 328(5), 330, C9, FX30.
- G10 104, 105, 141, 163, 195(5), 217, 231(13), 232(13), 233(3), 234, 249(3), 250(13), 251, 252(13), 254, 284(1), 285, 286(13), 287(1), 292, 305(1), 306, 315, 327(13), 328, 337(13), 338, 339(13), 340(13), 340p, 341(13), 341p, 401, 404(2), 404p, 405p, 417(1), FCD1(5).
- G13 89, 90(1), 91, 93, 94, 104(123), 106(1346), 107(1), 108(13), 111(13), 113, 116(13), MR1(1), MR2(1), MR3(1), MR4(1), 135(1), FX55, FX64.
- G14 89(1), 90(13), 92(1), 93(1), 94, 100, 104(135), 105(13), 106(13), 107(13), 108(13), 111(1), 112, 113(13), 116(1), 117, 119(14), MR1(1), MR2(1), MR4, 134.