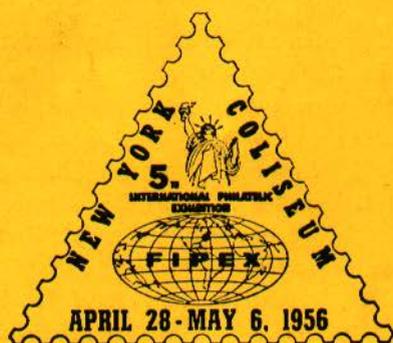


B·N·A TOPICS

Journal of the British North America Philatelic Society



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1	.20	.20	.20	.20
2	.20	.20	.20	.20
4	1.50	1.50	1.50	2.50
5	.20	.20	.20	.20
6	.25	.25	.25	.25
7	2.50	2.00	2.50	2.50
8	.20	.20	.20	.20
9	.20	.20	.20	.20

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	2	1.25	1.10	2.00	1.10
	3	—	2.00	1.50	5.00
	4	—	—	1.50	2.50
	5	1.00	1.00	2.25	2.00
	6	1.25	1.25	2.00	2.50
	7	6.00	—	5.00	—
	8	4.50	—	4.50	—
	9	8.00	—	4.00	18.00
	10	—	—	5.00	—
	11	8.00	—	4.00	18.00
	12	6.00	4.50	2.25	2.25
	13	5.00	3.50	2.50	4.50
	14	5.00	10.00	8.00	—
	15	8.00	—	8.00	—

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BNA Topics

Official Journal of the
British North America Philatelic Society

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NUMBER 4

WHOLE NUMBER 134

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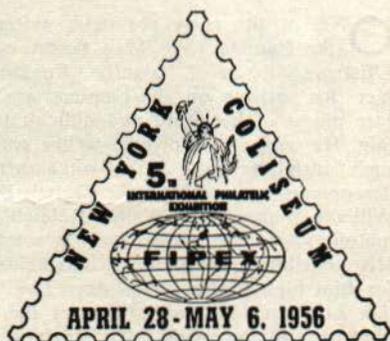
... or do you intend
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BNAPS at FIPEX...



THE New Coliseum in New York City could have been opened with no more important event than FIPEX—a show of international importance in the promotion of good will among collectors the world over. The governments of many countries throughout the world are participating, and the outstanding collections of all countries will be on display.

April 28 to May 6 will be important dates for philately on this continent, and our own Society is taking part by operating a lounge at FIPEX, due to the generous response of our members for funds for this purpose. If you visit this show, don't fail to drop in and meet your fellow BNAPSers. There will be a luncheon for BNAPS members, families and friends, on Saturday, May 5. The restaurant where this will be held and the exact time will be posted at the lounge. W. C. Peterman, P.O. Box 348, Caldwell, N.J., will appreciate receiving advice by May 1 if you plan to attend the luncheon, and also whether you wish an official FIPEX program purchased for you. There may be a shortage of the programs toward the end of the week.

Up to the time of going to press gifts have been received from:

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Bringing News About People and Stamps

By REV. JOHN S. BAIN (BNAPS 19)

ONE of the early philatelic writers on the Canada 1898 Map stamp was C. L'Estrange Ewen of Paignton, England. In fact, his articles on this subject are very rare pieces of literature and difficult to obtain. He was a very prolific writer covering such intriguing subjects as witchcraft and demonianism, etymology, Sir Francis Bacon, William Shakespeare, Walter Raleigh, onomatology, and lotteries and sweepstakes. His contributions to these various fields won for him high praise in his day. The "London Life" in 1934 said: "One of the most able pens in the world." To me it is interesting and gratifying to know such backgrounds of contributors to our hobby. The love of stamps has brought many such rich talents into our common interests.

BNAPS

In checking my notes on the Canada 1898 Map stamp, I find a query that I pass on to my fellow BNAPSers. Does anyone have a precancelled Canada 1898 Map stamp on cover or wrapper, etc? If so, let us hear from you.

BNAPS

Here is a story that I have in my files, and with a corresponding cover, but I have never been able to verify it. "John McHale, assistant postmaster, Halifax, Nova Scotia, had 355 airmail letters from collectors to dispatch on September 1, 1930, during the dedication of airport. As this was postponed he took 300 letters to the Exposition and had them apply a cachet, then mailed same on August 25, but he had 55 letters from members of the A.A.P.S. he decided to hold for Dedication at future date. On August 25 the postmaster received 27 letters from a New Jersey dealer to postmark and give to the trans-Atlantic flier, Captain Wolfgang Von Gronau, who had stopped at Halifax on his way to New York. On the morning of August 26 when Mr. McHale heard of this, he postmarked these 55 letters August 26 and took them to the German flier, who said he would take them along. After arrival in New York, Captain Von Gronau took same to postmaster at New York City, who knew that Captain Von Gronau had no authority to carry mail, sent covers to Hadley Field and same were

dispatched to Montreal and duly back-stamped, then remailed to members." I understand a Mr. R. A. Brooks of Fenton, Michigan, has information on the above flight, and if any BNAPSer can contact him or add further to the above information, I shall be pleased to hear from you.

BNAPS

Prices on Canadian stamps continue to stiffen around here. The hockey stamp has been extremely popular, especially among juniors. This will do much to foster further interest in Canadian stamps, and thus build more collectors of Canada.

BNAPS

Strange how a cover will present itself and awaken memories of people you know. Such was the one appearing on page 13 of January TOPICS. You will note that it is addressed to S. Lautenschlager. Some years ago I sat in the class of Professor Lautenschlager, who taught political science in the Hanchow University for 14 years. Being a Canadian he talked to me about Canada, then the conversation drifted to stamps, and finally he talked about his brother, who is the person named on the above cover. Small world, after all, and how philately can play a part in our contacts.

BNAPS

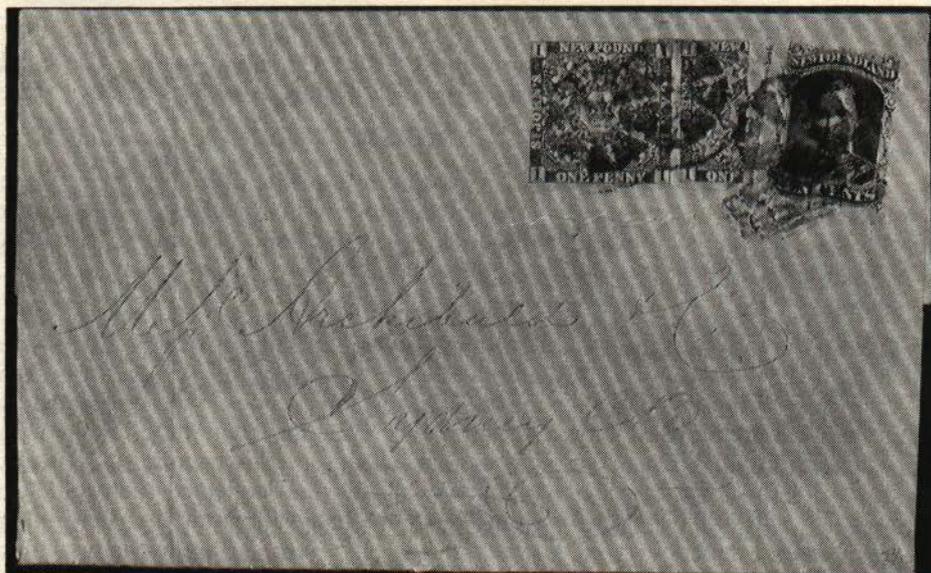
I have been looking for a copy of "A History of the Postmarking of Mail in Great Britain, 1661-1934" by Horace N. Soper, in vain. I am wondering if any member can assist me in this quest. I shall be happy to purchase one. ★

QUEEN ELIZABETH 1954 DESIGN PLATES

• The Queen Elizabeth II 1954 design portrait stamp has been issued printed from the plates numbered, according to advice received from the post office department:

- 1c—Plates 1 to 3 inclusive
- 2c—Plates 1 to 5 inclusive
- 3c—Plates 1 and 2
- 4c—Plates 1 to 6 inclusive
- 5c—Plates 1 to 10 inclusive
- 6c—Plates 1 and 2. ★

Unrecorded Newfoundland Bisect



BILL LEA (BNAPS 687), of Manchester, England, has come up with a very singular piece that may well be unique. The word unique is one that should be rarely used, but the example that Bill Lea has shown is the first recorded in almost 90 years of philatelic history. Since the item in question is exceedingly rare and its value very well known, it is reasonable to believe that there may be no other examples in philatelic hands at present.

The cover bearing the rarity is illustrated and it clearly shows a left vertical bisect of the 1d brown violet (Scott No. 1) used in conjunction with an unsevered copy and a 10c black (Scott No. 27). The cover is part of the Archibald correspondence and was sent from Harbor Britain to Sydney, Cape Breton. The cover is backstamped at Harbor Britain on Nov. 30, 1868. It also bears the elliptical Halifax cancellation for Dec. 23, 1868, and finally it bears the receiving stamp of North Sydney for Dec. 26, 1868.

In addition to being unique because it is franked with a bisect of Scott No. 1, the cover is also interesting because it shows the mixed franking of the 1857 and the 1865 issue. This was allowed as the Newfoundland pence stamps were not demonetized. The rate for a letter from any of the outports (any town other than St. John's) to any place in Nova Scotia was 13 cents, and the rate here is made up of one and a half copies of the 1d, or 3 cents in decimal currency, plus a copy of the 10c stamp for a total of 13 cents.

It is truly a magnificent cover and we want to thank Bill Lea for sending us the information so that we could pass it on to our readers and be the first in philatelic history to show this piece. ★

CANADA OFFICIALS

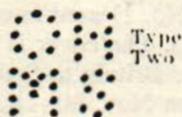
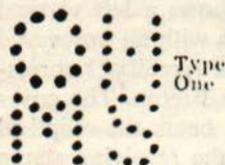
BACK in May of 1923, collectors noticed that Canadian stamps, on mail from certain government departments, were perforated O.H.M.S., with the letters "H" and "M" five holes high. The stamps were the regular King George V (Admiral) issue of 1912.

The Finance Department did the perforating in Ottawa, and distributed these postage stamps to various government offices for exclusive use on government mail. Their use was continued until March 11, 1935, and embraced Scott No. 104 to 210 (or Gibbons No. 246 to 334).

Research

The first organized step in gathering of information about these stamps was taken in 1940 by the British Columbia Philatelic Society, of Vancouver, when a committee of Messrs. Salt, Nicholson, Millard and Gordon were appointed to compile a list of the then known varieties. In 1942, the committee, along with Messrs. Garrett and Daggs, produced a checklist of 142 varieties. C. B. D. Garrett (BNAPS 15), a former government official, had collected these officials since 1928, and had developed a guide to the eight positions of the perforating of the stamps, depending on whether the sheets were fed into the machine face-up—head-up, face-up—head down, gum-up—face-up, or gum-up—face-down, which gave four positions; then if the sheet was fed sideways, it naturally gave four additional positions. These Mr. Garrett called the A B C D E F G and H positions, and dedicated his copyright system, through the British Columbia Philatelic Society, for the general use of philatelists.

Guide to the Perforation Positions in the 5-hole and 4-hole



OH	HO	SW	W2
MS	2M	HO	OH
A	B	C	D
HO	MS	HO	2H
OM	MS	HO	2O
E	F	G	H

The perforating machine would perforate a row of ten small size stamps at a time, with the sheets fed in flat, often several sheets at a time, causing "missing perfs". Where a row has been perforated twice, these are "Doubles"; if perfed three times they are "Triples". Then we have a "Compound" where perfed one way, then fed in another way, such as A and C. We have rare instances where one row is missed in the perffing, giving a Z imperforate pair.

The 5-hole Perforated O.H.M.S. — Type I

The 5-hole perforated from July 1923 to March 11, 1935, and included the 1912 King George V Admiral issue, Scott No. 104, to the 1933 Commemora-



TOP ROW (left to right): No. 104E, 1912 King George V 5-hole, first of Canada Officials; 212A, 1935 Silver Jubilee 5-hole, in very limited use; E7A, 1938 Special Delivery 5-hole, Air and Special Delivery good in the 5-hole; 223A, 1935 10c Mountie 5-hole. This 1935 issue was in short use; 232AZ, 1937 2c, rare item, 4-hole, perforated and unperforated pair. CENTRE: 257E, 1942 10c War Issue 4-hole, emergency "blackout" cancellation; O4, 1949 4c War Issue o.p. O.H.M.S., "narrow spacing"; 233FX, 1937 3c War Issue 4-hole, "double" in the second row; O26, 1950 10c Fur o.p. G, "missing G". BOTTOM: O7, 1950 14c Hydro, o.p. O.H.M.S., "missing period after S"; O9, 1950 50c Timber o.p. O.H.M.S., lowest number printed in the o.p.; O27, 1950 \$1 Fish, o.p. "G", a good item for appreciation.

tive issue (Gibbons No. 246), Scott No. 210, C1 to E9, Air Mail, and Special Delivery. The Nos. 112, 118 and 167 are the lower priced items in this group at around \$4 each.

Perforation of O.H.M.S. Discontinued

From March 12, 1935, to July 1, 1939, perforating was discontinued, and the post office department supplied all government offices with the regular postage stamps.

Post Office Department Perforates 5-hole Stamps

On July 1, 1939, the post office department took over perforating of all stamps supplied to government offices. They recalled all stamps on hand in these offices, to be perfed on their 5-hole perforating machine. Among those returned we find the odd commemorative of 1933, the 1935 King George V Silver Jubilees, 1935 King George V, also the Air Mail C1 to C6, and Special Delivery E1 to E9. The numbers returned were quite limited and all are scarce. Of those returned, some were in broken sheets, and in feeding these into the machine, on occasion we have a pair, one perforated and the other not perforated (designated in Wrigley's Checklist as Z). These are among the rarities in the Officials and are found in the 5-hole and 4-hole. They have a value around \$50 per pair.

In a letter from L. J. Mills, Director of Financial Services, Post Office Department, he states: "... I therefore believe that it is correct to state that the two perforating machines in 1939 were destroyed (5-hole)."

Post Office Department Perforates 4-hole Stamps — Type II

In July 1939, the post office department installed a new machine to perforate O.H.M.S. with the letters "H" and "M" four holes high. The 4-hole perforating commenced with the 1937 King George VI (Scott No. 231, Gibbons No. 357) carrying through the 1939 Royal Visit, 1942 War, 1946 Peace, 1949 Revised, the Air, Air Special Delivery, and the Special Delivery (to Scott E4 and Gibbons No. S15). These are relatively cheap, ranging from 1 cent where the perfing is in the normal positions of A C E and F, to several dollars when they have been fed into the machine in an awkward or incorrect manner, giving a B, D, G or H position. The Scott Nos. 223, 224, 225 and 226, or Gibbons Nos. 347, 348, 349 and 350, perforated 4-hole, were a few of the 1935 King George V issue returned from the government offices to be perforated 5-hole, but received after the new 4-hole machine was installed. Their limited number indicates their rarity.

Post Office Department Overprints O.H.M.S. Stamps — Type III

In September 1949, recognizing the cost of manually perforating the number of stamps required, the Post Office Department overprinted O.H.M.S. stamps, commencing with the 1942 War Issue, 1949 Revised, 1946 Air Mail, and 1950 Special Delivery (Scott No. O1 to 15a, CO1 and EO1, or Gibbons Nos. 375 to 418, 407 and S15.)

In the overprinted we find a missing period after "S" in the War 1c, 2c, 10c, 20c, 50c and \$1, 50c Oil, Revised 1c, 4c and 5c, and Air 7c. In addition, in the 1c Revised the missing period exists after the "M", and in the 5c Revised, after the "O" and "H", after the "H", and after the "M".

We also have the "narrow spacing" in the War 1c, 2c, 3c and 4c, and in the Revised 1c, 2c, 3c, 4c and 5c.

Post Office Department Overprints "G" Officials — Type IV

On September 30, 1950, recognizing that French, as well as English, is an official language, and that the corresponding words in French did not conform with "On His Majesty's Service", the letter "G" was used, meaning "Government" or "Gouvernement". These extended from the 1950 Revised, 1946 Peace, 1950 Resources, 1952 change of color, 1952 regular issue, 1953 Queen Elizabeth 1c to 5c, 1954 Q.E. 5c, 50c Textile, 10c Eskimo, 7c Air Mail, and 10c Special Delivery.

In the overprinted "G" we find two errors, in the 10c Fur (No. O26) with the missing "G", and also with the "G" misplaced, on top of the skin.

Canada Officials a Recognized B.N.A. Group

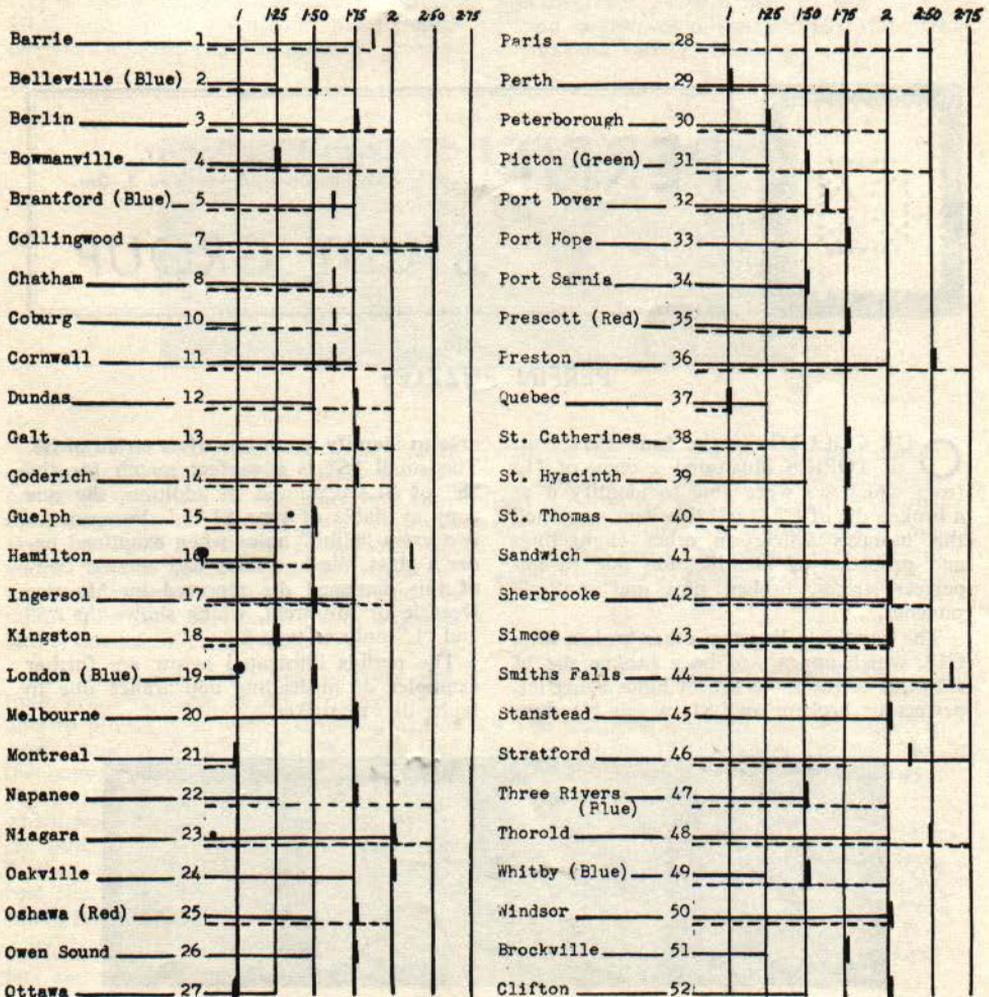
Collectors who have set aside these Canadian postage stamps because of their being perforated, would do well to bring them out, and see if they have some valuable items. Wrigley's recently issued Checklist of these Canada officials lists 325 varieties in the 5-hole perfs., 301 in the 4-hole perfs., 42 in the overprinted O.H.M.S., and 30 in the overprinted "G", together with four items in the stationery.

Canada officials definitely constitute a most interesting phase in B.N.A., as not only the overprinted, but also the perforated, were regular issues by the Canada Post Office. ★

CANADA 1859:

A Guide to Comparative Valuations of 4-Ring Numeral Cancellations Upon 5 Cent

THE 50 Numerals (Nos. 6 and 9 being apparently non-existent upon 5c) are shown upon the following chart graduated in seven groups of comparative value or rarity according to grouping by Holmes and to that resulting from Jarrett's valuation of each numeral. The group to which each numeral has been



considered to belong is indicated upon the chart by the group column or columns in which either of the two parallel horizontal lines terminate, the unbroken one being according to Jarrett and the dotted ones according to Holmes (list incomplete).

Present-day valuation has been adjudged as indicated by the vertical dashes. These dashes have been fixed before or after the meanpoint between adjacent line-terminals according to observation as to supply during recent years and in relation to the varying numbers collected of the several numerals.

Cancellations were in black, but other colors are known to have been used as well as black by certain post offices and are rare, except No. 49 which is often found in blue.

The values above the group columns are those shown in Jarrett, and although naturally out of date, they serve to indicate the relation of the groups one to another, and, it is considered, are such as to warrant their acceptance as a guide to current market value of the stamp on which they are carried if added to the value of that stamp, due regard being given to condition. ★



PERFIN

SECRETARY: R. J. WOOLLEY,
359 Ellis Park Rd., Toronto 3, Ont.

STUDY GROUP

PERFIN PUZZLES

OUR COLUMN in the June 1955 issue of TOPICS illustrated a copy of I15 from which we were able to identify it as a broken die of C21, and this item suggested this month's article on other changelings and problems of identification due to imperfect strikes, broken pins and multiple punches.

The handbook lists two other broken dies, C18, which appears to be a broken die of C20 due to the three lowest holes being imperfect or broken, and S1, which we were

able to identify as an imperfect strike of S8. The small "S" is a perfect match for the "S" of SL/ACo, and in addition, the one copy available of type S1 did show one or two extra "blind" holes when examined under a glass. We have also had another copy of this damaged die reported by Maurice Decarie of Montreal, which shows the "S" and "L" only of type S8.

The perfins illustrated below are further examples of misleading appearance due to faulty dies or strikes.



The first two items are broken dies of C12, the International Harvester monogram. The first could easily be read as a large "G" with a small "W" enclosed. As one of the oldest established companies in the Toronto area, certainly in business from the days of muddy York, is generally and reputedly known by its familiar initials of "G & W", we might easily have been misled into another erroneous listing. The second item is so carefully done to represent the present monogram in use by the same company that it is possible some clerk in one of the company's offices may have removed the pins of the outer "C", or it could possibly be due to wear.

The third perfin could easily be read as "UM" or "MU" and was so reported many years ago by previous students of Canadian perfins. This apparent arrangement of letters is due to an M10, the Montreal Light, Heat and Power Company, being struck over towards the edge of a stamp, showing



We also get many multiple strikes which can generally be identified unless the dies are badly worn and do not make very complete impressions. The first two illustrated above are both due to the enthusiasm with which some office boy with the Royal and Queen Insurance Company performed his duties. The third item is M15 with a double strike, one of which is inverted.

One of the most interesting of these multiple strike varieties we do not have available to illustrate. It was reported by earlier perfin students as JBVB/Co. We have seen this copy a few years ago and found it to be J2, the JBF/Co, with a double strike, one of which was reversed and slightly overlapping the other. The letters had neatly arranged themselves as the die first mentioned. The best clue to this double was the second line which read "oCo".

We are pleased to see some of these puzzlers and they do add to the interest in the

the "M" and "L" in full and the first vertical stroke of the "H". The copy shown has most of the letter "H" but other copies we have seen have been struck further over, showing what appears to be a perfect "MU."

The last of the items illustrated showing the initials JMI is actually J7, JMT, with the crossbar of the "T" missing. Further damage to one of the dies of the J7 machine resulted in a JM which was illustrated in the CAPEX issue of the Collectors Club Philatelist, but has since been properly identified as a broken die of J7 and was omitted from our listings.

There have been other items reported to us during the past few years which we have thought to be imperfect strikes of known types. One of these was an "HN", which we considered to be a partial strike of O7, and of course, there is the "F" recently reported in our column which may still turn out to be a variety of E1.

study of our stamps with perforated initials.

I might say in closing this month's effort that material for future columns is running low, and that some help will be needed from our correspondents to provide new items of general interest so please send them along. ★

BNAPEX-56 COMMITTEE

• The following members have consented to help make the 1956 BNAPS Toronto Convention (Sept. 27-29) at the King Edward Hotel, one of the best:

Chairman and Treasurer, C. H. Fee; Exhibits, T. C. Berkeley; Jury, V. G. Greene; Entertainment, W. S. Bayley; Registration, Mrs. Sayde Hodgson; Advisory Committee, W. S. Bayley, L. A. Davenport, C. F. Foster, V. G. Greene, Fred Jarrett, C. M. Jephcott, J. N. Sissons. ★

Soldiers' Letters:

Canadian Expeditionary Force in Siberia, 1918-19

AN almost forgotten part which Canada played in the aftermath of World War I, and in the Russian Revolution, is that of her small expeditionary force in Northern Russia, and later Siberia, during the winter and spring of 1918-19. It is, however, forever recorded in the markings on the letters of the few Canadian soldiers who made up that expeditionary force.

Murmansk-Murman Peninsular

There were three scenes or localities involved. **The first** at Murmansk and the Murman Coast on the northern shore of the Kola Peninsula in the far north-west Russia. Here, according to MOMFC¹ "18 officers and 74 non-commissioned officers arrived . . . under the command of Colonel J. E. Leckie, C.M.G., D.S.O., in October 1918." So far I have not been able to locate any covers which I can definitely assign to these troops.

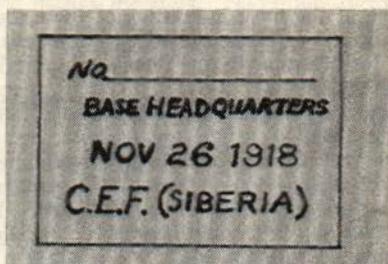
Like the troops sent elsewhere in Russia, these Canadian forces were "attached to the Allied Forces, the object of which" was "to protect the people in the northern part of Russia against the Bolsheviks and to maintain the prestige of the Allies."

¹ MOMFC refers to the report of the Ministry, Overseas Military Forces of Canada—1918. This is a bound volume of 533 pages and was printed in London by authority of the Ministry. All quotations, except those noted from the letter of the soldier, are from this report, pages 20-23 and 68.

SIBERIAN EXPEDITIONARY FORCE MARKINGS



TYPE I—Field Post Office use. Only so far known with indicia "1".



TYPE II—Base Headquarters use, possibly used only at Archangel.



FIG. 1—Russian postcard, bearing Russian adhesive stamp, tied with C.E.F. Siberian Expeditionary Force marking Type I, and also bearing the additional Type II marking.

Archangel

The second locale was at Archangel, situated at the mouth of the Dvina River which flows north into the White Sea. The troops, using Archangel for base headquarters, were spread out in two columns, one south along the Dvina River, and the other along the Vaga River, a branch of the Dvina.

"In this zone of operations there were two distinct Canadian Sections:

- "(a) A small instructional and construction party at Archangel itself;
- "(b) The 16th Brigade, Canadian Field Artillery, serving with the Dvina and Vaga Columns."



FIG. 2 — Canadian Y.M.C.A. envelope, bearing Type I marking, plus "Passed by Censor" handstamp.



FIG. 3—Special “Canadian Siberian Expedition” envelope provided by the Catholic Army Huts. This bears Type I marking (see text).

Again according to MOMFC, there were five officers and 11 men of other ranks at Base Headquarters, and 18 officers and 478 men of other ranks serving with the two columns. This force did not embark for Russia, from England, until September 17, 1918. “This Force which consisted almost entirely of personnel with experience on the Western Front, was placed under the command of Colonel C. H. L. Sharman, C.B.E.” The 67th Battery was “under the command of Major F. F. Arnoldi, D.S.O., and the 68th Battery” was “under the command of Major W. C. Hyde, D.S.O. These two batteries were in much of the . . . hard fighting near Shenkursk” along the Vaga River.

On Armistice Day (for troops elsewhere), November 11, 1918, “the Brigade fought a notable action when, through apparently outnumbered, the drivers, cooks and batmen fought with such courage and stubbornness that they saved the Canadian guns. Up to April 1, 1919, the only casualties suffered . . . were—one officer died of wounds, five other ranks killed.”

Fig. 1 shows a Russian postcard, franked with Russia Scott No. 82, cancelled with the Type 1 marking of the Field Post Office. This is dated November 7, 1918—just four days before the “notable action” mentioned above. It then took the card 19 days to go north to Archangel where it received the Type 2 marking of Base Headquarters on November 26.

Fig. 2 shows another cover, this bearing the Canada YMCA corner card and showing the Type 1 marking dated December 11, 1918. This shows no Base Headquarters marking, but does bear a “Passed by Censor” handstamp. This same censor marking appears several times along the flap on the reverse. This letter may never have gone back to Archangel. It may have been conveyed via Murmansk, as troops from that area were on occasion in touch with those in the Archangel-Dvina-Vaga area of operations.

Siberia Proper—Vladivostok

And now for the **third** locale. The scene shifts some 6,000 miles from Archangel, clear across Siberia, to Vladivostok, Russia's only port on the Pacific. The time jumps to May 1919. Things had not gone well for the Anti-Bolsheviks. Throughout Russia proper the Reds had the upper hand. The Allies could not be relieved by way of the White Sea and Arctic Ocean for months. However, most of Siberia and the great Trans-Siberian Railways were still in the control of the Anti-Bolsheviks.

Sometime between March and May 1919, the Canadian Expeditionary Force moved over this long route. Our familiar Type 1 Field Post Office marking, still with the same indicia "1" now shows up in Vladivostok—see **Fig. 3**. This beautiful cover with a patriotic design, showing the Flag and Maple Leaf, was one provided by the K. of C. Catholic Army Huts. It is dated May 18, 1919. The letter inside, also on patriotic stationery of a design similar to the envelope, is dated "Vladivostok, May 16, 1919." The soldier was Sgt. James Allen of the Canadian Army Medical Corps.

The letter itself is interesting, (1) because he enclosed his picture, (2) because he refers to a letter "I wrote you from Russia Inland some time ago" apparently while travelling through the interior of Siberia, and (3) he also tells "I will be well on my way back—do not send any more over here—I am on the last boat, the Montegale, or Empress of Asia, leaving the first week in June. First in, and last out!"

Here in these three covers is traced the story of a small group of Canadian soldiers, who left Canada for England, the Western Front, then to Archangel, across Siberia, and home again across the Pacific—a round the world tour—but not in luxury!

No wonder Canadian covers fascinate me! ★



THIS column has been silent for over a year but a number of interesting items of information perhaps justify a column, our editor and editorial committee consenting. Our attempt to make a correct listing of New Brunswick numeral cancellations has had a substantial boost recently thanks to the research of Nicholas Argenti. Collectors who have followed this development know that Number 9 has turned up on several letters from Grand Falls. However, this office did not logically fall into alphabetical order coming, as it did, between Chatham, Number 8, and Dalhousie, Number 10. Mr. Argenti now finds that the office that later

became Grand Falls was Colebrook in late 1853 or early 1854 when the numeral cancellations were distributed by the post office department. We are now working on the numbers above 31 (Sussex Vale) and would appreciate any pertinent information.

Collectors of province covers sooner or later come to realize how seldom these items appear used to countries abroad other than the British Isles. In the "Lebret" collections, sold by H. R. Harmer, London, last fall, a Nova Scotia cover to France with the 5c blue and the 12½c black brought £27 (\$75).

Two covers that add considerably to our stock of postal history passed through the hands of J. N. Sissons, Toronto, in 1955. These were twin covers each with a single 1 penny Nova Scotia sent from Pictou to Chatham, Kent, England. Not only do these covers attest to the one penny soldier's rate in 1858 but also from the fact

Continued on Page 88

Trail of the Caribou

By DAN MEYERSON (BNAPS L3)



JIM CULHANE, BNAPS 280, of Norriston, Pa., has certainly come up with four nice covers that are really difficult to come by. In the mail from Jim recently we received four covers for inspection, and all of them had postage due stamps affixed. Genuinely used postage dues from Newfoundland are extremely scarce, and at one time we tried to get them and were unsuccessful. Jim's four covers are very interesting—the first is a local letter posted at St. John's for delivery in St. John's, without any stamps at all. This letter was taxed 4 cents and bears the 4c postage due stamp to show the regular rate of 2 cents and the penalty of 2 cents. The second letter is somewhat similar except that it is a letter from out of the city addressed to St. John's. The regular rate is 4 cents and since there are no stamps on the envelope, it was taxed 8 cents and has four copies of the 2c postage due to cover the 4-cent rate and the penalty of 4 cents. The third cover is a part-paid cover from out of the city and it bears a 1c postage stamp. Since the rate was 4 cents, it is 3 cents underpaid and as a result bears three copies of the 2c postage due to cover the 3 cent deficiency plus the 3-cent penalty. The last is a registered cover and is franked with a 4c postage due stamp. Since the registry rate is 9 cents, the discrepancy is covered by a 5c postage due stamp though in this instance no penalty is charged.

Back in November 1954, we reported the existence of the 7c Queen Mary, Scott 247, in imperforate condition. At that time we had no idea as to the asking price. Now in "Stamp Collecting" for December 2, 1955, we find a listing by Ritchie Bodily, a London dealer, that offers a mint imperforate pair for sale at £30.

As usual we Newfoundland collectors always try to get into the act. In the October issue of TOPICS, Nelson Bond, BNAPS 84, discussed the Pictorial Postcards of the Grand Trunk Railway System of Canada.

Now we have a letter from N. W. Scales, BNAPS 1058, of Evansville, Ind., that puts Newfoundland right into the picture. Mr. Scales sends along three pictorial Newfoundland postcards, two of one type and one of another. Since the scenes are numbered we told Mr. Scales we would ask all our readers to let us know if they have any additional scenes. The first two, which are in color, are printed by Dicks & Co., St. John's, Newfoundland. A photo of an iceberg with the caption "A Monarch of the North, Nfld." is listed as No. 1223, and No. 1230 shows a photo of a whale on a dock with the caption, "Humpback Whale on the Slip at Balena, Nfld." The third card in grey or sepia is put out by Gray & Goodland and the example we looked at (No. 31) bears the caption, "Wabana Iron Mine, Bell Island." In order to help, I should add that all these cards were used early in 1905. I would like to hear from any member having any other numbers. Please write giving number and caption.

Tom R. Hutton, BNAPS 1080, of London, England, sends in an interesting cancellation. He submits a copy of the 4c Coronation, Scott No. 231, with a "466" numeral cancellation. Our explanation is that it is a paquebot cancellation applied at Liverpool, England, as that is the number originally assigned to Liverpool, and undoubtedly still in use.

Walter Chadbourne, BNAPS 100, of Wilmington, Del., submits an interesting item for all perfin collectors. It is a copy of the 15c Cabot, Scott No. 70, with the AYRE perfin reading down and to the right. This is the earliest Scott number we have seen with a perfin, possible only because these stamps remained at the post office until the 1920's. Thank you, Walter.

John G. Momy, a new member, submits two later dates of use of CAPO No. 4 and No. 5 than published in the January issue

of TRAIL. Mr. Momy lists Sept. 14, 1945, for CAPO No. 4, and Sept. 12, 1945, for CAPO No. 5. Both of these new dates are about six weeks older than the ones previously recorded. We also note an error in our January column—the last CAPO listed is No. 6 and instead it should be CAPO No. 10. Please make necessary corrections.

Dr. Allan A. Wilkinson, BNAPS 835, of Old Perlican, Nfld., is in with a very nice cover that adds to our knowledge concerning Newfoundland "MORE TO PAY" cancellations. In the September 1955 issue of TRAIL we discussed three types of "MORE TO PAY" cancels and recorded that Type 3 had been seen on a cover dated Apr. 15, 1896. The cover that Dr. Wilkinson submitted went from St. John's to Harbor Grace and is postmarked on Mar. 26, 1917. The face of the cover bears the Type 3 "MORE TO PAY" cancel and extends our dates from 1896 to 1917.

Two more corrections to our list of CAPO dates first published in the January issue of TRAIL and supplemented in the March issue. This time N. W. Scales finds that he has a CAPO No. 4 cover dated April 5, 1943, which is a little more than two months prior to our previously recorded earliest date. The second correction is sent in by W. L. Gutzman, BNAPS 1300, of Strathmore, Quebec, who was stationed at Goose Bay, Labrador, in 1946. He reports that the name of the post office was changed from CAPO No. 10 to Goose Bay on April 1, 1946, and that on that one day only the two cancels were used concurrently, CAPO No. 10 on regular mail and the Goose Bay strike on registered mail. Mr. Gutzman also sends along two covers that illustrate his point. We want to thank Mr. Gutzman for supplying a definite closing date for CAPO No. 10 and we are in hopes that eventually the same information will turn up for the other CAPO post offices.

Still another addition to our CAPO list, this one from Stan Wood, BNAPS 221, Auckland, New Zealand. Stan sends in a later date for use of CAPO No. 2 than has previously been recorded. Stan has it in use on July 24, 1945, almost seven and a half months after the previous record of use.

At an auction held by Harmer, Rooke & Co., of New York, on January 26, 1956, some excellent prices were realized for the 19th century Newfoundland that they offered for sale. A very fine copy of the 2d

scarlet vermilion, Scott No. 2, with three very nice margins and one close margin, was finally knocked down for \$370 against a catalogue valuation of \$450. A superb used copy of the 4d scarlet vermilion, Scott No. 4, sold for \$250. A bisected 8d scarlet used as a 4d on cover to Baltimore went very reasonably at \$180. It is seldom that we see this item sold at less than \$200. A fairly nice copy of the 1/- scarlet vermilion, Scott No. 9, in used condition, realized \$310. In the orange vermilion classification, a used 4d, Scott No. 12, with three good margins and one close, brought a price of \$70, whereas a very fine used copy of the 6d, Scott No. 13, sold for \$65. A copy of the 1/-, Scott No. 15, described as clear margins all around and light cancel, didn't stop until it reached \$400. A fine o.g. block of the 24c, Scott No. 31, sold for \$14.50, or \$2.50 over catalogue.

A new booklet pane variety, variously reported on previous occasions, has been verified by Dr. Willan, BNAPS No. 568, Lancashire, England, author of that very fine column, "Newfoundland Corner", a regular feature of Maple Leaves. Some years ago, Tom Hutton, BNAPS 1080, London, England, wrote in to report that he had a pane of four of the 2c rose, Scott No. 185, that were comb perf. 13.3x13.3 instead of line perf. 13.1x13.1, as were all the previous booklet panes. At that time we thought that Tom either had a counterfeit or that he had perfed the pane incorrectly, and thought no more about it. But now, no less an authority than Dr. Willan writes that he has a complete example of the booklet and all three panes of the 2c rose are comb perfed instead of line perfed. Our apologies to Mr. Hutton, and we are pleased to report a new Newfoundland variety. ★

'TWINS' SOLD

• **The celebrated pair** of the Canada 7½d green of 1857, with the PEMBINA (North Dakota) cancellation (written up in BNA TOPICS, June 1954), was sold for \$1,000 though it catalogues only \$240 in a B.N.A. auction held recently by Harmer, Rooke.

These rejoined, used-in-the-U.S. "twins" had been cut apart and lost to each other for 30 years when the late Dr. Lewis Rexford discovered in 1936 that a 7½d with "—BINA" cancel in his collection was the mate of a 7½d with "PEM—" cancel in the album of the late Col. John S. O'Meara.

The Supreme Court Law Stamps

OVER a period of some years I have watched with growing discomfort the casual inaccuracy with which the Supreme Court Law Stamps of Canada are listed in various catalogues, handbooks and dealers' price lists.

Errors of omission cause the collector to overlook varieties which should be in his album or (worse still!) allow him to sell for a fraction of its true value a stamp which is much rarer than its listed counterpart. Flat mistatements of fact cause the collector to waste time and energy seeking reported varieties which do not and could not possibly exist

The dean of Canadian cataloguists, Fred Jarrett, will back up my contention that nothing is so hard to retract as an erroneous report which has appeared in the cold permanency of print. You may recall the case of the infamous Labrador essays. Jarrett **meant** to list in his catalogue a value for rare used covers displaying these labels. Through error the value was misprinted in the "mint" column. Years later, Fred was still denying the false \$10 mint evaluation placed on these relatively common "stamps" by dealers who should have known better!

An error once made tends to perpetuate itself, since cataloguists commonly follow other listings blindly, accepting reported varieties as valid without pausing to verify the facts. An example is Holmes' present (1954) FSC13AA—allegedly a 50c George with red controls, rouletted. This is purely the result of a printing error made long years ago—as witness the correct listing in Holmes' 1939 and 1940 editions. But careless proofreading has caused the mistake to be carried into important subsequent Holmes' handbooks. As a result, countless collectors today vainly seek a variety which simply does not exist.

My own attitude towards cataloguing is that nothing should be assigned a value until the compiler has seen the item with his own eyes. Experience with innumerable slip-shod reporters has strengthened my resolve in this respect. Time after time, while compiling my catalogue of Canadian Postal Stationery, I had reported to me items which upon examination turned out to be something utterly different. Therefore, while I am willing to note the possible existence of an item oft reported, I never assign a value to that item—merely leaving after the description a blank space to be filled in later if the listing is verified.

The Supreme Court Law Stamps are among the loveliest ever to be issued by Canada. Revenue collectors want and should have an accurate listing of these beauties. Hence, following is a new checklist of the known varieties. It is not commonly the policy of BNAPS to quote prices, but since many of these stamps are here listed for the first time, I have assigned fair mint and used values to all items noted. These were reached by reference to dealers' price lists and current exchanges, and reflect the 1956 market accurately.

CHECKLIST

of Supreme Court Law Stamps

First Issue: 1876. Young Queen design, engraved and printed by the British American Bank Note Co. Red serial control numbers, 3½ mm. tall. All stamps are blue. Perf. 12x11½.

SC 1	10c Young Queen	3.00	1.50
2	20c	6.00	3.00
3	25c	6.00	3.00
4	50c	4.00	2.00
5	\$1	2.00	1.00
6	\$5	5.00	2.50

Note: A used copy of the \$5 with serial control number 0197, perforated 12x12 (L)x11½ (R), recently sold for \$15.00.

Second Issue: As preceding, but perf. 12x12.

SC 7	10c Young Queen	4.50	2.25
8	20c	9.00	4.50
9	25c	9.00	4.50
10	50c	6.00	3.00
11	\$1	3.00	1.50
12	\$5	7.50	3.75

Third Issue: As preceding, but on thin paper, perf. 12x12.

SC13	10c Young Queen	6.00	3.00
14	20c	12.00	6.00
15	25c	12.00	6.00
16	50c	8.00	4.00
17	\$1	4.00	2.00
18	\$5	10.00	5.00

Note: Holmes lists the \$5 Young Queen (perf. and paper unspecified) with blue serial control numbers. No copy of this having ever been seen, it must be presumed to be an erroneous notation.

Fourth Issue: 1900. Widowed Queen design, engraved and printed by the American Bank Note Co. Red serial control numbers, 4 mm. tall. All stamps are blue.

SC19	10c Widow	3.50	2.00
20	\$1	4.50	2.50
21	\$5	4.50	2.50

Fifth Issue: 1906. As preceding, but change of color.

SC22	\$5 Black Widow	22.50	12.50
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Sixth Issue: 1915. George V design, engraved and printed by the American Bank Note Co. Red serial control numbers, 4 mm. tall. Stamp is blue.

SC23	25c George	25.00	20.00
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Special Issue: 1916. Certain stamps of previous issues overprinted with the words IN PRIZE. Three types of overprint are known, viz:

- x—overprinted once in red
- y—overprinted twice in red
- z—overprinted once in red, once in violet.

At the present time no used copies are known to exist, so no values for used copies are offered. Items assigned values have been seen, items valued in parentheses have been reported but not seen. Items unvalued have neither been seen nor reported, but may exist.

SC19x	10c Widow	15.00	—
3x	25c Young Queen	(30.00)	—
23x	25c George	30.00	—
4x	50c Young Queen	20.00	—
20x	\$1 Widow	10.00	—

SC19y	10c Widow	(22.50)	—
3y	25c Young Queen	(45.00)	—
23y	25c George	(45.00)	—
4y	50c Young Queen	—	—
20y	\$1 Widow	(15.00)	—

SC19z	10c Widow	(30.00)	—
3z	25c Young Queen	—	—
23z	25c George	—	—
4z	50c Young Queen	—	—
20z	\$1 Widow	20.00	—

Seventh Issue: 1917. Stamps of the Widow and George V issues with purple serial control numbers, 4 mm. tall. Perf. 12 unless otherwise noted.

SC24	10c George, rouletted 8	16.00	10.00
25	50c George	6.50	4.00
	50c George, rouletted 8	—	—
26	\$1 Widow	3.25	2.00
27	\$5 Black Widow	13.00	8.00

Eighth Issue: 1923. As preceding, but with blue serial control numbers, 4 mm. tall. Perf. 12 unless otherwise noted.

SC28	10c George	28.00	20.00
29	10c George, rouletted 8	17.00	12.00
30	50c George, rouletted 8	—	—
31	\$1 George	2.00	1.50

Ninth Issue: 1939. George V Profile design, engraved and printed by the British American Bank Note Co. Blue-black serial control numbers, 3½ mm. tall. Perf. 11.

SC32	\$1 Profile	2.50	2.00
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Tenth Issue: 1939. George VI design, engraved and printed by the British American Bank Note Co. Perf. 11, blue-black serial control numbers, 3½ mm. tall. All stamps are blue.

SC33	10c George VI	2.50	2.00
34	50c	3.50	3.00
35	\$5	6.00	5.00

Eleventh Issue: 1948. 10c denomination of the previous issue overprinted and surcharged in silver to change denomination.

SC36	25c on 10c George VI	11.00	10.00
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\$1250 for 12d Black

• **The top price** in a recent Harmer, Rooke B.N.A. auction was \$1,250, which was paid for a used Canada 12d black. It was a stamp of fine appearance, but having "a heavy diagonal scratch, possibly a pen mark which has been treated."

An 1886 Canada registered cover to South Bulgaria, carrying two stamps cataloguing a total of \$4.15, realized the amazing sum of \$230. The desirable feature consisted of three strikes of the scarce Halifax Crown registered cancellation. The stamps were the 10c dull rose lilac (No. 40) and the registration 5c green (No. F2). ★

'APRIL FOOL' ON CANADIAN STAMPS



THE first day of this month was April Fool's Day, when the practical jokers come into their own, and it brings to mind the biggest joke among Canadian stamp collectors two years ago. Unlike the efforts of the practical jokers, this was unintentional but none the less amusing. One of the leading United States stamp magazines has a column on Canadian stamps which answers questions about this country's issues. To the question as to what the letter "G" overprinted on the official stamps of Canada stood for, it answered that it stood for "George", referring to the British monarch, of course.

King George VI was reigning when it was decided to overprint official stamps "G" instead of "O.H.M.S.", but there is no connection. As for the explanation as to why the change was made, let us compare it with an earlier period in Canadian stamps, when another change was made, and for a similar reason.

Late in 1897 and early in 1898, the Small Queens series, which had begun in 1870, was terminated, and a new set of stamps was issued by Canada with the portrait framed by an oval in which was placed the words CANADA POSTAGE around the top, and the value, such as FIVE CENTS, around the bottom. In each of the four corners of the stamps there was a maple leaf.

However, in the summer of 1898 this was replaced by another set, identical in design, except that the maple leaves in the lower corners were replaced by numerals of value. No explanation was ever officially given, but it is universally accepted that the reason for the change is to be found in the fact that Canada is a bilingual country.

French-Canadians who did not know English, or only poorly so, may have found it difficult to ascertain the values of these stamps, as they were only printed in English, with no numbers to help them. Aside from the halfpenny Queen Victoria stamp

of 1857 and the similarly designed one cent of 1859, these were the only stamps of Canada with no numerals of value on them, only words. Furthermore, until 1927 all stamps contained only the words CANADA POSTAGE. In that year the French POSTES was added, on the Confederation sets, and this practice has continued up to now, with the notable exception of the un-revised George VI set of 1950.

For many years Canadian stamps were perforated "O.H.M.S." for official use, but in 1948 this was discontinued, and in 1949 these letters were overprinted instead. However, the very next year, this overprint was changed to "G". Again there was no official explanation, and again the reason is obvious. "O.H.M.S." stands for "On His(Her) Majesty's Service", but only in English. In French the initials would be "S.S.S.M." So, in order to accommodate both language groups, the letter "G" replaced it, because it stands for "GOUVERNMENT" in English and "GOUVERNEMENT" in French.
—Max Rosenthal (BNAPS 1104). ★

MARITIME MISCELLANY

Continued from Page 83

that they were addressed TO a member of the military forces, verify the use of this preferential rate in both directions.

From Bill Peterman comes a nice item with New Brunswick association. It is a beautiful strike of Turner's American Express, No. 8 Court Square, Boston, on a letter from St. John to Florence, Mass., April 1864, but with no other postal markings. This column believes that this express company was local to Boston, but if anyone knows of any New Brunswick connections, we would be glad to hear the details. The marking is recorded and illustrated in Blake and Davis' "Boston Postal Markings to 1890." ★



EDWARD C. BANNO (BNAPS 1321)

The Paris, Ontario Squared Circle

THE accompanying illustration shows four 3c Small Queens with Paris, Ontario, squared circle cancellations covering a period of roughly two months from August 8 to October 7, 1893, in order of date sequence. The strikes are like most of the Paris cancellations I have seen of the period, all cleanly struck, right side up, and if I might be allowed a permissible exaggeration, with almost geometric accuracy.

It is patently impossible to leave the impressions of the entire face of the cancellation device on the single stamps much smaller in size than the face of the mechanism itself. The impressions will be necessarily partial. Yet the study of these stamps shows that a great deal of care was exercised or caused to be exercised by the different clerks in the use of the hammer, so that all the information that cancellation purports to convey is all clearly discernible. This meant that the hammer was well cared for, as pointed out by Dr. Alfred Whitehead in his excellent handbook, and the application of the device to the stamps was not merely an act to deface the prepaid adhesive, but a ritual so that all in the impression showed cleanly and clearly.

The examination shows the stamps dated August 8, September 9, September 20 and October 7, clerks A, B, C and B in that order. A doubt may arise that the third stamp may be cancelled April 20 and not September 20. The second letter of the abbreviation for both April and September is "P". Yet those familiar with the Paris squared circle cancellations will know that it is circumstantially quite improbable. The earliest known Paris strike is dated June 30, 1893, some two months or more later than April 20. It is also known that clerks' numbers 1, 2 and 3 were used instead of A, B, C and D from the date

of introduction of the squared circle hammer until August 3. The belief that the date must be September 20 is strengthened more by a closer examination of the two middle stamps.

The closer examination of the two middle stamps shows the figure "3" of "93" sideways, with the front part of the figure downwards. The side stamps show the dates that I have nearest before and after the dates in question and the disposition of the figure "3" is normal. In the study of various squared circle cancellations an absence or an inversion of letters or numbers are occasionally met with. I have not come across, however, an irregularity of this nature anywhere else.

So, from these materials at hand, it seems that this irregularity occurred sometime between August 8 and September 9, and for a period of at least 11 days, until September 20, it remained uncorrected. It is presumed the error remained without correction until at least September 20. Sometime between that date and October 9, someone must have noticed this deviation from the normal and it appears corrected and normal on October 9.

Some TOPICS readers may find an earlier date or a later date of this interesting irregularity, but I presume all intervening dates will show the same error. I have a feeling that it disturbed the postmaster, Peter H. Cox, not a little to have his error go unchecked for some period of time, as I also have a feeling that he was a very careful man who took considerable pride in the neat and correct appearance of his postmark. ★

PROGRESSIVE INDEX FOR VOLUME 12 TO FEBRUARY 1956

Compiled by H. M. DAGGETT JR. (BNAPS 50)

★ NOTE: The page on which the article appears is given first, followed by the month of the issue.

BIOGRAPHY

Hale, H. W. K. (No. 102)—19 Jan.
Scott, W. J. (No. 253)—44 Feb.

CANCELLATIONS

CAPO (in Nfld.)—15 Jan.
Street sub P.O.—41 Feb.

CHARITY STAMPS

1956 Easter seals—38 Feb.

COVERS

1855 to Sorel from Montreal, L.C.—45 Feb.
1914-18, Patriotic, of W.W. I—16 Jan.
1891 Canadian illustrated—40 Feb.

LITERATURE

The Beaver Newsletter (new pub.)—20 Jan.
Maple Leaves (N.Y. 1867), query—20 Jan.
Stamp Collectors Magazine (Gt. Brit., 1863-74)—
7 Jan.

MILITARY MAIL

Canadian Patriotics of W.W. I—16 Jan.
CAPO (in Nfld.)—15 Jan.

NEWFOUNDLAND

Cancellations—CAPO, 15 Jan; TPOs, 32 Feb.
Covers (1830)—31 Feb.
Essays—1919 air mail, 15 Jan.

Postage Stamps—Var. in 1919-37 issues, 6 Jan;
1941 3c variety, 38 Feb.
Postal Stationery—1880, 2c opt. on 1c, no. issued,
31 Feb.; 1880, 2c postcard proofs, 31 Feb.

PERFINS

New types, 39 Feb.

POSTAGE STAMPS

Pence issues—45 Feb.
1898 Numerals—1c var., 35 Feb.
1898 Map—Proof of non-demonetization, 40 Feb.
Edward VII—2c hairlines, 38 Feb.
Admirals—3c brown, 28 Feb; 1924 imperf., 3c,
date of issue, 38 Feb.
1930 Arch—Dies, 1c and 2c, 33 Feb.; printing
methods, 12 Jan.
1956 Hockey—32 Feb.
Registration—2c color changeling, 35 Feb.

POSTAL HISTORY

Review of articles in Stamp Collecting Magazine (1863-74)—7 Jan.

PRECANCELS

Excise and War Tax, for playing cards—18, 23
Jan.

REVENUES

Excise Tax—precancelled, 18 Jan.
War Tax—Precancelled, 18 Jan.

STATIONERY

Election Return Envelopes—13 Jan.

Canadian Illustrated Covers

By E. L. PIGGOTT

No. 14

WHILE the most colorful illustrated covers are probably those of the nineteenth century, nice ones can also be acquired of later years. This one, used a few years ago by the Board of Trade at Chester, Nova Scotia, with the illustrated corner card done in blue, is a fine example. The item has an appeal for the yachtsman.

It is of interest to mention that on Oak Island, one of 365 isles in Chester Bay, large-scale digging operations have been carried out on several occasions through the years endeavoring to locate Captain Kidd's fabled treasures of doubloons and pieces of eight, thought to have been buried there since 1795. While many tales have been told about the "money pit" nobody can explain



the mystery of the original shaft that was discovered on Oak Island.

For 160 years this cunningly-engineered safety vault has frustrated every attempt to wrest its secret. If you have not visited this part of Nova Scotia, perhaps your friends of Baltimore, Philadelphia, Montreal or Toronto have told you all about gazing down the several shafts, where efforts have been made to locate Captain Kidd's treasure. Oak Island has one of the best-kept secrets of all time. ★

REVIEWS

BILLIG'S PHILATELIC HANDBOOK, Volume 25, published by Fritz Billig, 168-39 Highland Ave., Jamaica 32, N.Y. This volume contains the usual varied fare to be expected from the Billig handbooks and includes sections on U.S. "Local" posts, German local issues, Indian Airways (Part III) continued from Volume 22, the Stamps of the North West Pacific Islands, Saar, San Marino, South Africa and Suriname. To anyone interested in any of the subject matter contained in this book the price of \$5.00 is very reasonable.

RADIO PHILATELIA, by Herbert Rosen, published by Audio-Master Corp., 17 East 45th Street, New York 17, N.Y. Until we looked through this 48-page booklet, we never realized that so many stamps had been issued featuring some form of telecommunications in their designs. Mr. Rosen based this book on his collection of these

stamps, which must be outstanding, being winner of the coveted Alma Cramer Award for Radio and Television on Stamps presented by the American Topical Association at the TOPEX Exhibition in Dayton, Ohio, in 1954. All stamps dealing with this subject are illustrated, and the introductory text is in three languages—English, French and German. Price \$2.00.

LYMAN'S BRITISH NORTH AMERICA CATALOGUE. This is the most comprehensive B.N.A. list published in Canada to come to our notice. It is compiled for the philatelic trade by Robert W. Lyman, and it is in every collector's interest to obtain a copy. It may be secured at 25 cents (refundable) from Robert W. Lyman (Canada) Co., Box 23, Station D, Toronto 9, Ont., or from Paramount Stamps, Box 55, Station D, Toronto 9, Ont.

THE EDITOR'S MAILBAG

1898 2c Map Stamp

Many members of BNAPS will be aware that I have been conducting research into this stamp and that my conclusions have been appearing in serial form in the British publication "Maple Leaves." You, Mr. Editor, are aware that they may also run as a series of articles in BNA TOPICS in the near future.

I am in some difficulty in finishing the series as I have been unable to locate a complete sheet of Plate 5, or even to obtain a sight of the lower left portion of the plate. This means that I may have to leave my series incomplete.

Have any of your members a sheet from Plate 5 which could be lent to me to enable the work to be completed? If anyone is willing to do this, will he please get in touch with me FIRST, as otherwise there may be customs difficulties in mailing it—at this end, of course.

I would guarantee the safe custody and safe return of the sheet. I should need it for perhaps one month. Any assistance in this matter would be most gratefully appreciated.

Fred Tomlinson (No. 442)

Coombe Leigh,
Chestfield Road,
Whitstable, Kent, England.

Early American Perforating Machines

Shortly after reading Mr. Winthrop S. Boggs' scholarly and intriguing pamphlet, "Early American Perforating Machines and Perforations 1857-67", I remembered that most of the 5c Connell stamps of New Brunswick in my collection, which were obviously genuine and had Royal Philatelic Society certificates, were perforated 11.75. Therefore, I carefully re-checked my measurements to see if I could possibly make them all 11.60. This I could not do.

I then proceeded to measure the perforations of stamps on New Brunswick and Nova Scotia covers in my collection of the two earliest years of 1860 and 1861, and discovered a number of instances of both 11.60 and 11.75 perforations, in fact there were more stamps perforated 11.75 than 11.60, and some with compound perforations.

Immediately I wrote to Mr. Boggs to inform him of my discovery, which indicated that there must have been in operation in 1860/61 an 11.75 as well as an 11.60 machine. Mr. Boggs promptly acknowledged my information, and with his usual energy proceeded to search for other early covers on his side of the Atlantic, so that we could without reasonable doubt, resolve the problem.

It will be appreciated that such a small variation between 11.60 and 11.75 requires very careful work, especially as the variable condition of perforating pins can falsify measurements. Partly for this reason, and partly because of his exceptional knowledge of British North American stamps, I asked Mr. William Lea to spend a day with me to check my measurements and to discuss this problem of perforations.

In the meantime Mr. Boggs, across the Atlantic, had been checking more of the early printings of the 1860 issues of New Brunswick and Nova Scotia and from these studies is now able to confirm my conclusion that two perforating machines were then being used for these stamps. On one New Brunswick cover, bearing a 5c and 10c stamp, dated May 1861, Mr. Boggs found that the 5c was perforated 11.75 and the 10c, 11.60. I have found similar instances; moreover, I have discovered a number of stamps with the compound perforation of 11.60 by 11.75.

In order that philatelic societies and their expert committees, and collectors should be in possession of these facts at the earliest opportunity, Mr. Boggs has asked me to give this matter the widest publicity by sending this letter to several philatelic journals. Further research work is likely to reveal more information about these early perforating machines, and I understand that Mr. Boggs hopes, in due course, to issue a supplement to his publication of 1954, incorporating my discovery and any other points of interest which may have transpired. Mr. Lea is at present working on the early perforated stamps of Canada and authorises me to say that he has already discovered the 11.75 perforation on the Canadian issue of 1859 and that, when he has completed his research, he hopes to write an article on these Canadian perforations.

TRADE NEWS

Finally, I would like to thank Mr. Boggs and Mr. Lea for their co-operation and enthusiasm, for it is only in this manner that the results of joint philatelic research can be made available to the fast-growing population of philatelic students.

Nicholas Argenti (No. 206)

Illustrated Cover List

It would be interesting to know how many BNAPSers are interested in illustrated covers of any one kind or all types. We do know there are those who like to dress up an album page of their squared circle postmark or slogan cancellation collections with an illustrated cover. There are those who specialize only in hotel, exposition, agricultural implements, conveyances, animals, etc. What the writer has in mind is not a compilation of illustrated covers, but could we not encourage members who are interested in them to file their names with the editor or some member, and periodically publish in TOPICS the names of those interested and their particular interest.

In this way, members would know who is collecting certain or all types and possibly be able to help each other. In the writer's case, my specialty is exposition and hotel covers of the Maritime provinces. I would gladly dispose of an illustrated cover in which I have no interest to another member specializing in some particular type, or exchange or be a potential buyer of a cover along the lines of my interests. Little space would be required in TOPICS to publish the listing, say every two or three months, in the following manner:

Members interested in Illustrated Covers

- All types—Name
- Hotel and Exposition, Fairs, Fairs, Maritime Provinces—Name.

E. L. Piggott (No. 629)

Unique Cover

Enclosed for publication (see below) is a photograph of an unique cover submitted

• **Jackson's Stamps** announce a new address after many months of trials and tribulations following the flooding of their former premises at 2 Frimette Crescent, Toronto. They are now located at **33 Pheasant Road, WilLOWdale, Ontario**, and hope to soon have the many mix-ups in mail, etc., caused by their change to a temporary address, ironed out.

• **H. R. Harmer**, 6 West 48th Street, New York 36, N.Y., report that the first three Caspary auctions brought the astounding total of \$756,229, with 13 sales still to be held. On April 11 the Harmer organization will hold their 1000th session of stamp auctions, featuring United States offerings.

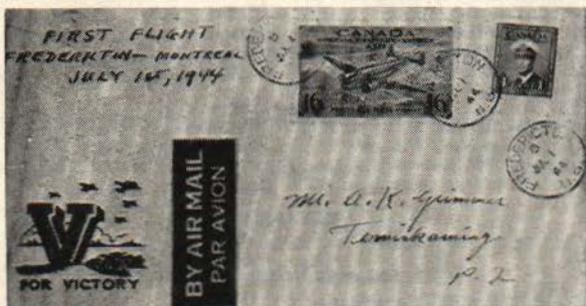
• **J. N. Sissons**, 59 Wellington St. West, Toronto 1, Ont., features an outstanding sale of specialized Canada and Provinces, including the superb "J. D. Smart" 1868 collection, in two sessions, April 4 and 5.

• **The Philatelic Magazine** (England) runs a regular feature entitled "Touring Around the World," and the issue of February 26 dealt most interestingly with British Columbia and Vancouver Island. ★

to me by the late A. K. Grimmer. This is listed in April 1955 TOPICS as No. 16h (see "Trans-Canada Airlines"). Mr. Grimmer stated that it was sent to him by a friend who worked in the Fredericton post office. There is no Montreal or North Bay backstamp, but there is a Temiskaming Station money order stamp in magenta on the back, dated July 3, 1944.

I would like to urge collectors holding rare TCA flight covers to forward them to me for photographing.

J. S. Gordon (No. 1030)





OFFICIAL SECTION

BRITISH NORTH AMERICA PHILATELIC SOCIETY

MONTHLY REPORT . . .

From the Secretary

JACK LEVINE, 325 LINK AVE., SALISBURY, N.C., U.S.A.

March 15, 1956

NEW MEMBERS

- 1391 Bartlett, Bart H., 651 Upland Road, Louisville 6, Kentucky
- 1392 Farquhar, Lloyd M., RR. No. 1, Westfield, Kings Co., Nova Scotia
- 1393 Kemp, Clarence A., 130 Forest Hill Road, Toronto
- 1394 Kern, Carl F., 2700 Sunset Drive, Bellingham 27, Washington
- 1395 McCready, A. L., Gould Street, Cobden, Ontario
- 1396 Park, Marshall, Oil City, Ontario
- 1397 Shilleto, Jack, 3000 Racine Street, Bellingham 9, Washington

APPLICATIONS PENDING

Arnold, Charles P., 49 Christie Street, Troy, New York
Atkinson, F. E., 160 Stephen Drive, Toronto 14, Ontario
Bedwell, Sid F., Box 206, Salmon Arm, British Columbia
Cornelius, John C. Jr., 2309 Irving Avenue South, Minneapolis 5, Minnesota
Holland, Hedley John, 32 Manor Park Gardens, Edgeware, Middlesex, England
Momy, John G., HQ-AAFCF-RCAF, CAPO 5053, Montreal, Quebec
Ramsey, Bruce, 915 23rd Avenue, Vancouver 9, British Columbia
Scheid, William T., 1756 Orchard Avenue, Trenton 10, New Jersey
Stillwell, H., 1 Mitchell Place, Cranford, New Jersey
Thompson, B. E., Box 329, Bracebridge, Ontario
Yuile, J. Watson, 3445 Cote des Neiges Road, Montreal, Quebec

APPLICATIONS FOR MEMBERSHIP

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

- BERNARD, Eugene, 702-14th St. West, North Vancouver, B.C. (CX) CAN, NFD, B.C., P.E.I., N.B., N.S.—Mint and used postage. Mint blocks. Plate blocks. Coils. Proposed by H. A. MacMaster, No. 484; seconded by F. B. Eaton, No. 608.
- JAMES, Dr. E. S., 336 Oxford St., Winnipeg, Man. (C) CAN—19th and 20th century mint and used postage and blocks and covers. Proposed by W. H. Pollard, No. 551.
- SCHMITT, John G., 733 Beaumont Rd., Fairless Hills, Pa. (CX) CAN, NFD—20th century mint and used postage. Mint booklet panes, 2- and 4-ring numeral cancellations. Proposed by G. E. Foster, No. 293; seconded by J. H. Watrous, No. 1027.
- SMITH, Joseph Raymond, 42 Beech Grove, Ashton, Preston, Lancs., England (C) CAN—20th century used postage, and covers. Coils. OHMS. Mint booklet panes and complete booklets. Used airmails. Literature. SPECIALTY: K.G.V "Admirals." Proposed by G. P. Lewis, No. 506.

CHANGE OF ADDRESS

- Bainbridge, G. P., 3895 Marine Drive, Hollyburn, B.C.
Freedman, Irving O., 1 Briarcliff Rd., Longmeadow 6, Mass.
Fries, Herman I., 1315 Merreain Ave., Bronx 52, N.Y.
Gordon, John S., 1336 Patterson Rd., Dayton 10, Ohio (until Feb. 1957)
Hutton, Tom Reay, 36 Vaughan Gardens, Ilford, Essex, England
McGrath, Edward J., 37 Chaplin Ave., St. Catharines, Ontario
Perkins, Thomas J., 3235 Humphrey Ave., Richmond, Calif. (correction: not 3225)
Porter, Chas. A., 8152-140th St., New Westminster, B.C.
Pratt, John T., Box 240D, Rt. 3, Cedarhurst Dr., Wayzata, Minn.
Trethewey, R. B., Purvis Sales Eastern, 50 Bertal Rd., Weston, Ont.
Wegg, George S., 977 Grosvenor Ave., Winnipeg 9, Man. (from Toronto, Ont.)
(N.B.—A. A. Duncanson, 358 Russell Hill Rd., Toronto, Ont.—"Moved, Left No Address". Any information of new address will be appreciated.)

DECEASED

- 406 Wicks, Richard M., Rt. No. 60, Cypress Ave., Allentown, Pa.

RESIGNATION RECEIVED

- 458 Vooy, Daniel W., P.O. Box 300, Canajoharie, N.Y.

RESIGNATIONS ACCEPTED

Barr, Dr. Charles
Beith, George
Boyer, Dr. Edward H.
Brewster, Leslie W.

Dixon, D. J.
Gillmore, Donald E.
Hoffmann, Heinz
Lobb, F. R.

Morris, Charles E. B.
McGregor, Chris.
Shoemaker, L. D.

MEMBERSHIP SUMMARY

TOTAL MEMBERSHIP, February 15, 1956	939
NEW MEMBERS, March 15, 1956	7
	<hr/>
	946
RESIGNATIONS, March 15, 1956	11
DECEASED, March 15, 1956	1
	<hr/>
	12
TOTAL MEMBERSHIP, March 15, 1956	934

OFFICIAL NOTICE

CALL FOR NOMINATIONS

ARTICLE IV, Section 3—Elections: A President, Vice-President, Treasurer and Secretary shall be so elected by ballot biennially in the odd-numbered years. Three (3) members to the Board of Governors shall be so elected by ballot each year for a term of three (3) years.

Nominations may be filed in writing with the Secretary by Groups, or by five (5) members in good standing, in time for publication of the issue of BNA TOPICS which is scheduled for publication at least 120 days before the opening of the Annual Convention for that year. At least 120 days before the Annual Convention, the President shall appoint three (3) members of the Society to serve and function as a Nominating Committee whose prime purpose shall be to prepare and present a slate of nominees for each elective office to be voted. Each nomination made shall be published in BNA TOPICS at least 90 days prior to an election date.

(Sec. Note: Date of Annual Convention for 1956—Sept. 27-29.)

JACK LEVINE, Secretary.

SALES TOPICS . . .

From the Sales Manager

ALEXANDER HYDE, 337 STAGG ST., BROOKLYN 6, N.Y.

The services of the Sales Department are available to all members in good standing:

For Selling. The Sales Department may be used to aid in the disposal of your duplicates or no-longer-desired B.N.A. material of an attractive nature. The charges are extremely nominal:

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ALEXANDER HYDE, Sales Manager
337 Stagg Street,
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CHANGE OF ADDRESS

Members are reminded that the new address of the Secretary is:

JACK LEVINE
325 LINK AVENUE
SALISBURY, N.C., U.S.A.

Classified Topics

Reserved for Members of BNAPS

RATES—2 cents per word per insertion; 500 words to be used as desired, \$8 00.

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FOR SALE

BETTER CANADA. Sets, singles, mint blocks. Send want lists (with references). H. G. Saxton, 139 Twelfth Ave., N.E., Calgary, Alta., Canada. (981f)

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

O.H.M.S.-G PLATE BLOCKS: O1, Pl. 31, UL, UR; O3, Pl. 32, LR, Pl. 34, UL; O4, Pl. 49, UR, LR, Pl. 50, LL; O15, Pl. 2 and 3, LL, R; O16, Pl. 4, LL, Pl. 7, UR; CO2, Pl. 1, UR. George G. Trabant, "Times", St. Petersburg, Florida. 133-2f

EXCHANGE

ONE, TWO, THREE CENT Small Queen values. Both Montreal and Ottawa prints. Stripped of cancels. Wholesale amounts to trade for what have you in foreign (no B.N.A.) stamps. V. R. Yeaton, Eight Third Street, Dover, New Hampshire. (1f)

CANADIAN PLATE BLOCKS from #284 on, for Canadian Revenues, or O.H.M.S., quality stuff, collection, or any quantity. Advise what you have, or forward for offer. Roy Wrigley (#1065), 2288 Bellevue Ave., West Vancouver, B.C. 117-f

WANTED

WANTED—The following Squared Circle postmarks, covers preferred. Type One: Aldergrove, Coleman, St. Hilarion. Type Two: Millbrook, Ont.; Great Village; Spa Springs; Freeport, N.S.; Fort William West, Ont.; Pointe a Pic; Richmond, Blyth; Coldwater; Forest; Millbrook; Ashcroft Station. Other rare Squared Circles wanted. Good prices paid or generous exchange. Dr. Alf. Whitehead, 52 Havelock, Amherst, N.S. (1-12-1f)

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