

BNA TOPICS

OFFICIAL JOURNAL OF THE BRITISH NORTH AMERICA PHILATELIC SOCIETY



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CANADA: THE "SELECTRONIC" STAMPS

For the first time in the philatelic history of nations in the Western Hemisphere Canada is going to issue an experimental set of postage stamps to be used on mail which will be handled by an electronic machine that will separate, stack and cancel automatically.

WINNIPEG IS THE CENTRE OF THIS INNOVATION—FIRST DAY OF ISSUE, JAN. 13, 1962.

Experimental stamps consist of the current 1c, 2c, 3c, 4c, 5c values marked with one or two phosphorescent lines similar to those used on Great Britain stamps 1957 onwards.

The Winnipeg Chamber of Commerce has been authorized by the Canadian Post Office Department to put out a special "first day" envelope for this event.

We offer our services to collectors and dealers. We will supply first day covers all on official envelopes in as complete a range of combinations as is practical. We will supply mint stamps in singles, blocks, plate blocks if any, and anything else of likely interest. Just leave it to us to gather together either a representative or as complete a collection as is possible of what is going to be a brand new Canadian field. All that is required is a deposit as follows:

- (1) \$2.00 if a representative collection is required.
- (2) \$10.00 if "as completed as possible" is required.

Customers will be billed for any excess over these sums. Should cost of covers and stamps not reach the deposit, prompt refund will be made of unused portions. There will be no obligation to accept anything at prices invoiced. We feel that would be the best possible guarantee of fair prices.

A supply of first day covers will be available for those whose orders are received after January 13.

CANADA PLATE BLOCK CATALOGUE, 5th EDITION

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Price of catalogue \$3.00. Delivery in January 1962.

CANADA BASIC CATALOGUE, 2nd EDITION

Another invaluable publication. Amongst many other features will list and illustrate, for the very first time in any catalogue a hitherto unknown major Canada postal variety. It is about 90 years old. So far one has been found but chances of locating more are excellent once one knows what to seek. We will pay \$500.00 each for the first 20 offered to us if in good condition. The new variety has a Foundation Certificate by the way.

Either catalogue may be ordered direct from us or from your favourite dealer.

Price of catalogue \$2.00. Delivery in January 1962.

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We invite collectors to send in \$1.00 for a rather interesting group of foreign odds and ends or better still \$10.00 for a larger lot. Money back promptly if either is not suitable.

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LITTLE NORWAY

THE COVER ILLUSTRATED at first glance would seem to be a very ordinary item. However, take another look and you will see the cancellation "Little Norway, October 25th, 1943". It is one of the scarcest Canadian cancellations I know of; I have not seen more than three or four.

It is a little bit of a mystery how this particular cover got the cancellation "Little Norway". The Norwegians had an air force training camp in Muskoka that was called "Little Norway". In fact the location on Lake Muskoka, I believe, is now called Norwegian Point.

The addressee on the envelope I have known for years, formerly a stamp collector he has now turned to coins. I enquired of him how it would get this cancellation and he said the only explanation he could give was that the military mail for the Veterans Guard Company at Gravenhurst would sometimes come up with the mail for Little Norway, and would have to be redirected to them.

It is interesting to note that Norway on March 28, 1946, issued a stamp honoring the Norwegian Air Force training in Canada. The stamp is Gibbons No. 379 and Scotts No. 274. ★

ARE THERE ANY 20TH CENTURY CANADIAN RE-ENTRIES?

AROUND THE YEAR 1905 Canada began to harden the plates from which its stamps were printed. This simple statement of fact leads one to the question: "Are there really any re-entries on 20th Century Canadian stamps?"

Most collectors are familiar with the process followed in preparing a plate from which stamps are printed by the engraving process used for most Canadian stamps. The design is engraved on a steel die, this is transferred and repeated several times around the circumference of a steel disc, the transfer roll, and it rocks the subjects into the plate from which the stamps are printed. One by one the subjects are rocked into the plates.

If the transfer roll touched the plates at the wrong place, a subsequent impression in the correct position could result in a duplication of lines, in other words, a re-entry. In the olden days, plates were sometimes remade by burnishing off the designs, and re-entering the roller. Where any portion of the original designs were not completely obliterated, the lines of the old impressions, next to the lines of the new ones, showed as re-entries. Being of unhardened steel, they could be either recut or re-entered, to sharpen the impressions.

The early plates of the King Edward VII issue, which first came out on July 1, 1903, were of unhardened steel as usual, but then came the change, about 1905. From then on, once the designs had been transferred to the plate, it was hardened.

Curving Caused Hairlines

At this time plates began to be curved slightly in a vertical condition, to fit the cylinders that they were placed on for printing. The hairlines which appear on some of the Edward VII and Quebec Tercentenary stamps at this time were due to minute cracks occurring in the plates as they were curved to fit the cylinders.

This practice of hardening and curving the plates made the likelihood of softening and re-entering worn subjects on the plate practically impossible. It would have been impractical to soften, straighten, burnish, re-enter with the transfer roll, harden, and recurve a plate, so any re-entering would have to be done before the original hardening.

Suppose a subject rocked into the plate was slightly off the correct position, or some of the lines were not cut sharply enough. Before the plate was hardened, the subject, or a portion of it, could be erased, and the transfer roll rocked in again. However, the raised lines on the transfer roll could not be impressed only on one particular point on the subject on the printing plate. It would have to enter along the whole width of the design at that point, because

the raised lines on the roll fit into the recessed lines on the plate, like a person's fingers lock into each other in clasped hands.

This means that if there is any doubling of lines at a certain point on a design, because of re-entry, the same doubling has to show right across the design, in a straight line from that point, with each feature in that line doubled. There need not be any doubling below or above this narrow strip, unless the transfer roll was rocked at the same time further down or up.

Now, let us examine some of the so-called re-entries of 20th Century Canadian stamps. The first example is one of the most famous, the ½ cent Quebec Tercentenary.

A So-called Re-entry

The most notable feature of this rarity, which occurs in the 44th stamp in each sheet, is a line through the bottom of the letters "CANA", and a short spur diverging to the right from the bottom frame line near the centre. There is also a dot in each side of the "O" of "1608", and a line above the left "½". It is obvious that the spur at the bottom is not a re-entry, but possibly was cut by the engravers tool slipping, or falling on it. The line through the bottom of the letters is, on the other hand, considered a definite re-entry. Yet, this so-called major re-entry does not continue right across the stamp, according to the rule set out above.

In the same Quebec Tercentenary set there are also supposed to be re-entries in the 1c and 5c, showing in the date "1908", and the lettering at the bottom, and in the 20c there is a variety with a vertical doubling at the upper right side. In none of these does the doubling continue right across the stamp.

The Admiral issue has a number of re-entries listed in specialized works, but none which I have read about, or looked at, has a doubling of lines across the whole width. If there are any, I will be glad to be corrected.

The so-called major re-entry in the one cent stamps of the 1930 arch issue is easily visible to the naked eye. In both the orange and green emissions it appears on stamp number 96 in the upper left sheet of plate two, as a doubling of the upper part of the right numeral "1" and also across the top of the word "cent." It does not appear, however, across the left numeral. On December 6, 1930 the color was changed from orange to green. The "re-entry" on the green stamp was so obvious that it was retouched, but traces of the doubling are still visible. For the first time a rotary press was used to print the 1c, 2c, 3c, and 5c values.

First Chromed Plate

On October 24, 1927 the 2c green Admiral issue stamp became the first Canadian stamp to be chrome plated, a practice followed ever since. There is no wear on the plate, only in the chrome plating. This secures increased production, as the plates can be replated many times. It is no longer necessary to resharpen lines in the plate. In fact, after a plate has been curved for the rotary press, it would be impossible to make a re-entry in any case.

In the 1932 Medallion set, the 5c is supposed to have two different re-entries. On stamp number 79, plate two, upper left pane, there appears on the bridge of the nose a "re-entry", consisting of shading, and, at the edge of the medallion, shading. It was later retouched again, but traces may still be discerned on the

nose. Another so-called re-entry, on stamp number 10, plate one, upper left, shows slight doubling in "Canada."

In the Silver Jubilee issue of 1935 there is supposed to be a re-entry on the one cent green, stamp number 56, plate two, lower right, and the 2c brown also.

The 50c value of the 1935 regular issue has a "major re-entry", with a colored line through the lower portion of the letters "ANADA", some sort of doubling of portion of the curved line above the word "CANADA", and below "Parliament Building Victoria."

Since then, "re-entries" seem to have petered out. The 7c airmail stamp of 1946 is supposed to have one on the right side of the stamp number 39, plate two, upper right, and one on both the right and left of number 10, plate two, upper right.

The most recent "re-entry" is on the right side of the 1953 Queen Elizabeth Coronation stamp.

Impossible With Chrome Plate

I doubt if any of these show a doubling of lines right across the width of a stamp. The use of hardened steel plates must have stopped the practice of re-entering, because of the necessity of softening them to do so, not to speak of flattening out the slight curve in the place, and then curving and hardening again. It was easier to make a new plate. Chrome plating made re-entering unnecessary. Rotary plates made it impossible.

So, what are all these "re-entries"? They are really retouches by hand, either by etching, or with an engraver's tool, such as a burin. If certain lines were not originally impressed sharply enough, or—before chrome plating was introduced—became worn, the engraver cut into them by hand. If he did his job perfectly, there is no visible retouch. If he did not, or if his tool slipped or fell on the plate, and he did not burnish the mark off, voila! a retouch.

In fact, a true re-entry also only exists where the work was done imperfectly. It is only when the rocking in was a little bit off that one has a re-entry, because otherwise chances are that one could not see any difference.

Therefore, with the possible exception of the earliest printings of the Edward VII issue, one has to come to the conclusion that there are no re-entries on 20th century Canadian stamps ★

Review:

Lyman's New 1962 B.N.A. Catalogue

APPROXIMATELY 900 price changes have been made since the previous edition. More than 750 changes for the Canada section alone. Issues of Canada continue to forge onward as the following examples will indicate: No. 14 used was \$2 and now is \$2.30; No. 20 used was \$13 and now \$15; No. 26 mint from \$25 to \$27 and used from \$6.75 to \$7.75; No. 73 mint from \$7.75 to \$9.00 and used from \$6.25 to \$7.00; No.

133 from \$7.00 to \$7.50 mint and used; plate block of No. E01 from \$6.50 to \$9.50 and plate of No. E02 from \$8.00 to \$10.00.

Prices for Newfoundland and the provinces have changed only slightly since the 1961 edition when hundreds of new prices were made. There is a renewed activity in plate blocks with some amazing price advances. Price of the Lyman B.N.A. catalogue is 50c from the Robert W. Lyman (Canada) Company, Box 23, Station D, Toronto 9, Canada ★



REVENUE GROUP

News

EDITOR: Dirk van Oudenol, Suite 4, 2717 - 38th St. S.W., Calgary, Alberta

HAROLD WALKER (BNAPS 1380) and new BNAPSer Ralph Downs extended the real pleasure of their company for a few hours at the residence of the editor of this column, while they were passing through Calgary on a trip through Western Canada, during August. Revenue stamps, among other things, were discussed in detail, to our mutual interest and benefit. Harold Walker and yours truly have corresponded for several years regarding our interest in revenues, our collections having benefitted as a result.

12th Issue B.C. Law Stamps

YES, there is such an issue! This is also the first printing of a \$3.00 value in any issue of B.C. Law Stamps. The colourful Centennial Law Stamps (11th issue) were issued for use during February and March, 1958, after which meters were to be used as

stocks of Law Stamps were exhausted. The 11th and 12th Issues were produced by the Queen's Printer, on impregnated gum paper. The 12th Issue appears in three values — the \$1.00 blue, the \$2.00 violet, the \$3.00 yellow. The \$3.00 value, the only one actually seen by the writer of this column, appears on a thick hard paper. This new issue was released late in December, 1960. *Fig. 1* is interesting in ways other than those already mentioned for the \$3.00 value. Note the fact of the wide selvage at the top of the sheet, which indicates the top row of stamps to be perforated along their top edges, and not straight edged as is normal in all the issues after the 1st Issue, which was perforated all around. No. 6787 which appears in the selvage of *Fig. 1*, is printed in black. It is not presently known whether No. 6787 indicates a plate number, or whether it should be more correctly referred to as a printing control number.

Holmes BCL No. 19, the 25c green of the 5th Issue, is still in use! It is in short supply at some of the agencies.

A pair of the above mentioned 25c and a single copy of the \$3.00, with clear socked-on-the-nose dated cancels, are in the collection of the writer, through the courtesy of Jack St. Laurent, BNAPS 1006, the member supplying the above information.

Tax Paid Plate Numbers

The following listing of plate numbers on the various types of tax paid mentioned applies in all cases to the Series of 1897 only, and all items are preceded by their CRS Number, except the last type for which the writer does not have the numbers. Where the control numbers are not present, the item is considered a plate proof, and is followed by a "P". Where there are controls, an "F" follows, for these are finished items.



Figure 1

SNUFF STAMPS

- 133 — 5 lb. blue, OTTAWA—No. 1, F.
- 137 — 5 lb. green, OTTAWA—No. 1, F.
- 145 — 5 lb. green, OTTAWA—No. 1, F.
- 161 — 5 lb. green, OTTAWA—No. 1, F.
- 169 — 10 lb. green, OTTAWA—No. 1, F.

CIGAR STAMPS

- 1-102D — 10 cigars, blue,
OTTAWA — No. 1, F.
- 1-103D — 25 cigars, blue,
OTTAWA — No. 3, P.
- 1-103D — 25 cigars, blue,
OTTAWA — No. 6, F.
- 1-104D — 50 cigars, blue,
OTTAWA — No. 28, F.
- 1-105D — 100 cigars, blue,
OTTAWA — No. 2, P.
- 1-105D — 100 cigars, blue
OTTAWA — No. 2, F.
- 1-106F — 200 cigars, green,
OTTAWA — No. 1, P.
- 1-106F — 200 cigars, green,
OTTAWA — No. 1, F.
- 1-102G — 10 cigars, red,
OTTAWA — No. 1, P.
- 1-102G — 10 cigars, red,
OTTAWA — No. 1, F.
- 1-103G — 25 cigars, red,
OTTAWA — No. 2, F.
(Phantom 2 appears under—after No.)
- 1-104G — 50 cigars, red,
OTTAWA — No. 9, P.
- 1-104G — 50 cigars, red,
OTTAWA — No. 29, F.
- 1-105G — 100 cigars, red,
OTTAWA — No. 2, F.
- 1-106G — 200 cigars, red,
OTTAWA — No. 1, P.
- 1-106G — 200 cigars, red,
OTTAWA — No. 1, F.

MANUFACTURED TOBACCO STRIP STAMPS

- 6-385E — 1/3 lb. blue,
OTTAWA — No. 1, P.
- 6-358E — 1/3 lb. blue,
OTTAWA — No. 1, F.
- 6-386E — 1/2 lb. blue,
OTTAWA — No. 4, F.
- 6-387E — 1 lb. blue,
OTTAWA — No. 2, F.
- 6-384G — 1/4 lb. green,
OTTAWA — No. 3, P.
- 6-385G — 1/3 lb. green,
OTTAWA — No. 1, P.
- 6-386G — 1/2 lb. green,
OTTAWA — No. 5, F.
- 6-387G — 1 lb. green,
OTTAWA — No. 1, P.

- 6-387G — 1 lb. green,
OTTAWA — No. 4, F.
- 6-384H — 1/4 lb. red,
OTTAWA — No. 3, P.
- 6-384H — 1/4 lb. red,
OTTAWA — No. 5, F.
- 6-385H — 1/3 lb. red,
OTTAWA — No. 1, F.
- 6-386H — 1/2 lb. red,
OTTAWA, — No. 3, P.
- 6-386H — 1/2 lb. red,
OTTAWA — No. 4, F.
- 6-386H — 1/2 lb. red,
OTTAWA — No. 5, F.
- 6-387H — 1 lb. red,
OTTAWA — No. 3, P.
- 6-387H — 1 lb. red,
OTTAWA — No. 1, F.

FINE CUT CHEWING TOBACCO

- 5 lb. red, OTTAWA — No. 1, P.
- 5 lb. red, OTTAWA — No. 1, F.
- 5 lb. grn. OTTAWA — No. 1, F.

The Ontario Law Stamp Repeal Act of 1958 was anticipated to come into force on November 1, 1961. There is no authority in the Act for redemption of any stamps. This item is reported by Carl Jennings, BNAPS 654.

The BNAPS Revenue Study Group (please see page 73 of March, 1961 BNA TOPICS) now has some 52 registered members. All those members interested in revenues are urged to participate in this Group. Please send \$1.00 in mint postage, which should cover postage costs of material mailed out, for a three year period, to Wilmer C. Rockett, 2030 Overlook Ave., Willow Grove, Penna.

Compliments of the Season to all BNAPSers! ★

Ottawa 'CEFA-CAN' First Days

Collectors who desire to have official First Day Covers prepaid with the new issue postage stamps specially cancelled on the date of issue at Ottawa are asked to forward self-addressed covers to the Postmaster, Ottawa 2, Ontario, Post Office Department Headquarters, prior to 13th January 1962. All covers must contain "fillers" and must be sealed or have the flap turned in. To avoid errors, the collectors should mark on the cover, upper right hand corner, the quantities of each of the five denominations of stamps to be affixed to each cover.

WINNIPEG SCENE OF CONTINENT'S FIRST 'CEFA-CAN' TRIAL

THE WINNIPEG CHAMBER OF COMMERCE is producing the official First Day Cover in connection with the introduction of Tagged Stamps in Canada, which will be sold for the first time on Saturday, January 13, 1962.

Values comprise 1c, 2c, 3c, 4c, 5c.

These "tagged" stamps are being introduced in Winnipeg, Manitoba in preparation for the first installation on the North American continent of an Automatic Segregator, Facer and Cancellor—(CEFA-CAN) by the Post Office Department.

A special cacheted envelope has been prepared bearing a line drawing of the machine and the legend "First Sale of Tagged Stamps in North America". This will be the official First Day Cover and will be available from The Winnipeg Chamber of Commerce, 8th floor, 177 Lombard Avenue, Winnipeg 2, Manitoba, at a nominal charge of 10 cents, which includes the cost of addressing and mailing on the first day of issue.

These official First Day Covers will be printed in different colours to match the various denominations of the tagged stamps. All orders should include the cost of postage plus 10c per cover. Envelopes will be supplied at the same price—10c each—to those collectors wishing to address and service their own covers. Where philatelists wish to use their own covers, the Chamber will service envelopes at 10c each, which does not include the cost of the stamps.

Naturally, orders for proper processing should be received well in advance of January 13, 1962.

Notes on Tagged Stamps

A pilot installation in the Winnipeg Post Office of an Automatic Segregator, Facer and Cancellor requires the introduction of special "Tagged Stamps" to activate the machine.

The stamps being introduced will be of the same design as those currently in use, but the 4c stamp has one vertical line and all other stamp denominations from 1c to 5c have two vertical lines of barely visible phosphorescent quality. The material used has been carefully examined by the Depart-

ment of National Health and Welfare, the Industrial Health Division, who declares it to be harmless.

The equipment to be installed in Winnipeg is comprised of three basic parts: Segregator, Stacker and Facer-Cancellor units. Mail is conveyed to the Segregator by the conveyor belt and mail that is not in letter form, including letters too thick or too large to go through the Automatic Cancellers, is first removed automatically. The remaining letters are then neatly stacked, but are not yet faced up.

Letters are then fed into the Facer-Cancellor unit which scans each letter in turn. As each letter passes the scanning portion of the machine, it is exposed to ultra-violet light rays and this "excites" the phosphorescent substance causing it to glow and enabling the machine to recognize the stamp and determine its location on the envelope. Envelopes not the right way up are turned over and all envelopes are aligned with the stamp in the upper right corner. The machine then cancels the stamps and stacks the letters face up in orderly fashion.

The machine separates those envelopes bearing a single 4c stamp for local delivery; letters with no stamps or with stamps in an improper location, or a number of locations, go to a special reject stacker for hand processing.

This method is believed to have definite advantages over several earlier experiments. Photo-electric cells to identify the stamp color have had a high percentage of rejects and were easily confused by charity stamps or even smudges on the envelope. The British Postal Administration's system of a colloidal graphite line on the back of the stamp and employing a high voltage charge through each envelope was the basic plan from which this machine has been developed.

However, it was determined that markings of a type that would be less visible would not disfigure stamps as much. Fluorescent markings were quickly discarded as many of the papers and inks used in envelopes contain fluorescent materials.

The machine is now being made in Britain and is expected to commence operation in Winnipeg about the middle of 1962. Before it can be used, however, the Winnipeg District must be thoroughly "saturated" with the tagged stamps and these are being sold for the first time on Saturday, January 13, 1962. ★

◀ See opposite page for information on Ottawa First Days

Trail of the Caribou

By DAN MEYERSON (BNAPS L3)



SOME YEARS AGO we learned a lesson that has often been brought back to mind—we didn't know everything that was to be known about Newfoundland philately and if something came up that neither the catalogs, handbooks or our own information could catalog, if the price was reasonable we should still buy it and put it away. Some of them would undoubtedly prove "duds", but some of the others in later years might well become valued possessions as more was learned about the subject. We can well recall dropping in at the New York Office of Stanley Gibbons and being offered imperforate un gummed blocks of the airmail Essay put out by Whitehead Morris in the early 1920's and we didn't buy them on the spot—and the price was reasonable—because we wanted to pore through our Library and see what they were; they weren't cataloged. When we came back a week later they were gone and the asking price as it turns out was only about 25% of what we then learned was the going retail price. What brought all of this up was a transaction with Irwin Heiman, the New York dealer, who showed us four covers of the period of the internal flights. One was a duplicate so that we will discuss only the three varieties. Now we've looked through Boggs, the AAMS book and the bible of all Newfoundland airmail collectors, the book put out by Harmer and Dalwick, and came no closer to a decision. But we learned our lesson well back some 20 years ago and these covers are now in our possession. The three covers were posted at St. John's at 7 p.m. on February 8, 1923, the day that a flight left for Cartwright, Labrador and subsequently completed the return trip to St. John's on May 17, 1923. These however seem to be another breed of pups. They all are typewritten "By Aeroplane/Via Forteau" and all are franked with 1c and 2c Caribou, Scott Nos. 115 and 116 and are all cancelled by the "BUY MADE IN NEW-

FOUNDLAND GOODS" slogan. The first cover is addressed to Flowers Cove and bears an indistinct unframed circular receiving stamp from Flowers Cove that might be Feb. 26, 1923 and a St. John's backstamp of Apr. 5, 1923 with the "ADDRESS MAIL TO STREET OR BOX NUMBER" slogan cancellation. The second cover which is postmarked at St. John's on Feb. 8, 1923, exactly the same as the previous, is addressed to Battle Harbor and bears an unframed circular receiving stamp of Mar. 26, 1923 from Battle Harbor. No other markings are on the cover. The last, like the previous two had the same origin but was addressed instead to Hawke's Harbor. This cover bears no other postmarks at all and we have no proof that it was ever flown or delivered. Can any reader advise us if these covers are a part of Newfoundland aérophilately and if they were ever flown, with details of the flight. It would be appreciated.

James Law, BNAPS 516, now of London, Ont., but formerly of Toronto, has sent us a rather interesting item—it is a perforated copy of the 5c Seal, Scott No. 40, which is almost always seen in rouletted condition. We say almost always because now for the third time in several thousand copies we've seen a perforated copy. The first two we bought and this is the third. We can't recall where we got the first but it is perforated 10.6, a gauge never used in Newfoundland. The second however came from Sanabria and if our memory serves us right over the span of 18 years or so, he told us that the stamp originally had been hand-painted black to resemble the 5c Scott No. 26, and true enough the gauge which is 11.85 is that of the issued perforated stamps of that period. Jim's copy now is the same perforation and we just wonder if these were privately perforated in an attempt to defraud collectors or whether in the latter instance they were a very limited edition.

Does anyone have a perforated copy on full cover?

The July 19th sale of H. R. Harmer, London contained an odd bit of Newfoundlandia—it was a plate proof block in grey of the 2c Scott No. 185 or 186 as we don't know the die so that we can't place it more definitely. The block sold for \$22.40 and it is strange that we haven't seen it before as it is undoubtedly part of a sheet of 100. Where are the other 96 copies? I see we neglected to mention that the block was in imperforate condition.

At long last the gummed perforated TRADE SAMPLES made from the same dies as produced the American Bank Note Co. Trade Sample Sheet about 1870, seem to be finding their true level. For a good many years these trade samples when perforated and gummed brought prices far beyond their truth worth since they were not contemporary color plate proofs. However at the sale held by the Equitable Stamp Co., of New York on Sept. 27th, they seem to have come closer to their true value. Two copies of the 2c Scott No. 24 in olive green and bluish violet sold at \$10.50 and \$9 respectively, while two copies of the 5c, Scott No. 25, in the same two colors realized \$17.50 and \$15 each. It is strange how the proofs of the more valuable stamps always realize more money even though they are issued in the same quantity as the cheaper stamps. A single of the 13c, Scott No. 30, in olive green was knocked down at \$13. The last item of note was a plate proof block of the 6c, Scott No. 35, in green that changed hands at \$15.50.

The Sept. 15 issue of Stamp Collecting had an interesting ad for the Newfoundland specialist on the front page. The firm of H. E. Wingfield advertised a horizontal pair of the 3c long Coronation, Scott No. 234, in the Die 1, in the line perf 14.1 that was imperforate between the stamps and at the right at \$98. The same ad also listed a mint vertical strip of four of the 15c Scott No. 239, in the line perf 13.7 showing two stamps imperf between horizontally at \$126. The interesting bit about this ad aside from the stamps is that the firm advises the specialist in which perforation the varieties are found. A long step in the right direction.

Our bit in the September issue of TRAIL concerning the Postal Telegraph cancella-

tions seems to have struck a responsive chord as two letters came in to-day from old members making additions to the list. The first was from N. W. Scales, BNAPS 1058, Evansville, Ind., who adds the following to our list: Port au Port, Botwood, Cape La Hune, Millerton Junction, Jackson's Arm W. B., Pool's Cove, Robinson's and Badger. Seeing some of those reported by Mr. Scales makes us realize that we neglected to mention in our copy that we meant only elliptical cancels. We think some of those reported by Mr. Scales are the square type which we will take up at a later date. However, there is no doubt about the LEWISPORTE reported by George H. Davis, BNAPS 1414, Ridgefield, Conn. who sent along the copy of his elliptical cancel struck in red. Thanks to both of you and I would appreciate a clarifying letter from Mr. Scales.

Years mean nothing to the stamp collector; it was more than 10 years ago, in the Jan. '51 TOPICS to be exact, that we first mentioned the two distinct color trial proofs to be found in the Guy Issue, Scott No. 87-97. The two distinct trials are the 3c in bistre-brown instead of brown olive and the 10c in orange instead of the issued violet black. At any rate through the medium of the Sept. 20th sale of H. R. Harmer of London we are now the proud possessors of these two trials. However we are still on the lookout for the trials of the 1c and 4c the first of which is slightly more blue than the issued stamp and the second which is more of a red violet than the issued dull violet. All other perforated gummed proofs submitted were exactly as issued and are indistinguishable from the normal. We would appreciate any help in finding the plate proofs of the 1c and the 4c.

At the same sale in London other prices that were realized were \$96.40 for an inverted surcharge on the 30c Cabot, Scott No. 127a, \$22.60 for a vertical pair of the 1c Scott No. 163, imperf between, \$224 for a similar pair of the \$1, Scott C11, a vertical pair of the \$1 stamp, Scott No. 11, imperforate between stamps and imperforate bottom margin also changed hands at \$229.60. An imperf block of the 3c, Scott No. 187, was sold for \$42, and unused horizontal pairs of the 6c, on watermarked and unwatermarked papers found new buyers at \$29.40. ★

MERRY CHRISTMAS

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION:

MONTREAL DUPLEX NUMERAL CANCELLATIONS



SUPPLEMENTING the notes on the above which appeared in B.N.A. TOPICS of February 1961, the following additional information may be of interest to collectors of these cancellations.

In Ottawa there are proof books covering postal markings of this period. Four of the original numbers are shown—Nos. 1 and 2 under date of 23rd January 1915 and Nos. 11 and 12 among others of February 1915. Later four more numbers are shown—Nos. 3 and 4 in July 1917 and Nos. 7 and 8 in September 1917, and it is to be assumed that these four last named were issued to replace the first hammers which may have been worn or damaged. The new numerals, in addition to other differences, are much thinner and are easily identifiable. We therefore have two types of Nos. 3-4-7 and 8.

Differences in the duplex daters are also to be noted, the letter "C" being on both sides between Montreal and Canada with the numerals Nos. 1-2-7-8 and 11, while on the other daters only dots are used.

An additional No. 1 is reported as recorded in the proof book under date of July 1920.

Montreal Duplex Letter Cancellations With Straight Bars

Ten letters, "A" to "J", were in use on Montreal duplex cancels with straight bars.

The following are reported as recorded in an Ottawa proof book: Letter "A" under date of June 1920 and letters "B" "C" "F" "G" and "H" under date of July 1920.

The letter "A" is reported as assigned to "Public Service" use at the Montreal main post office and the letter "J" is still in use there. The other sub post offices using the cancellation are as follows:

- B. University Street.
- C. St. Catherine Street East.
- D. Centre Street.
- E. St. Lawrence Main.
- F. Notre Dame St. West.
- G. Pine Avenue West.
- H. St. Catherine St. West.

As far as the writer has been able to ascertain no sub office was assigned the letter "I" and together with the letters "A" and "J" it may have been used in the Montreal main post office.

Montreal Duplex Letter Cancellations With Heavy Bars

Only four of the Montreal sub post offices seem to have made use of this



duplex—the letters used, “D.E.G.H.”, seem to date from 1930.

Later, about 1935, the letter “S” with wavy bars and “C” in the dater is found. This cancellation is reported as having been in use in the Montreal main office on air and special delivery mail.

Sealed Plastic Packages Of Postage Stamps

ATTRACTIVE, TRANSPARENT, sealed packages of postage stamps to sell for one dollar each have been distributed for sale from all Canadian post offices. These packages are also available from the Philatelic Section of the Department. The packages are a new service feature, an original Canadian innovation and they will be available from post offices for sale throughout the year. These packages are convenient to carry in one's pocket or purse and the stamps, after the package is opened, remain clean and unsoiled.

One type of package contains a block of twenty 5c regular issue stamps and another type contains two blocks of twenty-five 2c stamps. Each package will sell for \$1.00.

General Remarks

Collectors appear to be interested in collecting the numeral and letter cancels on the Admiral issue including the coil, war tax and Confederation. How many different cancellations is it possible to obtain? Well start collecting and find out for yourself. ★

Plastic bags are filled with stamps by the Post Office Department. In addition, the Canadian Bank Note Company, Limited, is supplying packages that are slightly different in method of sealing and wording from those prepared by the Department. The blocks of stamps in each package have unperforated, straight edges on all four sides. The Bank Note Company's style of package can be identified by the perforated edge and heat sealing on four sides. The Post Office Department package is heat sealed on one edge only with a notch for opening. Philatelists may wish to order one or both denominations of these packages now available from the Philatelic Section, Post Office Department, Ottawa. ★

NEXT MONTH: “Cook's Books” will be revived. Instalments of Postal Stationery Panorama and other regular columns will complement several interesting feature articles, including E. A. Smythies' latest on ‘Star’ cancels

NUMERAL CANCELS ON CANADA'S LARGE QUEENS

PART FOUR

(Part Three Appeared in October Issue)

IN OUR CONCLUDING ARTICLE, we will deal with all the other numeral cancels known by us to have been used as obliterations on the Large Queen issue. We have covered the "Fancy 2s" of Toronto in Part III, and we will first take up those other strikes which retained the numeral assigned in the 1868 2-Ring Series

Hamilton acquired a duplex canceller in 1870 which incorporated the assigned numeral "5" within 13 thin bars as the killer portion (see Smythies' Handbook;¹ p. 13). This obliterator has been found on all values of the Large Queen issue except the 3c and 5c and it is possible that one or two copies of the 3c may yet turn up. The mutilated variety of the second type with ONT in the dater is known on the 5c. (see fig. 1 and 2)

In late 1869 London also acquired a duplex canceller incorporating the assigned numeral "6". This duplex continued in use until 1876, and consequently, all values can be found with this obliteration, (see Smythies' Handbook p. 14). We think it strange that no one has reported strikes of Jarrett No. 161 (Boggs Type 2) on a Large Queen, despite the fact that Jarrett has recorded it as existing on both 1c, 2c, 3c, 6c, and the 12½c. Jarrett records it as a duplex, yet no one had reported it to Smythies when his handbook went to press. None was in the Jarrett collection of Numeral cancels recently sold by J. N. Sissons Ltd., and neither of the authors has ever seen one. We have not considered Boggs' reports of this strike, since it appears likely that his recording of the strike was based solely on the earlier work of Fred Jarrett. It would be greatly appreciated if someone would come forward with this strike on cover, or even off cover. (For an illustration of killer portion of the known London barred "6" see Figure 3).

Later duplex, which incorporated sub-station numerals in the killer portion, may be found on the 15c value. Montreal, Toronto, Ottawa, and St. John, N.B. all had such duplex, some of which came into usage early enough to have been used on the ½c and 12½c values as well. We recommend Mr. Smythies' excellent handbook for detailed information on these types.

The postmasters at Ottawa and Kingston evidently encountered a similar problem to that which the Toronto postmaster faced, and both solved it in the same way.

¹ Canadian Duplex Cancellations of the Victorian Era, 1860-1902.

From Ottawa we have recorded nine different fancy designs, two of which we have not actually seen, Types 8 and 9. However, Boggs refers to Type 8; and Type 9 was evidently amongst the fancy "8" strikes that Robson Lowe has sold (though none was in the Carl Bowman or W. C. Hindes sales) for it is included in the gummed prints of Canadian cancellations which Robson Lowe issued in 1959. Nevertheless, we would appreciate reports of either or both these strikes. (For Types 1-9, see *Figures 4-12*).

From Kingston, we have recorded 21 different fancy designs, all of which were probably put into use in 1869. While we have assumed Type IX-1 (*fig. 13*) to be from Kingston, it is possible that this strike originated at Fredericton, N.B., and is actually XI rather than IX. Reports of this strike on cover with CDS or corner card would be appreciated. (For Types 1-21, see *Figures 13-33*).

Two different types of the numeral "11" within an eight-barred obliterator have been observed on Large Queens. We have yet to see a 7-bar type on a Large Queen, and would appreciate the opportunity to photograph such a strike to be published in a later issue. Judging from the papers and values on which the two types illustrated have been found (*Figs. 34-35*), they were both in use simultaneously, but Type 2 (thick numerals) continued in use much longer than Type 1.

We have observed but one copy, the 5c, with the circled "7" in bars obliterator from St. John, N.B. (*Fig. 36*). It seems likely that this could also be found on the ½c, 12½c, and 15c as well.

The type-set "31" within eight bars of circular design (*see Fig. 37*) is decidedly rare. One strike is in the Pack collection, and another was observed in the Jarrett numeral collection recently sold. This canceller was in use but a short time before it was mutilated to make the diamond pattern illustrated in *Fig. 38*. Only four of this strike have been recorded. We can only assume that this originated at Oshawa, for we have seen no cover with this strike thereon. This must, therefore be considered only a tentative town assignment. If it does, in fact, emanate from Oshawa, its rarity, plus the scarcity of the official 2-Ring "31" strike, indicates that the Oshawa postmaster was too practical a man to use both the CDS and the numeral obliterator when the CDS alone would suffice.

We now take up consideration of post-Confederation obl iterators having numerals which do not fall into the 1868 series. There are two types of the tall "4" from Watson's Corner. We believe that Type 1 was in use during an earlier period than Type 2, but we do not have sufficient reports to establish this conclusively. In fact, one of the authors believes that Type 1 may well have originated at Halifax. It would be greatly appreciated if a collector holding this strike on cover would come forward with conclusive information in this regard. (*see Figures 39 and 40*).

For some unknown reason, Port Hope used the hammer illustrated in *Fig. 41*. The numeral "14" does not conform to either the Provincial series of 4-ring numerals nor the Dominion series of 2-ring numerals. We suggest that some resident of Port Hope or its vicinity make inquiries into the history of the locality, for there must be some outstanding significance pertaining to Port Hope in the numeral "14" for it to have been used there. This strike has been previously assigned to Guelph in error in other publications.

Walkerton used the fancy canceller illustrated in *Figure 42*, probably commencing sometime late in 1869 since it has only been observed on one 3c Large Queen, and has been seen most frequently on the 3c Small Queen and the later printings of the 6c Large Queen.

We have noted the numeral "12" in a small oval (*Fig. 43*) on a 3c Large Queen. This may have been a carrier marking of some sort, as the stamp was also obliterated by a "7" concentric ring cancel, and may not even be of Canadian origin. Further reports of this obliterator would be welcome.

Occasionally British type numeral obl iterators turn up as the sole cancellation on a Large Queen stamp, usually the 6c or 12½c value. We speculate that these may have resulted from letters being mailed to the U.K. at the packet pier, and thus first entered the postal system in the U.K. where the obliterator was applied; or the letter may have been written by a passenger embarked. We have so far noted 46, 134, 357, 512, 700, 708, and 761. There are undoubtedly others.

We now turn to the pre-Confederation obl iterators found on the Large Queen issue. We think it of interest to note that the pre-stamp and Provincial Paid and/or Due numeral markings were sometimes used as obl iterators. We have noted the types illustrated in *Figures 44-48* and there are undoubtedly others. Of these, *Figure 44* ties a 12½c to the cover, and *Figure 46* ties a 3c.

The Montreal Roller "21", (*Fig. 49*) is quite rare on the Large Queen issue. This earliest of the Canadian roller type obl iterators, which are so frequently found obscuring the high value Jubilees, evidently fell into disuse between 1867 and about 1880 when it was put to use as a pre-canceller.

Quebec's fancy obl iterator incorporating the numeral assigned under the Provincial series (*see Fig. 50*), is well known on the Large Queen Issue. It has been reported on all values, though generally it is found on the thin crisp paper varieties characteristic of the earlier printings. We speculate that this hammer was discarded in mid-1868.

In Part II we covered the official 4-ring Numeral obl iterators of the Province of Canada. Here we list the New Brunswick Grid Numeral obl iterators and the British Columbia Barred Oval Numeral obl iterators. Our information on the town assignments for the New Brunswick obl iterators during the post-Confederation period is entirely the work of Walter W. Chadbourne, and was originally published in the April 1959 issue of BNA TOPICS. The problems concerning the usage of these numeral obl iterators in the Post-Confederation period are by no means solved, and we recommend that those who have covers which differ from the listing herein communicate directly with Mr. Chadbourne, 104 Hilltop Rd. Wilmington, Delaware.

The town assignments for the British Columbia numerals are taken from an article in the program for the 1958 Exhibition of the Northwest Federation of Stamp Clubs, authored by Mr. Bruce Ramsey, who credited Mr. Gerald Welburn with the research involved. We quote from the concluding paragraph of the article: "For a few weeks after Confederation, numeral markings continued in use at some localities until the new Dominion Government-supplied hammers arrived. . . . Numeral markings may be found on the Large and Small Queens issues of the Dominion, and as such are quite scarce and extremely desirable, especially on cover".

This concludes our study of the numeral cancels to be found on the Large Queen Issue. We would appreciate hearing from those collectors who may have some of the rarer strikes, but only if they will also report all the numeral strikes that they hold on the Large Queen Issue. We feel that the relative scarcity table set forth in Part I of this article is quite accurate, and reports of the scarcer strikes without reports on total holdings would result in a distortion rather than a refinement.

TABLES

| FANCY TORONTO "2" | | Type No. | No. Reported | Type No. | No. Reported |
|-------------------|--------------|----------|--------------|------------------|--------------|
| Type No. | No. Reported | | | | |
| 1. | 1 | 24. | 11 | 50. | 1 |
| 1a. | 6 | 25. | 1 | 51. | 1 |
| 1b. | 2 | 26. | 2 | 52. | 1 |
| 1c. | 1 | 27. | 12 | 53. | 1 |
| 2. | 6 | 28. | 2 | 54. | 1 |
| 3. | 12 | 29. | 1 | 55. | 1 |
| 4. | 6 | 30. | 7 | 56. | 1 |
| 5. | 4 | 31. | 2 | 57. | 1 |
| 6. | 1 | 32. | 3 | 58. | 2 |
| 7. | 1 | 33. | 3 | 59. | 2 |
| 8. | 11 | 34. | 2 | 60. | 2 |
| 9. | 4 | 35. | 1 | 61. | 1 |
| 10. | 3 | 36. | 2 | 20. | 2 |
| 11. | 2 | 37. | 1 | 50a. | 2 |
| 12. | 4 | 38. | 4 | | |
| 13. | 7 | 39. | 1 | | |
| 14. | 2 | 40. | 1 | HAMILTON "5" | |
| 15. | 1 | 41. | 3 | Type 1. | 37 |
| 16. | 2 | 42. | 4 | Type 2. | 5 |
| 17. | 1 | 43. | 1 | | |
| 18. | 4 | 44. | 1 | LONDON "6" | 39 |
| 19. | 1 | 45. | 1 | OTTAWA "8" | 28 * |
| 20a. | 1 | 46. | 1 | KINGSTON "9" | 50 ** |
| 21. | 9 | 47. | 1 | | |
| 22. | 1 | 48. | 1 | FREDERICTON "11" | |
| 23. | 4 | 49. | 1 | Type 1. | 10 |
| | | | | Type 2. | 14 |
| | | | | ST. JOHN "7" | 1 |
| | | | | OSHAWA? "31" | |
| | | | | Type 1. | 2 |
| | | | | Type 2. | 4 |

* We did not record these by Type but Type 3 was by far the commonest.

** We did not record these by Type but Type 4 was by far the most common.

| Town | No. Reported | No. Town Assigned 1868 | No. Reported |
|--|--------------|------------------------|--------------|
| WATSON'S CORNERS | "4" | | |
| Type 1. | 2 | 4. Bathurst | 0 |
| Type 2. | 2 | 5. Moncton | 0 |
| PORT HOPE "14" | 6 | 6. Campbellton | 0 |
| WALKERTON "21" | 4 | 7. Campo Bello | 0 |
| MONTREAL ROLLER "21" | 4 | 8. Chatham | 1 |
| FANCY QUEBEC "37" | 21 | 9. Grand Falls | 3 |
| | | 10. White's Cove | 2 |
| NEW BRUNSWICK GRID | | 11. Upper Woodstock | 0 |
| No. Town Assigned 1868 | No. Reported | 12. Edmunston | 2 |
| 0. St. John (Fig. 51) | 22 | 13. Fredericton | 16 |
| 1. St. John (Fig 52 for this and all others) | 3 | 14. Gagetown | 1 |
| 2. Andover | 3 | 15. Ossegeag | 0 |
| 3. Baie Verte | 4 | 16. Penobsquis | 3 |
| | | 17. Hillsboro | 0 |

| No. Town Assigned | No. Reported | No. Town Assigned | No. Reported |
|--------------------|--------------|---------------------|--------------|
| 18. Kingston | 4 | 8. Clinton | 1 |
| 19. Memramcook | 2 | 9. Seymour | 2 |
| 20. Wickham | 0 | 10. Williams Creek | 1 |
| 21. Newcastle | 0 | 11. Unidentified | 0 |
| 22. Oromocto | 0 | 12. Ashcroft? | 0 |
| 23. Richibucto | 0 | 13. Quesnelmouth | 1 |
| 24. Sackville | 0 | 14. French Creek | 0 |
| 26. Upper Gagetown | 5 | 15. Lilloot? | 0 |
| 27. St. Andrews | 0 | 16. Lac la Hache? | 0 |
| 28. St. George | 0 | 17. Never been seen | 0 |
| 29. St. Martin | 0 | 18. Unidentified | 0 |
| 30. St. Stephen | 0 | 19. Unidentified | 0 |
| 31. Sussex | 0 | 20. Soda Creek | 0 |
| 32. Upham Vale | 0 | 21. Unidentified | 0 |
| 33. Wicklow | 1 | 22. Van Winkle? | 0 |
| 34. Woodstock | 0 | 23. Unidentified | 0 |
| 35. Upper Peel | 1 | 24. Unidentified | 0 |
| 39. Indiantown | 2 | 25. Never been seen | 0 |
| | | 26. Langley | 0 |
| | | 27. Spence's Bridge | 0 |
| | | 28. Burrard Inlet | 2 |
| | | 29. Unidentified | 0 |
| | | 30. Unidentified | 0 |
| | | 31. Unidentified | 0 |
| | | 32. Unidentified | 0 |
| | | 33. Ladner | 1 |
| | | 34. Unidentified | 0 |
| | | 35. Victoria | 26 |
| | | 36. Nanaimo | 1 |

BRITISH COLUMBIA BARRED OVAL
NUMERALS (See Fig. 53)

| | |
|--------------------|---|
| 1. New Westminster | 4 |
| 2. Douglas | 0 |
| 3. Hope | 0 |
| 4. Tale | 0 |
| 5. Unidentified | 0 |
| 6. Unidentified | 0 |
| 7. Lytton? | 0 |

NUMERAL CANCELS ON THE LARGE QUEENS



FIG. 1



FIG. 2



FIG. 3



TYPE 1
FIG. 4



TYPE 2
FIG. 5



TYPE 3
FIG. 6



TYPE 4
FIG. 7



TYPE 5
FIG. 8



TYPE 6
FIG. 9



TYPE 7
FIG. 10



TYPE 8
FIG. 11



TYPE 9
FIG. 12



TYPE 1
FIG. 13



TYPE 2
FIG. 14



TYPE 3
FIG. 15



TYPE 4
FIG. 16



TYPE 5
FIG. 17



TYPE 6
FIG. 18



TYPE 7
FIG. 19



TYPE 8
FIG. 20



TYPE 9
FIG. 21



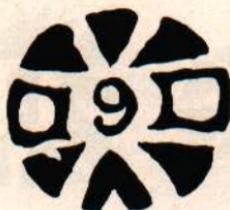
TYPE 10
FIG. 22



TYPE 11
FIG. 23



TYPE 12
FIG. 24



TYPE 13
FIG. 25



TYPE 14
FIG. 26



TYPE 15
FIG. 27



TYPE 16
FIG. 28



TYPE 17
FIG. 29



TYPE 18
FIG. 30



TYPE 19
FIG. 31



TYPE 20
FIG. 32



TYPE 21
FIG. 33



TYPE 1
FIG. 34



TYPE 2
FIG. 35



FIG. 36



FIG. 37



FIG. 38



TYPE 1
FIG. 39



TYPE 2
FIG. 40



FIG. 41



FIG. 42



FIG. 43



FIG. 44



FIG. 45



FIG. 46



FIG. 47

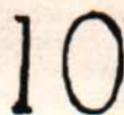


FIG. 48

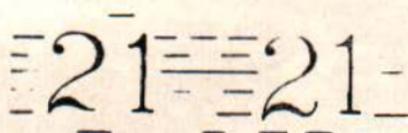


FIG. 49



FIG. 50



FIG. 51



FIG. 52

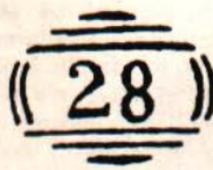


FIG. 53

Rounding Up Squared Circles

EDITOR: DR. A. WHITEHEAD, 52 Havelock St., Amherst, N.S.

HAMILTON SQUARED CIRCLE POSTMARK

LEWIS M. LUDLOW (BNAPS No. 1465)

IT HAS NOW BEEN two years since the preparation of the notes on the Hamilton Squared Circle for the second edition of the Squared Circle Handbook. Accordingly, it would now seem appropriate to review and collate the additional information acquired on this interesting cancellation since that time.

In any study on this subject, the task is made all the more difficult because of the scarcity of known strikes, due predominantly to the limited period of use. Squared Circles from Halifax, Toronto, Winnipeg and other common towns number several thousands in the collections of the specialists of these particular cancellations; reported strikes of Hamilton, on the other hand, from the author's collection and some 25 other correspondents, number less than 1800. We wish to gratefully acknowledge the assistance of all who reported on their Hamilton collections, particularly W. W. Laird, Dr. C. S. McKee and Dr. Alfred Whitehead, whose more extensive holding of Hamilton did much to give us a more complete picture of this cancellation.

From the proof book in the Philatelic Foundation in New York, we know that the Hamilton Squared Circle Hammer was struck on December 15, 1894, a Saturday. Three strikes of 18/De 17, '94 have now been reported. Since this was a Monday, it would seem improbable that an earlier date might show up; December 17, 1894 then is our earliest date. Examination of the reported Ap 30, '96 showed it to be instead '95. The latest authenticated strike seen by the author is 19/Ap 15, '96. This then becomes our current latest date, and sets the period of use at 486 days.

Of the 486 days of use, strikes have now been reported for 423 different days, leaving only 63 which remain unknown. Significantly, most of these are Sundays or holidays, namely 57, leaving only six unaccounted for in terms of normal post-office days. However, it is felt that ultimately we may find strikes for these unknown days. Seventeen Sunday strikes are already known,

and the author highly prizes a matched set, 11, 19, from Christmas, 1894.

Listed below are the the so-far unreported dates; any information regarding known strikes on the days would be gratefully appreciated:

1894—De 23, 30; 1895—Ja 1, 6, 13, 27; Fe 3, 17, 21; Mr 3, 31; Ap 7, 12, 14, 21, 28;
1895—My 5, 12, 19, 26; Ju 2, 9, 16, 22, 23; Jy 1, 7, 14, 21, 28; Au 4, 11; Sp 8, 15, 22, 29;
1895—Oc 6, 13, 20, 27; No 3, 21, 24; De 8, 22, 25, 29;
1896—Ja 1, 5, 12, 19, 26; Fe 2, 9, 16, 23; Mr 1, 8, 15, 29; Ap 3, 5, 12, 14.

The most interesting aspect of the Hamilton Squared Circle is its time marks, and the opportunity for searching for matched sets of time marks on the same day. The time marks, originally reported as No. 7-24 inc., are known through No. 24 to No. 1, or 1:00 a.m. To Harold Wilding, Winnipeg, goes the honor for the discovery of No. 1—unmistakable—though unrecognizable as to date. The author has since found No. 1 Mr 30, '96, corroborating Mr. Wilding's discovery. Theoretically, then, there are 19 time marks available for any given day for matched sets. So far, the greatest number reported for one day are two sets of 8-11, 12, 14, 15, 18, 19, 21; Oc 12, '95 and 12, 13, 14, 15, 16, 17, 18, 19; Ap 11, '96. Combining all time marks from all reported we can present the following picture on possible matched sets, if all strikes were in one collection:

| | |
|---------------------|-----|
| Sets of Eight | 2 |
| Sets of Seven | 9 |
| Sets of Six | 13 |
| Sets of Five | 59 |
| Sets of Four | 99 |
| Sets of Three | 130 |
| Sets of Two | 68 |
| Single Strike | 42 |
| No Strike | 63 |

While a set of 19 is theoretically possible, it is highly improbable. As can be seen

from the figures below, only three of the time marks can be called common, with perhaps six more falling into the classification of 'difficult'. The remaining nine fall into the categories of rare to 'nigh-on impossible', and as such are not readily available for matched sets.

Regarding individual time marks, listed below are the actual number and percentage frequency of occurrence for each time mark of 1790 strikes.

| | | |
|--------|-------|--------|
| No. 7 | — 5 | — .3% |
| No. 8 | — 9 | — .5 |
| No. 9 | — 19 | — 1.1 |
| No. 10 | — 36 | — 2.0 |
| No. 11 | — 105 | — 5.0 |
| No. 12 | — 90 | — 5.0 |
| No. 13 | — 82 | — 4.6 |
| No. 14 | — 101 | — 5.6 |
| No. 15 | — 86 | — 4.8 |
| No. 16 | — 138 | — 7.7 |
| No. 17 | — 258 | — 14.4 |
| No. 18 | — 595 | — 33.2 |
| No. 19 | — 215 | — 12.0 |
| No. 20 | — 18 | — 1.0 |
| No. 21 | — 5 | — .3 |
| No. 22 | — 9 | — .5 |
| No. 23 | — 14 | — .8 |
| No. 24 | — 3 | — .2 |
| No. 1 | — 2 | — .1 |

As can be seen, only minor changes have occurred in the percentage of frequency over the two year period — certainly nothing of any magnitude. As a consequence, it would seem to be safe to assume that the above represents an accurate pattern of occurrence, and that a basis of rarity for the time marks has been established, relative to one-another.

We would like to emphasize that these figures include most—but not all — of the duplication reported for the author's own collection. Records of duplicates have only been kept for the last two years, so there would be some that have not been noted; however, these are the more common numbers, No. 17-19, which would increase the percentage of these, while lowering that of the rarer numbers. There has been no duplication of No. 7-9, and No. 20-24, and 1. Further, eliminating recorded duplicates, only 1416 different time marks are reported.

An analysis of the time marks reveals certain points of interest. No. 7 does not show up until November, 1895, a full year after the initiation of the Squared Circle. Had the volume of mail increased so that it was necessary to start handling the mail an hour earlier? If so, why did No. 8, for

which we have nine strikes in the previous eight months, suddenly stop in September, and not show up until the following April? Too lazy to change No. 7 to No. 8? Perhaps, but not likely; our set of eight for April 11, 1896 shows that the time mark was changed regularly, every hour. What happened to 9:00 PM, No. 21? Only 5 strikes, with 27 at later hours. Similar to No. 7 and No. 8 are No. 22 and No. 23. No. 22 begins in December, 1894 and shows up until October, 1895, where No. 23 takes over through the end of the period, with No. 22 not being heard from again.

That the squared circle terminated at Hamilton in April, 1896, seems reasonably assured. A Hamilton 3-ring cancellation is known—11 / May 1, '96; however, any evidence which would narrow the gap between April 15 and May 1, 1896, would certainly be in order and most welcome.

Regarding the previously reported usage in the King George V period, this has now been confirmed with six reported dated strikes, based on which we can tentatively establish the following earliest and latest dates: Earliest—My 14, '13. Latest—Ju 30, '14.

Information on previously unreported strikes would be most welcomed by the author, and all correspondence will be answered — eventually, if not necessarily promptly. ★

Shierson Canada And Newfoundland Auctioned

SEVERAL of the choicest 3p Beavers, Nos. 4 and 4a cataloging \$20, went for prices ranging from \$23 to \$27.

Another Liersch sale, offering British West Indies and a second part of the B.N.A. collection, will be held in February by Harmer, Rooke & Co. at 560 Fifth Avenue.

The specialized collections of Canada and Newfoundland brought together by the late Charles A. Shierson of Adrian, Michigan were auctioned on October 9, 10, 11. The 1200 lots brought a total of \$39,719 when offered at the Galleries of H. R. Harmer, Inc., New York.

Canada prices of note included: 1851 laid paper 3 p red, pair—\$170; 3 p orange vermilion, pair—\$140; 6 p slate violet—\$130. Proof of the 12p (scarred die)—\$120; 1857 3 p on thin brittle wove paper (unlisted Scott) \$70; 1857 ½p rose, n.h.—\$130; copies of the two ribbed papers—\$270; very thick wove paper reddish purple—\$240 and (with tiny corner crease) \$230. ★

BNA Literature TOPICS

A COLUMN CONDUCTED BY H. M. DAGGETT, JR.

(Column Four)

The Publications of the Canadian Revenue Society: Part 2

WHEN I FIRST BEGAN to write these columns, I stated that I was making no promises that it would appear regularly. Anyone who is interested in philatelic bibliography knows how difficult it often is to obtain information, and so one cannot really plan on a more or less regular column.

Ever since column 3 appeared (in the January 1961 issue of TOPICS) I have been trying to obtain information about two of the catalogues published by the Canadian Revenue Society. My many inquiries have not brought the required information, but I hasten to mention that a courteous reply was received in every case. Now I must make a general appeal to the members of the BNAPS.

The various catalogues published by the Canadian Revenue Society were generally issued in sections of a few pages, and were distributed to the members with the *Bulletins*. Quite often there was no note in the *Bulletin* that a catalogue section was enclosed, and even when this was mentioned the page numbers (and/or the publication number) were not given. I have succeeded in tracing most of the catalogue sections, and have even been able to make up a chronological summary of their distribution, with the help of a number of members of the CRS and of the Collectors Club Library. However, there is still lacking information about two of the Catalogues. These are the following:

Publication 8. *Small Tobacco Stamps*. (Cat. Nos. start with PT).

Publication 11. *Cigarette Stamps*. (Cat. Nos. start with CG)

Publication 8 was first distributed with the *Bulletin* for April 1942, only the first two pages being sent at this time. There is no further mention of this catalogue in the *Bulletin* until June 1945, which stated that "revised pages 8-2 through 8-7 (changed to 8-6 by pen). Old page 1 is correct, the others are to be replaced by those enclosed."

I have seen copies of the title page (i.e., page 1) headed "Small Tobacco Stamps", and of page 2 (listing PT 10 to PT 29). These two pages are the original issue. I have also seen pages 8-2 to 8-6, which list PT 10 to PT 115.

Information is sought about pages 3 onwards, in the *original* form. Page numbers probably appear just as 3, 4, 5, etc., NOT 8-3 etc.

Publication 11 was first distributed with the *Bulletin* for January 1943, and continued until the June issue. The distribution is mentioned in each month's issue, apparently a total of 24 pages being distributed. There is no further mention of the publication until December 1943, when revised pages 13 to 17 were distributed (the listings were revised so that the stamps used by a particular manufacturer were listed together). January 1944 saw revised pages 18 to 23, February 1944 revised pages 24 to 28 with the additional note that the original page 30 was OK (and presumably was to be renumbered as page 29). The last mention of the publication in the *Bulletin* was in November 1944, when 3 pages of additions and corrections were distributed. The first page of this distribution was not numbered (to be page 30?), and the other two bore page numbers 11-31 and 11-32.

I have seen copies of the *original* edition of pages 1 to 24 (ending with CG 161), and of page 30 (Customs Cigarettes). In the revised form I have seen pages 13 to 28, 29 (old page 30), and 11-30 to 11-32.

Information is sought about pages 24 to 20 in the *original* form, starting with catalogue No. CG 162, the listings *not* being arranged by manufacturers.

If any member of the BNAPS has any information about either of these publications, I should appreciate hearing from you, so that a definitive list of the catalogues published by the CRS can be made up. Please write to me at 4078 West 37th Avenue, Vancouver 13, B.C., Canada ★

Canada — Scott No. 20B:

WHERE TO . . . UP OR DOWN?



EARLY IN MARCH 1960 the writer received through the mail a 1960 catalogue from a Canadian stamp dealer. (Let's call him dealer X and subsequent dealers mentioned in this article as dealer Y so that it will keep them anonymous and will not embarrass them). On checking through this catalogue the writer noted the following item listed:

20B 2c rose (100)
no gum—per pair \$80.00

Later on in the month the writer happened to have some correspondence with dealer Y located in the same city and mentioned the above noted item for sale by dealer X. Since dealer Y had sold the writer over the past several years a large number of stamps and knew the quality of stamps required by the writer, dealer Y was asked to contact dealer X and see if the quality of the stamp would meet the writer's requirements, and if so, to purchase the above item for the writer's account and send it to him.

The quality of the stamps met the writer's requirements and they were shipped to him. In an accompanying letter of transmittal dealer Y offered \$100 for these stamps since he had a customer asking for them. This offer was turned down.

Later on the writer obtained by auction a pair of No. 20B cardboard proofs and together with the original stamps they make and "eye-pleasing" exhibit or display.

Later on, in December 1960, the writer received dealer X's 1961 catalogue and in it was the same listing as contained in the 1960 cata-

logue for the 20B stamps in pairs. When dealer Y's attention was called to this fact he contacted dealer X, then wrote the writer the following letter:

"Yes, my offer of \$100.00 for the pair of 20B is still good. I would be delighted to get it at that. The pair X has is cut into and as a consequence is not cheap at this price (\$80.00). When I asked him about them he said he sold his last good pair at \$125.00."

As a result the writer has been interested in keeping track of the market on this particular pair of stamps.

In several auctions recently, single copies of this stamp have appeared, one in particular, in the auction of the Gordon C. Liersch collection by Harmer, Rooke and Company of New York. As a rule most collectors or specialists will not collect singles of these imperforate stamps in order to avoid picking up "trimmed" copies that were originally perforated. Thus, we will deal only with the imperforate blocks or pairs of this stamp.

In March 1961 at the auction of the Siegmund Adler collection by H. R. Harmer, Inc., of New York, a "very fine" pair was sold for \$125.

In October 1961 at the auction of the Charles A. Shierson collection by the same auction house another "very fine" pair of this stamp brought \$120.

So now, fellow B.N.A. collectors and Canadian imperforate stamp collector specialists, get out your crystal balls and your computer machines and tell me—is 20B a good buy or investment? As to my original question, is this rare, scarce stamp going "Up Or Down?" ★

PAGES FROM A B.N.A. SCRAPBOOK



Items gathered and clipped by R. J. Duncan and G. P. Lewis

ITEM No. 26:

The Stamp Collector's Magazine,
October 1931.

A note for *Postal Stationery* collectors: The Sun Life, Montreal, recently made use of a grey colored No. 8 window envelope with the 2c envelope die printed in salmon red. Enquiry addressed to the company brought the answer that these were a limited printing for one department and none could be sold to collectors. They are bound to appear in collections, used, and this note will constitute a record for the enquiring philatelist of later years.

* * *

ITEM No. 27:

The Stamp Collector's Magazine,
February 1932

A Note from Fred Jarrett's *B.N.A. Page*: Here's a new one for those who "strain their eyes squinting at those little bits of paper." A friend has for some years been obliged to visit his optician regularly every six months. Some months prior to the last visit he bought 50,000 of the Canada 3c 1870-97, and started to search for the re-entries, which calls for very close examination. Many a night I have looked up from my album to see two of everything in the room and spots floating before my eyes. Well, the optician examined my friend's eyes once more and remarked, "Your sight

has improved so much I can hardly believe it—you have been using your eyes for some peculiar work that has developed the muscles and nerves wonderfully!"

* * *

ITEM No. 28:

Stamp Collector's Magazine,
November 1931

From Fred Jarrett's *B.N.A. Page*: In the years that I collected covers I never had a 12d black offered to me (what was the use!); the 1/2d and 6d perforated turned up but once, likewise the 1c 1868 on laid paper. Aside from these the rarest covers were the 17c 1859, the 7 1/2d green, the 2c 1868, in the order named, followed by the 8c Registered, the 10d blue, and the large 5c 1875. ★

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- CANADIAN FLAG CANCELLATIONS** \$1.00
by A. L. McCready. 20 pages
- CANADIAN PHILATELIC LITERATURE** \$1.25
by A. L. McCready. 39 pages

(All Prices Postpaid)

The above books are obtainable at the prices noted from:

R. J. Woolley, Apt. 405, 1520 Bathurst St., Toronto 10, Ont.**Gordon P. Lewis, 37 Eldomar Ave., Brampton, Ontario**

The "Map Stamp" handbook is being handled by special arrangement with the CPS of G.B. In the United Kingdom the "Squared Circle", "Small Queens" and "Perfin" handbooks are for sale by CPS of G.B. Order from

Stanley Cohen, 51 Westfield Rd., Birmingham 15, England

Handbooks also for sale by leading dealers



OFFICIAL SECTION

BRITISH NORTH AMERICA PHILATELIC SOCIETY

A LETTER . . .

From the President . . .

WALTER W. CHADBOURNE, 104 HILLTOP RD., HILLTOP MANOR,
WILMINGTON, DELAWARE

THIS LETTER WILL CONSIST mostly of random thoughts about our convention activities gone by and a look forward at those to come. After those joyous few days at Elmira, it is hard to get back into the harness of business and professional demands, to say nothing of those annual domestic chores of raking leaves, installing storm windows, and planting tulip bulbs. But after the winter, there will be spring, then summer and another convention in the offing. It is not too early to plan for next year.

Comparisons are always odious and one cannot say whether or not Elmira was the best, or second best convention ever. Whatever rating it may receive in the annals of BNAPS, it certainly had plenty of the serious, the humorous, and the bizarre. The Apple Knockers, operating some distance away from their home base at Ithaca, spared no pains to keep the kettle boiling from the "welcome" on Thursday to the "goodbyes" of Sunday morning. Al Cook, Dick Compton, and all their cohorts were an inspired crew deserving our everlasting thanks. Even the pain of being awakened at seven o'clock in the morning by a trumpet call of reveille blasting down the Mark Twain's corridors was assuaged by the delights of that hunters' breakfast. Ed Richardson waved his magic wand in La Marque, Texas and, behold, caused to appear one of the best exhibits ever. The honorable judges Vinnie Greene, Bob Lyman, and John Young awarded a well-deserved "gold" to the absolutely magnificent display of the fifteen-cent Large Queen issue of Pittsburg's Gerald Firth.

We all missed a few of the regulars—Clare Jephcott, Ed Richardson, Dan Meyerson, Bill Russell—for reasons variously from health to hurricanes. But fortune favored us with a nice delegation from the western provinces—Doris McKay, Sam and Rosemary Nickle, and Dirk van Oudenol. Ken (Doctor) Day smilingly pursued those Small Queen cancellations. George Lee missed no one either for cocktails or urbane conversation. The Clarence Westhavers outclassed everyone on the dance floor. Bob Woolley should write a handbook on "How to Win at Bridge." Your President's convention thrill was absolutely non-philatelic—a birdie three on the ninth hole at the Elmira Country Club, bringing a cash bonus from my courageous opponents, Harry Lussey and John Siverts.

But convention memories are only positive if they serve as a titillation for more of the same. We would most sincerely welcome more of our members at these annual events. Our hobby can be a many-sided affair, not just the lonesomeness of the stamp den, but also the fraternization with collectors from near and far, from richer to poorer, from advanced to less so. The schedule for the next four years is an ambitious one. Start planning for one or more. In 1962, Alpine Inn in the lovely Laurentians; in 1963, Williamsburg with history relived; in 1964, Toronto, the busy metropolis; and in 1965, San Francisco by the Golden Gate. Combine a convention with a vacation. Those who go know it can be so.

W. W. Chadbourne
President.

From the Secretary . . .

JACK LEVINE, 209 PINE TREE ROAD, OXFORD, N.C.

November 1, 1961

NEW MEMBERS

- 1867 Conn, Clair C., 1911 Monon Avenue, Lafayette, Indiana
 1868 Forster, H. Walter, 1013 Westview Street, Philadelphia 19, Pennsylvania

LIFE MEMBER

- L 37 Duncan, Robert J., Drawer 860, Revelstoke, British Columbia

APPLICATIONS PENDING

- Devlin, M., 837-14 Avenue S.W., Apt. 21, Calgary, Alberta
 Markovitz, Robert L., 328 Pleasant Street, Ithaca, New York (permanent address
 —37 Royce Ave., Middletown, N.Y.)
 Paterson, Ian A. D., Box 7267, Eldorado, Saskatchewan
 Prather, Claire, 1147 South Braden Street, Tulsa 12, Oklahoma

APPLICATIONS FOR MEMBERSHIP

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

- Beaumont, Howard B., 506 Stevenson Lane-Towson, Baltimore 4, Md. (DC) CAN—
 Federal & Provincial Revenues. Proposed by G. M. Tuttel, No. 1565. Seconded by
 H. E. Reinhard, No. 298.
 Collins, S. Graham, Pentland, Birkenhead Road, Hoylake, Cheshire, Engl. (C-CX) CAN,
 NFD — 19th and 20th century used postage. Coils. O.H.M.S. Used booklet panes.
 Precancels. Used and semi-official Airmails and on cover. Literature. Flag, 2 and
 4-ring numeral and squared-circle cancellations. Proposed by G. P. Lewis, No. L506.
 Dunnhaupt, P. B. Gerard, 484 Church St., Apt. 1502, Toronto 5, Ont. (C-CX) CAN,
 B.C., N.B., N.S.—19th century used postage. Pre-stamp and stampless covers. Literature.
 Proofs and Essays. 2 and 4 ring numerals, B.C. numerals, fancy corks. SPE-
 CIALTY — N.B. numerals on N.B. Scott No. 1 4-ring on 3d Beaver. Numerals on
 Large Queens. Proposed by C. M. Chandler, No. 1374. Seconded by E. A. Banfield,
 No. 765.
 Hamilton, Rev. George, Ft. Simpson N.W.T. (via) Edmonton, Alta. (C-C) CAN—
 Covers. Proposed by C. A. Anderson, No. 361.
 Nowaski, Thomas J., 30-26 Hobart St., Woodside 77, N.Y. (D) CAN, PROV. — All
 Phases. Proposed by J. S. Siverts, No. 59.
 Wilk, Charles, P.O. Box 5546, Cleveland 1, Ohio (C) CAN, NFD—19th and 20th century
 used postage and blocks. Used booklet panes. Used Airmails. R.P.O., Territorial,
 Flag, Slogan and Squared-Circle cancellations. Proposed by R. W. Tiede, No. 702.

CHANGES OF ADDRESS

(Notice of change must be sent to the Secretary)

- 1525 Charron, J. J., 3136 de la Champagne, Ste-Foy, Quebec.
 1555 Copeland, Robert A., 1601 Queensway, Prince George, B.C.
 37 Duncan Robert J., Drawer 860, Revelstoke, B.C.
 1490 Moore, Ralph R., 44 North Hillside Ave., Chatham, N.J.
 1104 Rosenthal, Max, 429 Craven Road, Toronto 8, Ontario
 975 Shaw, Alan B., P.O. Box 591, Tulsa 2, Oklahoma
 398 Speirs, 1477 Bayview Ave., Apt. G26, Toronto 17, Ontario
 1141 Lee, Walter S. Box 3201, Kitimat, B.C.
 1456 Werfel, Alfred, 300 West 23rd Street, New York, N.Y.
 1297 Whitehead, John Henry, 6 Austin Crescent, Toronto 4, Ontario

DECEASED

- 197 Karvosky, A/2C Ronald J., 15th Tac. Rcon, Sqd., Box 177, APO 239, San Francisco, California

MEMBERSHIP SUMMARY

| | |
|--|-------|
| TOTAL MEMBERSHIP, October 1, 1961 | 1041 |
| NEW MEMBERS, November 1, 1961 | 2 |
| | <hr/> |
| | 1043 |
| DECEASED, November 1, 1961 | 1 |
| | <hr/> |
| TOTAL MEMBERSHIP, November 1, 1961 | 1042 |

THE B.N.A. MARKET PLACE

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SQUARED CIRCLES

WANTED on 3c Small Queen: Belleville, "4" above the line, April 26, '97. Dr. C. S. McKee, McKee Rd., R.R. No. 3, Abbotsford, B.C. 170-ff

WANTED FOR RESEARCH: HALIFAX, any date before AU 26, 93; any date from No 15, 93; 1-De 26, 93; 3-Ap 4, 94; 3-Ma 4, 94; 4-Ju 3, 95; 4-Ap 1, 96; 2-De 4, 96; 3-De 4, 96; 3-De 21, 96; 4 De 21 96; 3-Mr 30, 97; 3-Ju 19, 97; 4-No 3, 97; 3-No 30, 97; 2-De 4, 97; 3-Fe 4, 98; 1-Mr 4, 98; 3-Mr 4, 98; 1-Sp 27, 98; 4-Sp 27, 98; 4-Oc 17, 96; 1-Oc 18, 98; 3-Oc 18, 98; 4-Oc 18, 98; 1-Oc 19, 98, OTTAWA: 7-Jy 12, 93; 5-No 20, 93; 3-Oc 2, 93; 5-Oc 20, 93; 4-Oc 31, 93; TRURO: PM-Oc 31, 96; CHARLOTTETOWN: PM-Ap 6, 97; PM-My 2, 96. ST. HYACINTHE: AM-De 30, 95; AM-Jy 24, 96; AM-Au 4, 96; BELLEVILLE: 3-Ja 22, 95; 2-Oc 3, 94; 2-Oc 31, 94; KINGSTON: 2-No 25, 93; PARIS: any date in Sept., 93; also D-Ap 5, 94. PETERBOROUGH 2-Sp 24, 94. PRESCOTT: PM-Sp 16, 93; PM-Ja 3, 94. VICTORIA: AM-Ap 23, 94; PM-Ap 23, 94. In the above the complete date and indicia above the date (the latter given first here) are most essential. Will purchase or give generous exchange. Dr. Alfred Whitehead, 52 Havelock, Amherst, N.S.

THE LAST POST

Two prominent members of the Society have died recently; *Marjorie H. Harris* of Vancouver, an enthusiastic collector of squared circles and items related to the postal history of British Columbia, and *Dr. L. Seale Holmes*, of London, Ont., noted as editor of *Holmes' Catalogue of British North America*, now in its ninth edition. ★

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