

BNA Topics



CHRISTMAS 1898 by Chris Moore
(See page 301)

Official Journal

Of The

British North America

Philatelic Society

Volume 22 Number 11 Whole Number 239 December 1965

Published December 15th

BEST



WISHES FROM LONDON

for Christmas and the New Year



Once again the festive season is upon us . . . our thoughts will subsequently turn to the possibilities and excitements of the coming year. For the philatelist, this can often be a time for the formation of new ideas to coincide with a brand new year.

Here, at 50 Pall Mall, we have made a study of providing pleasure for those who buy and sell collections, specialised studies or single rarities through our auction rooms or private treaty departments.

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BNA Topics

OFFICIAL JOURNAL OF THE BRITISH NORTH AMERICA PHILATELIC SOCIETY
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Monthly Report from the Secretary . . .

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November 1, 1965

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2165 Chandler, Russel R., 208 Centre Avenue, New Rochelle, New York 10805
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2167 Piggott, E. Reginald, 12 Leverett Avenue, Kentville, Nova Scotia

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Boker, John R., Jr., 9 Wildwood Road, Scarsdale, New York
Kingdon, Reginald T., 77 Central Avenue, Beamsville, Ontario
Rivkind, Bernard A., 36 Marlene Drive, Syosset, New York 11791

APPLICATIONS FOR MEMBERSHIP

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

- CAMPBELL, Thomas P. Jr., 678 Warburton Ave., Yonkers, N.Y. (C-CX) CAN, NFD, PROV—19th & 20th century used postage and used blocks. Coils. O.H.M.S.-G. Precancels. Used Airmails. Literature, Proposed by C. Westhaver, No. 1442.
DIVETO, James A., 56 Mohawk St., Oromocto, N.B. (C) CAN, NFD, PROV—Used postage. Pre-stamp, stampless covers. Literature. Proofs & Essays. "Locals". All cancellations. Proposed by J. Levine, No. 11.
KREMER, Charles A., 2881 Lafayette Ave., Bronx 65, N.Y. (C-CX) CAN—19th & 20th century mint & used postage. Coils. Literature. SPECIALTY—Admirals. Proposed by W. F. Haley, No. 1674.
MITTON, Lloyd, Box 10, Thamesville, Ont. (C) CAN, NFD, PROV—19th & 20th century mint postage. 1st Day covers. Coils. O.H.M.S.-G. Mint Airmails. Proposed by R. M. Lamb, No. 1255.
PAYNE, John, 2108-66 Ave. S.E., Calgary, Alta. (C) CAN, NFD, N.B.—19th & 20th century mint & used postage and blocks. 1st Day covers. Plate Blocks. Coils. O.H.M.S.-G. Mint, used booklet panes and complete booklets. Precancels. Mint & used Airmails. Proposed by R. S. Traquair, No. 1450. Seconded by E. C. Godfrey, No. 2025.
SANGUINETTI, Haughton E., 97 Pin Oak Way, Falmouth, Mass. 02540 (C-X) CAN—used postage. Semi-official Airmails and on cover. Slogan cancellations. SPECIALTY—Semi-official Airmails. Proposed by C. Westhaver, No. 1442.
THAUBERGER, John C., 814 Seventh St. E., Saskatoon, Sask. (D) Proposed by F. R. Hadley, No. 1274.
WINTER, Robert A., 35 Delaware Ave., Ottawa 4, Ont. (C-C) CAN—19th & 20th century mint postage. 1st Day covers. O.H.M.S.-G. Mint Airmails. Montreal "AMF" cancellations. Proposed by R. J. Woolley, No. 359. Seconded by J. Levine, No. 11.

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(Notice of change must be sent to the Secretary)

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1342 Day, Walter T., 13430-105th Avenue, Whalley, No. Surrey, British Columbia
1131 Kropke, Lester R., 8940 S. Oakley, Chicago, Illinois 60643
167 Lussey, Harry W., 3 Horizon Road, Apt. 1402, Fort Lee, New Jersey
732 Oertel, Roland C., 496 S. Lincoln Avenue, Kankakee, Illinois
757 Tupper, Garn H., 8740 Selkirk, #207, Vancouver 14, British Columbia

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- 1655 Donne, James H., Highfield, Stamford Road, Kirby Muxloe, Leicester, England

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TOTAL MEMBERSHIP, October 1, 1965	1001
NEW MEMBERS, November 1, 1965	4
TOTAL MEMBERSHIP, November 1, 1965	1005

THE *Editor's* MAILBAG

Caldwell, New Jersey
September 28, 1965

Dear Mr. Editor,

My September Topics just arrived with August 31 postmark — 9th class mail?

First class mail would cost 8c more per issue. Could we not have dues increased \$1 per year to cover it. It would be so nice to receive Topics 3 weeks sooner.

Very truly yours

J. Gordon #1030

Editor's note: We especially rushed to have the Sept. issue out well ahead of the Convention but you can see the mails are getting slower and slower.

Dear Sir:

October BNA Topics published Oct. 4, 1965 — Postmarked Oct. 13, 1965 in Toronto — Received in Albany, N.Y. Nov. 6, 1965 — Outside envelope marked "Dated Material — Rush — 3½ weeks — 500 miles — If this is Rush — What's Slow? W. A. Seifert Jr. #1594

Dear Sir;

Jacque Houser's Listing April & July-Aug. 1965 BNA Topics and Chas. Hollingsworth's addition in the latter. Wish to report finding markings similar to Houser's Type 1 19 mm — struck at Barrie, Ont. my covers carrying same spread from March 3/98 to Sept 29/99. The marks are struck on back of covers alongside or near receiving date back stamp. London covers I have carry Houser's type 4 but marks are struck on front of covers. This might indicate no ruling on use, front or back, but at convenience of clerk dispatching. If already re-

ported O.K. but I am sure am not alone in finding these marks interesting.

Best personal regards

L. Armson, #1781

Dear Editor:

I would like to make known to other collectors of Flag Cancells, and perhaps some-one working on a new Edition of the hand-book three items I feel are of interest.

1. Type 1. on one cent post card as a receiving mark, dated July 1, 1896, Montreal machine C. (date in hand book July 15).

2. Type 7. on cover dated Ottawa Nov. 1, 1897 (date in handbook Nov. 13). Vertical line at left side missing, this is not the result of a poor strike. I have read of this but can not locate it at present.

3. Cut 3 page 18 handbook. Ottawa, no machine letter, dated Feb. 27, 1899 (date in handbook, Aug. 14-99.)

Yours

B. A. Foster #1324

Dear Sir,

To the second 'Puzzlement' in your May Issue I can add a further puzzle and a possible hint for a solution. I acquired recently 300 Toronto covers with flag type 8 lettered A to F, and now have notes of from 30 to 100 of the various letters.

The new puzzle is that seven covers in the first three months of 1901 bear the letter B in place of O or S occurring on each flag except C.

The hint appeared on sorting the various flags. The earliest occurrence of 5 was on 13th June 1900. Flag C of which I have

(Continued on page 320)

BNAPS REGIONAL GROUPS

Philadelphia—Meets the first Thursday of each month at 7934 Pickering Street, Philadelphia, Pa. *Temagami*—Meet every summer. Alfred P. Cook, Coy Glen Road, Ithaca New York.

Vancouver—Meets every Friday night at the Y.W.C.A., corner of Burrard and Dunsmuir, at 8 p.m. *Winnipeg*—Meets on a Monday in each month to be decided upon at previous meeting.

Harold Wilding 135 Traill Ave., Winnipeg 12, Man. *Edmonton*

—Meets twice a year in May and October in a public place, time and date to be announced. Out of town visitors to communicate with Secretary F. N. Harris, 11013-129 Street

Twin City—Meets at members' homes on second Thursday of each month. J. C. Cornelius, 2407 Lake Place, Minneapolis, Minn. *Calgary*—

Meets second and fourth Tuesday at 8 p.m., Murray Devlin, 1030—12th Ave. S.W., Calgary, Alberta.

Report from the Library

EDGAR C. BLACK, 1726 WESTERN PKWY., VANCOUVER 8, BRITISH COLUMBIA

Following important reference books are needed for the library: Bileski's revenues of Saskatchewan and Manitoba and Bileski's current editions of **Basic Canada** and **Plate Book** catalogues; F. W. Campbell's re-issue of **Canada Post Offices 1755-1895**; Firth's **Canada, The 15 Cents of 1868**; Patrick, **Canada Postage Stamps**; Walburn's 1965 edition of **Canada Pre Cancel Catalogue**; Wilson's B.N.A. section of **The Catalogue of Stamps in the Royal Collection**. Money is needed for bookbinding.

V. G. Greene
Chairman, Library Committee

Following donations acknowledged:

- L. Armson — 25 early issues of **Stamp Collectors' Exchange Club Journal**
- J. J. Balassa — First 8 volumes of **Billig's Philatelic Handbooks**, Volumes 9-21

of **BNA Topics**; 1945 Ed. of Sanabria's **Air Post Catalogue**; 24 issues of **Sissons Auction Catalogues** including the Jarrett sales.

- I. J. R. Deacon — 35 route maps of BNA first flights
- M. B. Dicketts — Cumulative Index, Volumes 1-25, **Billig's Philatelic Handbooks**
- J. Folinsee — Volumes 13-19 of **BNA Topics** Volumes 63-72 of **Weekly Philatelic Gossip**
- F. W. L. Keane — 24 issues of **Stamp Lover**
- Edward M. Mercantini — 2 Canada issues of **Linn's Weekly Stamp News**
- Edward A. Richardson — \$16.00 for bookbinding
- Philipp Rosenblatt — 60 copies of BNA articles

SIPEX RELEASES THREE-COLOR LABELS

Attractive three-color gummed labels featuring the six-sided SIPEX emblem are being made available to stamp collectors by the sponsors of the Sixth International Philatelic Exhibition, to be held May 21-30, 1966, in Washington, D.C.

The central part of the design shows — in blue with a white background — the SIPEX emblem of a world globe, a superimposed representation of a stamp, and the Freedom Statue which is atop the U.S. Capitol. In red at the sides and top is the phrase "International Philatelic Exhibition" in French, German and Spanish. At the bottom are the dates of the 1966 show and its location, the Shoreham Hotel.

Many collectors use such labels both for philatelic, business and social correspondence, and to dress up covers and post cards. They also are a way an individual collector can show his support of the non-profit show — which will feature 2,200 frames of top collections from all over the world, 80 dealers' booths, lectures, seminars, tours and other activities.

The labels, 1½ inches wide by 2 inches high, come in rolls and are perforated for easy separation. They are available for 50¢ per 100 or \$3.50 per thousand, post-

paid, from SIPEX, 408 A St., S.E., Washington, D.C. 20003.

NEW ELIZABETH II DEALER RETAIL Catalog to be published by J. L. Lister Ltd. North American Edition Distribution by S. B. Gaylord

John Lister, Ltd., London, England wholesalers of Elizabeth II Reign stamps announces the publication of the new John Lister Queen Elizabeth catalog in September. This new 215-page book will be fully illustrated with excellent quality cuts and paper throughout and will contain a clear crisp listing of all Queen Elizabeth stamps of the British Commonwealth, Eire, South Africa and S.W.A. issued since 1952. Realistic 1966 retail prices will be used, all major stamps will be listed but minor shades will be omitted to make the catalog of maximum use to all collectors and dealers of this ever popular group of stamps.

Bound in a durable attractive cover, the book will still be a handy pocket size, 5" by 8", and the North American edition will be priced to sell through U.S. dealers at only \$1.00.

Advance sample pages and dealer cost information is now available free upon request from the Lister exclusive agent for North America, S. B. Gaylord, 1317 Ruffner Road, Schenectady, New York, 12309.

CHRISTMAS 1898

by Chris Moore, BNAPS 1085

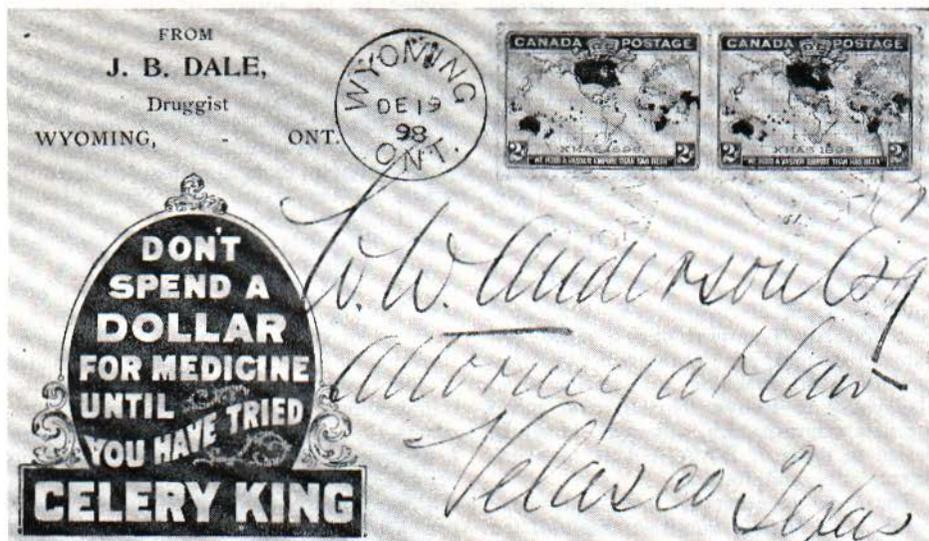
Much has been written about the Canadian Map Stamp, all the varieties involved, the earliest covers but every time a star cover is involved it makes the collection take life again.

Originally scheduled for release on Dec. 25th, pressure was brought for an earlier release and we find that in The House of Commons on Dec. 5th authorization was given for the sale and use of the stamps on arrival at each post office. The earliest date that I have seen is December 7th.

The frontispiece cover was posted in Wyoming, Ontario and cancelled Dec. 25 on each stamp with each stamp tied to the cover. It is addressed to Velasco, Texas and is backstamped Dec. 27 — a speedy trip. The second cover is from the same writer and dated Dec. 19. It bears the corner card of J. B. Dale Druggist and the Celery King Medicine advertised on the reverse

must have been the cureall that we all need. In fact a large package could be obtained for 25 cents. Both these covers came from a West Coast Dealer and were part of a small find in Texas. My theory is that Mr. Dale did quite a large business and didn't have the correct postage value on hand so he used pairs of this stamp to get the letters away.

Sending such mail he should receive similar mail so we took off for Wyoming. A small town close to Sarnia it had really been checked by local philatelists. We found the drug store but nothing remained of former days. Mr. Dale was the local druggist, Sunday School Superintendent, the local Editor and had lead a very active life but nowhere could we locate his incoming correspondence. However we are very satisfied with two amazing covers and also a pleasant days outing.



MERRY CHRISTMAS AND A HAPPY NEW YEAR

Canada's Semi-Official Airmails

by DANIEL G. ROSENBLAT (BNAPS 1445) 210 Monte Diablo Avenue, San Mateo, Calif.

I have had a recent letter from Ed Richardson, certainly as competent an observer of the Canadian philatelic scene as can be imagined, and feel that one sentence is well worth quoting, as follows:

"There is nothing wrong with the interest in Semi-Official Airmails that a bit of STOCK available to collectors wouldn't correct. The supplies seem to have just dried up!"

This, coming from a man who has supplied me with a considerable portion of my collection, and who has always in the past seemed to have something in the field to offer, certainly indicates the seriousness of the situation. The two factors which do the most to popularize a field of collecting are a reasonable amount of literature on the subject and a reasonable amount of available material. With this column I am doing what I can to supplement the former need—I wonder if the column might also be of value with the latter.

I have in mind the possibility that this column could act as a sort of clearing house to bring together supply and demand—especially that persons, either dealers or collectors, having any S.O.A. material for sale or exchange could so notify me and I in turn could pass the information on, either through the column or by direct mail, to any of you who will indicate to me an interest in receiving this information. I will appreciate your comments on this matter.

Fairchild Air Transport Ltd.

In the late fall of 1926 Jack V. Elliot withdrew from his association with Elliot-Fairchild Air Transport and a new company, Fairchild Air Transport Ltd., was established to maintain the service from Haileybury to Rouyn. This in turn called for new stamps which, although similar in design to those of E-F.A.T. were of a different color and format.

The issue is generally thought to have consisted of 10,000 stamps in sheets of ten (2 x 5), half in dark blue and half in a pale light blue designated as ultra-marine. The dark blue stamps are normally arranged

with the second and fourth horizontal rows of two inverted so that all vertical pairs will be *tete-beche* and all horizontal pairs normal. There is also frequent mention of a very limited number of sheets of this shade in which the inverted stamps are checkerboarded throughout the sheet so that any pair, vertical or horizontal will be *tete-beche*. I have never seen an example of this offered for sale, not even so much as a single horizontal *tete-beche* pair, but it probably does exist for John Cornelius wrote me some years ago to say, "My information is that of the 15 original sheets, probably three at the most exist today, as they were almost all broken up."

The light blue sheets, for reasons that I cannot fathom, were normally printed with the left vertical row of five upright and the right vertical row entirely inverted so that all horizontal pairs would be *tete-beche* and all vertical pairs normal. However, vertical *tete-beche* pairs do exist (I have one) indicating that some quantity of this shade were printed in the format of the dark blue stamps, but I have no idea as to the quantity.

The dark blue stamp is known on flown covers, at least on first day covers of October 20th, 1926—Haileybury-Rouyn and return—and the quantities usually mentioned are 500 in each direction, cacheted in purple on the reverse and apparently all signed by the pilot, Glyn R. Burge. Although the light blue stamps were supposedly issued on the same day they are unknown on cover, either first day or otherwise.

All in all, there is a good deal of mystery surrounding this issue. Why the two shades of blue? Why the various settings of the stamps within the sheet? Are there any flown covers of the dark blue stamp other than first day and why was the light blue stamp never used on cover? Finally, how long did this company operate and what finally happened to it, for by the spring of 1927 Patricia Airways & Exploration was operating in the area and Fairchild seems to have disappeared.

CONTINUE TO GET NEW MEMBERS

HISTORICAL MEMORANDUM OF THE CANADIAN POSTAL SERVICE WITH THE ARMIES IN FRANCE, BELGIUM AND GERMANY 1914-1919

PART 15

With the compliments of Lloyd W. Sharpe
(See BNA Topics, May 1964 p. 119 for Preface)

STATISTICS

(1) Mail matter received for distribution to Canadian Troops

	1915	1916	1917	1918	1919	Total
LETTERS	8,307,000	20,075,250	35,997,000	43,136,750	16,321,000	123,837,000
PARCELS						
British Origin	206,417	623,500	1,118,000	1,032,000	378,000	3,357,917
Canadian Origin	41,280	124,700	273,600	243,000	37,000	719,580
Others	23,208	70,107	126,710	121,000	15,500	356,525
	270,905	818,307	1,518,310	1,396,000	430,500	4,434,022
NEWSPAPERS						
British Origin	388,800	1,174,500	2,106,000	2,336,120	401,000	6,406,420
Canadian Origin	27,360	82,650	148,200	169,360	46,000	473,570
Others	57,120	172,550	309,400	339,260	63,000	941,330
	473,280	1,429,700	2,563,600	2,844,740	510,000	7,821,320
REGISTERED ITEMS						
British Origin	38,880	117,450	210,600	228,850	72,000	667,780
Canadian Origin	3,360	10,150	18,200	18,550	6,300	56,560
Others	25,104	85,835	135,980	148,000	35,300	430,219
	67,344	213,435	364,780	395,400	113,600	1,154,559
				Total		137,246,910

(2) Mail matter posted by Canadian Troops (Approximate)

	1915	1916	1917	1918	1919	Total
Registered Items	149,868	347,936	677,690	752,600	157,600	2,085,694
Letters	3,974,731	11,886,000	21,728,000	23,468,365	8,403,000	69,460,096
Parcels	29,575	65,975	118,300	132,280	67,000	413,130
	4,154,174	12,299,911	22,523,990	24,353,245	8,627,600	71,958,920

FINANCIAL TRANSACTIONS

Postal Orders

	Sold		Cashed	Postage Stamps Sold
20 Feb. to Dec. 1915	854,855 frcs.		88,135 frcs.	114,921 frcs.
1916	2,582,160 frcs.		266,220 frcs.	347,130 frcs.
1917	4,630,080 frcs.		477,360 frcs.	622,440 frcs.
1918	5,006,325 frcs.		516,198 frcs.	664,221 frcs.
1 Jan. to 1 June 1919	2,317,000 frcs.		253,500 frcs.	314,000 frcs.
	15,390,420 frcs.		1,601,413 frcs.	2,062,712 frcs.
				Total 19,054,545 frcs.



"SECRET DATE"

or

DATED DIES OF CANADA

NO. 23

1942

10c PEACE TOWER

—R. H. Larkin No. 958

Rounding Up Squared Circles

Editor: DR. A. WHITEHEAD, 52 HAVELOCK ST., AMHERST, NOVA SCOTIA

The Squared Circle Study Group
at Chatham Bars Inn

By C. A. Kemp

A meeting of a number of BNAPS members especially interested in squared circle cancellations was held during the Convention at Chatham Bars under the Chairmanship of the writer.

The meeting took the form of a general discussion of the past, present and future of this specialty and I personally feel that some very constructive ideas were presented from the floor during the discussion.

It was suggested that we should publish some idea of the values represented by the rarity factors up to RF 50 so that newcomers to the growing list of squared circle collectors would not pay too much for items they purchased. It was pointed out that this was only possible in the lower RF bracket, as the rarities are not easy to purchase and the prices vary greatly when a rarity is put for sale. However, it was felt that a figure of five or six times the rarity factor was about the fair price for a strike on any of the common stamps for towns having RF 50 or under. For example a good copy of Chesterville (RF30) would not be overpriced at \$1.50 to \$1.80. On a good cover it should bring roughly twice this amount.

Another suggestion was that to increase

interest in squared circles and also get more collectors to start after these cancellations, we might encourage local stamp clubs to devote a night to squared circles with a qualified speaker on hand to show some nice items and answer questions. This sounds like an excellent idea and should not be difficult to arrange as there are specialists with good material to show scattered throughout the country.

Also suggested was the possibility of getting more publicity for BNAPS (not just the squared circle group) by keeping the various stamp publications supplied with material outlining our activities from month to month.

One member asked for an article in TOPICS on how to assemble, mount and display a squared circle collection. We all have our own ideas on this matter and nearly every advanced collector has had to mount and remount his collection three or four times before he hit the arrangement that suited him. Some devote a page in their albums to each town,—more than a page when there are a number of hammers and time marks. Others follow the order of the Handbook and just show one stamp or cover for each town. Then they have a second and possibly a third album showing the different hammer, time marks and any unusually fine pieces they have to display. Anyone having any ideas on this subject, please drop us a line.

AN OPEN LETTER TO ALL PERFIN COLLECTORS

by Ian Paterson

A doubt has arisen as to the proper allocation of the perforated initial "E" (# E1 in the handbook) with the offset code hole.

Until now I have accepted the allocation as recorded in the handbook, but recently in an accumulation of old covers there appeared no less than a dozen covers, franked with admirals which are perforated like the aforementioned "E"; all on envelopes of Swift Canadian Co., Edmonton, and covering the period Jan. 1918 to May 1919.

Discussion on this point with two other collectors brought to light another fact which should completely disprove the "Eatons" assumption (a fact which should have been apparent to most Edmonton collectors before now), namely that there was not an Eatons store in Edmonton until late in the 1920's.

Therefore unless there is information contrary to the above, I think it would be justifiable to change the allocation of Perfin #E1 to Swifts Canadian Co., Edmonton.

CANADIAN OFFICIALS

A NEW SPACING VARIETY

by Harold M. Dilworth

Collectors of Canadian Officials are doubtless familiar with the narrow spacing variety of the O.H.M.S. overprint found on early printings of most of the lower denominations. This narrow spacing variety was constant, occurring between the first and second stamps of each horizontal row in the upper right and lower right panes, the spacing between all other O.H.M.S. overprints being normal. The reason for this spacing variety has never been established as far as the writer is aware.

No other O.H.M.S. or G spacing varieties appear to have been so far reported. However early in 1959, approximately coincident with the first overprinting of narrow margin or "plate number trimmed off" sheets of the low values of the 1954 series of Queen Elizabeth stamps, certain panes of the 5c denomination of these officials (Scott No. 044) were observed by the writer to have a number of minor irregularities in the relative positions of the "G" overprints, with an extra-wide horizontal space between the overprints on the fifth and sixth stamps in each horizontal row. This wide spacing was found to be constant throughout the whole pane of 100 stamps, giving the appearance of a gutter dividing the left and right halves of the pane. The difference between the normal and wide spacing of the "G" overprints is very noticeable as will be seen from an inspection of the accompanying photograph, the spacing difference being of the order of 4 to 5 mm!

Later in 1959 this wide spacing variety of the "G" overprint was observed on panes of the 2c denomination (Scott No. 041), and in 1961 on panes of the 1c value (Scott No. 040), this wide spacing or gutter being in every instance located between the 5th and 6th stamps in each horizontal row of the pane. The writer has not observed any similar spacing variety on panes of the 4c denomination, although such may of course exist. The respective plate numbers involved are unknown, inasmuch as all such numbers were trimmed off the sheets of stamps prior to their being sent to the printer for overprinting, except in the case of the 1c where



a single upper right pane of Plate 8 (with narrow margin) has been seen by the writer with the wide-spaced overprint variety.

The reason for the existence of this spacing variety is a matter which invites some interesting speculation. Was it perhaps because of some technical problem arising out of the fact that the outside margins of the sheets of stamps (consisting of 4 panes) were trimmed off before being sent to the printers, whereas this trimming was originally not performed? At any rate one gets the distinct impression when examining a full pane of the overprinted stamps with the spacing variety, that a vertical slug of type-metal acting as a spacer, must have been inserted for some specific purpose in the printing plate. Moreover, minor differences in the overprint spacing have been noted on comparing panes of the 1c, 2c and 5c denominations. This indicates that more than one type-setting was involved, which again leads to the conclusion that the wide spacing was deliberate and not accidental.

Why then is there no similar spacing variety found on the 4c denomination? Perhaps because progressive type wear made necessary the setting up of a completely new plate for overprinting, before an order was received by the printers involving the first trimmed sheets of the 4c denomination, and this new "G" printing plate would therefore require no spacer slug. In support of this theory, several instances of temporary repair have been observed by the

(Continued on page 306)

The Proof Corner

ROBERT H. PRATT, 3097 W. Mill Road, Milwaukee, Wis. 53209

How many of you have seen a series of Progressive Proofs. Here is one of the most interesting studies in Proofs.

Start with some lines scratched on a plate in very rough outline. A small date in the corner tells when it all began. Add more lines and the frame appears. Then some script and the name of the country and value show in outline. More lines and the lettering becomes full. Then shading, incomplete at first.

The next step is the vignette. In earlier stamps this was usually prepared first as a separate item. Later, the picture was engraved in the space reserved for it. First in outline, then gradually taking form and shape and shading.

A final pull — a request for approval — possibly denied — more refining of the design — then the final OK. Now the guide mark for the roller is added and the final proof has been made. Later the die number and the die is complete.

Take for instance the 1931 Newfoundland issue. The 30c value shows the frame on 7 May 1930, the frame and partial design 13 May, the full design lightly shaded 19 May, a heavily shaded type on 22 May, shading lightened 23 May, a color change on 27 May and the guide mark added 28 May which indicated the final approval. The die number (873) was added 2 June 1930. The stamp was issued in July of 1937.

This type of presentation exists for all values of the 1929, 1931, 1932, 1933 and 1937 Perkins Bacon Issues. They are not easy to find and when found require constant revision of your pages. If you get hold of a proof which does not have a die number be sure and compare it to others in detail. It is never final until the guide mark and die number are added.

Canada too, in the 20th century issues, has progress proofs which are extremely interesting. Many values appear in progressive increments which outline the growth of the design.

If you are a student of a certain issue or stamp, how can you show its development any better than through progressive proofs.

If you are looking for a catalogue of these interesting proofs I highly recommend a sister society, the Essay Proof Society which has just completed a listing of all known and observed Canada proofs. To follow soon are New Brunswick, Nova Scotia and finally Newfoundland. There are articles too of interest to BNAPS'ers and you will find their quarterly volume of extreme interest.

If you have specific questions particularly about New Brunswick, Nova Scotia or Newfoundland I shall be most happy to try and answer them. I do collect stamps and covers too, but there are many more knowledgeable folk in these fields than I.

More around the corner

(Continued from page 305)

writer on examining panes of the overprinted 2c and 5c values which have the wide spacing variety, where fresh type has been inserted in the plate to replace worn type, the new type giving clear and sharp "G" impressions as compared with the heavy and worn overprint impressions on immediately

adjoining stamps. No such repair work has been noted on examining panes of the 4c denomination, nor on later issues of the 1c, 2c and 5c denominations which do not exhibit the wide spacing variety.

Comments from readers in connection with the foregoing would be much appreciated by the writer.

Please send changes of address to the Secretary

JACK LEVINE, 203 Tranquil Dr., Oxford, N.C., U.S.A.

THE TAGGED STAMPS OF CANADA

PART 8

by

Dr. Edward S. Mercantini

BNAPS #1636

In Part 6 of this series which appeared in the May, 1965 issue of "Topics" in presenting the reason for the appearance of panes of 100 of the current 4c tagged denomination with either five or six bands running vertically over the panes, I unintentionally gave erroneous information. This is a hazard of being a pioneer in accumulating data about something new, and perhaps being too eager in trying to promulgate the information before having fully verified the facts. The clerks in the philatelic agency told me incorrectly that the 1962 big post office sheets were in the same format as the 1954 sets as regards the regular Queen issues. However, they are not! The 1954 sheets are in horizontal format, that is with three panes horizontally placed over three others making six panes to the sheet. The 1962 sheets are in vertical format with three panes vertically placed beside the three others. Hence there can be no mixtures of five or six tagged bands on the big 1962 sheet. There is either the five bar format or the six bar format. Were the sheets printed as they were in 1954, then the alternate fashion (as I had explained it in the May issue of "Topics") would be possible with five and six bar combinations. Now we know that the five and six bar panes come in regulation independent printings. One can state definitely that the full 600 units are printed with either six bars to a pane of 100 (and all six panes on such a large sheet have six bars) or else all six panes have five bars each. There are no mixtures, and so each is a major variety.

Mr. C. L. Cole, BNAPS #1687 writes that he has done some experimenting with the tagged stamps of Canada and has found the following. If the first tagged issue is immersed in water for longer than ten minutes, a rapid lessening of intensity of the phosphorescent tag takes place. Mr. Cole has allowed the first issue to sit in the bright sun and up to three hours found no lessening of the phosphorescence. After exposure for longer than three hours, the tag diminishes in intensity but not at a rate as great as with water immersion. He also

reports that his experiments show that the second issue holds the tag longer and with greater intensity than the first tagged issue re his water and sun exposures. Our thanks to collector Cole for his interest and findings.

Gordon D. Vaughn of Chatham, N.B. writes about the tagged 1964 Canada 3c Christmas issue in Cello-paq (two sheets of 25 stamps). This was the tagged miniature sheet for use in November and December in Winnipeg where the Sefacan machinery is situated. Mr. Vaughn states that this stamp did not have a large printing, with only a total of 104,000. The quantity taken into the philatelic agency for sale to collectors was only 8000. The rest, 96,000, went to Winnipeg for sale there, and how many of these survived for philately no one knows. This stamp should be popular for two reasons: firstly it was the first Christmas tagged stamp in miniature sheets, and the first 3c stamp along with the untagged 3c Christmas stamp to appear in Cello-paq. Its small issue should make it even more popular with collectors.

The erroneous information that I received from the philatelic sales clerks at the agency, plus the fact that any information about tagged stamps has to be learned by hard-nosed enquiry and digging rather than by official releases from the P.O.D. makes me wonder why the publicity by the P.O.D. does not keep the philatelic public more intelligently informed. Alfred Boerger of Toledo, Ohio who takes a great interest in the U.S. tagged stamps states, "The P.O.D. short-changed collectors in their publicity on the tagged issues — there is nothing to be ashamed of in doing an experiment for P.O.D. progress. Ninety-eight percent of U.S. collectors are not aware of tagged issues for lack of publicity". I feel the same amount of ignorance exists re Canada's tagged issues because of apathy in our P.O.D. publicity.

In Western Stamp Collector of April 20, 1965, a note by the editor asks whether we should look to the publishers of catalogs

(Continued on page 314)

FANCY CANCELLATIONS

Day & Smythies

Supplementary Plate K — Chapter VI — Letters and Initials

Serial No.	Description	P.O. of Origin	Date	Remarks
348a	Straight line Aurora	Aurora, Ont.	?	
348b	Straight line Norwood	Norwood, Ont.	?	
363a	Intaglio A in circle two side arms	?	?	
378a	Small A in thick circle	Amherst, N.S.	1880	
411a	Intaglio B in incomplete oval	Brockville, Ont.	1882	
416b	Intaglio B in circular grid of horizontal bars	Bolylston, N.S.	1896	
461a	Boxed D-four lines each side	?	?	
474b	E H with bar above and below	Eastern Harbour, N.S.	1896	
481F	Slanting intaglio F in circle	Fredericton, N.B.	1885	
514a	H in oval, side bar, each side	?	?	Blue
516a	Intaglio H in circle, bump on top	Hampton, N.B.	?	
527a	Double joined H	Hazel Hill, N.S.	1895	
553a	Intaglio K in rectangle, knob at top left	Kars, Ont.	1882	
567a	Small l in oval of dasher	Lakefield, Ont.	1888	
589a	Intaglio MID in circle	Montreal	1869	
612b	Plain board N	New Glasgow N.S.	1891	
644a	Intaglio O in oval with screws	?	?	Delete 424 impression
663b	Intaglio Pin in vertical barred grid	Penobsquis, N.B.	1902	
662a	Intaglio curved paid in fancy banner	Toronto	1868	Backstamp, also used as cancel
685a	Intaglio R with squiggly tail in circle	Rimouski, Que.	1881	
779a	Intaglio Y in circle	Yarmouth, N.S.	1886	

JRORA

348A

RWOOD

348B



363A



378A



411A



416B



461A



474B



481F



514A



516A



527A



553A



567A



589A



612B



644A



663B



662A



685A



779A

P.D.Q.

MERV QUARLES 17344 Mahoney Parkway, Hazel Crest, Illinois 60429

ROLLERS USED AS PRECANCELS

Mr. E. A. Smythies (BNAPS 1440) of Castle Morris, Tralee, Ireland wrote July 27 that no mention has been made here of Rollers used as precancels.

BNAPSer Smythies perhaps knows more about this subject than anyone else so I will rely heavily on his notes. Since the introduction of city type precancels in Canada when the following instructions were released:

Post Office Department, Canada

Ottawa, 16th September, 1904

Pre-Cancellation of Postage Stamps

"The use of pre-cancelled stamps (or stamps cancelled before actually used for payment of postage) is permitted in some of the larger cities under very stringent regulations and only when required for any one mailing in quantities of not less than 25,000 stamps, but postage stamps cancelled with the small roller canceller have been observed on letters and other matter passing in the mails, and Postmasters are accordingly instructed that **under no circumstances** are they permitted to pre-cancel postage stamps. The roller canceller is reserved for the cancellation of postage stamps on Second, Third and Fourth Class Matter and must only be used on stamps after being Actually Affixed to such matter.

R. M. Coulter

Deputy Postmaster General



Roller cancellers used to precancel stamps have been an illegal use. Nevertheless they exist.

Unofficial Roller Precancels

(Issued prior to Coulters letter Sept. 16, 1904)

- Brantford, Ont. RP No. 5
Backstamped 17 Dec. 1899
(repeated by Dr. Charles Hollingsworth)
RP No. 56
- London, Ont. RP No. 15
RP No. 56
- Montreal, Que. 1-RP No. 56
St. Denis St. Montreal No. 1 RP No. 56
1c numeral wrapper (in red) Repeated
by Mr. E. A. Smythies)
- Markdale, Ont. 1—RP No. 56
- Ottawa, Ont. RP No. 17
- Quebec, Que. 1 RP No. 56
- Toronto 1 RP No. 31
- Toronto, Ont. Spadina Ave., RP No. 56
- Victoria, B.C. RP No. 58
- Windsor, Ont. RP No. 56

A word of explanation about the symbols used. RP of course refers to roller precancel. The numbering system is that employed in the official catalog of Canada Precancels, edited by BNAPSer H. G. Walburn and published by Gilbert W. Noble.

Each stamp is given a fixed number which is the same throughout that catalog. See a full explanation on pages 4 through 8 of that publication.

- No. 5 is a 1c yellow Small Queen
- No. 15 is a ½c black Small Queen
- No. 17 is a 2c Small Queen
- No. 31 is a 1c Jubilee
- No. 56 is a 1c green Victoria Numeral issue
- No. 58 is a 3c carmine Victoria Numeral issue.

The above check-list was published in **Precancels** in April-May and June-July 1965 issues and was written by BNAPSER R. B. Hetherington in collaboration with Smythies.

RESERVE NOW — SEPTEMBER 15-18

BNAPEX '66

THE CALGARY INN, ALBERTA

THE "HALF-SECRET" ERROR OF CANADA

William Pekonen

RPSC: 7526

BNAPS: 2091

Most postage stamps issued by Canada since 1935 have a date in the design. These dates are reported as being the year during which the plate was engraved but not necessarily the year of issue. In some cases, the date is very obvious, while on others, the "secret-date" is difficult to find even with the aid of 10X power magnifying glass. For instance, the date is in various locations of the crest in the provincial flowers series, and can be difficult to locate. One of the most difficult to find is the location in the \$1.00 "Export" Stamp. Look as you will, but use a strong glass and "Good hunting!"

Another intriguing "secret-date" is in the Postage Dues. This first form of payment for postal service, was paid "C.O.D." by the recipient until postal authorities "smartened up" and requested payment in advance. At present, the Postage Due is a "receipt" for insufficiently prepaid postal service. The following list gives the "secret-dates" shown on various Postage Due stamps:

1c—1935; 2c—1935; 4c—1935; 5c—1948; 6c—1956; 10c—1935.

The secret-date is printed on the postage dues in a very abnormal manner. It is usual for the date to be as "1935" — but not on the Postage Dues! The design is made up of a central denominational shield. On either side of the value tablet are reversed scrolls. The numbers making up the "secret-date" are split-up so that they appear in these various spots:

- "1" Upper left curve of left-hand scroll
- "9" Lower part of left hand scroll at the intersection of lines level with top of "C" of cents upwards from tip of "A"
- "3" Upper right curve of right-hand curve
- "5" Lower part of right hand scroll — intersect of "s" and "o"

Similarly, with the year dates of 1948, and 1956.

In 1965, the post office has issued a 3c Postage Due — a real "faux-pas" this time! **Here is an error which cannot be ignored!** The "1" and "9" are shown in the normal position — but that is all! Only half of the "secret-date" is shown on the stamp — an unmistakable "half-secret"! Postal authorities have been silent up until the time of

this writing on this magnificent error. It is a matter of speculation as to what actions they will take.

The following partial list describes how to find the dates on some of the latest (since 1960) stamps of Canada.

- Girl Guides—obvious date
- Dollard des Ormeaux—obvious date (1660)
- Pauline Johnson—obvious date (1861)
- Arthur Meighen—lower right corner
- Northern Development—immediately below 5c
- Colombo Plan—on cliff-side immediately to the right of "Postes"
- Resources for to-morrow—lower right corner
- Education—directly beneath microscope
- Red River Settlement—obvious date
- Trans Canada Hwy.—on island of P.E.I. Shield
- Jean Talon—on hem of skirt
- Victoria, B.C. Centenary—obvious date
- Queen Elizabeth II—1c—no date
- Queen Elizabeth II—2c—no date
- Queen Elizabeth II—3c—no date
- Queen Elizabeth II—4c—no date
- Queen Elizabeth II—5c—no date
- Sir Casimir Gzowski—obvious date (Note "W" beside right chinwhisker)
- 4c Coil—no date
- \$1 Export—(Good hunting!)
- Martin Frobisher—in shading of ice-berg (lower right corner)
- Postal bi-centennial—just above "N" of Canada
- 15c Geese—just below the wing joint of the rearmost goose
- 7c Air-craft—just to the left of the administration building
- Peace on Earth—just below the lower right end of the "Terris" Scroll
- National Unity—"1964" in the extreme lower left corner
- Ontario Flower—just below the stem of the stylized maple-leaf in the shield
- Quebec Flower—just below the Maltese Cross in the crown
- 8c Overprint—same as 7c Air-craft

(Continued on page 314)

POSTAL SERVICE ALONG LAKE HURON'S NORTH SHORE IN THE EARLY DAYS

by Max Rosenthal

Included in the list of the original post offices opened in Upper Canada in 1789 was Michilimackinac, between Lakes Huron and Michigan, one of the border outposts which the British hung on to after the Revolution, although on the American side of the boundary. When Jay's Treaty of 1794 stipulated that the posts on the United States side had to be turned over by June 1796, no further delay was possible. It was difficult to find a station to compare with Michilimackinac, which effectively controlled the passageway to the Upper Lakes. With its going into American hands, there was to be no official post office on the Canadian side of Lake Huron for 50 years.

In the spring of 1796 British forces occupied St. Joseph's Island, at the entrance to the St. Mary's River, in haste, to provide a rendezvous in place of Michilimackinac for the Indian traders who would soon be returning with their furs from the wintering ground. Two years later the Indians had surrendered their ownership of the island, and soldiers were clearing the site and getting out timbers for fort buildings.

The Hudson's Bay Company had control of all the land drained by the rivers which flowed into Hudson Bay. They found, however, that independent traders were encroaching on their territory, and found it necessary to establish outpost. The independent traders grew in strength until in 1793 several of them found a rival organization called the Northwest Company. This company established a post at Sault Ste. Marie at the foot of the rapids on the Canadian shore. In 1797 it constructed a canal and a small lock on the Canadian side of the St. Mary's River large enough to handle canoes and bateaux.

By 1807 the Northwest Company had two stores and a dwelling at Fort St. Joseph a half mile east of the garrison, and another for companies were established there also. There were two expresses annually. One left St. Joseph Island in January for York (Toronto), and, returning, left York about February 1 for St. Joseph. Undoubtedly it carried mail as well as goods. In summer vessels plied continually between St. Joseph, Amherstburg, Makinac, and the Sault.

The establishment of important export duties for furs in 1808 by treaty with the

United States brought the fur trade back to Michilimackinac and caused the decline of St. Joseph. After the 1812-14 War the fort was also abandoned.

Until 1820 the settlements on both sides of the St. Mary's River at the Sault were British, but in that year the people on the south shore saw the raising of the stars and stripes. The town on the north shore began to expand and by 1823 it consisted of 30 to 40 houses grouped around a stone house built the year before by a free trader called Armitinger. In 1823 the Northwest Company was united to the Hudson's Bay Company. In 1828, after the British garrison at Drummond Island was removed to Penetanguishene, a few French and half-breed settlers returned to St. Joseph.

Major William Rains in 1834 conceived the idea of colonizing St. Joseph Island, and formed a company. In the spring of 1835 they loaded a vessel with sawmill machinery and merchandise for a store, and sailed for St. Joseph. They erected the sawmill at the upper end of the inlet which the Major called Milford Haven. The Drummond Island emigrants lived on its north side. Rains opened a store, but the project languished. He gave up the store, and a partner, Charles Thompson, engaged Samuel Peck to run it. The settlement was called Pecksville for a while.

Copper mining at nearby Bruce Mines on the mainland was attracting attention, and the company had thought the scheme to colonize St. Joseph, but lack of funds and a meagre market for lumber caused the project to be abandoned. In 1842 deposits of copper were discovered by a group of Montreal prospectors and capitalists at Bruce Mines. Mining began in earnest four or five years later. Thus Bruce Mines became the location of the first commercial copper mining in North America. 1861 to 1865 were its best years.

The nearest post office to the Canadian settlements was at Sault Ste. Marie, Michigan, and in winter the mail came a roundabout way, through Saginaw. During those months the mail was sent by a dog sleigh from the latter place once a month. Often, when travelling was heavy, mail for the outlying districts accumulated at the American Sault post office. In the Ontario Arch-

ives can be found a letter sent April 27, 1846 by surveyor Alexander Vidal, from Sault Ste. Marie to Commissioner of Crown Lands D. B. Papineau, Montreal, in which he wrote:

"I have the honor to report my arrival at this place in order to make the survey required by your letter of instructions of the 4th Decr. last, having come by the first vessel making the trip this spring. As I find that my communication with the office must be by the United States mail, it will be necessary to address letters to 'Sault Ste. Marie, Michigan, via Detroit' by which route I think I should receive them sooner than by any other." The first Canadian postmark on this letter is SANDWICH, U.C. Sandwich is now part of Windsor, right across from Detroit.

Later that same year of 1846 a Canadian mail route was established to Sault Ste. Marie, and post offices opened there, at St. Joseph's, La Cloche, and Manitowaning, on Manitoulin Island. Frank Campbell has pointed out, in the January-February 1948 issue of BNA Topics that Manitowaning was a head or "corresponding office" which controlled the bookkeeping of all the post offices north and west of it. La Cloche was trading post on the mainland entrance to Manitoulin Island originally founded by the Northwest Company in 1790. Its name originated in a "bell rock" which gives musical sound when struck.

H. Acton is mentioned as the first postmaster of St. Joseph's, apparently the same man who was postmaster of Bruce Mines when it got a post office in 1848. After that no postmaster is listed for the island post office, so he apparently looked after both. After 1871 no post office is listed for St. Joseph for a few years. However, St. Joseph was opened for settlement in 1877. The year before John Richards had built a house on the point near the head of the island. Largely due to his efforts St. Joseph Island post office was opened. Next year, his new combination store and dwelling completed, he kept the post office in the store. In 1891 the post office name was changed to Richards Landing.

Many of the earlier post offices were at Hudson's Bay Company posts. Thomas Wilson kept the first post office at Sault Ste. Marie in the one located there. Another Wilson called Joseph, had arrived in 1843 to take the position of customs agent. 1848 saw the post office renamed from the Hudson's Bay Company post to the town, where it was run by Joseph Wilson, in Armitinger's

stone house. In 1852 the settlement was augmented by David Pin, who could rightly claim to be the first English-speaking settler, for those who preceded him were either government officials or Hudson's Bay employees. Pin was to become the next postmaster of Sault Ste. Marie, later followed by his wife in that position.

Beginning in 1854 the Canadian Post Office Department employed Indians during the winter to carry the mail from Penetanguishene (around the shore of Lake Huron) to Sault Ste. Marie. Each carrier was required to transport 180 pounds of mail on his sled, besides his food, cooking utensils, and blankets. The sleds were hauled by hand, no dogs being used. Killarney post office was opened that year, on the north shore of Lake Huron, east of Manitoulin Island, as part of this route.

At one time the people of the Sault thought to expedite matters by having their letters and papers sent by way of Detroit. According to Edward H. Capp, in his book "The Story Of Baw-a-ting", before this experiment, one could write in a diary 'mail three months late', or, couriers arrived without mail from Penetang, no mail for Christmas. "For a short while after this change all went well, then the mail ceased altogether. After some weeks had elapsed a search party was formed which, after a hunt, found the mail bags 20 in number suspended from tree limbs near Detour. The American mail carriers had become tired and left their burden in the wilderness. After that the town reverted to the old way of carrying the mail on the ground that it is better to get letters late than not to get them at all.

From 1862 to 1870 winter mails left the Sault for Penetanguishene twice monthly, from December to April inclusive, and arrived from there irregularly. Mail from the American side was carried across the St. Mary's River on the ice. Summer mails were carried by steamers. After 1855 the nearest train connection was with the Canadian Northern Railway at Collingwood, then the point of embarkation by boat for Little Current, on Manitoulin Island. Until that year, when a canal and locks were built on the American Side of the St. Mary's River, at Sault Ste. Marie, Mich., no vessels larger than a birch bark canoe could navigate the Sault Rapids.

When Reverend Capp wrote his history in 1904 there was still one of the courriers of old living in Sault St. Marie, Louis Miron. He liked to tell of the adventures

which befell him on the line of travel.

"De storee of de time when Sayers and me were de mail couriers? Why dat's noting, I tell you all I remember.

"We used to carry mail to Killarney in dos days and it was cold. Der wore tree mail each month den. We git here on the first and 11th and the 21st of each month and we haf hard work to do it sometam.

"I think 40 degrees below zero was de reg'lar ting den. We went by Missisagua to La Cloche den cross de lac to Manitowaning den back to the mainlan' at Killarney.

"How we make it? Dog and snowshoe — two hunder mile, yes, by gar we wear oud de racquet each trip but was carry 'nodder pair to bring us home.

"In de winted we pack de mail bag on a dog sleigh and follow de rivere down when we could and so metam we haf to take to de wood and den it was hard. De dogs pull fast and de snow she clog de snowshoe ver' much, and when night come and de stars shine out we was pretty glad to strike some Indian party camp on de shore and haf our supper wid dem. All 'long de shore was

Indian, de wigwam could be seen purty near any place. We eat and sleep with dem and in de morning go long again.

"How far we go? O'bout 35, 40 mile. Sometime a man would for 60 miles in a day. Yes, you no think was but we used to do dat. We not think much of long tramps dos days.

"I start in 1856 and make five trip dat winter. I tol you we go three time each month. Dat was when de travel was good.

"Sometam it take eight day from Missisagua to La Cloche.

"Well we reach Killarney an der we meet de coureur from Penetanguishene. Sometam dey not come, den we leave the mail and come back without a load. Sometam we try to get to Penetang before the other coureur arrive, so dat we come back widout any mail, that mean without any load."

In 1858 the Territory of Algoma was organized, with headquarters at Sault Ste. Marie. The Algoma District at that time stretched from French River to James Bay and to an undefined boundary in the west, for Manitoba did not exist then.

(Continued from page 307)

to list tagged stamps and seek publication of special pages for the mounting of such material, or shall we ignore the existence of tagged stamps, except for those of us who see fit to develop it along specialized lines. After all, much specialized collecting ignores catalog listings and printed album pages. Along this vein, I am happy to announce that the recently published third edition of the Canada Basic Catalogue by K. Bileski has a very erudite chapter on Canada's tagged stamps with all varieties

listed and priced, including some varieties never before publicized. In addition, Mr. Bileski's new sixth edition of the Canada Plate Block Catalogue lists and prices all tagged blocks. I recommend these books to all collectors interested in ultra-violet philately.

Another country is stepping into the automatic mail sorting experiment with Australia announcing that "helecon" is to be introduced both in the ink and as an overprint in the production of certain stamps and postal stationery of that country.

(Continued from page 311)

Quebec Conference—1964 on cuff on coat sleeve

Royal Visit—lower right corner

8c Air-craft—same as 7c air-craft

3c Christmas—obvious date

5c Christmas—obvious date

N.B. Flower—"1965" in lower tip of shield

N.S. Flower—under the leaves above "n" in Canada

International Co-operation Year — obvious date

Manitoba Flower — Near bottom of shield beneath front legs of buffalo

B.C. Flower—just above "V" in the crown

Sir Wilfred Grenfell—at lower left bottom

National Flag—lower end of flag staff

P.E.I. Flower—in the grass of island

Sir Winston Churchill—no date

Inter-Parliamentary Union—obvious date
Ottawa—obvious date.

P.S. If you cannot find the date on the \$1.00 stamp (or on others), send me a list of the tough ones—for a description of how to find the secret-date. Correspondence will be welcomed at P.O. Box 246, Cloverdale, B.C.

Canadian Revenue Study Group News

ED. RICHARDSON, BNAPS 168, CRSG 1, 303 Pine Oak Dr., La Marque, Texas

AT BNAPEX '65

A fine turnout of some 25 members was present for the Revenue Study Group meeting, which was the largest and one of the most interesting group meetings held during BNAPEX at Cape Cod.

Bill Rockett, CRSG 4 and chairman of the group reported that a new issue of Quebec Law Registration stamps appeared in 1965, and showed copies to the group. It is hoped to have pictures and a listing of denominations for both these issues in the next column.

Jim Lehr, CRSG 63, has started to compile a listing of what Perf. varieties really exist among the Federal Bill Issues. Letter paper, and watermarks will also be tabulated. Along with the Bill Issues, Jim is also working on the overprinted Quebec Laws, especially the Bankruptcy group. Expect that we'll be hearing more from Jim on this in the near future. Am sure that he'd like to hear from anyone that can report having some of the scarcer items.

Ed Richardson, CRSG 1, reported and showed some double overprint varieties among the Manitoba Law stamps. These

occur among the C.F. overprints on the 1st Issue and exist on the 10c, 20c, 50c and \$1.00 values. It may be that other issues with L.S. or J.F. overprints may exist doubled.

During the business session Ed Richardson announced that the Specialized Catalogue of BNA Revenues to be published by the Study Group, should make its appearance in '66. This will feature perf. varieties, etc. not separated in Jim Sisson's fine listing.

We now have about 115 members and this represents more than 10% of all BNAPS. Anyone interested in joining the Study Group should contact the Chairman, W. C. Rockett, 2030 Overlook Ave., Willow Grove, Pa. Dues are a nominal \$1.00 for two years and you'll sure get your money's worth.

Last but not least, three revenue exhibits were shown and all won medals with the wonderful showing of Newfoundland by Colin MacR Makepeace, CRSG 5, winning a GOLD.

Your editor would appreciate hearing from anyone with new discoveries in the revenue field for inclusion in this column.

CANADA

THE 2c 1963 OVERPRINT ERRORS

by K. Bileski

During the overprinting of these stamps there was a mishap which produced not one but two distinct major errors, both the first of their type in Canadian philatelic history.

Somehow the sheet of 600 stamps was advanced too far in relation to the G plate doing the overprinting: As a result the top row of 20 stamps failed to get the G overprint. This happened to the 2 top panes of the 6 100 units. The next two panes directly

underneath got the G overprint widely spaced along their 2 top rows. The final bottom 2 panes ended up with their top row again missing the G.

A single sheet of 600 stamps printed in this fashion produced a total of 40 pairs each of which had one stamp with and one without G. In addition there are 20 pairs showing wide spacing between Gs. The wide spacing pairs are therefore twice as rare as the missing G pairs.

All the remainder of the 600 stamps have the G overprint badly misplaced in relation to normal position.

This error was not detected by the stamp inspectors and the stamps went into postal use as well as to the Philatelic Agency. There is every reason to believe that the errors in printing occurred to 2 sheets. If all can be located, which is impossible, there would then exist 80 pairs of the missing G and 40 pairs of the wide spaced G.

The Philatelic Agency broke up its stock mostly into blocks of 4 and distributed the stamps to its subscribers without noticing the errors. All 2c G have long since been sold out and any supplies in government offices have been destroyed. We were first alerted to the errors when a block of each variety was found early in 1964 in our usual large purchase of the stamp. Shortly afterward a dealer in Toronto, Mr. William Jackson of the Canada Stamp Co., found one of each in his stock and got in touch with us. Much later a collector, Mr. Henry Esau, of Fort William, Ont., found a block of the missing G.

Collectors and dealers should check their stocks of the 1963 2c G value for the above errors. They are quite valuable. If any are found please advise the writer, K. Bileski, Station B, Winnipeg, Canada.



THE CAPE COD SHOW

By A. W. McIntyre, Publicity Director

A series of six study group forum, an excellent philatelic exhibition and bourse were highlights of BNAPEX '65 and 17th annual convention of the British North American Philatelic Society. It was staged in Chatham Bars Inn on Cape Cod, 117 miles south of Boston, where the choicest of New England cuisine, plus a clam and lobster bake on the ocean beach added to the attraction. There was a program for the ladies.

There were a round of receptions and parties; a dance followed the closing banquet. A sporty golf course and fine weather for the most part, added to the fun.

Society president, Clarence A. Westhaver and his committee did a wonderful job in soliciting fine material for the Court of

Honor and competition among the members. Assisting were Lester Littlefield, William Russell, and Alfred Thomas.

The registration of 157 included most of the veteran conventionists and seven of the ten past presidents, Bert Llewellyn, Harry Lussey, Clare Jephcott, Vinnie Greene, Walter Chadbourne, Charles deVolpi and Ed Richardson. The veteran secretary, Jack Levine, and treasurer Jim Culhane along with vice-president Bob Woolley, who was proceeding overseas to the convention of the Canadian Philatelic Society of Great Britain, were there. The oldtimers W. C. Peterman and Alfred Kessler again attended. Missing was Al Cook who was attending the funeral of a nephew.

Absent through illness was Dr. G. M.

Geldert of Ottawa, president of the Royal Philatelic Society of Canada, to whom a cheering message was sent.

ANNUAL MEETING

Fifty members attended the annual meeting and heard reports of a successful year, and gains ahead, from the top executive. A net gain of four members, first increase in some years, overcame the attrition of 45 through death and other causes. Enrolment of 83 compared with 49, and there are prospects of more gains. Jim Sissons, who enrolled 11, won the membership trophy. Cost of publishing the usual 10 journals will advance \$50 in January to \$435 for each issue of BNA Topics.

Resignation of the librarian, Dr. E. C. Black, due to ill health, was reported.

Group coordinator Ed Richardson reported encouraging growth since the foundations were laid at Williamsburg. "I think these are the strength of this society," he declared.

Topics editor John Young was unable to attend. His report was read and expressed thanks to the columnists. He appealed to the members for articles. In the future, it is planned to issue it on the 10th, and mail on the 15th as it needs a full month after closing date.

The publicity director asked members to clip and mail stories published about the society in their home areas in order to provide a check on use made of releases.

For the handbook committee, Bob Woolley reported sales of \$1,530. Out of 1,000 copies of the booklet on Fancy Cancells only 133 were left. Sales to dealers were important as without their help it would not be economical to publish some of them. The ad in Topics listed all the different books available, he said.

Ed Richardson, publications chairman, said that some new handbooks were in the planning. Sales circuit manager, James C. Lehr made an appeal for books as there is need for lots to keep them moving in and out. He said the circuit contains very few booklets and revenue stamps, no proofs nor airmail stamps at present.

John Siverts reported on the balloting for three board members, a vote by 32 percent and a total of 232 gold ballots sent by mail. Board chairman, G. B. Llewellyn, was returned, also Charles deVolpe, while Al. P. Cook replaced Dr. J. J. Matejka whose term expired.

Dr. K. M. Day reported about a new edition of Fancy Cancells, seeking new material Geometric cancells were too numerous to illustrate, however 14 new plates were likely.

Sam and Rosemary Nickle reminded members that BNAPEX '66 will be held Sept. 15, 16 and 17 in the Calgary Inn, with exhibition and meeting space on one floor. A western beef barbecue is planned. Both were active in signing up visitors and many of the Cape Cod delegates were wearing Calgary neckbands. A telegram from Calgary host Bob Traquair said all should corral reservations.

The 1967 meetings will be held at Alpine Inn, Ste. Marguerite, Que., near EXPO '67. Bid for 1968 by Ed Richardson of Texas was accepted, and a choice made of San Antonio over a ranch out in the hills. Mr. Westhaver suggested Cape Cod for 1969.

W. G. Moffatt, urged the society to conduct a membership drive, including use of a special edition in Linn's Weekly. The president nominated him to head it up.

On motion of Dr. J. J. Balassa the status of the 1924 part-perforate Admiral issue was referred for study by the Admirals Group. He said some classify them as coils — which they are not — and corrective measures were long overdue.

President Westhaver presided over the banquet which was a particularly happy 'family occasion' for the membership, with impromptu dances amid tables inspired by the lively orchestra music.

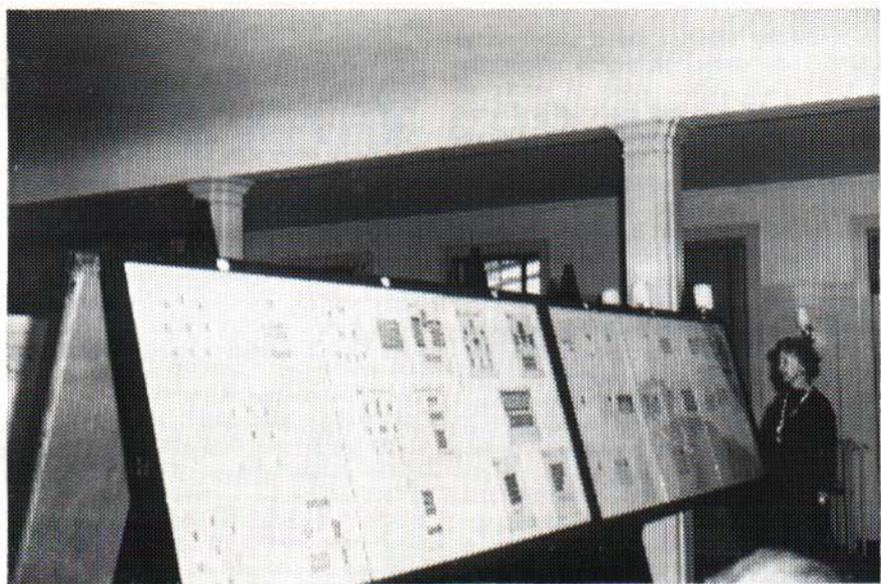
Special recognition was accorded the group who provided the outstanding prize winning displays in the Court of Honor. A head table guest was member Mrs. Roslyn C. Meyerson, widow of the much missed Dan Meyerson who died suddenly on the eve of the 1964 convention. Mr. Meyerson had been most active in the society and had served faithfully as chairman of the board of governors.

Repercussions of a previous convention stunt were seen when a 'bowl' was presented to the society's Fellow, Fred Jarrett. It proved to be a bowl of Boston baked beans. Author of the highly regarded B.N.A. Catalogue, 1929, Mr. Jarrett, now retired, is a familiar figure at all conventions.

The chairman noted that of the ten past presidents, only two were absent. One, Bury Binks, was deceased. Announcement of awards were made by Ed Richardson.



The Bourse in the Exhibition Hall



The competitive Exhibit

Excellent Show

One of the pleasing phases of BNAPEX is the manner in which its active membership comes up year after year with fresh exhibits of high quality that reveals an intense study and collecting activity. The jury, Ed Richardson, chairman, Leslie A. Davenport and V. G. Greene, reported that there was not a poor exhibit in the competition.

An antique on display was a country postmaster's letter cabinet for sorting and storing incoming mail, about three feet high, 30 inches wide and 12 deep, with door, used at Clones, N.B., 1877 shown by Bill Russell.

Twenty-four frames were allotted the Court of Honor at front of the hall. The Gerald Firth display consisted of large queens; Dr. J. J. Matejka, Newfoundland; V. G. Greene, foreign cover rates into Canada; and C. A. Westhaver, 1897 jubilee issue of Canada.

Grand Award (silver tray with gold medal attached) and the Meyerson Memorial trophy for best Newfoundland, was won by gold medal winning Newfoundland proofs (1937-41) entered by Robert H. Pratt of Milwaukee.

Novice award went to Roger W. Lamson, Stoneham, Mass., for a Newfoundland cover study showing postal rates, 1865-90.

Four other gold medal awards: Dr. R. V. C. Carr, Youngstown, Ohio, Newfoundland airmails; Colin M. Makepeace, Providence, R.I., eight frames Newfoundland revenues; Harry W. Lussey, New Milford, N.J. Canada Large Queens; and Thomas F. Morris, Larchmont, N.Y. early Canada proofs.

Five silver medals were awarded: Lester Littlefield, Melrose, Mass., fancy cancels on 3-cent small queens. Walter W. Chadbourne, Wilmington, Del., 15-cent large queens. A. Graham Fairbanks, Westmount, P. Q. Canada 5-cent beaver specialized; Sam C. Nickle, Calgary, early Canadian penny issues. Dr. Frank C. Morgan, Hanover, N.H., Canada imperforate pairs.

Eight bronze medals awarded: Extensive and detailed 5-frame display of the 1898 map stamp with dated copies through 1899 won felicitations of the jury for Chris. A. Moore, Toronto. James T. Culhane, Norristown, Pa., 19th century decimal issues of Newfoundland moderately specialized. Wilmer C. Rockett, Willow Grove, Pa., Cana-

dian revenues. Leo J. LaFrance, Ossining, N.Y., inspection stamps of Canada. William Russell, Melrose, Mass., general Canada and Quebec. Rosemary Nickle, Calgary, Quebec Tercentenary. Roger Allison, Plainfield, N.J., covers showing cross-border rate markings. Small queens paying registration on cover, not only won a bronze for Dr. R. A. Chaplin, Toronto, but also the Dr. Goodwin trophy.

The 19 competitive exhibits required 96 frames. Here are the seven dealers who held bourse tables: W. G. Bogg, New England Stamp Co.; L. A. Davenport, Toronto; W. A. Fox, Short Hills, N.J.; Robert Lyman, Marblehead, Mass.; Donald P. Mower, Waterbury, Conn.; W. T. Pollitz, Boston; George Wegg, Toronto.

Study Groups

Revenues as usual claimed the attendance record with 25 percent under Wilmer Rockett who was re-elected chairman-treasurer. Ed Richardson was re-elected secretary-editor, and Leo LaFrance named new editor of the Revenue Column in TOPICS. Illustrated talks were given: Jim Lehr, perforation varieties in federal bill stamps; Bill Rockett, new Quebec law and registration-fee issues; Ed Richardson, Alberta's hunting stamps of 1964 and 1965, some double overprints in Manitoba. There was a discussion of the new Revenue Handbook to be issued by this group.

Small queens and cancels group had 15 present. It was chaired by Dr. K. M. Day who led a lively discussion on some newly discovered cancels which will be listed in an addendum to the Day-Smythies Handbook.

Airmail group also had 10 present under chairmanship of Ernest F. Smith. Each person received from Ed Richardson an airmail maxim card showing the Silver Dart with FDC cancel at Baddeck, N.S. Long range plans were discussed for editing a Canadian Semi-official Airmail handbook. Patriotics: Clarence Westhaver chaired this group of 10 which saw his presentation of some card series of 1904-1910 and Anglo-Boer War cards and covers by Ed Richardson.

Essay, Proofs & Specimens group, chaired by Tom Morris, had eight present for its organization meeting.

No meetings were convened by Admirals, postal stationery, Flag cancels, and the Official & Perfins groups.

SUPPORT "TOPICS" WITH ARTICLES



A Study Group Gathering

(Continued from page 299)

most copies showed only 4 with 5 out of 38 dated in or after June 1900. Flag D showed a similar proportion. In flags A, E, and F, the proportions were reversed. O was

scarce in that period. On flag B 5 was all but universal.

Was 5 used exclusively by one or more clerks? But this does not explain B.

Yours truly

J. J. Bonar

Effective January 1, 1964

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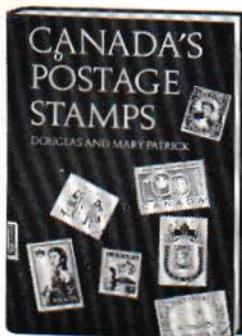
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