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BNAPS

For officers and member services see 'Information For Members'.
Regional Groups and Study Groups are listed in their respective columns.

BNA TOPICS

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THE EDITOR'S PAGE

by Mike Street

THE SPECTATOR, TUESDAY, DECEMBER 8, 1987 A5

Better late than never, post office finds mail stash

BRAMPTON — About 400,000 pieces of undelivered mail — some of it postmarked during the October postal strike — has been delivered after it was found lying in a trailer last month, a Canada Post spokesman said.

The trailer, owned by a Toronto trucking contractor used regularly by Canada Post, was found Nov. 24

in another contractor's yard in the city, said Ed Roworth.

The word "scabs" was spray-painted inside the trailer, Mr. Roworth said.

"We have no doubt (the mail) was deliberately diverted," he said, adding an internal investigation is being launched.

The Crown corporation set up a special operation last week to deliver the lost mail.

The letters were accompanied by a note from Canada Post, explaining the mail was delayed during the strike period. "The circumstances surrounding the mishap are suspicious at best," the note said.

From Canadian Press

The 1987 Canada Post 'inside workers' strike was ended by government legislation last October 17. At the Golden Horseshoe Regional Group meeting on that day, I asked those present if they had received their September-October *TOPICS*, which had been mailed 9 days earlier.

Members from the Hamilton and Western Ontario areas indicated that their copies had arrived; a couple of people from the Oakville-Toronto region said that theirs had not. Given the end-of-strike situation, this was not cause for concern. Notes from Ralph Trimble in Scarborough and Ritch Toop in Ottawa in the following week indicated that their *TOPICS* had arrived. All was well with the world.

A month later, at the Hamilton Philatelic Society show on November 14, Allan Steinhart, Dave Clare, Dick Hedley and Hank Narbonne all told me that their September-October issues had not arrived! A few phone calls to officers on both sides of the border confirmed the worst — *TOPICS* had not been delivered outside of certain parts of Ontario.

By noon the next day, Sunday the 15th, a special delivery letter to the Hamilton area Postmaster was sitting on the counter of the local sub-post office in an Ancaster pharmacy. On Thursday the 26th, having had no reply, I got on the phone to Canada Post. After eight busy signals on the only Customer Service number, I finally got through. No one there had heard of our problem. I related the story, and was told that someone would call back. Several hours later, a message indicated that they were still looking into the matter.

On Tuesday, December 1, I phoned again to find out what was happening. The only news was that they had found my letter! Then, at 10 o'clock that same evening, the phone rang. I was told that the missing *TOPICS* were part of

a trailer load of mail which had been 'diverted' at the end of the strike and only found the previous week. Another call on December 3 confirmed that all the 'diverted' mail had been processed in Toronto and was now in the mail stream.

Slowly, messages indicated that the copies which had gone astray were being received.. Why George Arken in Florida got his issue 5 days before Allan Steinhart in Toronto or 10 days before Bob Lee in Vernon, I don't know. How the missing copies got into the trailer when 200-300 had been processed and delivered, while the postal workers were still locked out, has not been explained.

Despite my criticisms of Canada Post, I have been a supporter of the service and its people. Mitzi Cicci, Walt Berry and John Gagné of the Hamilton Post Office could not have been more helpful, once they were apprised of the situation. (The late evening call at home to tell me *TOPICS* had been located was definitely 'above and beyond'.) Canada Post has many good people — but time, and public patience, is running out. This incident, coupled with the latest rate increase without improved service and the news that starting in January 1988 Canadians who use stamps to mail parcels will have to pay more than people using meters, has severely shaken what little faith I had left.

As a philatelist I am saddened by the decline of a once-proud organization. As a customer, I am angered by the failure to correct the problems. As a taxpayer subsidizing Canada Post, I am livid over government's failure to sort out a mess it has had a large hand in creating. Whether or not those in senior management, and their political masters, have the will and/or ability to right the situation is the \$64,000 question. At this point, I wouldn't bet even a Loonie on it.



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THE PRESIDENT'S CORNER

by E.A. Harris



At the Annual meeting held in Charlotte-town, P.E.I. on September 19 last, I made a short summary report of some of the more important items discussed, and decisions made at both the open and closed Board meetings held two days before. I was surprised to have two members approach me separately after the meeting and remark that a similar report should be printed in *TOPICS*. They insisted that although these same items were reported in the minutes and printed in *TOPICS*, some embellishment should be offered to the members. Here then, not necessarily in their order of importance, are my comments:

— BNAPS dues have been fixed for 1988 at \$20.00 Canadian or \$15.00 US. A slight increase, the first in several years, is included; part of the reason for the change is to simplify foreign exchange problems for the Treasurer. Any member can pay his dues in either currency just so long as the Treasurer gets \$20.00 net Canadian funds, or \$15.00 net U.S. funds. Your choice.

— Two new committee heads have been appointed, effective 1 January 1988: Jon Johnson of Calgary takes over from John Burnett as Study Group Coordinator (see my column in the September-October *TOPICS*), and Nick Sheklian of Visalia, California succeeds Norman Brassler as Admissions Committee Chairman. Nick is an inveterate convention goer, and knows his way around paper work. We appreciate his taking on this important assignment. Norman has acted as Admissions Chairman for many years and we want to recognize his fine contribution in this very

important post.

— A \$25.00 (U.S.) stipend has been made available for each Study Group requesting assistance with the distribution of free newsletters. This has been a long time coming and I am sure Study Group fans will be glad to hear of it. Write your Study Group Co-ordinator for details.

— One subject which resulted in an enthusiastic debate at the Annual meeting was the publishing of a membership list. The usual advantages of easy reference, trading, correspondence, etc. were trotted out just as were the objections of cost, privacy, theft, etc. An overwhelming majority of members present at the meeting favored publication and the Board was directed to look into the feasibility of publishing the list. If you were not at the Annual meeting and have strong feelings on the subject, please write to me.

Years ago BNAPS had a successful network of regional directors or representatives, whose tasks included promotion of the Society in their region, local contact with members, and local investigation into resignations, delinquent dues, changes of address of members, and member complaints. Why these positions were dropped we cannot recall, but an attempt will be made to reinstate this network. I would like to hear from members interested in filling one of these positions.

By the time you read this you will be well over your New Year's celebrations, but I wish all BNAPSers the very best in 1988.

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LETTERS

STAYING IN BNAPS

The number of people who resign from philatelic societies after only one year of membership is absolutely amazing. The two main reasons given for such resignations are, "I don't understand most of what is written," or, "There's really nothing there for me."

Belonging to a society such as BNAPS is supposed to be a way of broadening one's knowledge. There are many study groups dealing with just about all facets of Canadian philately. While it's not expected that you belong to all the study groups, it is in your best interests to involve yourself in any where you think you may want to specialize.

It's true that many of you may be novices and don't quite understand all that is written. Maybe you're afraid of making fools of yourselves by asking seemingly dumb questions. Don't be. If you don't understand, it only costs a few cents to write and find out. Your seemingly unimportant question will be answered with pleasure by someone in the study group. I should know — Bill Robinson of the RPO group has answered enough of my seemingly foolish questions (some of which only seemed foolish *after* I had received the answer).

Although I provide a lot of answers for a lot of people myself, I still ask a lot of questions. The fact that I write a regular philatelic column dictates that I must have a minimum amount of knowledge about a wide range of topics. Very seldom do I receive mail concerning the subjects that I write about. Most of the mail is of the "Enjoy the articles, keep up the good work" variety. However, anywhere I go I usually meet someone who makes a verbal comment like, "I enjoy reading your articles, but I didn't quite understand the one four weeks ago." The obvious question is "Why didn't you write?" No answer.

Participation is the key. Write and ask. Your questions will sometimes lead to research. There's no better way of gaining knowledge than by researching, so your one question will sometimes benefit twofold, the person you have asked the question of and yourself.

If you were thinking of resigning your membership from BNAPS at the end of your term, think again. Think of what you could be missing. Think of the input or the contribution you could be making in a short time. Do you want to know

what a RPO is, or a Squared Circle or a Barrel cancel? Maybe you would like to know about the Admirals or the Caricatures and Landscape series. Then write to the appropriate study group, their addresses are printed in every issue of *TOPICS*. You'll find that a lot of people are willing to share their knowledge and help you learn. Remember, we were all novices once.

Peter McCarthy
Richmond, Quebec

IMPERFORATE 5 CENT BEAVER?

Does anyone have a stamp that would fit or match above or below the 5 Cent Beaver stamp illustrated? Because of the way the stamp appears to have been separated, and the presence of the lower frame line from the stamp above, it appears that this stamp was imperforate horizontally. Any help will be welcome. Please contact me at 69 Harvey St., Perth, ON K7H 1X1.

A.J. Quattrochi
Perth, ON



CANADIAN DUPLEX CATALOGUE

Thank you very much for the review of the *Catalogue of Canadian Duplex Cancellations* in the November-December *TOPICS*.

This catalogue would not have been complete without the help of the members of the BNAPS Duplex Cancellation Study Group. I am writing to ask for more help from all BNAPS members, as I intend to produce annual update supplements to the catalogue. Any and all new infor-

mation will be both welcome and appreciated.
Thank you.

Robert A. Lee
Vernon, B.C.

(Bob's address can be found in his advertisement in each issue of TOPICS - Ed.)

SEMI-OFFICIAL AIRMAIL GROUP ACTIVE AGAIN

The BNAPS Semi-Official Air Mail Study Group is being re-activated.

I have been asked to head the group, and look forward to hearing from others interested in this speciality. A newsletter will be issued every couple of months.

While it is evident from the 1985 Report that much has been done, there is still more to do in this area. Anyone interested in joining (dues will be \$5.00US) is asked to contact the undersigned. Thank you.

Robert W. Marcello
P.O. Box 961
Boston, MA
USA 02103

BNAPEX '87 - I

At the end of BNAPEX '87, I find that my feelings are mixed. The study group sessions provided expanded knowledge in many areas of interest. Social conversation spanned everything from research approaches to society politics. I am surprised to find that even having spoken with a great many people I had not met before, there were still people that I did not have time to see.

Interest in my own area, the 1972-78 Definitions and Landscapes, was next to nil, and the bourse dealers had nothing to offer, so little benefit was gained there. It seems that BNAPS can truly be appreciated as BNA — progression after 1900 has inverse acceptance. This scares me. Today's issues are tomorrow's classics, but they are being bypassed, except perhaps by those who appreciate the convenience of collecting a current period or who have limited financial resources. I hope that collectors of the future do not have to share similar frustrations with current issues. Stamps which are classics now may be archaeological projects when my interests have become classics.

The people provided the positives. The negatives provide food for thought and a project to which to apply energy and ideas.

Dan Moore
Aylesford, NS

BNAPEX '87 — II

Those who could not attend our convention at Charlottetown missed a lovely show, with congenial people and lots to do. My main reason for writing is to thank Jim Lehr, who did practically a one-man job of running the show, all who pitched in on setting up and breaking down the exhibition, and two 'crazy' truck drivers whose story is almost unbelievable!

Most important, as Exhibition Chairman I was blessed with some 30 members who so kindly cooperated in exhibiting, giving us a super exhibition. Thanks to all of you.

Virginia Beach will have a hard time topping it.

Dr. Robert V.C. Carr, OTB
Youngstown, Ohio

BNAPEX '87 — III

Now that BNAPEX '87 is over, I would like to make a few comments and observations regarding this event. First of all, let me say that the quality of the exhibits was excellent and varied enough to suit any and all collecting tastes. Second, the Study Groups, at least from what I saw and heard, were also excellent and very well attended. Indeed, I attended the Newfoundland Study Group on Thursday afternoon; the room was full and we had an excellent presentation by John Walsh.

Third, and I submit this as my opinion only, but one which I think is valid, concerns the Convention as a whole. To the best of my knowledge, and I did look for it, there was not one bit of advertising here in PEI regarding the Convention. No publicity at all — TV, newspapers or otherwise. In fact, I venture to say very few Islanders knew the Convention was here!

I overheard some members saying that "there aren't any collectors on the Island anyway". I beg to differ with this and advise that there are scores of collectors here who would have been delighted to attend, at least on the days 'open to the public'. I have lived in PEI for just over three years now, and have been actively involved with promoting philately. With the co-operation of Canada Post I visit local schools, conducting information sessions on the benefits and fun available in stamp collection. Surely, if we are to promote this hobby, the very least we could do is to advertise such an important event as this, especially since it does not happen very often in this part of the world. In fact, all four

(Continued on page 33)

NOTICE TO MEMBERS

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

The 1988 Annual General Meeting
of the
British North America Philatelic Society
will be held on
Saturday, 21 September 1988
at approximately 0900 hours at the
Virginia Beach Resort Hotel
Virginia Beach, Virginia

ELECTION OF OFFICERS AND DIRECTORS

of the
British North America Philatelic Society
1988

Members of the Society are hereby informed that an election will be held in June of this year for all positions on the Executive and for five (5) positions on the Board of Directors of the Society.

NOMINATIONS — Any Regional Group or any five (5) members in good standing may nominate any other member(s) in good standing for any available position. (President, 1st Vice-President, 2nd Vice-President, Secretary, Treasurer, Director). Nominations by members-at-large, accompanied by written acceptance of the nominee(s), must be mailed to the SECRETARY at the address below.

NOMINATIONS CLOSE 15 APRIL 1988

(NOTE: Nominees who agree to stand must forward a short biography, brief statement of their reasons for standing, and a recent photograph to the Editor of *BNA TOPICS*, for inclusion in an election information brochure, NO LATER THAN 1 May 1988.)

Dated: 4 January 1988

Earle L. Covert, M.D.
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by Norman Boyd, FRPSL, FRPSC

PART III

PLATE NUMBER 6 (SPECIMEN) – 1860 – WITHOUT SERIFS

- LEFT VERTICAL (reading upwards) or
- HORIZONTAL (at top of stamps)
- MEASUREMENTS vary with varieties
- 5 x 10 – VERTICAL FORMAT
- This is Gates' Style 'B'

Variety A – THIN LETTERS – WITH PERIOD

- MEASUREMENTS 20 x 3 mm

Variety B – MEDIUM THICK LETTERS – NO PERIOD

- Wide 'N'
- MEASUREMENTS 21.5 x 3 mm

Variety C – THICK LETTERS – WITH PERIOD

- MEASUREMENTS 21.5 x 3 mm

Plate Number 6 was used in both vertical and horizontal formats. An example of the vertical format is the 17 cent New Brunswick. Boggs says that the four left (or top) columns of this plate were the 'thin' non-serifed SPECIMEN (Variety A), and that the five rows on the right are the 'thick' non-serifed SPECIMEN (Variety C). In between, in the fifth row, is Variety B, the 'thick' non-serifed SPECIMEN with no period. *Canada Specialized* agrees, except in stating that the sixth row is thin, i.e. Variety A. The Essay Proof Society Catalogue hedges, stating only that Variety B is in the fifth row.

The block of the 12½ cent New Brunswick (horizontal format) illustrated has Variety B above Variety A, which verifies the *Canada Specialized* statement that the sixth row (or column) is Variety A. A strip of three, with Varieties B, A & C in line, i.e. in columns 5, 6 and 7 respectively, in Sissons' April 1987 sale reconfirms this. This makes the 'thin' variety somewhat more common than the 'thick'.

The type used for the letters in Plate Number 6 Variety B is somewhat thicker than that used for Variety A. I think it is much thicker and could be confused with Variety C. To distinguish between Variety B and Variety C, check first to see if SPECIMEN has a period. The absence of a period, and the presence of a wide 'N', makes Variety B easily identifiable. Variety C is noticeably

thicker than Variety A; since both have the period, identification is simple.

Plate Number 6 presents some interesting problems. It was only used on the 12½ cent Canada and the New Brunswick Decimal Issue. Boggs and the E.P.S.C. describe the three varieties, but *Canada Specialized* describes them most accurately. Argenti, Whitworth and Robson Lowe provide no assistance.

Everyone seems to assume that this plate was set up for a 10 x 10 format — because there was no reason for it not to be so. It could be said, for that matter, that there was no reason for the plate to be made at all. Plate Number 3 and Plate Number 4, both 10 x 10, were still operational. I propose that Plate Number 6 was not 10 x 10, but 5 x 10, with each sheet of proofs being imprinted twice.

There is evidence to support this proposal. In multiples of this New Brunswick issue, there is a not infrequent misalignment of the words SPECIMEN on adjacent stamps. This provides information which I can interpret in no other way than that there was a double printing, such as was done with Plate Number 4.

Normally, in all three varieties of Plate Number 6, the spacing between each overprint is approximately 3½ mm. Contrast this with the illustrated block of the 12½ cent New Brunswick of the thick type, Variety C. On this block the



A block of the 12½ cent New Brunswick with Plate 6 SPECIMEN. The top row carries Variety B (no period). The lower row is Variety A (thin, with period).



A block of the 12½ cent New Brunswick with Plate 6 SPECIMEN, Variety C (thick, with period) on all four stamps.

spacing is about 2½ mm, and is shifted upwards by a full 1 mm. I also have a block of the 17 cent New Brunswick on which the shift to the left is so great that the 'S' of SPECIMEN overlaps the period of the preceding overprint! This block also has the 1mm misalignment. Neither of these blocks is marginal.

I can reach no other conclusion but that these overprints were printed in two stages, following the precedent of the Canada 1854, when

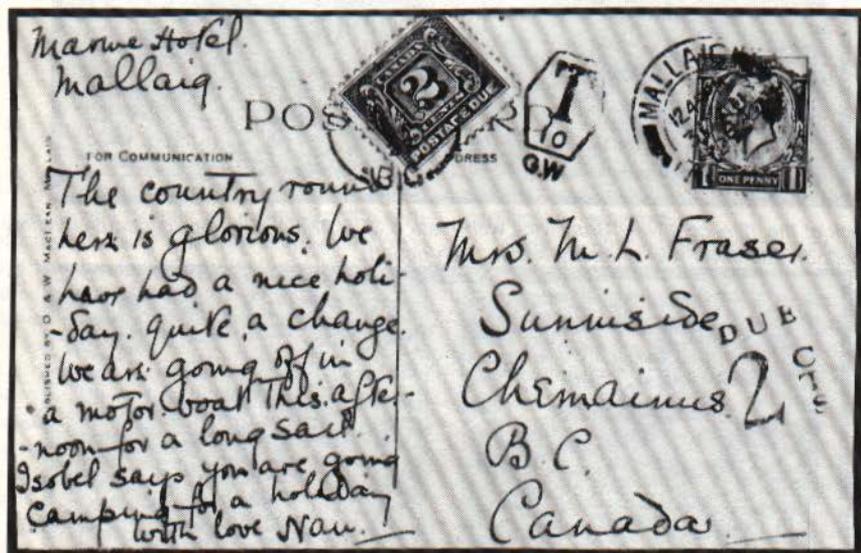
the proof sheets were 12 x 10 and printed with Plate Number 4.

Why was this clumsy plate arrangement set up in the first place, and why was the 12½ cent the only value of Canada to be imprinted? This stamp first appeared on 16 March 1859, according to Whitworth. Could it be that the 12½ cent of Canada was not overprinted at the time of issue in 1859, but later?

(to be continued)

AN UNUSUAL POSTAGE DUE MARKING

by Calvin Cole



The card illustrated is one of two I found in an antique shop in Victoria, BC in March 1986. Both cards were mailed from the United Kingdom to Canada, one addressed to Victoria, the other to Chemainus, which is also on Vancouver Island.

What caught my eye were the short paid postage markings. The 'T' above '10' inside a narrow hexagon, below which are the letters 'G.W.' is obviously of UK origin. The second mark is most unusual. Its top line has the word 'DUE' horizontally. Below this, centered between the 'D' and 'U' is a large '2'. Beside the '2', below the 'E', are the letters 'CTS' vertically.

This mark must be Canadian, because it was up to the postal authorities in the country of destination to translate the UPU rating, in this case 10 *decimes*, into the local currency. It seems evident, too, that the device must have been located at the Post Office in Victoria.

The first card (above), mailed in Mallaig on 30 August 1927, carries a single J2 postage due, tied by a Chemainus split ring cancel. The postmark on the second card is unreadable. It carries, however, a single J7, which places it in the 1932-34 period.

Do other BNAPSers have any information on this unusual marking? If so, please write to me at 3839 Ezle St., San Jose, CA 95111.

BNAPEX NEEDS YOUR HELP

by James C. Lehr, OTB

You learn by doing, and running BNAPEX '87 in Charlottetown did a lot of educating! I would like to discuss a couple of areas where each of us could help make our BNAPEX conventions less expensive, in addition to making the Host Committee's job *much* easier.

But first, a word about BNAPEX '87. We had 152 people registered for all three days, another 20 registered for one or two days, an extra 19 for the lobster dinner or the banquet only, and 44 people (including some from BC, ON, NS and NB) paying \$2 to see the exhibits and bourse. From what I heard (everyone says only complimentary things to the Chairman), it was a very successful convention. Now the learning.

Register Early and Accurately

It's important for planning and financial purposes to know as early as possible the number of rooms required and the number of people coming. This convention was sold to Rodd's Royalty Inn in 1985 and a number of concessions obtained based on the projected number of rooms required during the entire week.

From our experience with the first Virginia Beach convention, I forecast the following needs: Monday (9/14) - 5; Tuesday - 20 to 25; Wednesday - 50 to 60; Thursday, Friday & Saturday - 97 each; Sunday - 5. Based on this, the hotel furnished us *at no charge* the entire downstairs convention center, a hospitality suite, four regular hotel rooms for Study Group meetings and a free suite for the director.

All this was in jeopardy, however, when on August 1 I received a call from the General Manager saying that as of then they had received only 62 registrations. At that point I guaranteed at least 15 more rooms, and got on the phone. By the final deadline of 8/15 we had about 25 more registrations and the crisis passed. Unfortunately, we had to place 10-15 BNAPSers elsewhere the last week (some of whom were moved into the hotel later). This was because the hotel was full, right up to the end of the convention, with other people they had been holding off in order to save the rooms for us. The moral here of course is to register early if you plan to come. You can always cancel out if something comes up.

In determining what the BNAPEX registra-

tion cost must be, and the estimated budget, you need to know the number of people coming who will likely register for the entire convention. Since registrations and part time fees represented 83% of our anticipated income, we set the registration fee at \$75 Canadian based on our best estimate. Here too we ran into a real problem. As I got a monthly list of registrations from the hotel, it was amazing how many people registered in his or her name only, even though their spouse was coming. This led to a real game of guessing and caused the registration fee to be finally set at \$100. (It might have been lower if we had had a more accurate people count.) In addition, costs of trips vary with the number of buses and guides needed, so again a good head count is required.

Register early and list all the people covered by the registration. This will help save the Chairman's sanity and hair.

We Couldn't Do It Without The Bourse

The bourse fee for this show was \$350, \$100 of which covered one registration. Thus each dealer furnished \$250 towards the general overhead costs. For this payment the dealer gets to spend most of his time for three days sitting behind a table. No time for the trips, study group meetings, talks, etc. covered by his registration fee. True, the dealers are doing their normal job selling us goodies. Would *you* be willing to spend *your* time at the convention in that way? Because we had seven bourse dealers at Charlottetown (three others signed up but cancelled out - one sick), this represented \$1750 + \$210 in ads, or \$1960 towards costs such as security, courtesy van, transportation of frames, tours, printing, postage, telephone, etc. Without the dealers we would have had to increase the number of our full time registrations by 35, or increase our registration fee by another \$15.

The Charlottetown site for BNAPEX '87 was 'out of the way' and provided a good excuse for not coming. Our sincere thanks go to the following dealers who *continued* to support BNAPEX:

Arthill Enterprises - Art Leggett
D & D Covers - Dave Clare & Dave Dixon
D. & L. Kaye Enterprises - Donald & Louise Kay
Greenwood Stamp Co. - Hank Narbonne

R.M. Lamb – Dick & Kathryn Lamb
J.N. Sissons – Lex & Glorya De Ment
Allan L. Steinhart – Allan Steinhart

I hope all of you will **continue to support dealers with your business the way they continue to support BNAPS.**

BNAPLEX '86 – THANKS

Financing any convention is normally a problem because the Host Committee gets no

advance money toward all those pre-convention costs. This was not a problem for us because Chuck Firby, BNAPEX '86 Chairman, contributed the \$1669.59 US profit from that show as seed money for future BNAPEX shows. This profit was due primarily to the high number of dealers (26) he was able to sign up. I am glad to be able to pass on this seed money, plus some profit from BNAPEX '87 (all bills not in yet), to the BNAPEX '88 host committee.

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'RECEIVED FROM H.M. SHIPS' USED AT HALIFAX

by Wilf Whitehouse

It is widely believed that the arrival cancellation 'RECEIVED FROM/H.M. SHIPS' indicates that the cover has passed through a Post Office at a British Port. Few realize that this marking was also used at the Halifax Post Office during WWII and is found on covers originating in ships of the Royal Canadian Navy.

When war broke out in September 1939, the Royal Navy found it necessary to despatch units of the West Indies fleet to Halifax to act as escorts for convoys bound for England. Because the chief threat to the merchant ships at this time was the surface raider (the 'pocket' battleships *Graf Spee* and *Deutschland* were already in the Atlantic when war was declared), the Royal Navy was forced to use cruisers, and even battleships on occasion, as convoy escorts.

For security reasons, the Royal Navy was concerned about Halifax postmarks appearing on mail from the large numbers of Royal Navy personnel operating out of the port. No doubt it was suggested to Canadian authorities that this mail should be handled in the same manner as in England. Generally speaking, all naval mail received at a British port in 1939/40 was, for security purposes, routed through either London or Edinburgh. (Liverpool is suggested by some as a third sorting centre.) The mail passed through an electric cancelling machine which applied the slogan 'Received From/H.M. Ships'; this cancel not only disguised the port of arrival, but ensured free passage for the letter to its destination. (Fig. 1)

In view of the above it is not surprising that a cancellation similar to that used in England made its appearance on naval mail passing through the Halifax Post Office very early in 1940. There is no doubt the origin of the design was British. Whether the marking was supplied by them or manufactured locally is not known. The Halifax arrival cancel was a rubber handstamp, generally struck in violet, and is easily distinguishable from the machine type used in England.

The marking was never intended for use on mail originating in ships of the Royal Canadian Navy. Indeed, the majority of R.C.N. mail of the period does not carry this marking. However,

when bags of mail from both navies arrived simultaneously at the Halifax Post Office from the Fleet Mail Office, the arrival marking was applied to all mail, including that from the R.C.N. It should be mentioned here that the majority of the Royal Navy mail addressed to England did not pass through the Halifax Post Office; normally it was placed aboard R.N. ships proceeding directly to England as convoy escorts.

There are 4 known varieties of the Halifax cancellation, distinguished by size: 46 x 18 mm; 48 x 19 mm; 51 x 20 mm; and 55 x 20 mm. They are shown in Figure 2.

Early in 1941, with the threat of the surface raider in the Atlantic coming to an end (and in fact it ended in May with the sinking of the *Bismark*) the Royal Navy gradually withdrew their heavy naval forces from Canada. With their departure, the use of the British style arrival marking was no longer required. However, early in 1943, the mark, as shown in Fig. 3, returned to use. Covers available show that: (a) No Royal Navy mail was involved; (b) All covers are postage free, indicating use from ships or a naval base overseas; and (c) All identified covers are censored using one of the following straight line censor marks

EXAMINED BY DB/N 10 - Dockyard, Halifax

EXAMINED BY DB/N 45 - Avalon,

Newfoundland

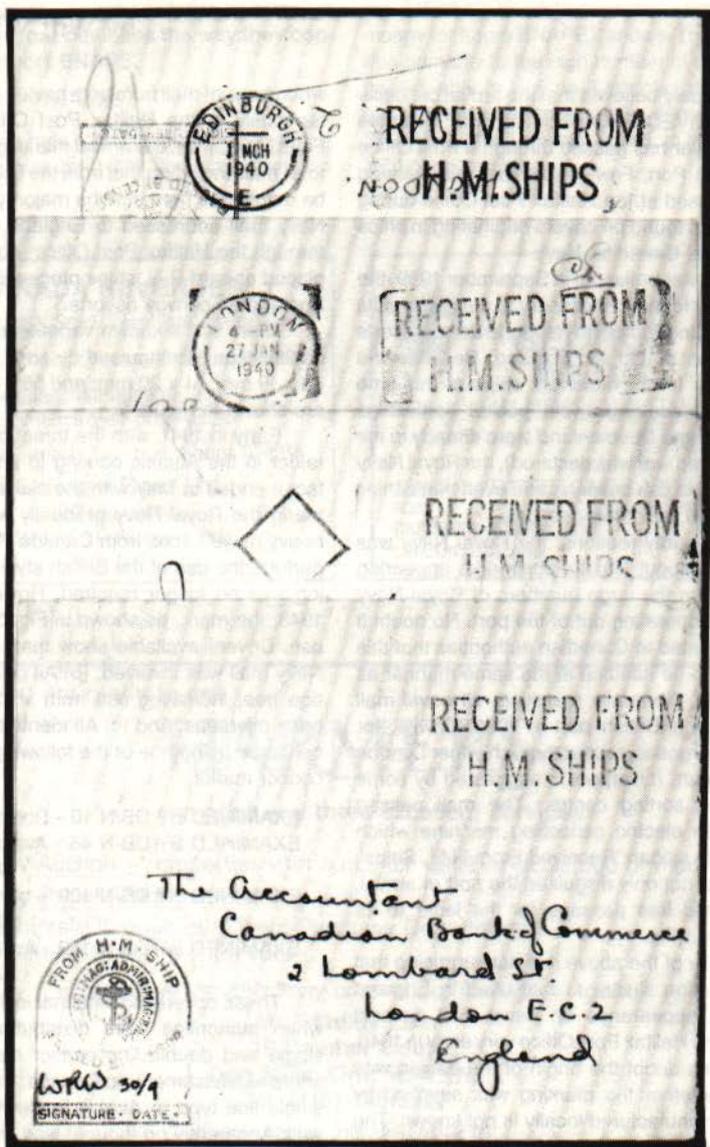
EXAMINED BY DB/N 109 - Avalon,

Newfoundland

EXAMINED BY DB/N 142 - Avalon,

Newfoundland

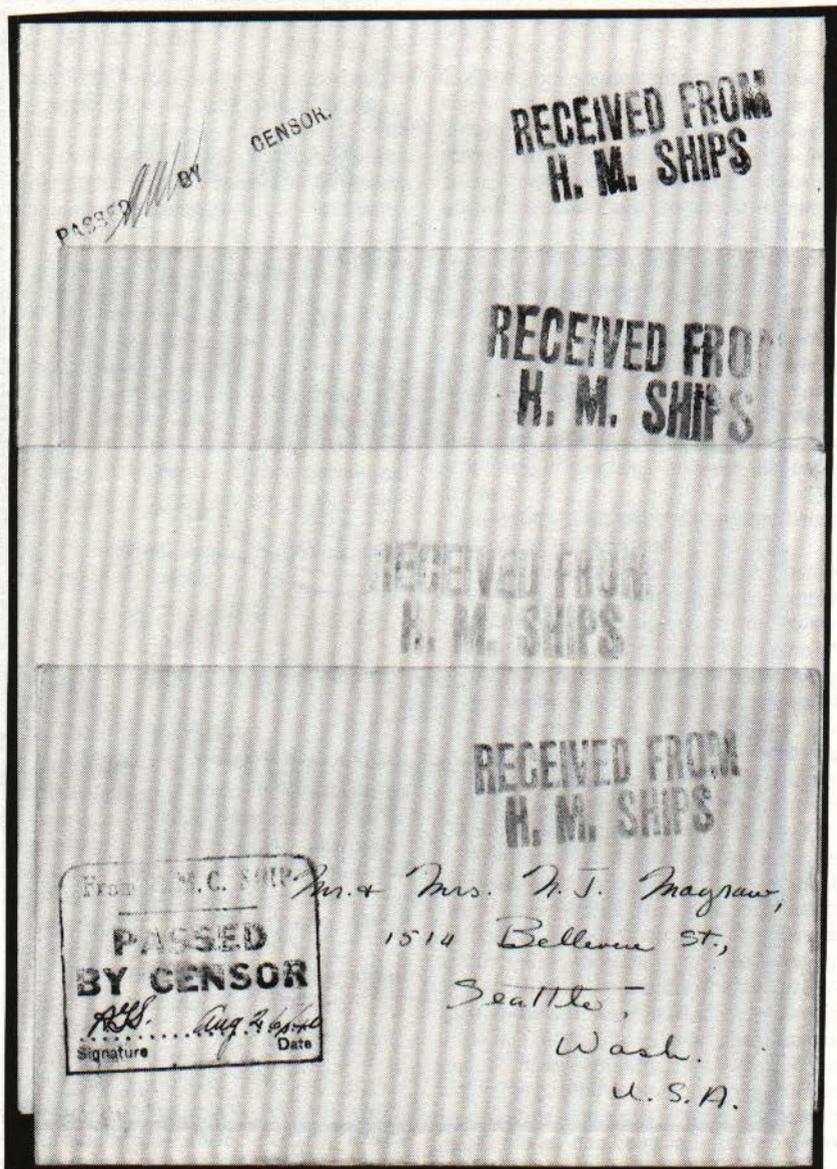
These covers indicate that in January 1943, when authorities were distributing new style single and double line censor markings to all shore establishments in Canada, they issued the single line type to *Avalon* in Newfoundland as well. Apparently no thought was given to the fact that the single line 'EXAMINED BY DB/N . . .' was insufficient to provide the postage free privilege accorded to personnel serving in a overseas shore establishment. The covers required additional information to Canadian Post Offices, identifying them as having come from personnel entitled to the privilege.



1. British machine cancellations. Early in 1940, possibly April, the townmark was removed from the cancellation in favour of the 'Diamond', which itself was seldom used. Normally the slogan appeared alone.

The solution to the *Avalon* problem was the use of the double line censor markings 'FROM H.M.C. SHIP/EXAMINED BY DB/N (500 to 512 inclusive)' with use recorded as early as February 1943. For an undetermined period before and after this date, whenever single line censor

marks from Newfoundland, or ship mail turned in uncensored at Halifax Dockyard, arrived at the Fleet Mail Office, Halifax, the application of 'RECEIVED FROM/H.M. SHIPS' provided free passage through the mail stream. Later on, all Fleet Mail Offices would apply the marking

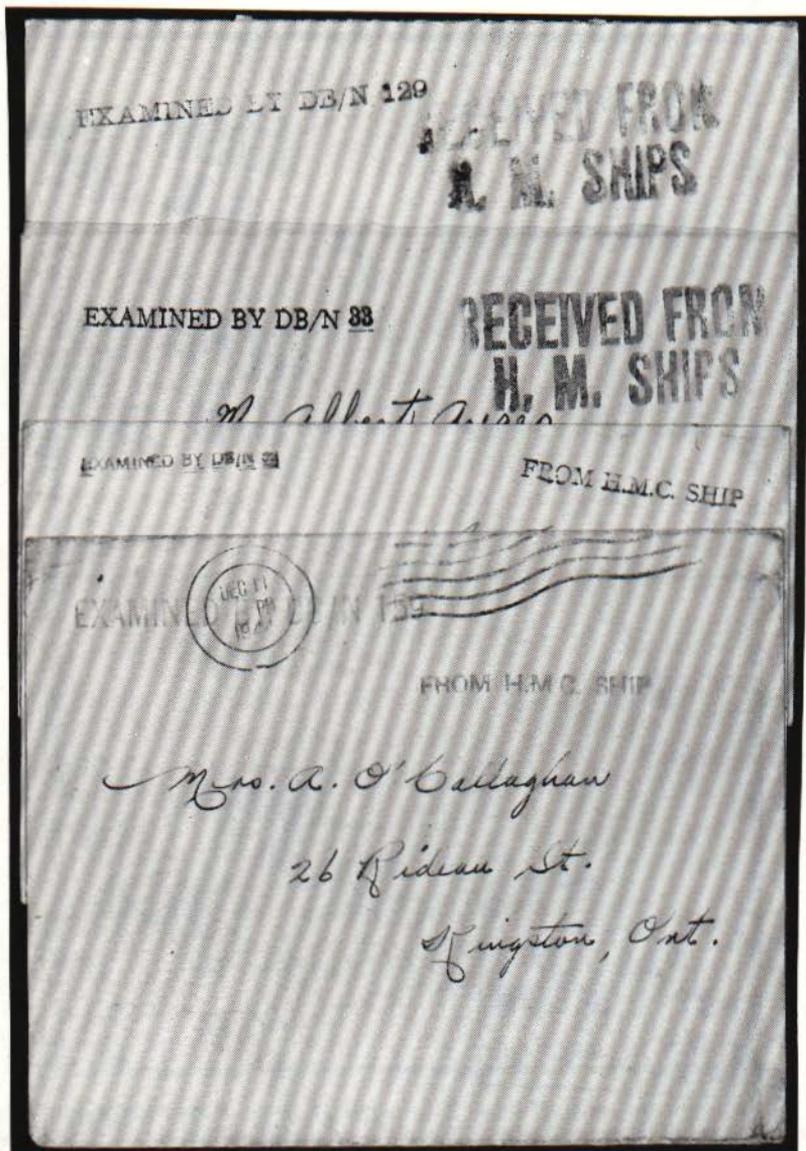


2. The four 'RECEIVED FROM/H.M. SHIPS' cancellations used at Halifax. The 46 x 18 mm version is at the top, followed by the 55 x 20 mm mark, the 51 x 20 mm mark and the 48 x 19 mark.

'FROM H.M.C. SHIP' to any such mail that arrived in their office.

There remains a minor point to be settled, that of the dates of use of RECEIVED FROM/H.M. SHIPS in both red and in violet ink during

1943. Covers struck in violet are the more common. At the moment, the only dated covers known, from March and April 1943, carry the mark in violet.



3. The two covers at the top show the 'RECEIVED FROM/H. M. SHIPS' used with the 'EXAMINED BY DB/N . . .'. Later the 'FROM H.M.C. SHIP' marking was used.

THE DEVELOPMENT OF THE FEDERAL OHMS POSTAL SECURITY SYSTEM

by J.C. Johnson and G. Tomasson

Foreword: This article relates to the Federal Government of Canada's development of a postal security system which was implemented on 1 July 1939. It should not to be confused with the Federal Departmental Official '5 hole OHMS' perfins which were used by the Department of Finance between 1923 and 1935.

Overall control of government expenditures was the responsibility of the Financial Branch of the Canadian Federal Government. The Branch's involvement in the issuing and controlling of perforated postage stamps for all government departments began on 19 July 1937 when Mr. H.E. Atwater, Financial Superintendent, received a memorandum from Mr. J.A. Sullivan, Deputy Postmaster General.

Sullivan requested that officers of the Financial Branch investigate questions raised about departmental postage accounts in a letter from Assistant Auditor General Mr. A.H. Brown, and advised that the Treasury Board was interested "in correcting the situation by adoption of a system which will be convenient and economical to the Department concerned and to the Postal Service."

Brown's letter is significant and is reproduced below in its entirety.

AUDITOR GENERAL

CANADA

Ottawa, June 25th, 1937

Dear Sir,

Re Departmental Postage Accounts

In a letter dated April 29th last addressed to the Deputy Minister, Department of Mines and Resources, I commented upon a survey of revenue accounting and verification of cash in the Indian Affairs Branch which had been made by my examiners. The following extract from that letter has reference to the Postage Account of that branch:

"A comparison with postage purchased and used in previous years is as follows:-

<u>Period</u>	<u>Purchased</u>	<u>Used</u>
Balance on hand May 3, 1933	\$ 4.95	\$
1933-34 11 months to Apr. 3/34	550.00	545.04
1934-35 11 months to Mar. 4/35	410.00	418.00
1935-36 13 months to Mar. 26/36	700.00	675.82
1936-37 12 months to Mar. 31/37	150.00	149.42
Balance on hand March 31, 1937		25.90
Net overage	.18	

The above statement reveals a great reduction in 1936-37 from previous years in the amount of postage purchased and used. The stamp box is in the custody of the Treasury Branch messenger who keeps a book record of stamps used daily. The senior departmental messenger prior to April, 1936, obtained from the custodian and signed for whatever postage he required for the departmental mail. On the retirement in April, 1936, of the departmental messenger the Chief Treasury Officer directed that all mail requiring postage be forwarded to his branch for mailing. The reduction in postage charges coincides with this change. May I be informed if you have any explanation for the reduction in postage charges as indicated above."

On May 29th last the Deputy Minister replied in the following terms:

"The reduction in the amount of postage for the year just past is noted in comparison with the amount required for previous years. There was no reduction in the volume of mail, which required stamping, sufficient to account for any substantial proportion of this discrepancy. The stamps were in charge of a confidential messenger who was retired. He contributed to the Retirement Fund; not to any superannuation fund."

The above statements would indicate that charges were made for postage in the three years ended March 31st, 1936 in excess of departmental requirements, and they also imply that moneys were improperly retained by the officer charged with that service. Under the Consolidated Revenue and Audit Act I am called upon to satisfy myself that the moneys expended have been applied to the purposes for which the grant was intended to provide and to report upon any case where any balance of public money has been improperly or unnecessarily retained by any officer. The matter is referred to you for your attention.

As a further result of this enquiry some con-

sideration was given to the amounts paid for postage in other departments. As you know cases have been reported to you in recent years where losses of public moneys occurred in this class of accounts. It is difficult for any official, other than those in the departments concerned to make an accurate check of the postage requirements of each department. The only check, except to verify that the accounts are in order, is to compare the expenditures with that of previous years. Notwithstanding the fact that all the departments have the privilege of franking their mail and that some of them have no outside offices, the amounts charged for postage are in some cases comparatively large. This difference may be due to the quantity of matter mailed to points outside Canada for which postage must be used and not the frank. It was observed, in some departments with branches throughout Canada, that the postage accounts for the year amounted to over \$5,000 and in one case to over \$10,000. The activities of these branches presumably justify these amounts for postage.

In accounts of this nature the most effective control is departmental but the survey made would indicate the advisability of some further review. Several suggestions are offered, the adoption of any one of which would in my opinion afford a better control of this class of expenditure.

- (1) The supply of special stamps for Government mail or the perforation or overprinting of the letters "O.H.M.S." on the regular stamps.
- (2) The maintenance of a daily record of stamps used which could be checked against record of official letters mailed.
- (3) The opening of charge accounts at all Post Offices in the larger centres where the mail requirements of any department justify same, payment therefor to be made by cheque. All other outside offices to secure their necessary postage stamps from their own departments at Ottawa.
- (4) The installation of "postage meters" where the amount of mailable matter justifies same. I am informed one has been installed in the Department of Printing and Stationery.

Yours truly,
(Sgd.) A.H. Brown
Asst. Auditor General.

Atwater initially requested Mr. K.H. Irving of the Revenue Division in the Financial Branch of the Post Office to "furnish comments in regard to anything that the Revenue Division might have

to suggest to provide for a system of postage paid in cash for other Departments."

Irving replied five days later, on 24 July 1937, with a brief but comprehensive response:

"It is understood the Finance Department uses the overprint of "O.H.M.S." to protect their stock of stamps, and if necessary this plan could be extended to other departments through arrangement with the Administrative Services.

"It would appear, however, that a combination of meters for letter mail, circulars, etc., and overprinted stamps for parcels in departments having a sufficient volume of mail to warrant the use of meters; and overprinted or perforated stamps for departments having a smaller volume would be the most satisfactory system.

"If it is found the use of meters were satisfactory it might be a good opportunity to suggest their use to replace the frank on all mail matter posted by the various departments and thus reimburse the Post Office Department in the amount of \$750,000 approximately which we are unable to show in the General Financial Statement of the Postmaster General's Report except as a separate paragraph leading up to the statement."

It should be noted that the reference to the Finance Department overprint of "OHMS" is most likely a reference to the 5 hole OHMS perforation used by the Finance Department from 1923 until 1935.

On July 28, nine days after being requested to review the matter of Government postal security by the Deputy Postmaster General, the investigation was completed. Sullivan responded to the Assistant Auditor General's original request in a letter to Mr. W.C. Ronson, Assistant Deputy Minister of Finance:

July 28th, 1937

Dear Mr. Ronson:

I have had a study made by our officials of the letter from the Auditor General dated June 25th, a copy of which accompanied yours of the 14th, instant.

Taking the suggestions in order our comments would be as follows:

- (1) There would be no objections to the perforation of postage stamps with the letters "O.H.M.S.", or any other perforation to indicate a certain Department. This Department would, however, strenuously object to overprinting of any postage. Overprinting postage has always led to trouble of various sorts, and it would be wise to avoid it.

(2) *The maintenance of a daily record of stamps used which could be checked against the record of official letters mailed would involve a great deal of checking at the Post Office. I doubt if it would be effective as in many cases these letters would arrive at the Post Office during a rush hour and we can see difficulties in providing for an effective check at all times. In any case this is the kind of work which should not be done by an operating Post Office staff as it properly belongs to the Department by which the mail is sent out.*

(3) *The opening of charge accounts at all Post Offices in the larger centres in conjunction with the system providing for the necessary postage being supplied from the various depots at Ottawa. I see no objection from a Post Office standpoint to this procedure excepting a certain amount of extra checking in connection with the postage payment in cash. This, however, could be provided for without any considerable extra work in the Post Office. The suggestion is a matter which would be up to the Departments concerned.*

As I understand the suggestion it would not be effective for the purpose intended as it would be open to abuse in the same manner as the ordinary system now followed of supplying stamps as required to various Branches of different depots.

(4) *Installation of postage meters — I believe that this suggestion has already been made by officials of the Post Office Department in connection with individual cases which have arisen from time to time. The Department considers that this is the best method of controlling postage used. It not only provides a check at the time but enables us to keep a record which would be available at any time for checking up purposes where the amount of business done would justify the installation of postage meters.*

I believe that this should be done and that the relatively small expense involved would be more than made up, in some cases from the savings effected in postage, and in any case by the provision of adequate postage records at all times.

Where the business is too small for the installation of postage meters I would suggest to supply special stamp perforations in accordance with whatever perforation is desired by the Department. For any Department

which wishes to use this method we could have that perforation done when the stamps are being manufactured. This might entail a small cost, which would be almost nominal if it were done as the stamps were being manufactured.

*Yours very truly,
Deputy Postmaster General*

Nothing further was heard on the matter for over a year. It was not forgotten, however, as Mr. Atwater received a letter, dated 5 July 1938, from Mr. Coolican, Assistant Deputy Postmaster General, which proposed a security system. Its essence was that large offices would use meter machines and small offices would deliver their mail, without postage, to the Post Office along with a requisition for the necessary postage. The local Postmaster would then add the postage to the mail and include the requisition with his cash accounts.

Atwater barely had time to give much thought to Coolican's postal security procedure when two days later he received a surprise. Mr. Beaulieu, Director of Administrative Services, wrote on 7 July 1938 asking "whether there have been any further developments in the matter (effective control over postage stamps used by Government Departments) or whether any definite procedure has been adopted since your letter (July 28, 1937) . . . and as a result of Treasury Board Minute of the 10th May, 1938 (copy attached)."

COPY

EXTRACT from the minutes of a meeting of the Honourable the Treasury Board, held at Ottawa on the TENTH day of MAY, 1938.

N.S.

T. 173975 B.

TREASURY BOARD

The Treasury Board, having considered various submissions concerning the procedure and safeguards under which expenditures are made from the Postage requirements of the various departments, directs that the following regulations be given effect from July the 1st, 1938:

- 1. All stamps for Government use are to be purchased at Ottawa by the Department concerned, and distributed as required to their various Branches in or out of the City.*
- 2. A receipt is to be obtained from the Post Office for all purchases of postage stamps.*
- 3. The Post Office Department is to make arrangements required to provide that all stamps sold to Governments are perforated with the letters "OHMS".*

4. A daily record of stamps used is to be maintained by the officer or officers concerned in each Department in such form that it can be conveniently checked with purchases of stamps.
5. A senior officer not connected with dispatch of mail shall check and verify the above record in writing, at such intervals as the Deputy Head of the Department concerned may consider necessary.

Secretary

On 18 July Atwater replied to Coolican's 5 July proposal with constructive comments. At the end of the memorandum there is a footnote referring to the recent receipt of the Treasury Board Minute T173975B from Mr. Beaulieu. On 11 August Beaulieu wrote again to Atwater, pressing for an explanation as to why the Treasury Board Minute had not been acted on. Atwater responded:

August 23rd, 1938

Dear Mr. Beaulieu:

I have to refer to your letter of the 11th, instant, and previous correspondence in regard to control of postage stamps used by various departments of the Government.

I may say that the first intimation I had of the Treasury Board Minute, passed on the 10th May, 1938, was the receipt of a copy with your letter of the 7th July.

With a brief note from Mr. Coolican, dated 5th July, was enclosed copy of suggestions, of which the enclosed is a copy in case you have not received a similar one.

As this matter was apparently taken up outside of the Financial Branch, the undersigned has not taken any further action in the matter.

I am enclosing copy of a memorandum sent to the Assistant Deputy on the 18th July. I have heard nothing more about it since this memorandum of the 18 July was sent over.

Just prior to this action, on 13 July 1938, the Chief Superintendent of Post Office Services had initiated a check of all Free Mail Matter being processed in Staff Post Offices. From this and other information the Post Office prepared a memorandum dated 6 March 1939, for the Treasury Board, titled 'Prepayment of Government Mail and Safeguarding Departmental Expenditures for Postage'. This very comprehensive document, 12 pages in length, includes such details as the cost differences between renting and purchasing machines. The introduction to the report is

as follows:

PREPAYMENT OF GOVERNMENT MAIL
AND SAFEGUARDING DEPARTMENTAL
EXPENDITURES FOR POSTAGE

General survey -

A study has been made of the mailings of Government Departments from two points of view, -

- (1) To suggest a scheme which would reduce to the minimum the possibility of peculation in connection with postage stamps and the improper use of franking or free mail privilege.
- (2) To suggest an arrangement which would eliminate the use of Departmental franks and provide a positive record of postage chargeable to each Department.

Tentative submission -

A tentative submission was prepared in May, 1933, for the consideration of the Treasury Board. This recommended

- (1) That all stamps for Government use be purchased in Ottawa by the Department concerned and distributed as required to the various units in Ottawa and elsewhere.
- (2) That a receipt be obtained from the Post Office for all purchases of postage stamps.
- (3) That the Post Office Department make arrangements to provide that all stamps sold to Government Departments be perforated "O.H.M.S."
- (4) That a record of stamps used be maintained by an officer or officers in each Department in such form that it can be conveniently checked against purchases of stamps.
- (5) That a senior officer not connected with the despatch of mail check and verify the record at such intervals as the Deputy Head of the Department concerned may consider necessary.

It is doubtful whether the suggestion made would attain the desired object. In the first place, the perforation "O.H.M.S." on the postage stamps is no guarantee that the stamps would only be used for official mail. Postal employees have no time in the ordinary course of their business to scrutinize postage to ascertain whether or not perforated "O.H.M.S." postage is being used on private mail.

Further, there would be no way in which the Post Office could check up the improper use of "O.H.M.S." postage on envelopes for private business rather than for Government business.

It is not known exactly what is the extent of the daily record suggested in item (4). If it is simply an indication of a bulk amount of postage used each day then, of course, it would not entail much work, but if it envisages a detailed list of each item mailed, then it would be rather a cumbersome procedure.

It is not quite clear what the advantage would be of having a senior officer check and verify the record from time to time, as unless the record is verified each day against the actual mailings, no purpose would be served.

The suggestion further provides for the purchase of all stamps at Ottawa. While this offers no operating difficulty it would certainly create a great deal of dissatisfaction on the part of Postmasters paid on a Revenue basis, unless arrangements are made to credit each office with the amount of postage purchased from Ottawa but used on correspondence mailed at that office.

The other subjects discussed in this memorandum were:

- General Study
- Classes of Mail to be considered
- Various methods of prepayment of postage
- Ottawa survey
- Mail received at Ottawa
- Mail outside of Ottawa (urban centres)
- Mail outside of Ottawa (rural centres)
- Cost
- No outside survey
- Abolition of franking privilege

The Treasury Board acted quickly on the Post Office memorandum by issuing Treasury Board Minute T170926B, dated 28 March 1939. This minute is an exact duplicate of Minute T173975B which had been issued a year earlier.

This time Atwater was informed of the issuance of the Treasury Board minute, and he began to set up the procedures to handle the OHMS perforated stamps. Along the way he received several queries as to how the method would work.

One query came from Mr. Underwood, Chief Superintendent of the Post Office, who wrote:

"Paragraph 2 provides that a receipt is to be obtained from the Post Office for all purchases of postage stamps.

Will your procedure include the purchasing of these stamps at the Postage Stamp Branch or will the stamps be purchased from the Ottawa Post Office.

In case the stamps are to be purchased from the Ottawa Post Office, is your Branch taking care of the furnishing to the Post Office of the form of receipt called for."

Mr. Atwater's reply was not quite as brief:

"Answering your questions I may say that purchases of these stamps will be made at the Branch Post Office which is located in the Philatelic Division. It may offer some little difficulty for the time being in view of the very serious congestion of work in the Philatelic Division due to the new stamps but that will be solved by the time factor. We can make temporary provision in the meantime.

Receipt cannot be given until payment is made. It is understood that some of the Departments, if not all of them, wish to purchase from time to time and pay at the end of the month. There is no objection to this but obviously a receipt could not be given until payments are received. As a matter of fact the Department concerned must give us a receipt for the stamps in question which are to be settled for at stated periods.

We have already promised the National Revenue Department which will obtain some forty thousand stamps a year or more and are willing to do it for any other Department. Any Department which pays as it goes, we can of course give receipts to when the stamps are being delivered.

We have not yet received definite information in regard to the requirements of the Departments for this purpose. We will have to have this before we can proceed with the perforating of the stamps with the letters "O.H.M.S."

It might be mentioned in passing that a good many complications are cropping up in regard to this procedure. As an example might be mentioned one raised by the Department of National Revenue. They receive stamps from the addressees of dutiable parcels to prepay postage from the Customs Port to the office of destination. They wish to use their own stamps perforated "O.H.M.S" instead of ones sent in and wish us to retain the latter. They have been told that we are willing to do this provided they refuse all stamps which are sent in payment of Customs duty of which, it is understood, they receive quite a quantity.

The official in charge of this work in the Department has promised us that they will try to have a regulation to this effect put through.

It is going to take some time to get this matter operating in good shape and the Customs people were told that any arrangement we would make at the present time would be considered as tentative and would be reviewed at the end of twelve months, being liable to change as regards any weakness developing in the system.

Another concern was expressed by the local Postmasters who were worried about a loss of revenue if Federal Government offices ceased to purchase postage stamps locally. Atwater's solution to this problem was outlined in a memorandum sent out under the Acting Deputy Postmaster General's signature:

"Reference is made to Treasury Board Minute 170926 dated 28th March, 1939, approving of regulations, effective 1 July, 1939, which directs that all stamps for Government use are to be purchased at Ottawa by the Department concerned and distributed as required to their various Branches in or out of the city.

As this procedure will affect the revenue of certain post offices, will you please have this Department furnished on the 1st April each year with a statement showing the value of stamps distributed to your various branches throughout the preceding fiscal year.

On receipt of this information the revenue of each post office concerned will be adjusted accordingly."

Atwater obtained the former Department of Finance perforating machine with the idea of using it to supply the 'OHMS perforated stamps'. He requisitioned ten sheets of 1 cent stamps for use in testing the old perforator, but only used two sheets. The conclusion of this effort was a memorandum to the Acting Deputy Postmaster General:

30th May, 1939

MEMORANDUM FOR: THE ACTING DEPUTY POSTMASTER GENERAL.

Treasury Board Minute T.170926 B of the 28th March, 1939 establishes the procedure to be followed in connection with postage requirements of the various Departments. It further directs that the Post Office Department provide for the perforation of all stamps sold to Government Departments with the letters "O.H.M.S."

Inquiries have been made for some time past to ascertain where suitable perforators could be purchased and the experience of other firms who have used such perforators. It has been determined that the most suitable would

be that manufactured by the Cummins Perforator Co. of Chicago, Ill and handled by Pritchard and Andrews of Ottawa.

This firm supplies two types of machines, one of which is a hand operated machine with a capacity of thirty stamps each stroke and the other a motor operated machine with a similar capacity.

It is estimated that with the hand perforator, which costs \$135.00, two employees could perforate approximately 20,000 stamps per hour, while with the motor operated perforator, which costs \$585.00, one employee would accomplish approximately the same amount of work.

Owing to the comparatively small number of stamps which will be required, it is considered that it is preferable to purchase the hand operated machine and even though two employees have to be put on the work at odd times it will not be necessary to provide for any further help, as these employees will be used at periods when their services are not required on other work. The cost to the Department will be lower than the purchase of a power operated machine.

Since this regulation goes into effect on the 1st July, 1939, and it will take at least three weeks to secure the machine, authority is asked to immediately requisition for the hand operated perforator.

The approval was quickly given and the order for one Model 53 Cummins Perforator Company machine was placed under Requisition #83, dated 31 May 1939.

Acknowledgement: The authors wish to recognize the assistance of the philatelic researchers formerly employed by the National Postal Museum.

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NEWFOUNDLAND PLATE NUMBERS

by John M. Walsh

(With the assistance of John Butt,
Thomas Nemeč and Mary Boland)

Part 3 — 1933 to 1949



After the 1932 Resources Issue, plate numbers are not found until the 1938 Royal Family Issue. In this issue the 2c green has perforation 13.5 x 13.5 with plate 2 in the upper right corner. It is reported by Lowe that the 3c and 4c values have plate number 2. These I have not seen.

In 1941 a new printer (not British) was used for the Sir Wilfred Grenfell issue. A new style is very evident in that Canadian Bank Note Co., Ottawa No. 1 is printed in the four corners, with 'No. 1 16124' also being printed in the lower left corner. The sheet of 200 was not in two panes of 100, as stated by Boggs and Lowe, but was four panes of 50 with the plate markings being on the four outside corners. This issue was perforated 12 x 12.

The 1942-49 Resources Issue is the next issue to be found with plate numbers. The contract had again reverted to Great Britain. A wonderful array of plate numbers and a profusion of printing styles appear. John Ayshford's *The Last Stamps of Newfoundland* is essential reading.

In studying this issue I have found that five distinct printing styles were used to produce it. These styles are not distinguished by Ayshford; the following chronological listing is my own study aid.

The first printing style has the stamps printed and issued in sheets of 100 with the elusive plate number located either in the left center margin opposite position 51 or in the top center margin above position 5. No other margin mark-

ings are near the plate number. The sheets had 17 millimeter margins that were trimmed by the printer, causing the loss of most of the plate numbers.

The second printing style still has the plate number in the margin but now there is the addition of a 'dot in a circle' opposite position 41.

The third printing style has the same plate number printed in five positions on the sheet of 100 stamps. Besides the newly added four corners, it is found that a 'dot in a circle' and an 'inverted T' have been added to the margin at positions 41 or 6.

The fourth printing style has the same plate number printed in five positions on the sheet of 100 stamps, but is now missing the 'dot in a circle' and the 'inverted T' in the margin at positions 41 or 6.

The fifth printing style had the printing done in sheets of 200, consisting of two panes of 100. The plate numbers are found only in the four corners.

The printing contract changed for the printing of the 1943 Air Mail Issue, the 1943 Memorial University College Issue and the 1946 Provisional Issue, when it went back to the Canadian Bank Note Co., which had printed the Grenfell Issue in 1941. The sheets were printed and labeled as previously with the exception of the lower left control numbers being 'No. 1 16479', 'No. 1 16367' and 'No. 1 16367' respectively. Each issue was perforated 12 x 12.

Plate Numbers on Newfoundland Stamps — 1933-1949

Issue	Perforation	Type	LC	UL	LL	UR	LR	TC
1938 Royal Family								
2c green	13.5 x 13.5					2		
1941 Grenfell								
5c blue	12 x 12			1 1	16124	1	1	
1942-49 Resources								
1c grey	Imperforate	1	41711					
1c grey	12.5 x 12.5	1	41711					
1c grey	Imperforate	1						42430
1c grey	12.5 x 12.5	1						42430
2c green	12.5 x 12.5	1						43078
3c carmine	12.5 x 12.5	1	41418	(wmkd/unwmkd)				
10c black brown	12.5 x 12.5	1	41867					
20c green	12.5 x 12.5	1	41796					
48c red brown	12.5 x 12.5	1	41793					
15c claret	12.5 x 12.5	2	41794					
1c grey	12.5 x 12.5	3		42430	42430	42430	42430	42430
2c green	Imperforate	3		43078		43078		43078
2c green	12.5 x 12.5	3		43078	43078	43078	43078	43089
3c carmine	12.5 x 12.5	3		43066	43066	43066	43066	43066
10c black brown	12.5 x 12.5	3	43072	43072	43072	43072	430072	
10c black brown	12.5 x 12.5	3	43838	43838	43838	43838	43838	
10c black brown	12.5 x 12.5	3		43838 (Partial Mirror Image)				
14c black	Imperforate	3		41789		41789		41789
14c black	12.5 x 12.5	3		41789	41789	41789	41789	41789
20c green	12.5 x 12.5	3	41796	41796	41796	41796	41796	
20c green	12.5 x 12.5	3		41796 (Complete Mirror Image)				
24c blue	12.5 x 12.5	3	41795	41795	41795	41795	41795	
24c blue	12.5 x 12.5	3	41795 (Partial Mirror Image)					
25c slate	12.5 x 12.5	3	41791	41791	41791	41791	41791	
48c red brown	12.5 x 12.5	3	41793	41793	41793	41793	41793	
8c red	Imperforate	4						41601
15c claret	12.5 x 12.5	4	41794	41794	41794	41794	41794	
1c grey	12.5 x 12.5	5		43965	43965	43965	43965	
2c green	12.5 x 12.5	5		43968	43968	43968	43968	
3c carmine	12.5 x 12.5	5		43967	43967	43967	43967	
5c violet	12.5 x 12.5	5		43966	43966	43966	43966	
5c violet	Imperforate	5		(UR 43966 gutter UL 43966 pair)				
8c red	12.5 x 12.5	5		41601	41601	41601	41601	
1943 Airmail								
7c blue				1 1	16479	1	1	
1943 Memorial								
30c carmine				1 1	16367	1	1	
1946 Provisional								
2c on 30c				1 1	16367	1	1	
1947 Issues								
4c Princess				43359	43359	43359	43359	
5c Cabot				43476	43476	43476	43476	

Legend: LC — left center; TC — top center;

Type 1 — center numerals only; Type 2 — center numerals and 0;

Type 3 — center numerals with 0 and ± plus same numerals in 4 corners;

Type 4 — center numerals plus same numerals in 4 corners;

Type 5 — numerals in 4 corners

With the 1947 Princess Elizabeth Issue and the 1947 John Cabot Issue the printing reverts to the fifth printing style used by the English firm to print the 1942-49 Resources Issue. These two issues were perforated 12.5 x 12.5.

The table shows the plates, types, locations and their perforations I have found for the 1938-1947 issues.

In summary, it would appear that Boggs and

Lowe are not the final word on the subject of Newfoundland plate numbers. In studying these plates for the last eight years it has been necessary to distinguish additional varieties and to recognize different printing styles. If readers have additional information on this topic, the author (9 Guy St., St. John's, Newfoundland, Canada A1B 1P4) would be pleased to hear from them.

MORE SKETCHES of BNAPSers

By Dr. R.V.C. Carr

SKETCH 221

JOHN T. BURNETT

Persistence does pay off — I have been after John Burnett for some time in order to do a sketch. Lo and behold, John recently surprised me with the desired information. A fellow Ohioan, living in Sidney, John is a Vice-President of the Copeland Division of Emerson Electric, on whose behalf he spends a lot of time in airplanes. Last year he started travelling all over the world. One of his projects includes setting up a joint venture in China, so it's no wonder he has had to retire as our Study Group Coordinator.

John is a native of British Columbia who moved to the States long ago. Here is a surprise — he is the godson of Bury Binks, a charter member of BNAPS! Did Bury have an influence on young John? He failed to tell me.

John has been collecting since early childhood but got into BNA quite early. His Small Queens have been shown in International Shows. He also likes FDCs, the Royal Visit of 1939, Duplexes, and Canada in WWII. He belongs to major philatelic societies, as well as several local ones. Recently, he was written up in *Ohio Magazine* in an article on philately.

In 1977, John formed the Mid-Atlantic Reg-



ional Group, after having just joined BNAPS the year before. He has a mission — to give something back to the hobby that he loves — thus his work for the Study Groups (with the help of Frank Waite who writes the Study Group column in *TOPICS*). John became Study Group Coordinator in 1982, when we had but 5 study groups. Now we have 22 active groups, and we must take our hats off to him for a fine job.

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The Study Group CENTERLINE

by Frank Waite

STUDY GROUP COORDINATOR: Johnathan C. Johnson, P.O. Box 6118, Calgary, AB T2P 2C7

BNA PERFINs: Michael Hargraft, Trinity College School (Staff), Port Hope, ON L1A 3W2

CENTENNIAL DEFINITIVES: D. Irwin, 2250 Lawrence Ave. E., #406, Scarborough, ON M1P 2P9

DUPLEX CANCELLATIONS OF BNA: Robert A. Lee, Box 937, Vernon, BC V1T 6N8

FLAG CANCELS: Robert Heasman, 8 Wandering Rill, Irvine, CA 92715

MAP STAMP: W.L. Bradley, 122 Sherwood Ave., Kitchener, ON N2B 1K1

MILITARY MAIL: Ken Ellison, R.R. #1, Oyama, BC V0H 1W0

NEWFOUNDLAND: C.A. Stillions, 5031 Eskridge Terrace, N.W., Washington, DC 20016

POSTAGE DUES: Calvin Cole, 3839 Ezie St., San Jose, CA 95111

POSTAL STATIONERY: Robert Lemire, P.O. Box 549, Pinawa, MB R0E 1L0

PRINCE EDWARD ISLAND: James C. Lehr, 2918 Cheshire Rd., Wilmington, DE 19810

RE-ENTRIES: Ralph E. Trimble, P.O. Box 532, Stn. A, Scarborough, ON M1K 5C3

REVENUES: Wilmer C. Rockett, 2030 Overlook Avenue, Willowgrove, PA 19090

ROLLER CANCELS: Robert A. Lee, P.O. Box 937, Vernon, BC, V1T 6N8

R.P.O.'s: W.G. Robinson, 5830 Cartier St., Vancouver, BC V8M 3A7

SEMI-OFFICIAL AIRMAILS: Robert Marcello, P.O. Box 961, Boston, MA 02103

SMALL QUEENS: Bill Burden, P.O. Box 152, Truro, NS B2N 5C1

SQUARED CIRCLES: Gary D. Arnold, 10533 Countryside Dr., Grand Ledge, MI 48837

1972-78 DEFINITIVES & LANDSCAPES: D.J. Moore, Box 29, Aylesford, NS B0P 1C0

TRANSATLANTIC MAIL: Dr. J. Arnell, Box HM 1263, Hamilton, Bermuda

NEW GROUPS FORMING

FANCY CANCELS: Dave Lacelle, 369 Fullerton Ave., Ottawa, ON K1K 1K1

GEORGE VI RATES: Dave Dixon, P.O. Box 1082, Oakville, ON L6J 5E9

SLOGAN CANCELS: Jeff Switt, 3962 Belford, Fort Worth, TX 76103

ON THE FRINGES

The stock market has crashed. My favorite B.C. Lions were eliminated from Grey Cup contention. The Blue of Michigan runs in my veins, and they had a disappointing season. All is not down however, there are some ups. *Linn's* informs me that Jim Lehr and Ed Whiting captured a Gold and a Silver respectively at a recent exhibition. Then too, Christmas is coming; of course when you read this Christmas will be long gone. An early Merry Christmas to you all — which will arrive late. Sounds like Canada Post. On to newsletters.

The **Military** group newsletter reports two inquiries from Germany requesting information about military material. Our study groups have international impact. Colin Campbell submits a photocopy of a straight line cancel of 1910 from Military Camp Farnham, Que. He also contributes a copy of a 'Militia & Defence' cover with a

'FREE' marking. John Frith believes the date he presents, with a photocopy, is sufficient to prove that one of his covers is a WWI C.A.M.C. first day cover from Shorncliffe, England. A well illustrated article, *W.W.I. C.A.M.C. Hospital Hand-stamps*, also by John Frith, is included in the newsletter. The balance of the newsletter is courtesy of Bill Robinson. He furnishes a copy of a card from H.M.C.S. Somers Isles (Canadian W.W.II training camp in Bermuda), a copy of an article, *President Poincaré Formally Accepts the Canadian Hospital Gift to France*, and photocopies of a cover with two different Field Post office C.5 cancels.

The **Newfie** newsletter consists of an extensive review of the P.E.I. meeting. John Walsh presented a comprehensive talk on plate number blocks of Newfoundland. There is also an excellent article by C.A. Stillions, *Two Cents George*

V of 1932, which shows and discusses the strips of 20 with the sixth stamp in each row imperforate.

The **Railroaders** newsletter reviews the P.E.I. meeting. A fascinating talk was given by Douglas Murray on the history of the P.E.I. Railway. He passed around several covers that turned me a little green — pure envy. Brian Stalker lists R.P.O.s on Special Deliveries and Airmails. Doug Hannan does the same with Airmails and Maps. Bill Robinson visited Newfoundland and located the last passenger carrying 'Newfie' train — between Bishop's Falls and Cornerbrook. He and Whit Bradley both located a railway postal museum at the old Louisbourg, N.S. railway station. Bill also found a museum at the Elmira, P.E.I. station. Lew Ludlow lists (lovely alliteration) the R.P.O.s possible during the normal usage of the Map stamp; of 257 possibles, 134 have been confirmed.

Ralph Trimble, Editor of the **Re-entry** newsletter, illustrates two recent acquisitions. One is the famous 5c on 6c Small Queen re-entry. The other is the major re-entry on the 1c Edward. Bill MacDonald reports several re-entries; one, on the 1c Maple Leaf, is so pretty that Ralph has illustrated it. Ralph also illustrates a re-entry he has found on the 50c Admiral; a misplaced

entry, from Cathleen Jones, on a 1c Numeral; a plate crack, from Dr. Jim Watt, on a 15c Large Queen; and, from Hans Reiche, a misplaced entry on the 7c Edward and a re-entry on the Webb P33N postcard. Ralph also presents some notes on re-entries on the ½c Pence. Ralph's illustrations are magnificent.

Jack Arnell edits the **Transatlantic** Study Group newsletter. He summarizes the P.E.I. meeting. The new handbook appeared just in time for their meeting, which was devoted to outlining areas necessary to update and expand the major handbook being prepared by the group.

I was quite shocked to learn, at the P.E.I. meeting, that only 15 to 20 percent of the membership belong to a study group. I was informed somewhat cynically, that this figure is probably high as many members belong to several groups. It is beyond my comprehension that one would join a specialist society, and then not take advantage of the expertise available. This is the same as placing money in the bank and then refusing the interest that accrues. If you are not a member of a study group, join one. The chairmen are listed above this column. They will be glad to have you as a member. Don't be shy, they will welcome you. Join a study group!

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COLLECTING CENTENNIAL DEFINITIVES ON PRINTED PAGES

by Douglas Irwin

The Centennial Definitives have proven to be one of the most popular issues of modern Canada. This no doubt results from the complexity of the issue: three first class rate changes during the period of the issue, two different security printers, two types of gum, two forms of tagging, a multitude of papers, many different gauges of perforations, fluorescent inks, coils, booklets, and miniature panes, not to mention its being the last regular issue found on postal stationery (envelopes, postcards and many exotic special order items).

This complexity, however, also frightens many collectors away from the issue. Our vast array of quasi-specialized Canada catalogues are not an immense help to the bewildered collector because cross referencing the various stamp types is a nightmare.

A good method of systematically collecting the Centennial issue is through the use of printed album pages. There are a number available which allow the Centennial collector to choose the level and degree of specialization that would appeal to him or her. I will discuss below some of the types available, and what the collector can expect from each.

Lighthouse Publications puts out an attractive Canada album with clear hingeless mounts for each stamp. Their Centennial section allots space for the sheet stamps and coils as singles (figure 1), as well as spots for the Ottawa tagged sheet and 8c coil stamps, and the one and two bar Winnipeg tagged sheet stamps. Many of the values of Centennial definitives appeared with two gum types, initially dextrine gum and later Polyvinylalcohol (PVA) gum. The Lighthouse pages do not differentiate between dextrine and PVA gum types. Should the collector wish to expand the scope of the collection, Lighthouse also provides blank bordered pages with clear strip mounts running across the page (these are useful for coil strips and booklet panes), lightly quadrupled pages, blank bordered pages both with and without a 'CANADA' title, and completely blank pages.

One of the better printed page albums of Canada has always been Minkus. The pages measure 8½ by 11 inches and are punched for

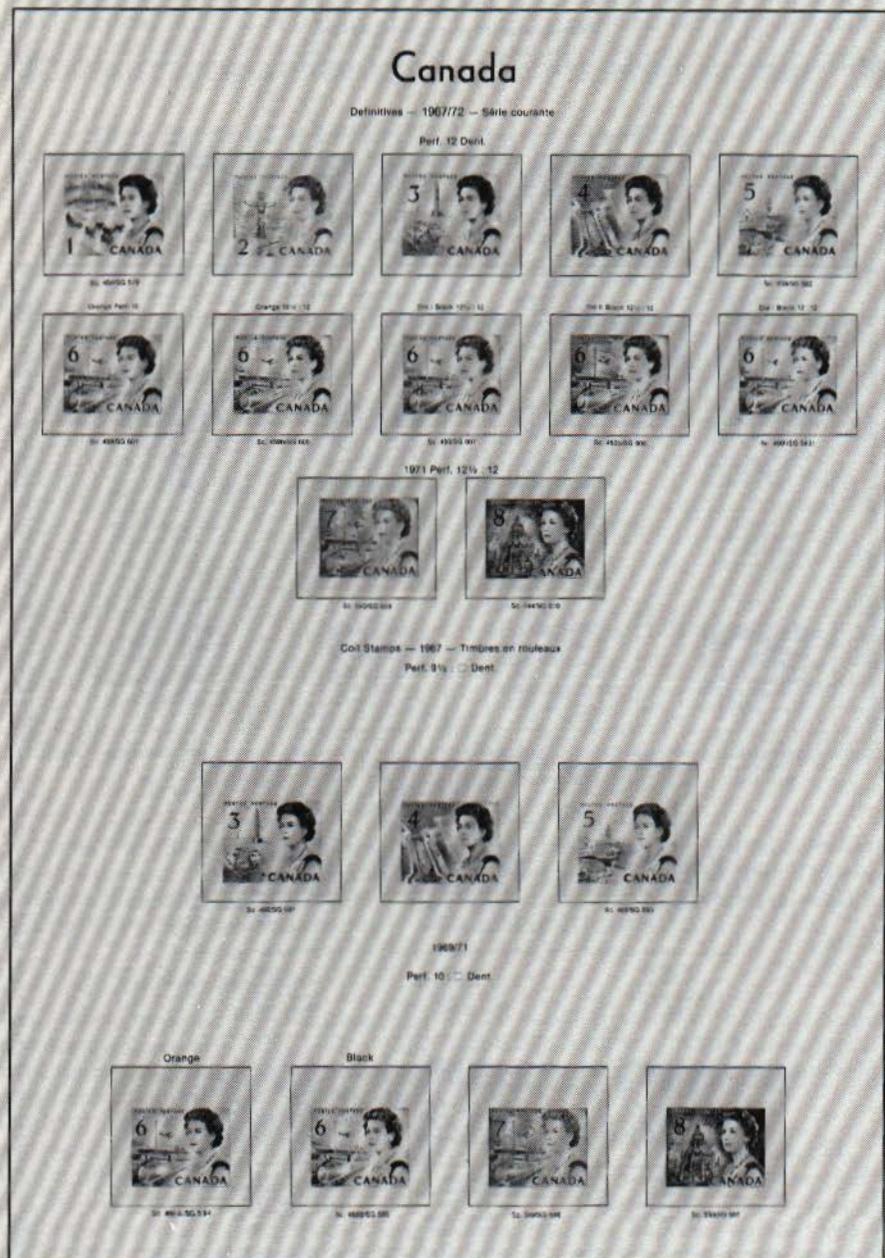
a three ring binder. Minkus covers the Centennial issue over 17 different pages, with only one stamp value represented on a page. The pages are well balanced and not cluttered. Spaces are provided for sheet stamps with both types of gum, different taggings, hibrite fluorescent papers and the precancels (Minkus seems to be one of the few Canada albums which allot space for the precancelled stamps). The coils have spaces for pairs (precancelled and hibrite paper varieties as well). The 4c Winnipeg tagged sheet stamp with a single phosphor bar down alternate vertical perforations has space for a horizontal pair. Spots for the individual booklet singles are not provided (probably because very few catalogues list them). No mounts are provided with the Minkus (or any of the other pages I will discuss, aside from Lighthouse). Each stamp has a spot (framed with a black rectangle) but the actual stamps are not pictured on the album pages.

A similar set of printed album pages has been prepared by Berwyn Thomas of Washington, U.S.A. Rather than dealing with one value at a time, these pages cover one variety type at a time. The first page covers the dextrine gum Canadian Bank Note Company printed sheet stamps. Spaces are provided for dull paper varieties of the 1c, 3c, 4c and 25c. Should the collector wish to exclude these dull paper varieties from his collection, an alternate page is provided with spaces for one of each of the basic stamps. This set of printed pages provides spaces for dextrine and PVA gums, all tagging types, all hibrite papers, coil pairs, precancels including the coils (as pairs), the 6c orange printed with fluorescent ink, the 6c black printed on the gum and booklet stamps as singles (many of the sheet stamps differed slightly from the booklet stamps as the Canadian Bank Note Company printed most of the former while the British American Bank Note Company printed most of the latter). The pages are 8½ by 11 inches and punched for a three ring binder and are more extensive than the Minkus pages. The layout of the pages is more or less balanced. I find the presentation of one variety type at a time, rather than one denomination at a time,

desirable and visually pleasing.

The most extensive coverage of the Centennial issue is available in a set of 15 printed pages compiled by two Winnipeg philatelists. Their detailed listing was obtained from Glen Hansen's

Guidebook and Catalogue of Canadian Stamps, second edition. The pages are 8½ by 11 inches and punched for a three ring binder. Blank pages with borders are also available. Coverage of the issue is excellent (figure 2 shows the page for



1. Lighthouse page.

the 1¢ denomination). Spaces are allotted for both types of gum, all the different tagging types, hibrite papers, precancels, booklet singles and coil stamps (as singles, including precancelled

and hibrite coil varieties as well). There is even a spot for the rare 6¢ orange Winnipeg tagged sheet stamp printed on hibrite paper (denoted as hi-fluorescence). I don't believe that the Cen-

CANADA

			
Dull Gum Arabic	Dull Winnipeg Tag Split Bar Gum Arabic	Dull Winnipeg Tag Single Bar Gum Arabic	Hibrite Gum Arabic
			
Hibrite Winnipeg Tag Single Bar Gum Arabic	Low Fluorescence P.V.A. Gum	Low Fluorescence Winnipeg Tag Single Bar P.V.A. Gum	Low Fluorescence General Tag Split Bar P.V.A. Gum
			
Dull Precancel Gum Arabic	Low Fluorescence Precancel P.V.A. Gum	Booklet Dull Gum Arabic Perf. 12 1/2 x 12	Booklet Dull Gum Arabic Perf. 10
			
Booklet Hibrite Gum Arabic Perf. 10	Booklet Low Fluorescence P.V.A. Gum Perf. 12 1/2 x 12	Booklet Hi-Fluorescence P.V.A. Gum Perf. 12 1/2 x 12	
			
Booklet Dull Split Bar General Tag P.V.A. Gum	Booklet Low Fluorescence Split Bar General Tag P.V.A. Gum	Booklet Hi-Fluorescence Split Bar General Tag P.V.A. Gum	

2. Page prepared in Winnipeg.

ennial collector could go wrong with these pages. It might have been more attractive to have spread each denomination out over a few more pages, although the pages are well balanced.

A superficial coverage of the Centennial issue is provided by the Scott Canada album. Spaces are allocated for the sheet stamps and single coil stamps and one spot for each tagged

denomination, with no regard as to whether the tagging is Winnipeg side bars, Winnipeg centre bar or Ottawa. (The 1¢ value has four basic tagging types: Winnipeg side bars with dextrine gum, Winnipeg centre bar with dextrine gum, Winnipeg centre bar with PVA gum and Ottawa tagged with PVA gum — the Scott album only allows one space for these varieties.)

EARLY EXHIBITION COVERS OF BRITISH COLUMBIA

by Kenneth Ellison



VICTORIA EXHIBITION 1895

The 1895 Victoria Exhibition was the last one held in Victoria until 1901. The six day event had, in addition to agricultural produce, events such as horse racing and sports competitions. This exhibition cover was used by R.P. Rithet and Company, a pioneer company in the insurance business, and bears the Victoria Squared Circle, Hammer II with the date of NT/AU21/95.

Letters (continued from page 8)

Atlantic Provinces should have had advertising promoting this Convention. I contacted as many local collectors as I could, and some did go on Friday and Saturday. What an opportunity to promote BNAPS and stamp collecting was missed here! I would be interested in hearing other comments in this regard.

I did hear during the Convention that an event of this type is usually considered a 'Closed Convention'. If this be true, I certainly wouldn't want to predict the future of our hobby. I would

recommend that wherever the BNAPS Convention is held, advertising be done at least to attract new members and generate interest in our hobby.

Mel Boone
Slemon Park, PEI

(Only the first day of a BNAPS convention is 'closed'. The reason for this is to allow members, especially those who have travelled long distances, the first opportunity to see the dealers' stocks. — Ed.)

1987 BNAPS ANNUAL REPORT

MINUTES OF THE 39TH ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING OF THE BRITISH NORTH AMERICA PHILATELIC SOCIETY

The meeting was called to order at 9:00 am by the President, Ed Harris, at Rodd's Royalty Inn, Charlottetown. He thanked Jim Lehr for organizing the Prince Edward Island meeting.

A moment of silence was observed after the names of the members who had died since the last annual meeting were read.

The reading of the minutes of the 1986 meeting was dispensed with. It was moved by Jim Lehr that the minutes be approved as printed in *BNA TOPICS*. Seconded by George Arfken. Carried.

The President's Report was read by Ed Harris, who moved its acceptance. Seconded by Cliff Guile. Carried.

The report of the Chairman of the Board of Governors was read by Allan Steinhart, who moved acceptance, seconded by Jack Weatherwax. Carried.

The Secretary's report was read by Earle Covert who moved acceptance, seconded by Clarence Stillions. Carried.

The Treasurer's report was read by Howard Twichell who moved acceptance, seconded by Robert A. Lee. Carried.

The Co-ordinator of Regional Groups, Dr. Robert V.C. Carr, read his report and moved acceptance, seconded by Lewis Ludlow. Carried.

The Chairman of the Handbook Committee, Al Steinhart, read and moved that his report be accepted, seconded by John Burnett. Carried.

Dave Clare's Report for the Book Department was read and its acceptance moved by Cliff Guile, seconded by Jack Wallace. Carried.

The Chairman of the Editorial Board, Clarence A. Stillions, read and moved acceptance of his report, seconded by Don Fraser. Carried.

Mike Street, Editor of *BNA TOPICS*, read his report and moved its acceptance, seconded by Jeff Switt. Carried.

TOPICS' Advertising Manager, Robert Lee, read his report and moved its acceptance, seconded by Lewis Ludlow. Carried.

Allan Steinhart read the report of Norman Brassler, Admissions Committee Chairman, and moved its acceptance, seconded by Bob Lee. Carried.

The Study Group Co-ordinator, John Burnett, read and moved acceptance of his report, seconded by Dick Colberg. Carried.

The report of the Circulation Manager, Paul

Burega, was read by Allan Steinhart who moved acceptance, seconded by Clarence Stillions. Carried.

Allan Steinhart read the report of the Convention Co-ordinator, C. R. McGuire. Acceptance was moved by Win Clatterbuck, seconded by Bill Rockett. Carried.

The Circuit Manager, Bob Jamieson, read his report and moved acceptance, seconded by Michael Dicketts. Carried.

The Librarian, Clinton A. Phillips, read his report and moved acceptance, seconded by J.J. MacDonald. Carried.

The BNAPS Co-ordinator for CAPEX, Bill Pawluk, provided a report which was read by Ed Harris who moved its acceptance, seconded by Palmer Moffatt. Carried. One life member and twenty-four regular members were signed up at CAPEX. (Details were printed in the September-October 1987 *TOPICS*.)

Ed Harris reported on the Annual Meeting of the Board of Directors. Annual dues have been increased to Canadian \$20 or US \$15 for 1988.

Jon Johnson will assume the position of Study Group Co-ordinator. Nick Sheklian will take over as Admissions Chairman.

Two members were at this convention and all the previous 38 conventions — Bill Rockett and Harry Lussey.

The new Emeritus members for 1988 are:

0761	Paul Lang
0871	Fred Hutt
0920	Robert Stephenson
0961	Paul Mullins
0967	Don Amos
0973	Robert Pearsall
0984	Gus Greening
0997	A.G. Anderson

The winner of the V.G. Greene award for articles or a column in *TOPICS* was Harry Lussey. Robert A. Lee was awarded the President's Certificate for proposing the most new members.

The new members of the Order of the Beaver are Ed Harris and Bill Robinson.

There was considerable discussion of publishing a membership list. The Executive and Board have received direction from the members and will act accordingly.

Leo LaFrance encouraged members to come to next year's convention at Virginia Beach, September 8-10, 1988. The exhibits will be limited to 2 to 4 frames each.

Earle L. Covert, M.D.
Secretary

PRESIDENT

Your Society continues to prosper and after more than 40 years of operation has as bright a future now as it ever had. The Society is strong in all areas of endeavour and our dedicated and hard-working officers and department heads will ensure our continued success.

Ten years ago at our meeting in Edmonton, we officially recognized a gift from Robert H. Pratt, our long time member. This gift was processed by Bob through the Essay Proof Society to BNAPS. Bob has long had a dream of establishing BNAPS as a foundation that would benefit from tax-exempt gifts and donations. Through Bob's efforts alone, BNAPS has now been re-incorporated in Wisconsin. Work is continuing to gain status as a tax-exempt corporation so that gifts to the Society will generate an income tax receipt. I want to officially recognize the great contribution Bob has made and the personal time, effort and money he has expended for the good of the Society.

BNA TOPICS continues to be the backbone of the Society and is the vehicle whereby we reach every member. Mike Street is to be commended for his continued efforts in producing such an excellent publication over so long a period of time.

Our financial position over the year has, under the stewardship of our new Treasurer, Howard Twichell, improved greatly and we now

have a sizable amount of cash in Term Deposits earning interest for the Society. Revamping of reporting systems used by department heads is still not complete, but improvements have been made during the year.

Both Regional Groups and Study Groups within the Society are functioning successfully and we regard these as important areas which hold together our far-flung membership.

Jon Johnson has been appointed the new Study Group Coordinator effective January 1, 1988. Jon is well experienced and vitally interested in this area and you will recall the fine Study Group program he organized for BNAPEX '85 in Calgary. This job has been admirably performed over the last five years by John Burnett and he proved to be an important factor in the increased success of these Groups. Thank you, John, for your efforts in this regard.

Norman Brassler has been chairman of our Admissions Committee for many years and has asked to be relieved of his duties as soon as possible. We recognize the fine contribution Norman has made and he has been carrying on until a successor can be found.

All officers and department heads are to be commended for the continued fine performance of their duties. Without the unselfish dedication of time and effort from these volunteers our Society would not continue to prosper.

E.A. Harris

CHAIRMAN OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS

This has been my third year as chairman of the Board of Directors of BNAPS. If I repeat myself from last year, I have enjoyed working with the executives and board members. The year has been generally one of progress and forward movement.

First a general welcome and thank you to the new members of the board, new elected officials and new department heads who together with the old executive have made BNAPS function the past twelve months. A few of these I would like to single out for thanks.

To John Burnett, who is retiring as Coordinator of Study Groups, also a hearty well done and thanks. Under John's direction and prodding, and through his tenacity there has been an unprecedented growth in BNAPS Study Groups.

Our new Treasurer, Howard Twichell, has taken control and done a superb job under trying

conditions this past year.

We lost our Librarian with the passing of Don Makinen. Special thanks to Clint Phillips, Vic Willson and Barry Shapiro for securing the BNAPS Library and carting it to College Station, Texas, and to Clint for assuming the position of Librarian.

In our book department many new titles have been listed and are now available to our members, most at a discount. Thank you to Dave Clare. Many of these titles have been supplied to our library at no cost, being charged off against the revenue of the book department.

We had another meeting on September 16, 1986 between Canada Post and the representatives of BNAPS, the RPSC and the PHSC. A frank discussion took place and much progress was made in the presentation of organized philately's views on what the National Postal

Museum should be and how things should be done. The Post Office appeared to be receptive to our suggestions, the future will show whether this holds true. Two things have already occurred. First, a philatelist has been appointed to the new advisory committee. Second, the first philatelic lecture was held in Ottawa under the auspices of the NPM. I was honoured to be the principal speaker.

This has been a banner year for publishing for BNAPS, with four important, major handbooks being published. Prince Edward Island, Assiniboia, the Northwest Territories and Bickerdike Machine Cancellations were the subjects.

Special thanks, as in the past, are due to some of the hardest workers in the Society, without whom the Society could not function; to Earle Covert and John Graper for keeping the paperwork of the society flowing smoothly and efficiently; to Mike Street for putting out a superior philatelic journal; to Bob Lee for taking hold of the advertising department of *TOPICS*; to Ed Harris, our President, for a lot of hard work and his hands on approach to running the society. I would also like to add a special thank you to member Len Woodward, who is also our printer. Len is here with us in Charlottetown this year.

During CAPEX this past June, many of our members participated as executives, participants, visitors, exhibitors, judges and volunteers. To all of these, congratulations and thank yous,

especially to the volunteers who manned the BNAPS booth, and to Bill Pawluk for organizing the booth and its staffing. We held a reception on the Friday night of Capex. It was a great success with over 150 people there at some times. I must express my apologies to the membership for the change of the time of this affair, due to scheduling problems caused by others beyond our control. The cost of all this Capex activity was under \$600 Canadian.

The most important society change this past year was the granting of a new incorporation charter to BNAPS by the State of Wisconsin. We owe Bob Pratt much for this. I am sorry Bob could not be here to receive the thanks of the members for his generosity and perseverance in this matter. We are pursuing Tax Exempt status in both Canada and the USA, so that in the future it will be possible for members who wish to do so to make deductible donations to the Society.

One of my troubling concerns is membership. I urge you strongly, if you know someone interested in BNA philately, to sign him or her up for BNAPS. The more members we have the stronger we are, and the more we can learn and share.

Last but not not least, our thanks to Jim Lehr, Doug Murray and the others in their group for putting together this convention in Charlottetown.

Allan L. Steinhart

SECRETARY

I wish to express my appreciation for the work done to help me during the last year by the following:

John Graper, Assistant Secretary
Norman Brassler, Admissions Chairman
Paul Burega, Circulation Manager
Mike Street, Editor of *TOPICS*
Howard Twitchell, Treasurer
Bill Pawluk and the many members at CAPEX.

Membership at the end of June 1985 was 1411, at the same time in 1986 it was 1399 and this year was up slightly to 1418. We are still losing too many members on the annual drop list for non-payment of dues. This is not totally due to lack of interest as we found both before and after publishing the latest drop list, that several members who were on the list had died months before. We also find a number of address changes only after we have sent out second notices for dues. We need everyone's help to chase down lost members. I also urge everyone to report address changes promptly to the secretary.

I will not be standing for re-election as secretary at the next year's election. We need a member who has the interest to do this job, who will make the time and who has a suitable computer. The records are set up on Lotus on an IBM compatible computer. This is a necessity. I produce the Secretary's Report for *TOPICS* as well as generating the mailing labels from the master membership list. I use a program designed by Mike Street which saves hours and gives greater accuracy as it eliminates retyping the list many times. It allows address changes at no cost to the Society rather than paying to change addressograph plates.

Norman Brassler, who has been a member since the year BNAPS was founded, requested last year in his report that a replacement be found for him as Admissions Chairman. I have never to my knowledge met Norm, but he has worked exceptionally hard and has been very persistent in chasing references. I thank this senior member VERY MUCH.

Earle L. Covert, M.D.

TREASURER

BRITISH NORTH AMERICA PHILATELIC SOCIETY LTD.

FINANCIAL STATEMENT AS OF JUNE 30, 1987 (U.S. FUNDS)

	JUNE 30, 1987	JUNE 30, 1986
CURRENT ASSETS		
Cash in banks	19220.98	16631.00
Checks in collection		1395.00
Cash held by dept. heads	15388.30	33377.00
Cert. of deposit U.S.	12000.00	
Cert. of deposit, Canada	7773.00	
Accounts Receivable	7067.49	7207.00
Less: Allowance for doubtful accounts	-244.00	-244.00
Inventory, Books	2419.00	13213.00
Library	100.00	100.00
Total Current Assets:	63724.77	71676.00
RESTRICTED FUNDS:		
Marketable Securities — Cost	2466.00	2466.00
TOTAL ASSETS:	66190.77	74145.00
	LIABILITIES & FUND BALANCES	
CURRENT LIABILITIES:		
Due owners of sales circuit	9467.00	10022.00
Prepaid Dues	8825.00	8465.00
Total Current Liabilities	18292.00	18487.00
FUND BALANCES:		
Insurance Fund, Sales Circuit Appropriated	7435.92	8172.00
Members Equity, Unappropriated	33162.85	40186.00
Total General Funds	40598.77	48358.00
Restricted Funds	7300.00	7300.00
TOTAL LIABILITIES & FUNDS	66190.77	74145.00

STATEMENT OF INCOME & EXPENSE FOR YEAR ENDED 6/30/87

REVENUE:

Membership Dues & Fees	17929.68
Interest Income from Banks	526.71
Dividend Income	298.49
Donation from Essay Proof Society	10950.00
Book Department	11854.00
Sales Circuit	2090.00

TOTAL REVENUE

43648.88

EXPENSES:

Stationery & Office Supplies	1410.55
Book Inventory, Cost of Sales	16775.71
Postage	933.65
Other Expense	202.00
Bank Draft Charges	117.35
BNA TOPICS	13622.34
Medals Etc.	5500.04
Book Department	57.75
Insurance	814.00
Legal Expense, New Corporation	10947.00
BNAPLEX & Other Show Expense	188.76
Advertising	102.88
TOTAL EXPENSES	50672.03

REDUCTION IN MEMBERSHIP EQUITY

7023.15

COORDINATOR: STUDY GROUPS

The 1987 year saw 19 study groups continue to inform and educate our members. I am pleased to announce that two new groups have formed, and three more are in the works.

Effective with this convention, the Roller Cancel Study Group has 10 members. Bob Lee is the Chairman. In addition, Jeff Switt has formed the Slogan Cancellation Study Group. Any interested members should contact these two gentlemen. Their addresses will appear in the next issue of *TOPICS*. This brings to 24 the number of active Study Groups.

Groups forming include George VI Rates, Leafs and Numerals and Manitoba and West Postal History. Names and addresses of groups trying to form will appear in all issues of *TOPICS*.

Frank Waite continues to be the glue that holds us together with his superb synopsis of the study groups called *On the Fringes* appearing regularly in *TOPICS* — thank you Frank!

Flag Cancellations and Small Queens have started up under new leadership. I have great expectations for both these groups, especially Flags, as I already see a broader horizon being studied with the inclusion of 20th century data.

Again at this year's convention all study groups have a time and place to meet. Last year there were complaints about the amount of time allocated. Each group now has 50 percent more

time this year, and there is one completely free day. We've had to overlap meetings, but I believe the conflicts have been as well thought out as could be.

Once again I've requested funds for the study groups and expect checks to be sent out shortly.

It's now been five years since I was first asked to focus an effort on study groups. At that time we had 5 active groups; today we have 19 and shortly we will have 22, and I could name another 35 we should have, but without you specialists getting involved, we can't proceed. So I urge you all, let's get involved. Start a group. Try it, you'll like it! Give your fellow BNAPSers the gift of your knowledge. You never can tell, you might learn.

To close, I wish the membership to know that I have tendered my resignation as Study Group Coordinator to take effect on January 1, 1988 when Jon Johnson of Calgary will take over.

I wish to thank some folks who have really helped: Frank Waite for his pen, Ed Whiting for listening, Jim Lehr for his leadership, John Siverts for calming me down when required, Mike Street for his support, and 22 philatelic leaders who chair the study groups. Thank you all!

John T. Burnett

EXCHANGE CIRCUIT MANAGER

The Exchange Circuit has had a relatively slow year, due in the main to some major moves by your Circuit Manager. Family illness, along with the selling of our house and moving into an apartment put too much on my platter. However I am pleased to report that all seems to be stabilized at present, and the circuits are once more on the move.

The circuit results for this period amounted to \$13,780.68 (Can). The drop from the preceding year was due to the above mentioned. However, with a large quantity of member's books retired, \$2,767.58 in commissions and \$874.50 in Insurance Fund Contributions were paid into the Treasury for this period.

As mentioned in previous reports the specialized classifications are still in the forefront of member's interests. The majority of the results came from the following classifications: Perfins, Revenues, Precancels, R.P.O.s, Squares, Fancies, Scarce towns, Semi-Official Airs, Booklets

and Panes both used and mint. Selected early used and mint Canada and Provinces, used blocks, better postal history, Small Queens, and Large Queens all added to the above. We have very little demand for modern Canada mint or used, or for plate blocks after the war issue. The exception to the above is Centennial specialized books, especially with varieties. We can and do need these.

We have a good selection of books here for the annual meeting in P.E.I., and will be putting quite a few circuits out following my return.

Can you help with any of the following: Jubilees and 1898 Maps with cancels; postal history of the Yukon, N.W.T. & Western Provinces? Also needed are books of varieties, both early and modern.

We have a pretty good selection of books now, so write in for your card and state your interests. We will do our best to get you on a circuit fast. And if you have any of the above

wanted items, blank books are available at 5 for \$3.25 Can., post paid.

As always time prevents me from acknowledging the many letters received over the course of the year. My sincere thanks to one and all

who take the time to write. Your notes and comments are helpful and are truly appreciated. JOIN THE CIRCUIT NOW AND ENJOY CIRCUIT BOOKS IN THE COMFORT OF YOUR HOME.

R.H. (BOB) Jamieson

CHAIRMAN: EDITORIAL BOARD

Again this past year has been an easy one for the committee. As the Editor, Mike Street; the Printer, Len Woodward; the Circulation Manager, Paul Burega; and the Advertising Manager, Bob Lee, have continued their fine efforts producing

your journal. Their efforts are commendable as each have volunteered their time without compensation for the good of the Society.

Clarence A. Stillions

VINCENT G. GREENE AWARD

A survey of the Elected Officers, Members of the Board of Governors and the Donor to decide a winner of the Vincent G. Greene Award for the best article, series of articles, column or series of columns authored by a member or members of B.N.A.P.S. and originally published in *BNA TOPICS* during 1986 has determined that

the award shall be given to Harry W. Lussey, for his articles on the eight cent Registry stamp and Revenue stamps, which appeared at intervals through the year.

John C. Graper
Assistant Secretary

1986 PRESIDENT'S CERTIFICATE

Each year the President's Certificate is awarded to the member who has proposed the most new members during the previous year. It has been determined by the tabulation of members enrolled during 1986 that the winner this

year is member number 2470, Robert A. Lee, with eight new members to his credit.

John C. Graper
Assistant Secretary

EMERITUS MEMBERS

As established by the Board of Governors at their meeting in Toronto, Ontario in June 1978, each member with thirty-five consecutive years as a member in good standing who has also attained the age of seventy-five years is to be awarded the status of Emeritus Member, with all the rights, privileges and benefits pertaining to Regular and Life Members with no further dues being levied or collected.

A survey of the membership rolls of our present Regular and Life Members has resulted in the following members qualifying at this time and

thereby being awarded Emeritus Membership:

- 0761 Paul Lang
- 0871 Professor Fred B. Hutt
- 0920 Robert W. Stephenson
- 0961 Paul Mullins
- 0967 Don Amos
- 0973 Robert L. Pearsall
- 0984 Gustav Greening
- 0997 A.G. Anderson

John C. Graper
Assistant Secretary

LIBRARIAN

Following the sad and untimely death of Don Makinen, Victor Willson transported the BNAPS Library from Don's home to College Station, Texas where it is now housed, primarily in my home. Vic Willson holds all bound journals; I have the rest.

To date the following has been accomplished.

- 1) I requested and received from Treasurer Howard Twichell \$300 for operating expenses of which a modest amount has been spent to date.
- 2) A request was made to the appropriate editor or secretary of all study groups to fill large gaps in our holdings of back issues of newsletters and

the response was most gratifying. Our files are now nearly complete.

3) Considerable discussion with the Library Advisory Committee (Ed Richardson, Ed Christman and Vic Willson) has been held concerning a computerized index system possibly based upon Cimon Morin's *Canadian Philatelic Bibliography and Index and Supplement*. Vic Willson is in charge of this activity.

4) Numerous duplicate holdings have been identified and plans are underway to dispose of these through BNAPS to raise funds to acquire books and monographs. (One particularly pres-

sing need is to fill great gaps in our holdings of *Postal Guides*.)

5) In connection with the previous point it would be very helpful if, somehow, the BNAPS Library could be designated a repository for new publications in the area of British North American philately.

Any new suggestions for improvement of the Library — its holdings or operations — will be welcomed and seriously considered.

It is a pleasure to serve the Society.

Clinton A. Phillips

ADMISSIONS

During the year 1986-87 the Committee processed 26 applications that required references to be followed up. Of this number 4 are still pending awaiting proper endorsements (or rejection). One applicant died before admittance and the balance were accepted.

The same problem as heretofore still exists, namely the lack of cooperation by the references. Of the four still pending, three follow up letters were sent and still no response. Contact has

been made with the applicants to furnish new references. They too are still not forthcoming.

Once again I must request a replacement for me as Chairman. I have held the position for many years and I believe it is appropriate for someone else to take over this function. It does not require much time or effort, and I trust someone will step forward.

Norman Brassler

COORDINATOR: REGIONAL GROUPS

I am receiving frequent reports from all of the regional groups, except the Detroit-Windsor and the California groups. I am having no success with the Detroit-Windsor group, but there is hope for the revival of the California group.

As to new group formation, I have had no

success with an Ohio group, a Chicago area group, a Greater New York group, or a Maritime group.

I will still strive to create an interest in these areas.

Dr. Robert V.C. Carr

CHAIRMAN: HANDBOOK COMMITTEE

During the past 12 months four new handbooks have been published by the BNAPS Handbook Committee, through our joint venture policy with the Unitrade Press. This arrangement has worked out to the benefit of BNAPS, and except for a few minor problems continues to help us in our endeavor to publish more BNA manuscripts. Needless to say the committee has been very involved in the work the past year.

First, last fall we published *The Bickerdike Machine Papers*, by Geoffrey R. Newman and Raymond McLean, an in depth study of these pioneer machine cancellations, their development and their history which adds much to our knowledge on the subject, complementing previously published material.

At CAPEX, two new BNAPS publications

made their debut. *Northwest Territories, Postal Cancellations 1907-1986*, by Kevin O'Reilly, is a definitive study of the postal history of the post offices and postmarks of the region and a study of the Eastern Arctic Patrol postal history. Also published was *The Postal History of Assiniboia, 1882-1905*, by Ronald Kell of Great Britain. This is the most important work on this area as yet published.

At this convention Jim Lehr's long awaited book on Prince Edward Island, just published this week and rushed here by courier, has been released. This is an extremely important work in an area long neglected. It is the first major work on the subject, covering all areas of P.E.I. from the stamps to the postal history to the cancellations. What a perfect place to launch this book!

Other projects are in preparation or in the planning stages or just in the talking stages, including a book on the Plating of the Map Stamp. More will be said when the time is right.

The Handbook Committee looks forward to more good manuscripts on British North America Philately for publication.

Allan L. Steinhart

ASSISTANT SECRETARY

The duties of the Assistant Secretary changed little in the past year, mainly in the area of responsibility of collection of dues payments reverting to the Treasurer and the coordination of dues records with him. This is expected to run smoothly this year.

Purchase of a more sophisticated computer system is allowing integration of the dues records with the membership directory to allow better coordination of the records with considerably less effort, and transfer of files from the older unit is proceeding at a slow but steady

pace, though there have been some delays in replying to correspondence as a result.

It will be possible now to offer listings, including mailing labels, of members in specific areas to Regional Group Chairmen and others in an effort to increase member participation in BNAPS activities at a more local level. The availability of this will depend on the time the membership directory is completely updated, but is expected before the end of 1987.

John C. Graper

ADVERTISING MANAGER: BNA TOPICS

The writer took over the position of advertising manager one year ago at the Dearborn convention.

Special thanks to Dave Dixon and Mike Street. Both of these gentlemen made the transition a smooth one.

Display advertising income for the period July 1, 1986 until June 30, 1987 totalled \$7,827.47. This compares to \$7,271.00 for the

previous year.

Classified advertising income for the same period was \$240.00, with no comparative figure for the previous year.

I would like to encourage more members to use the Classified section. Many who do have commented to me on their success with this means of buying or selling.

Robert A. Lee

CIRCULATION MANAGER: BNA TOPICS

Income for the period 1 July 1986 to 30 June 1987 was up sharply from previous years. Income for the 1986-87 year was \$659.50 Canadian and \$95.00 American. This is contrasted to \$243.50 Canadian for the 1985-86 year and \$284.00 Canadian for the 1984-85 year.

This rise is partly due to the better stock of back issues available in the past year from donations and from people selling their back issues through BNAPS. The classified ads at the back

of *TOPICS* have also contributed to sales.

The circulation manager's office still contains a very good stock of *TOPICS*. Members wishing to enhance their library should consider writing to find out which of their wants can be filled.

I hope to continue this advertising for the upcoming year, with the hopes that income will at least remain constant, if not rise.

Paul M. Burega

EDITOR: BNA TOPICS

The operation of *BNA TOPICS* has continued to be relatively smooth over the past year.

During the year a space 'crunch' occurred, the result of a number of large articles all reaching the front of the line simultaneously. An additional factor was estimates of space required which tended to be low. This situation meant either risking the wrath of authors whose work would be delayed, or increasing the size of

TOPICS temporarily. The latter course was taken; 12 extra pages were added to the May-June issue, and 8 extra pages to the July-August and September-October issues.

The bigger editions will continue at least until the January-February 1988 issue. Your Editor is not anxious to make the larger size permanent. This is because of the extra work involved; in terms of articles, three to four issues

in the larger size is the equivalent of an extra number at the regular size.

Once again I would like to mention those who help make *TOPICS* the success it is. First and foremost, the authors, without whom there would be no journal. Second, our printer, Len Woodward, who is again here with us at the convention. Len has the difficult task of keeping me in line, especially at press time. Paul Burega and Bob Lee, Circulation and Advertising Managers respectively, have settled into their new duties quite well and are a big help. Kathy Ward continues to risk her sanity deciphering the handwriting of some of our authors as she transcribes their hard work into a computer file, thus making the Editor's life a little easier.

At the meeting on Wednesday I informed the Board that I will continue as Editor, if asked,

but that I will not be available for this job after 1991. I would be willing to step down earlier if a member wished to take over. Although the notice period seems long, I would remind members that I am now in my seventh year as Editor — time goes much faster than we realize. Anyone interested in considering the position can contact the President, the Chairman of the Editorial Board or myself for further information.

Articles on all subjects are always welcome. Because articles on stamps have been in short supply, postal history material has taken up much of *TOPICS'* available space in the past few years. Members working on stamp oriented research, who are close to the writing stage, are especially encouraged to submit their work for other BNAPSers to see.

Mike Street

MANAGER: BOOK DEPARTMENT

During the past year the Book Department handled 58 orders with sales of \$15,250.00. The

Department also supplied the Library with 3 new books.
Dave Clare

COORDINATOR: CONVENTIONS

I hope you are enjoying BNAPEX '87 and wish to sincerely thank the organizers for their efforts. We must remember that without host groups the Society would not have annual get-togethers. These important people and their work must be appreciated.

The future convention schedule is as follows. I understand that the necessary arrangements are now underway. You can continue to look forward to more good times at interesting sites across North America.

1988 Virginia Beach, VA Marva Page
1989 Hamilton, ON Mike Street/Dave Dixon
(Sept. 22-24)

1990 Houston, TX Howard Twichell
1991 Vancouver, BC Bill Robinson
(Bayshore Inn, Labour Day Weekend)
1992-96 open
1997 St. John's, Newfoundland President,
St. John's Stamp Club

I hope host groups will come forward requesting one of the open years. In the United States, 1992, 1994 and 1996 are open. In Canada, 1993 and 1995 are open. Please think about organizing one of these conventions and contact me as soon as possible.

C.R. McGuire

AN INVITATION

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The RPO Cowcatcher

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Kirkland, Washington 98033

We have a bit of catching up to do after our last column to reprise both the BNAPEX and BALPEX shows. Charlottetown was an unqualified success for BNAPS and equally good for the RPO Study Group. With over 160 in attendance, Jim Lehr — our leader for BNAPEX '87 — receives our warmest congratulations for a splendid convention, right down to the lobster dinner and the final banquet.

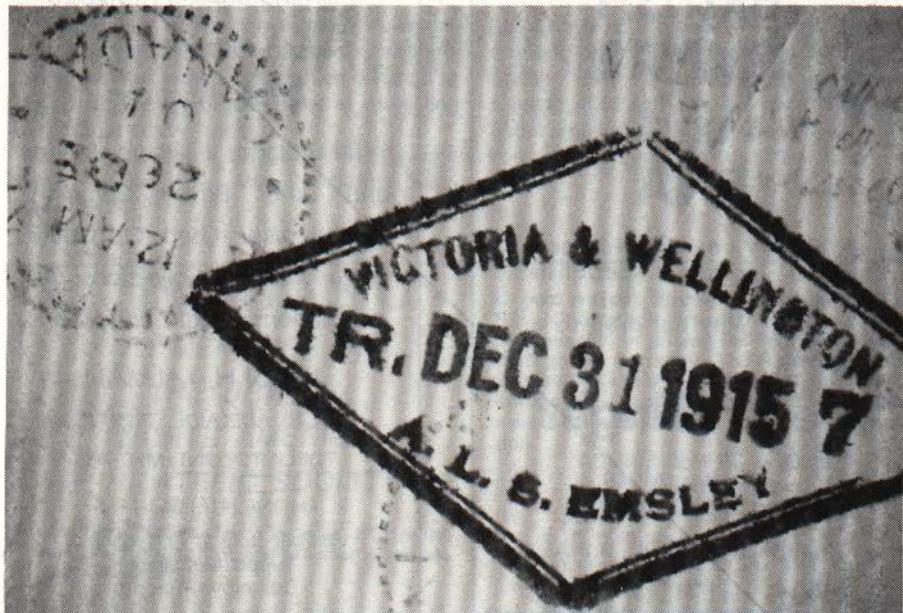
Twenty-two attended our RPO Study Group meeting, at which Doug Murray gave a marvelous talk on Railways of P.E.I.; this was timely since the Study Group exhibit on the same subject was designated as the most popular exhibit of the show. At this same meeting we also distributed our recording of possible RPO listings on the Map Stamp, to go along with our distribution of the same roster for the Jubilee issue. All in all, another great gathering of BNAPSers.

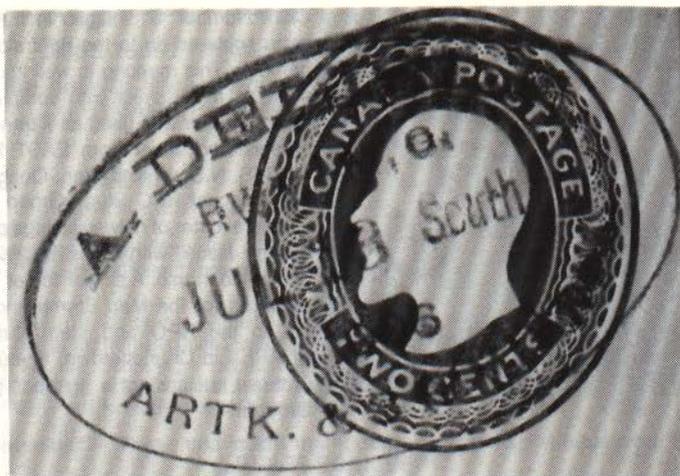
In Baltimore for BALPEX, our seminar for Canadian Railway Cancellations was very well

received by some two dozen members of the Mobile Post Office Society (M.P.O.S.). All of the attendees were most expert in railway markings of the U.S., but they showed a keen interest in our overview of this similar area of their northern neighbor. One interesting fact about this show can be noted — our Provincial Railway Cancellations was the only Canadian exhibit out of more than 100 exhibitors. We need to bring our beauties more to the fore south of the border.

A note in passing — what a grand article Alex Price wrote on the C.P.R. End of Tracks markings in the Sept./Oct. TOPICS!!! Congratulations, Alex!

Many of the slides shown in the BALPEX seminar (see the last Cowcatcher) have been seen previously in the Cowcatcher. Here are a few clerk strikes that have not been shown before. For a start we have Q-5 A. DELISLE, / RWY. M.C. / ARTK. & 3 RIVIERES on a cut square. This listing is only known in 1906; to date





this is the only full strike that we have recorded, although partials are well known. Then we have W-163a VICTORIA & WELLINGTON / A. L. S. EMSLEY, backstamped on a registered cover from France to Cowichan Lake, B.C. The apparent date of '01' on the Montreal transit mark has to be in error; four other markings on this cover confirm the year of use as 1915.

Another marvellous clerk strike, a discovery of Jon Johnson, is on a splendid cover from

Hungary to Binscarth, Manitoba. W-113C WPG. & YORKTON R.P.O./D.W. WATSON/WINNIPEG was applied as a transit mark, and with the Hungarian stamps affixed on the back of the cover (a common practice?), Mr. Watson ended up using his hammer as a cancellation device. This cover was addressed to 'Ginscarth' but apparently had no trouble reaching its right destination. Our last clerk strike is Q-195A QUE & CAMPBELLTON / EXPRESS / '8', where the





Clerk Number '8', intaglio in frame lines, has been soldered on to the right side of the steel hammer. This marking is well known but rarely seen as a full strike with complete date. This clerk hammer was used as a transit marking on a registered cover from EAST RIVER — ST. MARYS, N.S., to Knowlton, Quebec, in 1895.

A recent RPO Study Group Newsletter included a roster of railway listings possible on the Jubilee Issue, with some 82.2% having been confirmed in use. A similar roster has now been prepared for the Map Stamp and was handed out to the RPO and Map Study Groups at BNAPEX in Charlottetown. If you have interest in these but are not a member, join our Study Group!!!

REGIONAL GROUP RAMBLINGS

by Jim Goben

REGIONAL GROUP COORDINATOR: Dr. Robert V.C. Carr, 117 Robin Hood Way, Youngstown, OH 44511

REGIONAL GROUP REPORTER: Jim Goben, 304 W. Lincoln St., Bloomington, IL 61701

PRAIRIE BEAVERS: Howard Twichell, 5200 Keller Springs, No. 530, Dallas, TX 75248

CALGARY: Phillip Wolf, 636 Woodbine Blvd. S.W., Calgary, AB, T2W 4W4

NORTHERN CALIFORNIA: Garvin Lohman, 1541 Sacramento St., Apt. 3, San Francisco, CA 94109

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DETROIT-WINDSOR: Mike Barie, P.O. Box 1445, Detroit, MI 48231

MANITOBA-NORTHWESTERN ONTARIO: Robert Lemire, P.O. Box 549, Pinawa, MB, R0E 1L0

PACIFIC-NORTHWEST: Brian Plain, 230 Robson Rd. W., Kelowna, BC V1X 3C8

Ed Harris sent along a copy of the **Calgary** group's annual Christmas party announcements as an example of what the 'Fun' group does. I must admit that the notice of a gourmet Chinese dinner in a local restaurant was most inviting. The notice carried a reproduction of a cover, addressed in both Chinese characters and in English, mailed from Macau, China to an Alberta resident in 1940. Original!

Vic Willson's latest edition of the *Beaver Chatter* is 16 pages long — now that's a newsletter!! (Only in **Texas** you say?) Beverlie and Stuart Clark from Winnipeg and John Frith from Sudbury were scheduled to be guests at the January 30 Prairie Beavers meeting at Ed Richardson's home. Obviously the snowbirds are travelling

again! Another guest, Lee Scamp, was to talk on the Hong Kong-Canada Connection. Dinner at a local restaurant topped off an all day agenda that took a whole page in the newsletter to list.

The rest of the newsletter consists of articles by Jim Felton, Vic Willson and Clint Phillips, and copies of some of the many covers Ed Richardson would be discussing at the meeting. I'll look forward to the next *Chatter* so I can pass on news of how things went.

Not much in the mail bag this time around. Remember, we cannot publicize your regional group if we don't get news to print. Deadline for the May-June issue is March 15; for July-August it is May 15.

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CANADIAN LETTER MAIL TO FRANCE THE SMALL QUEEN ERA 1870-1897

by Maggie Toms and George B. Arfken

Part 3 — Insufficiently Paid Mail



Figure 5. MONTREAL, C.E., MY 12 74. 'Insufficiently prepaid'. Treated as totally unpaid. Note the same postal markings as in Figure 6.



Figure 6. QUEBEC, MY 17 72. Totally unprepaid. Rated due 12 decimes (24¢)

Figure 5 introduces another aspect of Small Queen era letters to France: insufficiently paid mail. This cover is prepaid the 12¢/oz Cunard rate but with no instruction 'via New York' or 'via British packet' marked. Apparently over ¼ oz, it was marked in red 'Insufficiently prepaid'.

As the 12 May 1874 posting date lies midway between sailings of the Allan Line, this letter in all probability was routed via New York for British service. Letters insufficiently prepaid addressed to France were supposed to be treated as totally unpaid. This policy was outlined in Section 29 of the Dominion Post Office Act, (*Canadian Postage Stamps and Stationery*, p. 98, by Clifton A. Howes), and confirmed in a circular sent on 3 December 1867 to the Canadian Marine Officers (R.G.3. vol. 1126, p. 152). It carried over into the Small Queen era until the adherence of Canada to the Universal Postal Union.

London stamped the cover with the British accountancy stamp 'G.B. 2F_ _', a mark not

found on earlier unpaid letters from British North America routed via the United States. At this late date, no distinction as to route appears to have been made in the accountancy mark. The cover was rated for collection on delivery of 12 decimes. This was the amount for a letter not over 10 grams, so the cover must have weighed over 1/4 oz but not over 1/3 oz.

When Great Britain introduced prepayment of packet postage in 1859, Canada also applied the mandatory prepayment to letters for France. This regulation remained in force until the latter part of May 1867, when a directive to the Canadian exchange offices dated 28 May 1867 informed them that "in (the) future letters may be sent to France without prepayment of postage being exacted." (R.G.3, vol. 567, p. 278).

Similar instructions were sent to the Canadian Marine Officers on 3 December 1867. However this option was not reflected in the Tables of Rates of Postage published in the 1868-1874 *Lists of Post Offices in Canada* nor was it given in the October 1875 *Dominion of Canada Official Postal Guide* where prepayment of letters to France was still listed as mandatory. So, although it is possible to find totally unpaid packet letters from Canada to France during the Small Queen era, it is very unusual. The cover shown in Figure 6 was posted at Quebec on 17 May 1872. Addressed to Paris, France, and carried on the Allan Line steamer *HIBERNIAN*, it was treated by the British Post Office in the same manner as the cover in Figure 5.

To be continued

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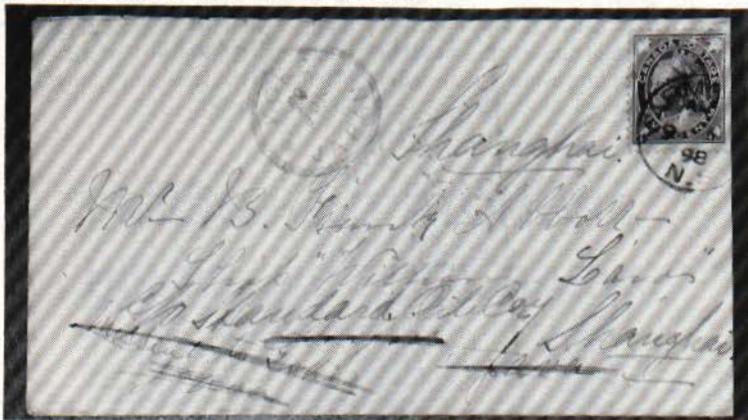
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20. LETTER RATE TO POSTAL UNION COUNTRIES

The rate of postage on letters addressed to all Postal Union countries, with the exception of United States and Newfoundland, is 5¢ per half ounce.



This letter, mailed in Yarmouth, N.S. on 9 May 1898, was probably meant to be waiting for the addressee when his ship reached Java in the Netherlands East Indies (now Indonesia). The backstamps show that after passing through Vancouver and San Francisco (23 May) it was sent first, in error, to Tokyo, Japan (16 June). From there it went via Kobe (18 June) to Singapore (5 July), finally reaching Batavia and Wel-

tevreden on 11 July.

The letter bounced back and forth between Singapore and Java for three weeks, until someone decided to readdress it to Shanghai, China. On 19 August it reached Hong Kong. Whether or not the addressee was found there, or if the missive did reach Shanghai, is uncertain. What is clear is that the letter did a lot of travelling for 5¢ postage!





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LITERATURE REVIEWS

BNA Philately in Print

THE POSTAL HISTORY OF THE DISTRICT OF ASSINIBOIA 1882-1905; Ronald Kell; BNAPS/The Unitrade Press, Toronto, 1987. Soft cover, 192pp, \$19.95.

In 1882 the southern portion of the North West Territories was divided into four postal districts: Alberta, Athabaska, Saskatchewan and Assiniboia. In 1905 these districts were absorbed into the provinces of Alberta, Saskatchewan and Manitoba. Representing fifteen years of research by Ronald Kell, this book is the first comprehensive study of the District of Assiniboia, which comprised most of the territory of what is now south eastern Alberta and south western Saskatchewan.

The author details the system of townships, the development of the railways (essential to the communications of the west) and the early mail routes, before delving into the classification and description of all the known cancellations of Assiniboia.

The bulk of the book is devoted to the post offices of the district. Each is listed alphabetically and, where available, opening and closing dates, name changes and serial number (if still in use) are given. The location of each office is described by quarter section and township, as well as reference to larger centres.

Populations, postmasters, proximity to rail lines, etc. are included, and each known cancel and handstamp is described. A brief historical sketch is given for most of the post office locations.

Ronald Kell has tackled a difficult subject and produced a worthwhile book that will undoubtedly form the nucleus of the work of future historians.

The 'manuscript' for this book was submitted typed and camera ready for publication, with numbers at the top of each page. Although fading of letters in some places will cause annoyance, the printer did a good job reproducing the original. The only significant flaw lies in the insertion of pages of illustrations between pages of text. Page 19, for instance, is followed by twelve 'Plates' (some of them unnumbered), after which comes Page 20. It would not have been difficult

to renumber the original pages to accommodate the illustrations, thus reducing confusion (it is difficult to refer to the 'sixth page after page 19'). In this, the publisher could have done better by the author, especially considering the effort put in by the latter under the difficult circumstances of working across an ocean.

THE POSTAGE STAMPS AND CANCELLATIONS OF PRINCE EDWARD ISLAND, 1814-1873; J.C. Lehr; BNAPS/The Unitrade Press, Toronto, 1987. Hard cover, 174pp, \$39.95.

The fact that this is the first handbook ever to be written on the stamps and postal history of Prince Edward Island will come as a surprise to some people. This is explained, in part, by the fact that all early records were lost when the Charlottetown Post Office burned to the ground in 1884, and those of the printer were destroyed after he went bankrupt in 1892. Why earlier collectors did not do the legwork done by Jim Lehr and the people who helped him produce this work is unclear. The important thing is that now there is a PEI book.

Almost everything you ever wanted to know about the stamps, post offices, cancellations and covers of Prince Edward Island will be found in this volume. Comprehensive is probably the adjective most descriptive of the book. Included are: postal history of early British North America and early PEI; proofs, essays and dies of the stamps; results of a census of known PEI covers; a large section on the cancellations, with well drawn illustrations; and the text of the law *For the Transfer of the Management of the Inland Posts Within Prince Edward Island*, passed in 1851 by the island's Legislature at the time when the BNA colonies took over control of postal activities from England. There is even a section on the perforating machines used by the Charlottetown printer who prepared the stamps! The author acknowledges that there are grey areas, and asks for new information to be forwarded to help fill in the picture.

At \$39.95, the book is expensive, but given the lack of any other it is worth it. Production quality is quite good. Whether the improvement

in layout, quality of illustrations, etc. is due to intervention by the author or better workmanship and attention by the publisher, or both, is not known, but given Unitrade's spotty past history in this area, it is nice to be able to report positively.

A CHECKLIST OF SASKATCHEWAN POST OFFICES; W.G. Robinson & W. Topping. Eds.; privately published, Vancouver, 1987. Soft cover, 68 pp, \$10.00. Available from W. Topping, 7430 Angus Dr., Vancouver, BC V6P 5K2.

Steadily, Bill Robinson and Bill Topping are moving East — in a postal history sense, that is. Just as in their well received lists for British Columbia and Alberta, the Saskatchewan checklist includes: Names of offices, with changes of name if this has occurred; location; opening and closing (where applicable) dates; and known types of cancellations. Important for many collectors, a rarity factor, based on the number of reported markings regardless of type, is given for each office. The BC list had the rarity factor, but it was omitted from the Alberta list and was missed.

Anyone studying the postal history of Saskatchewan in particular, and those who regularly go through lots of covers, will find this book most helpful. For those interested in post offices of Manitoba or the Territories, hold on — more checklists are in preparation.

PHSC JOURNAL, 15TH ANNIVERSARY ISSUE (Whole No. 51); E.B. Manchee, Ed.; Ottawa, 1987. Soft cover, 198pp, \$15.00. Available from R.F. Narbonne, Secretary, 216 Mailey Dr., Carleton Place, ON K7C 3X9.

Who should buy this 1/2 inch thick edition of the *PHSC Journal* specially produced for CAPEX? Anyone who would like to know what it is that causes hordes of grown men and women to ooh and aah over dirty envelopes or little pieces of paper carrying one or more postmarks, to take a bunch of picture postcards and never look at the front of them, to enquire solicitously after the well being of the shoe box containing Aunt Tillie's old love notes or Uncle Bob's letters home from the war, or to ask the local postmaster for the names of all his predecessors back to 18 ought something. That's who.

In short, this edition of the *Journal* could serve as a primer on many of the different aspects of postal history which catch and hold the

attention of collectors. The scope of the articles, and the physical territory covered, range from *Relative Appointments in the PEI Post Office to Eastern Arctic Patrol*, from *The First Authorized Air Mail Flight in Canada to Newfoundland Means Rev. Butler*. Rates, routes, post office buildings, types of cancellations, transatlantic mail, prisoner of war and internment camps, military mail — it's all there! If you don't have one, move. The extra copies won't last forever.

GENERAL INTEREST

PHILATELIC GEMS 3; Donna O'Keefe; Linn's Stamp News, Sidney, OH, 1987. Soft Cover, 168pp, \$7.95US; hardcover, \$15US; both post-paid from Linn's Stamp News, P.O. Box 29, Sidney, OH 45365.

Philatelic Gems 3, a sequel to its best selling predecessors, tells the sometimes intriguing stories behind 70 'underrated rarities' which are probably unfamiliar to many collectors. The stories run the gamut from Canada's London-to-London semi-official airmail, through two of Newfoundland's airmail surcharges of the 1930s, to the Shermack perforations on the United States 4¢ Grant of 1906-8.

In discussing this volume's immediate predecessor, *Gems 2*, this reviewer commented, "Anyone interested in acquiring a wide ranging knowledge of philately will find this book well worth reading." Others obviously think so too as Linn's has announced that *Gems 1* has been reprinted. Linn's is offering any two of the books for \$15US, or all three for \$22US.

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- FEBRUARY 13-28, CALGARY, ALBERTA** — **OLYMPEX '88**, special 'International' Philatelic Exhibition and bourse. Calgary Convention Centre. Information: OLYMPEX '88 Stamp Exhibition, c/o P.O. Box 1988, Stn. C, Calgary AB T2T 5R4.
- MARCH 12, OAKVILLE, ONTARIO** — **OAKPEX '88**, Oakville Stamp Club show and bourse. River Oaks Recreation Centre, 2400 Sixth Line. Information: Mel Kertcher, P.O. Box 524, Oakville ON L6J 5B4.
- MARCH 18-20, EDMONTON, ALBERTA** — **Spring Show '88**, Edmonton Stamp Club show and bourse. Terrace Inn Hotel. Information: Edmonton Stamp Club, P.O. Box 399, Edmonton, AB T5J 2J6.
- APRIL 9, BURLINGTON, ONTARIO** — **YOUTH STAMPEX '88**, show and bourse featuring stamp exhibits by students, with introductory workshops, prizes and games. White Oaks Secondary School, Trafalgar Road (north of QEW), Oakville, ON. Information: Jim Stanley, (416) 878-2379.
- APRIL 22-24, BLASDELL, NEW YORK** — **NIAGARA FRONTIER STAMP EXPO -88**, show and bourse held by the Niagara Frontier Federation of Stamp Clubs. Possible BNAPS Golden Horseshoe & Mid-Atlantic Regional Group joint meeting. McKinley Park Inn, Blasdell, NY. Information: Col. R. McCready, 60 Huxley Dr., Snyder, NY 14226.
- APRIL 30 - MAY 1, OTTAWA, ONTARIO** — **ORAPEX '88**, R.A. Stamp Club show and bourse. RA Center, 2451 Riverside Dr. Rooms available for Societies and Study Groups. Information: D. Lingard, 2425 Blackstone Cr., Ottawa, On K1B 4H3. (Continued on page 56)

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Calendar (continued from page 55)

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BNAPEX '88

VIRGINIA BEACH, VIRGINIA, September 8-10, BNAPS' Annual Convention. Virginia Beach Resort and Convention Center. Publicity: C.A. Stillions, 5031 Eskridge Terrace N.W., Washington, DC 20016. Reservations: Marva Paige, 1145 Shillelagh Road, Chesapeake, Virginia 23323.

1989-1991

BNAPEX '89

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From the Secretary

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Members are asked to note that two SIGNATURES on an application for membership hastens approval of new applications.

REPORT DATE: 15 December 1987

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C QE II Definitives — Centennials, Caricature & Landscapes
Proposed by: Peter Harris, 2612; Seconded by: Brian Stalker, 4400
- R4666 BENNETT, Gerald B., 160 Grand Valley Drive, Enoch, OH, USA 45323
C Transatlantic Mail, Ships, Cancels, Rates & Markings (1800-1899)
Proposed by: J.C. Arnell, 4376
- R4667 WALSH, Donal M., Three Barnes Road, Tarrytown, NY, USA 10591
C Newfoundland, Canada between the wars
Proposed by: Secretary

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- R4659 MASON, Albert
R4661 DEVEAU, Russell H.
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- R4663 KOENIG, Randolph F.
R4664 KUNG, Christop P.

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DECEASED

- R2806 STOKES, R.P.
R3760 WADDINGTON, Albert I.
- R4245 WILSEY, Richard H.

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 R3457 JENKINS, James R., Rt. 1, Box 219A, Billings, MO, USA 65610
 R3533 MAHAN, Frank Jr., 9870 White Sands Pl, Bonita Springs, FL, USA 33923
 L3685 MacRAE, Ian C., 102-77 Cartier St., Ottawa, ON, Canada K2P 1J7
 R3693 HUTTON, David Greig, 1227 Cambridge Crescent, Sarnia, ON, Canada N7S 3W5
 R3755 CURTIS, Derrick C., P.O. Box 2787, Revelstoke, BC, Canada V0E 2S0
 R3872 FOREST, Jean-Pierre, 4014 des Cedres, CP 5275, Cap Rouge, PQ, Canada G1Y 3M6
 R3938 GOURDIER, Ms. Joan T., 619 Davis Drive, Kingston, ON, Canada
 R3959 McCURDY, Lyall R., 12422-28A Ave, Edmonton, AB, Canada T5J 1E6
 R4010 GORDON, Dr. Zane M., 1340 Avenue Rd. (Lower), Toronto, ON, Canada M5N 2H2
 R4074 MORGAN, Charles W., 4465 Atwood Cay Place, Sarasota, FL, USA 34233
 R4106 CHARLAND, Walter E., 2162 Harbor View Dr., Dunedin, FL, USA 34698-2524
 R4155 GARVEY, Les, c/o Garvey & Sons Phil. Ltd, 10080-101 St., Room 200, Edmonton, AB, Canada T5J 1V9
 R4187 FAWN, Fred G., 20 Palomino Crescent, Willowdale, ON, Canada M2K 1W1
 R4275 SKREPNEK, Raymond J., Box 540, Berwyn, AB, Canada T0H 0E0
 R4317 GAUTHIER, Pierre, 558 Rue Avila-Legault, Dorval, PQ, Canada H9P 9Z7
 R4341 HAEFELI, Jack, P.O. Box 8645, Albany, NY, USA 12205
 R4418 REDWOOD, Michael V., 52 Harold Court, Hamilton, ON, Canada L8S 2R9
 R4453 BLANCHARD, Frederick G., 3004 Piper Drive, New Port Richey, FL, USA 34654
 R4531 JOHNSTON, R. Barry, 3 Fairmont Court, Narre Warren North, Victoria 3804, Australia
 R4594 JOYNER, G. William, 5019 54th Street, Yellowknife, NT, Canada

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- R1897 DOULL, R.M., 5209 Upland Dr., Delta, BC, Canada V4M 2G3
 R2086 HARWOOD, Robert L., 2115 de la Montagne, Ste 300, Montreal, PQ, Canada H3G 1Z8
 R2405 WILLIAMS, C.L., P.O. Box 1005, Brighton, ON, Canada K0K 1H0
 R2841 SERVAS, Frank Jr., P.O. Box 850, Floral Park, NY, USA 11002

MEMBERSHIP SUMMARY

Total membership as of last report	1446
New members added in this report	5
Deceased	3
Resigned	12
Mail Returned	4
Total membership as of this report	1432
Previous applications pending	1
New application(s)	3

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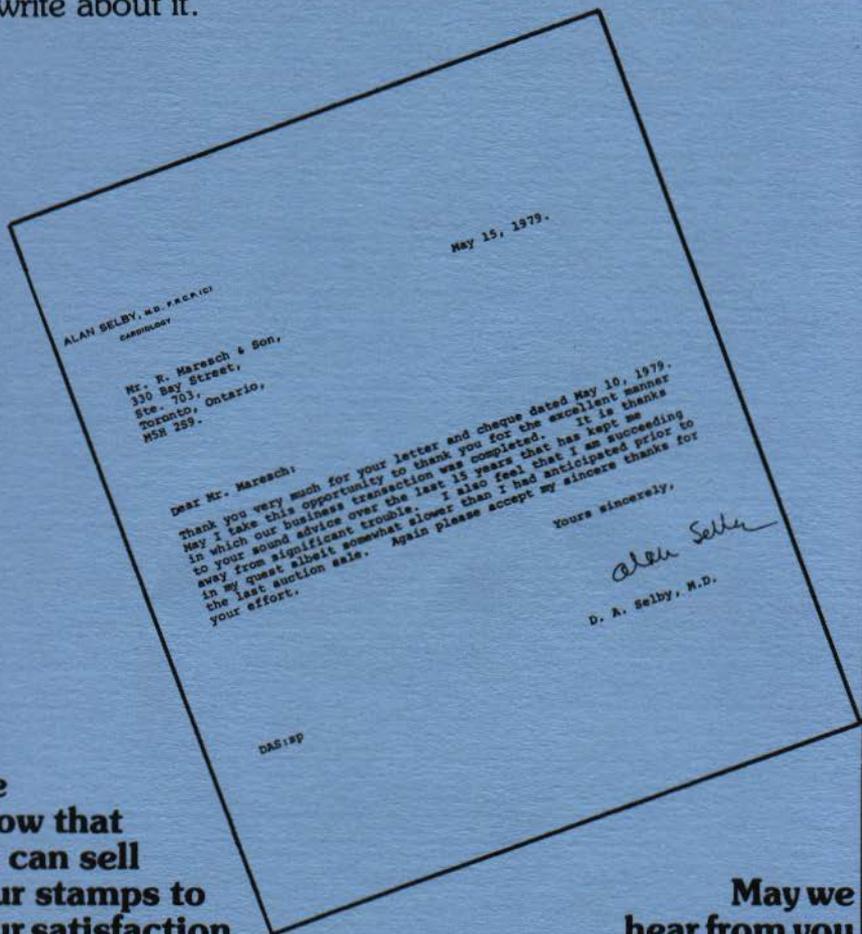
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