

NOVEMBER
1949

B * N * A

Topics

Official Publication of the
British North America Philatelic Society

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The NIAGARA FRONTIER GROUP meets the 2nd Wednesday of each month at 2403 Weston Ave., Niagara Falls, N. Y.

Letters to the Editor

Niagara Frontier Group Offers Help

Dear Sir:

I wish to extend my offer to help in any way toward compiling a catalog of B. N. A. varieties. There is a considerable amount of interest in this project among the members of the **Niagara Frontier Group** and I am sure they could be counted on to assist in some way. There seems to be considerable agreement on the desirability of creating such a work. It is also well known that many of our members have made extensive and exhaustive studies of various stamps so this program would provide the means of having their studies printed without exposing them to the heavy costs.

(ED—This offer from the **Niagara Frontier Group** should inspire our other Groups to do likewise and such cooperation must and will prove successful).

Reply to Mr. Lussey

Until Mr. Lussey's comments appeared in the October 1949 issue of **BNA TOPICS**, I hadn't realized just how vague my comment on the perf $12\frac{1}{2} \times 12\frac{1}{2}$ 3c Small Queen was. I was well aware of Mr. Shoemaker's article in the April 16, 1949 issue of **STAMPS**, published by H. L. Lindquist Publications of New York City when I made the comment. It was because of Mr. Shoemaker's article that I did so. Here is an exact reprint from the May 1949 issue of **MAPLE LEAVES**, Journal of the Canadian Philatelic Society of Gt. Britain, as it appeared on page 95:—

"The 3 Cent 1870, Perf. $12\frac{1}{2}$ "

Boggs informs us that there are about 60 copies known of the 3 cent 1870, perf. $12\frac{1}{2}$. Since his book appeared, the B. N. A. journals have been able to record that over two thousand copies have been located. I wonder how many copies can be traced in the British Isles. The Society, I am sure, would like to locate them

and trace the dates of use and towns at which they were used.

As a start I shall record my own copies and hope that other owners will cooperate:

- (1) Cover postmarked Truro, 20th April, 1870, and Halifax, 2nd February, 1870 (Earliest date recorded).
- (2) Pair off cover, cancelled "7" in two rings—St. John N. B.

R. W. T. L-J."

R. Allison

Niagara Falls, N. Y.

YEARBOOK Testimonial

Dear Sir:

Let me take this opportunity to express my appreciation of a job well done in the recent **YEARBOOK**. Every member of **BNAPS** can be proud of the job done by the co-editors Jack Levine and Gordon P. Lewis.

Everyone who may use the **YEARBOOK** will find it useful especially the geographical listing at the end.

Mervyn V. Quarles
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Sketches of BNAPSers

By V. G. Green



WILLIAM S. MEYERSON



DANIEL C. MEYERSON

Two of our most popular members are the brothers Meyerson, famed specialists of the stamps and Postal History of Newfoundland. William J. was born in Brooklyn, N. Y., on April 8th, 1906 and Daniel C. on February 11th, 1911. The brothers have always been together, attending the same college, same fraternity and playing lacrosse while at college.

"Bill" is single and is advertising manager for Gimbel's Department Store. He was a Captain in the U. S. Army during World War II and tried to get sent to Newfoundland (for obvious reasons!); instead, he served thirty-one months in the Pacific and wound up in Japan, winning the Bronze Star.

"Dan" is married and Vice-President of John E. Postley Inc. Manufacturers representatives. A great lacrosse player, he was picked for the All American Lacrosse Team some years ago.

As serious students of the stamps of Newfoundland few can equal the Meyerson brothers. For many years they have been acquiring material for study and have now a magnificent collection which won, and well deserved, the Grand Award at BNAPEX in September. Their articles on Newfoundland have been appearing in BNA TOPICS for some years and the current series, "Pre-adhesive Postal History and Postal Markings of Newfoundland," is undoubtedly the finest ever written on the subject.

Being two of the original members of the BNAPS the brothers are very proud of our Society and of the rapid progress it has made to the forefront of British North America philately. Regarding membership, they believe that "quality" is more important than "quantity"!

"Bill" and "Dan" have a hunting and skiing Lodge in the Catskills and the writer hazards a guess that the stamps of Newfoundland aren't neglected, even there!

TOPICS Ads Get Results

Pre-Adhesive Postal History and Postal Markings of Newfoundland

By William S. & Daniel C. Meyerson

(All rights reserved by William S. & Daniel C. Meyerson)

(continued from page 179, October)

RATE MARKING 1851-1857 (cont.)

Although stamped rate markings undoubtedly exist from the other post offices during this period, we have never seen any although we have seen them in use during the stampless era from Jan. 1, 1857 to 1865. However manuscript rate markings do exist and we will discuss the matter as thoroughly as possible with the material at hand. All of them are from post offices on the Northern Route. From Carbonear we have three different markings, the first found on a letter written at Old Perlican on Aug. 8, 1853. Since Old Perlican was neither a Post Office nor a Way Office, the letter was taken to Carbonear where it was stamped on Aug. 19, 1853, taxed with a manuscript "3" and forwarded to Harbor Grace where it was received on Aug. 20, 1853, and delivered to the addressee two days later (Fig. 70).



Fig. 70

All of the foregoing was in accordance with the rules and regulations promulgated in 1851, to aid the Postmasters in discharging the provisions of the Act of 1851. The second example is found on a letter written at Scilly Cove (renamed Winterton in 1904 by the Nomenclature Board) on May 1, 1854. This letter was taken to Carbonear where it was stamped on May 3, 1854, taxed with a manuscript "3" and forwarded on to Harbor Grace where it was received the same day (Fig. 71, p. 201). The third and last example was written at Old Perlican on Aug. 4, 1854, and as in the previous two examples, the letter was taken to Carbonear where it was stamped on Aug. 11, 1854, taxed with a manuscript "3" and then sent on to Harbor Grace where it was received the same day (Fig. 72, p. 201).



Fig. 71

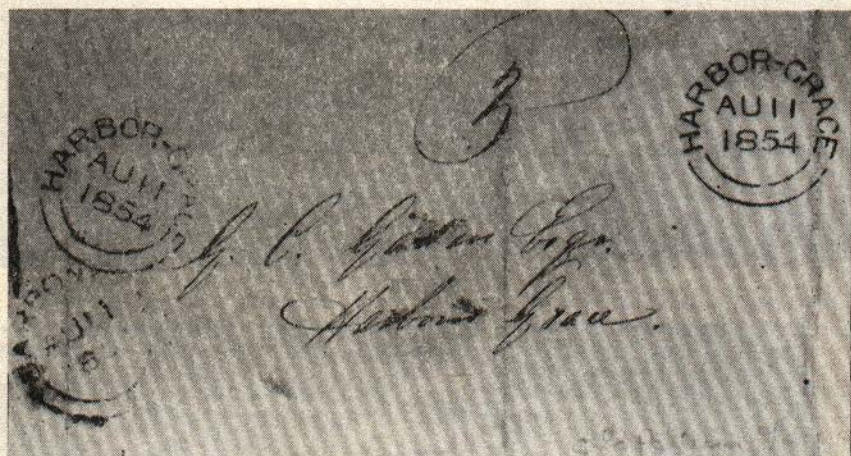


Fig. 72



Fig. 73



Fig. 74

Grace the same day. Four years later we find the same manuscript "3" on a letter written at Bay Roberts on Nov. 7, 1856. It was taken to the nearest post office, Brigus, where it was stamped on Nov. 8, 1856, taxed 3d as previously advised and then forwarded on to Harbor Grace where it was received on Nov. 9, 1856 (Fig. 74). We also illustrate an example of a triple rate letter from Brigus. The letter was posted on Oct. 23, 1856, taxed with a manuscript "9" and delivered at Harbor Grace the same day (Fig. 75).



Fig. 75

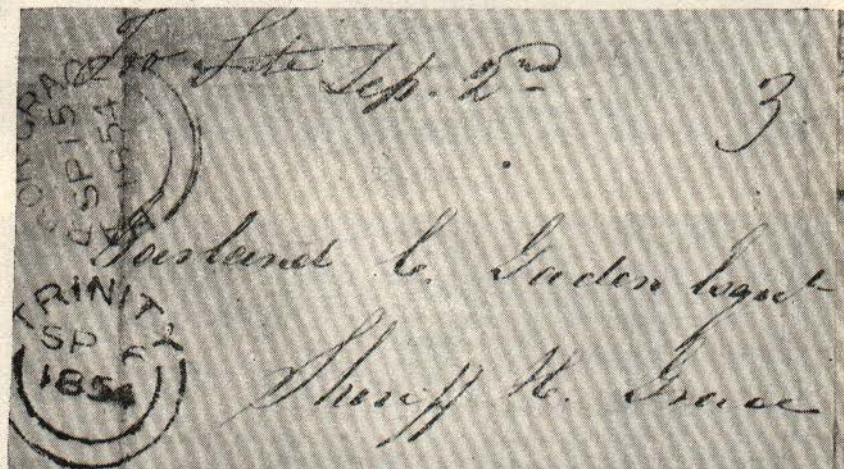


Fig. 76

From Brigus we illustrate a letter written on Aug. 4, 1852, taxed with a manuscript "3" (Fig. 73, p. 201). It was forwarded on to St. John's and arrived there Aug. 10, 1852, as per backstamp, where it was again taxed with a small stamped "3" first seen from St. John's on April 26, 1852 (vide Fig. 62). It was delivered at Harbor

Grace the same day. Four years later we find the same manuscript "3" on a letter written at Bay Roberts on Nov. 7, 1856. It was taken to the nearest post office, Brigus, where it was stamped on Nov. 8, 1856, taxed 3d as previously advised and then forwarded on to Harbor Grace where it was received on Nov. 9, 1856 (Fig. 74). We also illustrate an example of a triple rate letter from Brigus. The letter was posted on Oct. 23, 1856, taxed with a manuscript "9" and delivered at Harbor Grace the same day (Fig. 75).

From Trinity we show a letter posted at Catalina on Sept. 2, 1854. It was forwarded to the nearest post office, Trinity, where it was stamped on Sept. 6, 1854 and taxed with a manuscript "3". It was then forwarded to Harbor Grace where it arrived on Sept. 15, 1854 (Fig. 76, p. 203). The second example is on a letter also posted at Catalina. It was written on Aug. 16, 1852 and following the usual procedure, was sent on to Trinity where it was stamped on Aug. 24, 1852 (Fig. 77).

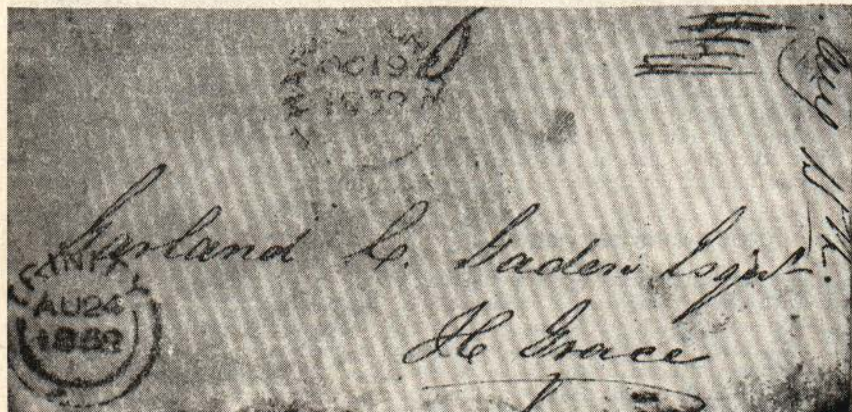


Fig. 77

The letter bears a manuscript "3" that was subsequently obliterated and replaced with a manuscript "6" as it was evidently a double rate letter. From Trinity the letter went on to St. John's as it bears two St. John's backstamps, one dated Aug. 28, 1852 and the other Oct. 18, 1852. It was finally delivered at Harbor Grace on Oct. 19, 1852, two months and three days after it was written.

FREE LETTERS 1851-1857

Some letters were also sent "Free" and we illustrate herewith a manuscript marking found on two occasions, the first on a letter written at St. John's on April 15, 1854 (Fig. 78),

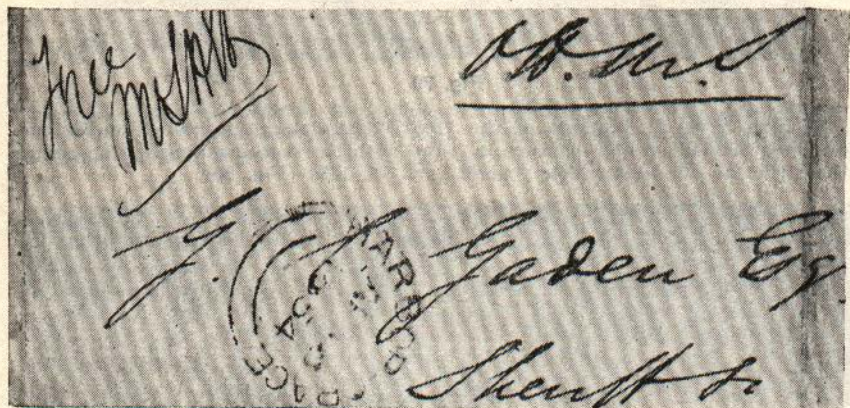


Fig. 78

the second on a letter written at Catalina on Sept. 17, 1854. This letter went through St. John's on its way to Harbor Grace so we are reasonably certain that the manuscript "Free" marking was applied at St. John's since both markings and initials are the same—"MGHK."

Upon occasion, "Free" letters were taxed as we are in possession of a letter written by Martin Shea, First Clerk of the St. John's Post Office, on July 24, 1854, to John Stark of Harbor Grace. This letter states, "I am directed by the Postmaster General to refer you to his letter of the 14 instant in which it is clearly and distinctly stated 'that letters from individuals to Public Officers when they relate strictly to public business are not liable to postage and that when such letters have been taxed with postage the parties to whom they are addressed can always receive on application to the Postmaster who may have collected the same by stating to him the nature of the document on which the postage had been paid.' It was therefore unnecessary for you to have applied to his office for return of postage on Mr. Stabb's letter which you claim in your letter of the 19th inst. as Mr. Drysdale (Postmaster at Harbor Grace) would have remitted the postage on your application to him."

PAID HANDSTAMPS 1851-1857

The Postmasters and Way-Masters by virtue of the Act of 1851 were furnished with their own "PAID" handstamps. These handstamps were sent out to the Colony from England on Sept. 5, 1851, and were probably put into use on Oct. 15, 1851. The "PAID" handstamp was in the shape of a circle, the upper arc of which consisted of the name of the postoffice flanked on either side by two lines with the word "PAID" at the bottom. The Post Office at St. John's was the only exception as their handstamp included the word "NEWFOUNDLAND" in the circle and was flanked on either side by single lines. The St. John's handstruck "PAID" stamp is always seen with the date in the center and it is struck in red as were all other handstruck "PAID" stamps to show that postage had been prepaid. The example shown was used on Jan. 22, 1852 and is the same handstamp that was sent to the Colony on May 24, 1849, as previously recorded (Fig. 79).

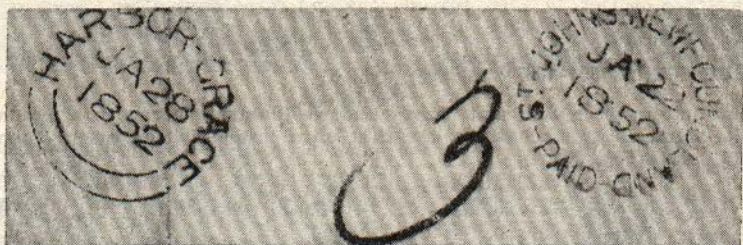


Fig. 79

We also have an example of the "PAID" handstamp in red from Brigus. The Brigus "PAID" in one instance is found with the rate marking in the center of the strike as per illustration posted April 26, 1856 (Fig. 80).



Fig. 80

This strike is also known with the center entirely blank. None of the handstruck "PAID" stamps we have seen bear the date mark in the center with the exception of the St. John's strike.

From Trinity we have seen only the type illustrated (Fig. 81).



Fig. 81

which was posted at Catalina on Oct. 16, 1855, and stamped at Trinity the same day. This is an example of the "PAID" handstamp with the center entirely open.

In a Robson Lowe Postal History Auction Sale held in London on Feb. 27, 1946, a very fine Harbor Britain "PAID" was offered for sale. In this instance the rate marking, "3d," is found within the center of the handstruck "PAID" stamp in manuscript form. The letter is dated Sept. 1, 1853.

While "PAID" handstamps were issued for all the other Post Offices and Way-Offices, those from Brigus, Trinity and Harbor Grace are the only ones definitely seen and recorded from the pre-adhesive period. The St. John's "PAID" handstamp was also seen but it had been issued previously and was in use for more than two years prior to Oct. 15, 1851.

(to be concluded)

ED.—All the reproductions of portions of manuscripts illustrated in this series are from the original and complete letter sheets in the collection of the authors unless otherwise stated.

Patronize TOPICS Advertisers

ANNOUNCEMENT

On November 15th, five new postage stamps, 1 cent to 5 cent denominations, will be placed on sale at the principal Canadian Post Offices. The colors will be the same as those of the current stamps they will replace except that the 2 cent will be in a darker shade of brown. These stamps are revised designs of those which were previously announced for issue on June 6th but which were not issued.

First Day Cover Service will be provided at the Ottawa, Ont., Post Office ONLY and covers that are forwarded for this service are to be addressed to THE POSTMASTER, OTTAWA, ONTARIO. All covers must contain "fillers" and must be sealed or have the flaps turned in. Do not fold covers when forwarding and enclose them in an outside cover marked "FIRST DAY OF ISSUE." Orders for 1st day service must NOT include anything but such. All covers will be returned by ordinary mail unless otherwise specifically requested and additional postage included. A fee of 5 cents will be charged for EACH cover by ordinary mail, and 10 cents for covers returned by airmail or registered. All remittances are to be made payable to the RECEIVER GENERAL OF CANADA.

All First Day Covers received in response to the announcement for June 6th release will be serviced and posted for return on November 15th. No further correspondence is required to complete those original orders.

SALE OF POSTAGE STAMPS PRINTED FOR ISSUE ON THE 6th JUNE, 1949 WHICH WERE NOT ISSUED

The Department has in stock a quantity of each denomination, 1 cent to 5 cent, of the unrevised postage stamps which were printed for issue on June 6th but which were not issued. These stamps will be placed on sale in Post Offices throughout Canada sometime in January 1950, and will remain on sale until the supply is exhausted. No further stocks of these stamps will be printed. Orders for these unrevised stamps will be accepted by the Philatelic Section, Ottawa, after January 1st, 1950. **No First Day Covers will be serviced for these stamps.**

Postage stamps will no longer be perforated O. H. M. S. for use of Canadian Government Departments but are now being overprinted instead. Stocks bearing these overprints are now available of the following:

- King George VI, 1942 1c and 2c
- King George VI, 1943 3c and 4c
- King George VI, 1949 5c
- Pictorial Issue 1946 7c Airmail, 10c, 14c, 20c, 50c, \$1.

Before stamps bearing the letters O. H. M. S., perforated or overprinted, may be forwarded, a definite understanding in writing must be given that the stamps will not be used for postage purposes.

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Bringing News About People and Stamps

By Rev. John S. Bain

The P. O. Department, Ottawa, announces that O. H. M. S. stamps will hereafter be overprinted instead of perforated. Stamps so available are noted elsewhere in this issue. Better hurry and get what is available at the Agency. We told you some time ago to get your postal stationery from the Agency. Only 19 items are now available, all of which are of current issue. Seems like such a short time ago that almost 5 times that many items could be had!

BNAPS

Speaking of the P. O. Department reminds us to give it a resounding cheer. The issuing of the unrevised designs which were to have been issued on June 6th will certainly defeat any chances of premium prices. We hear tell that a set of sheets changed hands at \$250. Here again I'm prompted to suggest you get yours early—I can just imagine the rush for them since they won't be reprinted!

BNAPS

Our latest YEARBOOK is certainly a step forward. The geographical listing of the membership should prove a great service to the members. I fully appreciate that the amount of material contained in it is determined by an important factor—finances. However, some time ago a Yearbook contained an exchangers listing which I thought was an excellent help to the members. Although this couldn't be provided in the Yearbook, is it possible to offer it in our magazine? Couldn't a few pages each month be used for this purpose? I think it would be greatly appreciated by many members.

BNAPS

A new philatelic magazine is being published in Canada. This is the **FOOTHILLS PHILATELIST** and

hails from Calgary, Alberta.

BNAPS

During our BNAPEX convention, the **Canadian Revenue Society** held a meeting at which its fall program was discussed. An interesting kind of treatment is being given its publicity by the newly appointed Publicity Committee of Goodwin R. Harris and Wilmer C. Rockett. Instead of the usual press release, this committee sends along an article about revenues to acquaint collectors with the potential pleasures in collecting these stamps. I admire the sincerity of these efforts and consider it deserving full support. Revenue collectors should enroll if they already don't. Write to either W. C. Rockett, 318 Elm Ave., Glenside Pa.; G. R. Harris, 220 Strathallan Wood, Toronto, Canada; or the Secretary, E. Morris, 4060 Vendome Ave., Montreal, Canada.

BNAPS

Comes now the time for me to make a repeat appeal for your cooperation. Please send me some news about people and stamps. A fellow does "run out" once in a while and can use an assist.

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Mr. Boggs' "Canada"

Some criticisms of his theories regarding the pence stamps

By E. H. Sullivan

In the April, May and June 1947 editions of POPULAR STAMPS, Mr. G. E. Wellburn, F. R. P. S. L., and the author wrote a series of articles about the papers of the pence stamps. These articles were written as a consequence of seeing the catalogue of the first sale of the Pack collection, in which some of the pence stamps were classified as on hand or machine made paper and had no connection whatever with Mr. Boggs' book.

Lots 77 and 78 describing 10d stamps as being wide and narrow and as on hand made paper were proof of the classifier's ignorance of hand made paper as no hand made paper can shrink across the grain since it has no grain. Further, hand made paper shrinks in all directions so the shape of the ovals would remain constant. That is the chief reason why water colour artists use hand made paper. As a student of water colour painting, the author was shown how a perfect circle remains a circle when drawn on hand made paper and wetted, and how a circle drawn on machine made paper becomes an oval when similarly treated. He was taught how to tell whether a paper was hand made or not, which takes some months practice. This was well over 50 years ago and the author has handled hand made paper ever since.

Dr. Blanchard, in an article entitled "Bank note proofs as distinguished from bank note remainders" wrote: "All hand made papers are made on laid moulds, but, since no pressure is used, the laid lines may or may not be apparent." This is 100 percent incorrect. Firstly, it is impossible to make wove hand made paper on laid moulds; secondly, laid lines on hand made paper are brilliantly clear because the hand made paper rests on the wires of the mould during the whole period of its manufacture whereas machine made paper passes under a dandy roll and each laid line on the paper is in contact with the dandy roll for less than one thousandth of a second even if the machine were running at the comparatively slow speed of 200 feet per minute. The laid papers of the Canadian pence stamps are obviously machine made as the laid lines are frequently indistinct... a characteristic of machine made paper and due to the pulp being too wet or to the faulty adjustment of the dandy roll. Further, the laid stamps have a grain, invariably at right angles to the laid lines... an impossibility if the paper were hand made.

The 6d on thin wove paper does exist. It and the 12d black on thin wove are on hand made paper. How Mr. Boggs can expect anyone to have such a vivid imagination as to consider wove paper to be laid is beyond comprehension. If a man gave his wife a rabbit skin coat and he said "You can consider it to be mink," she would be justifiably annoyed. Mr. Boggs should have known that the laid papers could not have been made on a foolscap mould as laid lines are invariably parallel to the longer sides of the mould as the chain lines lie over the ribs. Mr. Boggs plate layout of the 3d, 6d and 12d (Q-2) shows that if made on a foolscap mould, the laid lines would have been vertical on the 3d and horizontal on the 6d and 12d. Details of how a mould is made are given in Section 2 of the first book mentioned at the end of this article.

All the thin papers except the 6d, 12d and the thin brittle have strong grains and are obviously machine made. The thin brittle is a 1857 paper and the illustration of a stamp described as on this paper dated 1855 shows a wrong diagnosis.

The ribbed paper is hand made. Incidentally, Dr. Dard Hunter says so, indirectly, in 1-P. The fact that the ribbed paper is hand made shows how useless a micrometer is in determining the method of manufacture. Even machine made paper differs in thickness in the same sheet.

The thin oily 3d is not on the same paper as the thin oily 10d. The latter is a paper containing a large proportion of linen, which accounts for the large

shrinkage. The 3d would vary in height just as the normal and narrow 10d vary in width were the paper the same, as the grain is horizontal.

Some of the ½d, 3d and 6d medium wove are on hand made paper which probably accounts for Dr. Dard Hunter's opinion in 8-P, though in 7-P the 3d stamps are described as 1858 stamps.

It will thus be seen that Mr. Boggs' theory that the papers of the pence stamps from 1851-57 were all on hand made paper in the Ivy Mill of Mr. Willcox is entirely fallacious.

All the facts, given above, about paper can be found in section 5 of volume 5 of "Manufacture of pulp and paper," published by McGraw Hill, 1939 edition, and on page 326 et seq. of "A text book of papermaking" by C. F. Cross and E. J. Bevan, published by E. & F. Spon, Ltd., London, in 1919. The books both describe the method adopted by Mr. Wellburn and myself to determine the grain and is in use in many mills.

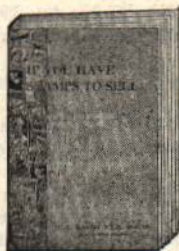
It must be remembered that hand made paper used to be common in the nineties in England where the author was educated. There were then over 100 vats as against two in the U. S.

Another book consulted by the author was "Postage stamps in the making" by the late Fred Melville, published by Stanley Gibbons in 1916. A good description of the shrinkage of machine made paper is given on p. 14 and on p. 29 will be found the reason why watermarks on machine made paper are often indistinct.

(ED.—The 1-P and other similarly numbered letters in the article refer to the section and number in the second volume of Mr. Boggs' book.)

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 603 Wiley, Gerald, 720 Davidson St., Watertown, N. Y.

APPLICATIONS FOR MEMBERSHIP

- Bradish, Donald M., 1051 Main St., West Warwick, R. I. (CX) NFD—19th & 20th century mint & used postage. Pre-stamp covers. Mint & used airmails. Postal stationery entires & cut-squares. Proposed by J. Levine, No. 1.
 Cheney, Willis F., 65 Nassau St., New York 7, N. Y. (D) Proposed by H. W. Lussey, No. 167. Seconded by J. Levine, No. 1.
 Clement, J. Percy, 475 Bute St., Suite 11, Vancouver, B. C., Canada (C) CAN—20th century mint & used postage and mint blocks. Coils. Mint airmails and semi-officials. Proposed by H. A. MacMaster, No. 484.
 Dauplaise, Rene V., Summit Road, Coventry, R. I. (CX) CAN—19th & 20th century mint & used postage. Pre-stamp & stampless covers. Mint & used booklet panes. Coils. Mint & used airmails. Stationery entires & cut-squares. Proofs & Essays. Proposed by J. Levine, No. 1.
 Eaton, Lt. Col. F. B., 877 Hornby St., Vancouver, B. C., Canada (D) Proposed by H. A. MacMaster, No. 484.
 Fee, Cleo H., 15 Beechwood Crescent, Toronto, Ont., Canada (CX) CAN—19th and 20th century mint & used postage and blocks. Pre-stamp & stampless covers and patriotic covers. Mint, used and semi-official airmails. Stationery entires & cut squares. Literature. Proofs & Essays. Locals. R. R., territorial, flag, slogan, 2 and 4 ring cancellations. Proposed by R. P. Hedley, No. 164. Seconded by F. Hackspacher, No. 559.
 McCardell, Frank C., 27 Rita St., West Warwick, R. I. (CX) B. N. A.—19th & 20th century mint & used postage and blocks. Coils. Mint & used airmails. Proposed by J. Levine, No. 1.
 Petri, Pitt, 378 Delaware Ave., Buffalo 2, N. Y. (C) Proposed by R. P. Hedley, No. 164.
 Powers, John F., 564 Cranston St., Providence, R. I. (C) CAN, NFD—19th & 20th century mint & used postage. 1st day covers. Coils. Proposed by J. Levine, No. 1.
 Tedford, Fred C., 126 Turner Ave., Oaklawn, R. I. (CX) CAN—19th & 20th century mint & used postage and blocks. Pre-stamp and stampless covers. Mint & used booklet panes. Coils. O.H.M.S. All revenues. Mint, used and semi-official airmails. Stationery entires. Literature. Locals. R. R., territorial, flag, slogan, 2 & 4 ring numeral cancellations. Proposed by J. Levine, No. 1.
 Veale, E. W., P. O. Box 56, Merritt, B. C., Canada (C) CAN—Mint booklet panes. Used airmails. Proposed by R. J. Duncan, No. 37. Seconded by J. Chambers, No. 545.

CHANGES OF ADDRESS

- Edwards, James F., 115 So. 20th St., Philadelphia 3, Pa.
 Meschter, Daniel Y., 205 Ripley Hall, Hanover, N. H. (from Kinderhook, N. Y.)
 Searles, Geo. R. C., 191 Sandgate Rd., Folkestone, Kent, England.
 Sissons, J. N., 59 Wellington St. W., Toronto 11, Ont., Canada.

RESIGNATION ACCEPTED

- Emerson, Stuart B., 23 Bank Street, Lebanon, N. H.

Plating the "1c Guy" of Newfoundland

By H. A. MacMaster, BNAPS 484

There are so many Newfoundland specialists and so many collectors who are interested in plating that it indeed seems odd that there has not been more research and study given to the Lithographed Guy Issue of 1910 and particularly to the 1c value.

This stamp, which is easy to come by and not too expensive, opens a fine field for the Newfoundland specialist as there are differences (some minute) in almost every stamp of both panes.

I first became interested in the stamp on obtaining a used block of four with the famous "NFW" variety (Scott's No. 87d), No. 41 in the right pane. Upon examination, I discovered that there were fairly noticeable flaws in the other three stamps in the block.

As soon as the opportunity arose, I bought five hundred copies of the stamp, perf. 12x11, and set out to try to reconstruct the right pane. I was fortunate enough to obtain a good many multiple pieces in this lot which helped considerably in its formation.

The left pane was a little harder as I had no inkling as to the position of any one stamp until I managed to get hold of a mint block from the lower right corner which gave me a starting point. I might say here that many times in the course of forming these panes I was forced to use mint multiples to help determine positions of used single stamps I already had.

I now believe that, on the whole, the flaws on the left pane are more pronounced, and therefore easier to identify, than those on the right pane. I found also that it is almost impossible to plate this stamp in the 12x12 perforation as the flaws don't seem to show upon any that I have been able to obtain except in the case of some of the more major varieties. This would lead one to believe that these flaws in most cases appeared on the plates after the first printing.

Let us first examine the left pane—those positions that I have been able to identify are as follows:

- No. 1 There is a small green dot in the frame over the "O" in "Found." The "9" in "1910" is malformed.
- No. 2 The shading at the base of the King's nose is indistinct, making the nose appear blurred.
- No. 3 There is a fine hair-line through the upper left of the "9" in "1910," a faint dot on the top of the left numeral and the left arm of the "T" in "To" is shorter than normal.
- No. 4 There is a dot in the margin above the "L" of "Land," a large dot in the background of the portrait midway between the portrait and the left numeral, one near the base of the left numeral and a faint hairline through the ball of the "J" of "James."
- No. 5 There is a notch on the top of the "E" in "James" which severs the top arm from the rest of the letter.
- No. 7 A large white dot appears on the bottom of the left leg of the "N" in "New," one over the "F" in "Found," a bad break over the second "1" in "1910" and a dot in the frame over the first "1" in "1610."
- No. 8 There is a faint dot on the "P" of "Postage," one on the right numeral at the top, and the lower limb of the branch to the left of "To" is malformed.
- No. 9 A large dot appears in the outer frame to the left of the left numeral. There is a strong white spot on the base of the "F" of "Found" joining it to the white line below.

- No. 11 There is a large green smudge on the lower tablet which almost obliterates the "T" of "Granted" and touches the "O" of "To" and "G" of "Guy" deforming the letters. The top limb of the left branch is severed from the rest of the branch.
- No. 12 A small dot appears in the margin to the left of the left numeral and the dot in the lower limb of the left branch is very strong.
- No. 13 There is a break in the white line under the "D" of "Found," two small dots in the "R" and one in the "T" of "Charter," and the frame of the right numeral has a heavy vertical stroke in it to the left of the numeral.
- No. 14 There is a faint dot in the "N" of "King" and one in the curve of the "R" in "Granted." The thick frame line under the "G" of "Guy" is broken.
- No. 15 There is a large dot on the frame to the left of the top of the left branch. The "R" in "Granted" is poorly formed.
- No. 16 A large dot appears on the lower limb of the branch on the right. The eye of the "R" in "Granted" is much enlarged and there are innumerable small dots throughout the lower tablet.
- No. 17 There is a small dot on the bottom of the right leg of the "K" in "King" while the top of the left leg in the "W" of "New" is almost joined to the center point by a fine white hair-line.
- No. 18 There is a heavy colored dot on the "G" of "King."
- No. 19 The shading and frame line above the "W" of "New" is almost non-existent and the left arm of the "T" in "To" is damaged.
- No. 20 There is a deep notch in the heavy outer frame below and to the right of "Guy." The third line of shading below the right date tablet is thick and rough.
- No. 21 A dot appears on the "N" of "New" and a smaller one on the "N" of "One."
- No. 22 A faint dot appears on the upper right of the "9" in "1910" and there is a faint dot in the frame of the left numeral above and to the right of the numeral.
- No. 23 There is a break in the shading just outside the portrait oval on the left, level with the King's hair line. The outer frame has a minute break over the "O" of "Found." A short line drops from the frame of the portrait towards the King's head under the "N" of "One."
- No. 24 The left arm of the "T" of "Postage" is missing, there is a large dot on the left side of the "O" of "Found," the bow under "Postage" is broken below the "T," the top serif of the right numeral is severed from its body and there is a small dot on the ball of the serif.
- No. 25 There is a very faint dot on the bottom of the "E" in "Granted." This is very difficult to discern and better picked up in multiple with No. 24.
- No. 26 There is a heavy vertical spot on the right leg of the "H" of "Who."
- No. 27 A triangular green dot is attached to the inside of the portrait frame to the left just higher than the left numeral.
- No. 28 There is a small green vertical dash at the top left of the left numeral.
- No. 29 The frame of the left numeral is cut at the right by a small green mark and the ball of the lower left serif of this numeral is half missing.
- No. 30 There is a small diagonal gash in the top of the first "1" in "1910," a white dot on the bow below the right leg of the "A" in "Postage" and a faint dot on the lower right of the right numeral.
- No. 33 Heavy dots on the "MES" of "James," the "D" of "Granted" and the "H," "T" and "E" of "Charter." The point at the foot of the left numeral has a heavy dot on it.
- No. 34 There are heavy green lines and dots on the left numeral making it appear broken, dots on the "ING" of "King" and on the "G" of "Granted" and numerous defects throughout the whole stamp.

- No. 35 A small white line joins the second "1" in "1610" to the white frame line above and the "R" in "Granted" is open at the top.
- No. 36 There is a dot on the left leg of the "U" of "Found," a heavy green dot on the upper limb of the right branch and it is severed from the rest of the branch. The right bottom serif of the left numeral ends in a curl instead of a ball and there are innumerable dots throughout the whole lower label.
- No. 37 There is a large white dot before the "O" of "One," the top serif of the numeral on the right ends in a curl instead of a ball and there are several small green dots on letters in the lower label.
- No. 38 There is a small green slash in the bottom of the first "1" in "1910," a break in the white line below the "D" of "Found" and small dots in letters in the lower label.
- No. 39 A fine green line extends from the top of the "F" of "Found" into the margin of the stamp at an angle of about 45 degrees, there is a fine curved hair-line in the right center of the right numeral.
- No. 40 The lines of shading at the intersection of the frame of the left numeral and the pillars supporting it have a blotch of color on them. The right lower serif of the right numeral ends in a curl instead of a ball.
- No. 41 A large colored dot appears on the "A" of "Postage," the left leg of the "N" of "New" is broken and almost missing and there is a dot on the frame above the "9" of "1910."
- No. 42 There is a green dot on the frame above and between the "U" and "N" of "Found" and the "U" of "Guy" is open at the bottom.
- No. 43 The defect in this stamp is so minor that it would be better to get it in multiple. The fifth line of shading below the "O" of "One" is not joined to the frame of the portrait.
- No. 44 A heavy colored dot appears below the King's left eye and the eye of the "R" in "Granted" is blind.
- No. 45 There is a small dot under the "9" of "1910" and one in the upright of the "L" of "Land."
- No. 46 The middle arm of the "E" of "New" is deformed, there is a small break in the frame over the second "1" of "1910" and a small green cut in the curve of the "G" of "Postage."
- No. 47 There are two heavy green dots on the top and bottom of the left numeral and a smaller dot on the right frame of the right numeral.
- No. 48 The white line under the "U" in "Found" is broken and there is a green dot biting into the top limb of the left branch.
- No. 49 There is a small white dot on top of the "O" of "Found" and the white dot which normally appears at the right end of the right branch is almost non-existent.
- No. 50 Very minor defects. A faint dot in the "M" of "James" and one fainter still in the upright of the "D" of "Granted."

(to be continued)

Patronize TOPICS Advertisers

Canadian Revenues

A Canadian Revenue Society Release

Anyone who collects Canadian Revenues knows that there are many interesting stories connected with these issues. For instance, if you were to make a collection of provisional stamps, you would ordinarily find it very difficult and probably expensive. (A provisional is usually a surcharge stamp issued to take care of a particular denomination which has been sold out). However, in the current series of Canadian Excise Stamps, there are many provisional items, and to the joy of the average collector, a good many aren't too elusive or expensive.

A few years ago the Canadian Government created a 14c Excise Tax rate. However, there just weren't any 14c Excise Stamps as there had never been any previously issued. Since there were overstocks of some denominations, it was decided to use some by surcharging the new denomination over the old value. Thus some were surcharged for the new rate and subsequently other values were surcharged. Herewith is a list of the 14c surcharged provisionals: (B-blue; R-red)

B 14 on 3/16c red (1934)
 B 14 on 1/4c green (1934)
 B 14 on 1/4c green (1915)
 R 14 on 1c blue (1934)
 B 14 on 7c brown (1915)
 R 14 on 7c brown (1915)

R 14 on 9c violet (1915)
 R 14 on 15c blue (1934)
 B 14 on 25c blue (1934)
 R 14 on 40c violet (1915)
 R 14 on 50c blue (1934)
 R 14 on 70c blue (1934)
 R 14 on \$2 green (1934)
 B 14 on \$2 green (1934)
 R 14 on \$3 green (1934)
 B 14 on \$3 green (1934)
 R 14 on \$4 green (1934)
 B 14 on \$4 green (1934)
 R 14 on \$5 green (1934)

I believe this to be a complete list of the 14c surcharges.

The Excise Tax on Playing Cards is 14c, double deck 28c. Here are the 28c surcharges, all on the 1934 series of stamps.

B 28 on 2 1/4c red
 B 28 on 12c blue
 B 28 on 12c blue
 B 28 on 20c red

Finally the Canadian Government issued a 14c blue Excise Tax Stamp in the regular design and thus ended the story of the 14c surcharges.

This is only one of the many interesting features in connection with the collecting of Canadian Revenues. For information on Canadian Revenues or the Canadian Revenue Society write

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LOOKING HERE ... LOOKING THERE

with Russell Allison

Now that BNAPEX 1949 has closed such a complete success, we of the Niagara Frontier Group have taken a short vacation (evidenced on my part by the lack of a column in the October issue). I have been asked to extend to all a hearty word of thanks for the wonderful co-operation we received from each and every one of you. We deeply missed those who weren't able to attend and we hope and expect to see and meet you next year in Philly.

A casual glance at the devaluation of currencies seems to bring forth the observation that B. N. A. stamps have suffered no casualties. A check of auction realizations brings to light no downward trend in prices. Apparently Canadian collectors who have been buying their stamps in the U. S. may be the primary losers. U. S. collectors could buy in Canada at a devaluation discount before. Better 19th century issues have been selling at a higher price in Great Britain than on this side. Thus it seems to me to let out any substantial savings to U. S. collectors. However, I would appreciate any information to the contrary.

Robson Lowe of London published in September of this year the 26th edition of the "Regent Stamp Catalog," Volume II, January 1931-March 1949. The quoted prices are the net prices at which stamps are sold by the Regent Stamp Company, 50 Pall Mall, London, S. W. 1, England. Price—\$1.00.

On November 9th, Robson Lowe London offers at auction the "G. H. Boucher" collection of 19th century British West Indies during a morning and afternoon session. The collection contains many rarities in addition to the regularly appealing stamps of these islands. Worthy of comment is the beautiful presentation of some items in the collection by means of coloured reproductions. The catalog is certainly a welcome and valuable addition to anyone's collection and library.

The STAMP COLLECTOR'S EXCHANGE CLUB MAGAZINE, published bi-monthly and styled the oldest independent philatelic magazine in Canada, has changed Editors during July. Mr. J. K. MacRory has turned it over to Mr. J. R. Cooke, with new headquarters at Hickson, Ont., Canada. This exchange club operates a sales and exchange circuit. Its members are from all parts of the world. Subscription to the magazine in U. S. and Canada is \$1.50 a year and entitles the subscriber to use the circuits without additional costs.

H. R. Harmer, Inc., the International Auctioneers of 32 East 57th St., N. Y. 22, N. Y., recently released its fall auction schedule. Auctions featuring British North America will be held Nov. 14, 15, 16; Nov. 28, 29, 30; and Dec. 12, 13, 14. A request for catalogs to H. R. Harmer will receive the usual prompt attention.

The July 1949 issue of the LONDON PHILATELIST, journal of the Royal Philatelic Society, London, contains the long awaited article on "Prince Edward Island Cancellations, 1817-73." Mr. Leslie Tomlinson, BNAPS #574, wrote this fine study and its predecessor "The Prince Edward Island—1870." There are nine pages of illustrations of the various types of postmarks used during the period. It was pleasing to note another BNAPS'er, Mr. A. K. Grimmer, listed among the philatelists who assisted Mr. Tomlinson with this article.

Through the courtesy of Lt. Col. John S. O'Meara, BNAPS #16, the follow-

ing auction realization is quoted:—

"a superb copy of the 3c Small Queen 1st printing sold for \$113 in London."
(I assume it was a perf. 12½x12½).

Fred Jarrett has published a new price list of Canadian stamps, envelopes, booklet panes and a few revenues. A copy is yours for the asking with a letter to Fred Jarrett, c/o Gregg Publishing Co., 30 Bloor St. West, Toronto 5.

The Niagara Frontier Group held a meeting Wednesday, October 12th, at the home of Gerald Johnson. New BNAPS'er John Goffin enjoyed his first (of many, we're sure) meetings with the Group. "Dick" Noye showed a portion of his fine collection of 19th century advertising covers. All hands were busy restraining one member when a beautiful specimen of a colored advertising cover was shown. As usual, a "King Size" circuit graced the center of the table and many signatures were entered in the now empty spaces. It is interesting and gratifying to know that this young Group has enrolled six new members since its organization meeting in February. So far the Group has twelve members but several prospects are ready to sign their applications. Yes indeed, very satisfying and interesting!

This reminds me to repeat my request that the various Groups please appoint someone to send me reports of their programs, meetings and other activities for publication in this column. When the Editor appointed me to this job, he explained that ONE of the things I'd have to do would be to publish reports of Group activities. So, c'mon, will yuh, please, huh!

The Canadian Post Office Department was very busy establishing new Post Offices or reopening old ones, as evidenced by the following list:

La Cave, Ont.	20 July	Willow Bay, Ont.	15th June
Lac Caribou, Que.	11 July	Ste. Marie de Laval, Que.	7 July
Lingham Lake, Ont.	2 July	Haviland, Ont.	15 July
Upper Burnt Church, N. B. ..	24 June	Elsa, Yukon	26 May
West Harve Boucher, N. S. ..	11 July	Grand Bernier, Que.	11 May
River Drive Park, Ont.	25th July	Beacon Corner, Alta.	18 July
La Paix, Que.	11th July	Riverview Heights, N. B.	1st Aug.
Little Grand Rapids, Man. ..	2nd July	Lomer, Que.	4th July
Wadhope, Man. (re-open) ..	2nd July	Lionsview, B. C.	10th June
		Avenior, Alta.	6th Aug.

There were a number of offices that were opened and termed summer offices. Since I presume they will be closed by this time, I have omitted them from the listing. Should anyone desire a list of these, I'll gladly send it to them.

POPULAR STAMPS for October contains some interesting reading about the Reford collection in addition to its usual news and information. The column by BNAPS'er Ed. Richardson which has been appearing as a regular feature in recent issues and this one under the heading, "The Hollow Tree" provides some very interesting and important information about Canadiana.

Best wishes to Jim Sissons at his new headquarters. Jim has moved to larger quarters at 59 Wellington St. West in Toronto (1) in order to be able to meet the demands of his increased patronage and to hold his famous auctions on the premises. Continued success to a best friend and supporter of BNAPS and to a best friend of his patrons.

During the past few months B. N. A. stamps have been bringing record prices. I have omitted a report of prices realized because of lack of space. However, next month I'll include this and a more comprehensive listing of coming auctions.

Another of my jobs is keeping you advised of any articles of interest to you which appear in current magazines. I do this as far as I am able but can't cover all. So, PLEASE, let me know of any you see.

Bibliography of Prince Edward Island

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By Leslie G. Tomlinson

x of interest in a particular sphere
 xx of minor interest
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Sales Topics

Your Sales Department had a Bourse table at BNAPEX and sold \$40 of material from the Circuit books. This brought the total sales for the third quarter of 1949 to \$200. Twenty-eight new books were entered in the circuit and 19 books retired to their owners together with \$174 for their share of participation in the department. We now have 136 books on hand for distribution to the members who write and ask for them.

You will have noticed the many new members and new applications listed in this issue. Most new members are customers for the circuits and you can readily understand that this department is an excellent salesman for your duplicate material.

Blank books are 5 for 25c and 20 for a dollar postpaid. Write me for as many as you need and they'll reach you before you could expect them. Mount your material just as quickly and then sit back and have a short wait for returns.

Harold R. Meyers, Sales Manager

101 West 60th St., N. Y. 23, N. Y.

Trail of the Caribou

By Freres Meyerson



With all stamp issuing countries celebrating the 75th anniversary of the creation of the Universal Postal Union in 1874, we think this a good time to discuss a matter that has troubled us for quite some time.

Several years ago we purchased two Newfoundland stamps, Scott's #'s 28 & 30, overprinted "SPECIMEN" in serified black letters diagonally across the stamps (see illustration). We checked through our library and could find no record of this type of overprint on these stamps. As a consequence these two stamps were put on the back page of the stockbook where we keep material we cannot account for. Within the past year however, in going through an auction catalog, we noted several lots of Newfoundland stamps described as bearing a black diagonal "SPECIMEN" overprint on Scott's #'s 18, 20, 21, 22, 23, 30, 31, 32a, 33 and 35. Comparison of this overprint with those we had proved they were identical. Since we had a copy on #30 and one was up for sale, it also proved that more than one set had been so overprinted. After purchasing all the material we went back to Boggs' book and on page 49 found the first indication that this overprint (see illustration) had been

seen before. Boggs listed this overprint as having been seen on Scott's #'s 15a, 17, 11a, 18, 12a, 20, 21, 22 and 23. The confusing thing about it all was that the overprint on the stamps of 1862-63 was exactly like the overprint on the stamps of 1870-71. To further complicate matters, the stamps that were overprinted had come from different manufacturers. Nos. 18-23 had been printed by Perkins, Bacon & Co., #'s 28-35 by the American Bank Note Co. This then precluded the possibility of the overprint having been applied by the manufacturer as it is hard to believe that stamps overprinted about 9 years apart by two different manufacturers would have conformed so exactly to type and ink. The only logical conclusion to follow was that the stamps were overprinted sometime after 1871 and at one time. Since Newfoundland had not demonetized the Pence Issues, and we know that they were in stock as remainders as late as 1889, as were the other values, we must assume that they were overprinted for a specific purpose. We can only assume that the purpose was the occasion of Newfoundland's entrance into U. P. U. in 1879. The stamps overprinted "SPECIMEN" were submitted to the Union as examples of the stamps that would be used to frank letters originating in Newfoundland, and all letters bearing such stamps were to be honored.

If any reader has further information that can either prove or disprove our assumption, we would be very much interested in hearing from them.

In the Nov. 19, 1936, Post Office Circular, we find the following notation: "The staff is reminded that the rate of postage for Christmas Cards in unsealed envelopes is 2 cents for cards addressed to all places outside Newfoundland and 1 cent for delivery in Newfoundland." In the circular of Jan. 7, 1937, we read, "All letters and postal packets which cannot for any

reason be delivered must be endorsed on the front with the reason for non-delivery such as "Gone away," "Refused," "Deceased," etc., initialed by the Officer making the endorsement and date-stamped with the name of the Office." Examples of the foregoing must be few as none of them have ever been brought to our attention. In the circular dated Feb. 11, 1937, we are told that all letters containing money in the form of paper currency or coin must be registered and in the event that such letters are not registered upon posting, the Postmaster is authorized to register the letter and tax it for the amount of the registration fee.

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