

BNA

TOPICS

Vol. 4, No. 11

December, 1947

Whole No. 43



ROYAL MARRIAGE ISSUE OF 1948 (page 138)

*Official Publication of the
British North America Philatelic Society*

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THE VICTORIA STAMP COMPANY

LONDON, 40,

ONTARIO

CANADA

BNA TOPICS
Official Journal of
The British North America Philatelic Society

Vol. 4 No. 11

DECEMBER, 1947

WHOLE No. 43

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ROYAL MARRIAGE ISSUE OF 1948

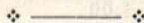
Postmaster General Bertrand announces that a special 4-cents postage stamp will be issued on Thursday, 15th January, 1948, to commemorate the marriage of Her Royal Highness The Princess Elizabeth to Lieutenant Philip Mountbatten, R. N.

The over all dimensions of the stamp will be approximately 22 mm. x 26 mm., and will be vertical in arrangement. It will supplement the regular 4-cents denomination for a period of two or three months. The stamp will bear a portrait of Princess Elizabeth from a photograph by Dorothy Wilding of London, England, (*see front cover*). The colour has not yet been decided upon but will probably be reddish brown. The stamp will be issued in sheets of 100.

Plans are being laid to have the stamp placed on sale at all the principal Canadian Post Offices on the 15th January, 1948. **FIRST DAY COVER SERVICE** will be given only at the Post Office at OTTAWA. The Philatelic Division will not handle First Day Covers.

Orders for the new stamp only in mint condition may be sent to the Philatelic Division, Financial Branch, Post Office Department, Ottawa, and remittances (payable to the Receiver General of Canada) must be **CERTIFIED**, if by personal check, or **REGISTERED**, if in cash. All orders over \$1.00, from applicants outside of Canada and the U. S., must be accompanied by an additional amount sufficient to cover postage and registration; 14c, or more, according to size of order and packing required.

DATE OF ISSUE POSTPONED TO FEBRUARY 16, 1948



LETTER TO THE EDITOR

Editor, *BNA TOPICS*

Dear Sir:

Mistakes creep into many things but are only harmful if not corrected and allowed to continue. In my article on "Canadian O.H.M.S. Stamps" in the October 1947 issue, several managed to creep in.

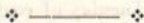
The labeling of two of the illustrations are incorrect. "C" should read **INVERTED REVERSE** and "D" should be **INVERTED**. The listing of the stamps is correct according to the illustrations.

In the listing of the 1937 issues, the 8c orange should read 2E. F. Somehow a fairly common stamp was completely omitted, the 2c 1942 with varieties 2E, F, Ft. We can also add a new variety for the 1c 1942—2 Ft. Also noted is the 1946 10c in Type 2C as well as the 7c 'goose' in the same type. A last addition is Type 2A to the 10c 1939 Special Delivery.

My thanks and appreciation to BNAPS'er G. Hemond for showing me two of the new additions. My appreciation also to the others who wrote, one of whom asks, "are there any other kind of perforated stamps (official)." There are. A few are perforated "L. A." and used by the Legislative Assembly and in 1940, or before, some Workman's Compensation Boards used stamps perforated "W.B." in the 5 hole normal style, Type IA. I do not have a listing of either of these but I'm sure one could be compiled.

Sincerely yours,

C. B. D. GARRETT



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GRATE SCOTT!!

BY

NELSON BOND

(Alias "Click")

This week I obtained in the usual manner—i.e., by paying across the counter to my favorite dealer three dollars and fifty cents in currency of the realm—a copy of the 1948 *Standard Postage Stamp Catalogue*, Vol. I, published by my old and, I fear, far from dear friends, the Scott Publications, Inc.

I read, I rejoiced, and I was suffused with ire. So that you may know how a "prophet without honor" feels, Click comes back after more than a year of silence to comment on the revised Canadian listings.

Readers of *BNA TOPICS* will recall that late in 1945, "Click" was challenged by several readers of his column for daring to hint that the listings of Canada as offered in Scott's self-styled "Encyclopedia of Philately" might not be one hundred percent correct. To justify his contention, he began in the December, 1945 issue, a lengthy series of articles pointing out in minute detail the faults in and flaws with the Canadian listings. He begged and beseeched that the powers-that-be in Scott Publications heed his plea for revision.

He succeeded beyond his wildest dream. Tremendous revision *has* been made in the 1948 Scott catalogue, much of it directly traceable to Click's articles. That the record may be put straight, Click would like to review one by one his suggestions and designate those which have been and have not been accepted.

Suggested by Click!

1. That the descriptive paragraph LOCATION be altered to include Labrador as not part of Canada in the North American continent. *Done.*
2. That the Province of Canada stamps be given a separate numerical listing from those of the Dominion of Canada stamps. *Not done.*
3. That the ½c, 5c, and 15c perf 11½ x 12 varieties of the Large Queens issue be separately valued. *Done.*
4. That the descriptive color of old #28 (gray) be changed to "grayish shades" (*Not done*), and that the color of old #32 (yellow) be changed to "yellow orange". (*Done.*)
5. That "overlapping" descriptions be abandoned (as in the case of old #2 23a and 23c.) *Done.*
6. That the colors of the laid paper varieties be changed to conform with the color notations in the basic listings. *Done for the 2c variety, not for the 3c.*
7. That chronological listing of the Small Queens be abandoned, and in its place be substituted a new series of listings recognizing the difference between early (Montreal-Ottawa) and late (Ottawa only) printings. *Done.*
8. That the 11½ x 12 perforation varieties of the Small Queens be given their due recognition and listing. *Done.*
9. That the perf 12½ 3c 1870 be given its proper listing as a major variety. *Done.*
10. That the descriptive phrase under illustration A30 be changed to read "Commemorating Sixty Years of Reign" rather than the false and erroneous "Queen Victoria, 1837 and 1897." *Not done.*
11. That old #72a (8c deep orange) be relegated to the junkpile. *Done.*
12. That the so-called "Types" I and II of old #77 (which retains the same number) be exiled. *Not done.*
13. That the catalogue makers eliminate the unfortunate phrase, "All values in this issue except Nos. 76 and 78 exist imperforate."—since this is not the truth. *Not done.*
14. That the Map stamp descriptive phrase be changed, and its method of manufacture more accurately described; also that the color descriptions be changed. *Not done.*

15. That the Port Hood provisionals be assigned to outer limbo. *Not done.*
16. That the color description of #89 be altered to read simply "green". *Done.*
17. That the ridiculous title, "Champlain's Home in Quebec" be removed from under illustration A38. *Not done.*
18. That A40 be relabeled "View of Quebec in 1707" (which it was) rather than "in 1700" (which it wasn't!) *Not done.*
19. That the cataloguists drop the unhappy phrase, "All values of this issue exist imperforate" with its dangling "but are not known to have been regularly issued in that condition." Recommended abolition of supplement. *Done.*
20. That #104 be listed simply as "green", rather than "dark green". *Done* (in 1947, upon first appearance of suggestion, as were several other revisions.)
21. That #108a (the old 3c pale red brown) be eliminated. *Done.*
22. That Scott, in general, stop trying to sublist shades of the first King George issue (e.g., 113a, etc.) *Not done.*
23. That the flagrantly erroneous listing of the 50c types be changed to conform with the true facts. *Done.*
24. That the untruthful footnote under #190 be abolished. *Done.*
25. That #201 be placed in its proper position, and not designated as part of the 1932 issue. *Not done.*
26. That the description of the Royal William stamp be changed. *Done . . . in 1947.*
27. That the description under the United Empire Loyalists stamp be changed. *Not done.*
28. That the *a, b, c, d* varieties of C3 be removed. *Not done.*
29. That C5a (the Blond Flyer) be kicked out. *Done.*
30. That Drummondville *not* be named as the city over which the plane is flying in CEI. *Done.*
31. That Types I and II of EI be abolished. *Done . . . in 1947.*
32. That the Registration stamp listings be altered to conform more or less to the listings of their sister postal issues. *Partly* (not enough) *done.*
33. That differentiation be made between the first (rare) and later (common) Postage Due issues of design DI. *Not done.*
34. That the color descriptions of most Postage Due stamps be changed to greater accuracy. *Not done.*
35. That the overprinted WAR TAX stamps be given a clean bill of health and admitted to the listings. *Not done.*

This represents a partial, but not complete, list of the changes Click suggested which were or were not accepted by the solons of Scott. Click discovers to his own embarrassment that he does not have on hand a copy of the May, 1946 *BNA TOPICS* in which he made numerous other suggestions, including that of noting the 5c #169 rotary and flat press stamps (*done*) . . . the notation of an important rotary booklet pane, #164 type (*not done*), etc.

We should, I suppose, be grateful that so many great and important changes were made in the Canadian listings. We note with chagrin an alarming number of typographical errors in the 1948 Scott. To run over the worst of these for that collector who does not spot them himself:

#29a listed as 40c and 10c! Should be \$40 and \$10.

#30a listed as 50c and 12c! Should be \$50 and \$12.

Small Queens, perf 11½ x 12. Entire issue, mint, listed in cents when it should be in dollars!

#133 falsely listed at \$35.00. Should be \$4.50!

Click would like to ask one tiny boon of the Scott authorities. He doesn't give a hoot in Hades for the *personal* honor of having contributed so largely to a new and more accurate listing. He has something which cannot be taken away from him—the inner knowledge that he provided the suggestions, regardless of subsequent coolness on the part of the catalogue editors. Click does not, therefore, complain that he received no word of thanks, no credit line for his suggestions, no nod of appreciation from either Scott Publications or from those whom they later called in as "expert consultants" on the task of revising the Canadian listings.

What Click *would* like to request is that the organization he represents, the British North America Philatelic Society, be given a listing in the Honor Roll preceding the text pages of the catalogue. A place in the list along with, say, such organizations as the American Air Mail Society, the Booklet Pane Society, and the Philatelic Foundation.

It is the omission of his Society's name—not the omission of credit to himself, the failure to receive answers to his letters, or the bland insouciance which ignored him when complimentary copies of the 1948 revised catalogue were distributed—which did, as he admitted in the first paragraph of this thesis, arouse Click's ire.

Click stands ready to repeat for the benefit of Scott Publications and for Editor Gordon R. Harmer a new listing of flaws remaining in the Canadian catalogue listings. He has worked, and will continue to work, gladly and freely for the betterment of Canadian philately. But . . . is it too much to ask that his Society be given a nod of recognition? Or must Scott continue—as the title of this series suggests—to "grate"?



VARIOUS and SUNDRY

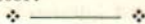
BY GEO. E. FOSTER

Some time back in this column we noted some plate flaws on the "Cents" issues of New Brunswick. To these we wish to add the following:—5c green, long pendent variety which occurs on the 60th stamp of the sheet; 10c reentry, a double line which occurs at the lower left hand side of the stamp; 17c, a damage or lodgement of some foreign matter in one of the eyes which gives the appearance of a blind eye.

A curious coincidence in the stamp collecting world is revealed by an item which came up for auction recently in a London sale. On November 4, 1863, a letter was written in Montreal and posted to a Mrs. Edge at Merrion, near Dublin, Ireland. In order to make up the correct postage a one cent Canada stamp was cut in half, the bottom portion being used.

This in itself is nothing so rare, using a bisected stamp, but here is the remainder of the story—the other half is still in existence and is in the hands of a collector.

The second half of the stamp is the one reproduced in Boggs' book. The letter in this case was dated November 12, 1863, and is written in the same hand as that of the first letter.



"OFF THE CUFF"

BY V. G. GREENE

Many BNAPS'ers were present and several exhibited at the annual T.H.B.

dinner held in Toronto on October 25th. President Ed. Richardson showed his Boer War and Patriotic covers, the latter being particularly interesting and colorful. Canadian patriotic covers of the Boer War period are beginning to come into their own after being neglected for many years. Mr. Richardson's display offered several examples that this writer had never seen before in his forty years of collecting. BNAPS'er Reg. Barraclough of Montreal showed a frame containing six pages from his famed "Two Ring Numeral" collection. BNAPS'er Larry Shoemaker showed two frames of his "Small Cents" collection and the 'fancy' cancellations were a joy to behold. However, his choice piece was a cover (illustrated in Boggs') containing a perfect example of the rare 3c perforated 12½ and an equally fine 2c Large. Larry also proudly exhibited that rare combination of the 2c registry and 1c drop letter rate. BNAPS'er Fred Jarrett exhibited two frames of the 1908 Quebec Tercentenary containing die proofs of all values, imperf blocks of four and a perfectly centered mint block of 40 of the 20c value. Every year Fred goes to his 'burglar-proof' vault and digs out something new and interesting with which to startle the boys.

Another old-time member is BNAPS'er Wm. A. Beatty of St. Catherines, Ont. Mr. Beatty is now up in his seventies and published the "Ontario Philatelist" at the turn of the century.

MORE ABOUT CANADIAN O.H.M.S. STAMPS

By F. WALTER POLLOCK

Mr. Garrett's statement that, "In Canada, they (official stamps) may be considered as first being used in 1925 or perhaps a year earlier" is open to serious debate.

As a matter of fact, Canadian stamps perforated "O.H.M.S." may be found as far back as 1922-23, but they were not official stamps. They were used only by the Assistant Receiver General's office at Victoria, B. C., and they were perforated under the same privilege as extended to private corporations. Really, for one Federal office to appropriate the initials actually the equal property of all Federal offices was somewhat presumptuous, and the Department of National Defense, for instance, was thus forced to perforate its stamps with the initials "N. D." If, therefore, one wishes to consider the stamps perforated O.H.M.S. between 1923 and 1935 as collectible official stamps, then the N. D. perforation must be considered in the same category.

The five-hole perforator used at Victoria was retired about March 11, 1935, on which date the Bank of Canada was formed, assuming the duties of the Assistant Receiver General's Office. The machine was shipped to Ottawa for storage and when, in 1939, an Order in Council was issued, requiring all Federal offices outside the capitol city of Ottawa to use only stamps perforated O.H.M.S., the Post Office Department borrowed the five-hole perforator until it could obtain a machine of its own.

That the original machine was not in constant use up to the time of the issuance of the Order in Council is evidenced by the fact that none of the low and commonly used values of the last George V issue, current from June 1, 1935, to April 1, 1937, is known in perforated condition. The unofficial perforations appear on stamps numbered from 104 to 205; the lowest number known with official perforation is 223. The reason why a few high values, etc., not current in 1939, may be found with official perforations, is that, when the Order was issued, some offices thought all stocks of stamps then on hand had to be perforated, and sent them in to Ottawa for that purpose. This was not necessary, but nevertheless the perforations were applied and the stamps returned.

Having seen the machine, and the manner in which it is operated, the varieties of position become unimportant and trivial. The machine consists of a row of ten segments in a single line, and thus should perforate one row of stamps at a time. But the feeding of sheets to the machine (whether vertically or horizontally, face up or face down, etc.) and the spacing between rows is not only a manual operation, but is more or less casually done by a clerk in the stock room of the Postage Stamp Section. Under the circumstances, any possible variation may be expected, and generally one will not be disappointed.

In addition to the stamps listed by Mr. Garrett, the following exist with O.H.M.S. perforations: In the large size, the 4c 1922, the 3c Ottawa Conference, and the 4c, 5c, and 8c 1937: In the small size, the 2c 1942, and the 10c and 10c on 20c special deliveries of 1939.

All four-hole perforations are official, and also the following five-hole perforations: The 13c and 50c of 1935, 3c Coronation, First George VI issue of 1937-1938 (except that the 50c and \$1 values are unknown so perforated), 1c and 3c Royal Visit, and 6c air mail of 1938.

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 Bucke, P. P. F., 334 Eleventh St., Brandon, Man., Can (DC) Canada. By R. J. Duncan, No. 37.
 Gladieux, Jay P., % C. A. A., Annette, Alaska (CX) CAN—Postage, a'mails, literature. By D. C. Meyerson, No. 3.
 Powe, Roland L., No. Windham, Conn. (DC) B. N. A. By C. Coleman, No. 41.
 Snyder-Volk, F. Pittstown, N. J. (C) Br. America. By D. C. Meyerson, No. 3.
 Sparrow, W. H., 125 Lytton Blvd., Toronto 12, Ont., Canada (C) Canada—"Small Cents" issue. By V. G. Greene, No. 40.
 Teale, Frank Hubert, Forest P. O., Ont., Canada (DC) CAN. NFD—used postage, 19th Canada, early 20th Nfld. By R. J. Duncan, No. 37.

ADDITIONS TO EXCHANGERS

- Britton, J. Edgar, Summerland, B. C., Canada (X) CAN, NFD—Postage, mint & used.
 Kuhn, W. S., 1727 Ivy St., San Mateo, Calif. (X) CAN, NFD, N. B., N. S.—Postage, mint & used, varieties, CAN, NFD—a'mails, CAN—coils, N. B.—Proofs & Essays.
 Miller, Thos. J., 215 Thompson Dr., St. James, Man., Can. (X) CAN—Mint & used postage, a'mails, blks., coils, covers (1st day), varieties, O.H.M.S.

CHANGES OF ADDRESS

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 Smith, R. R., 3921 Marathon St., Los Angeles 27, Calif.

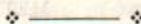
NOTICE

Dues for 1948 in the amount of \$3.00 are payable in January. Dues for Contributing Members is \$10.00; for Life Members, \$50.00.

Please cooperate and forward your remittances (payable) to the Treasurer, W. C. PETERMAN, 80 CRANBERRY ST., BROOKLYN 2, N. Y.

Your receipt will be your 1948 Membership Card which will be forwarded upon receipt of payment.

Daniel C. Meyerson has been elected by the Members of the Board to serve as Chairman of the Board of Governors for the balance of this term.



Propose Your Friend to BNAPS

BRINGING NEWS ABOUT PEOPLE AND STAMPS

BY REV. JOHN S. BAIN

With the appearance of the 1948 edition, Vol. I, Scott's catalogue, the new listings of Canadian stamps brings us closer to specialized listings of this popular country. Many collectors feel that this should be done because of the geographical location to the United States and the great number of collectors who are interested in Canada's stamps.

BNAPS

Dr. Alfred Whitehead, BNAPster #192, and for 25 years organist and composer at Christ Church Cathedral, Montreal, Canada, has resigned and taken the post offered him by the Mt. Allison University, Sackville, New Brunswick, Canada, as Dean of the faculty of music. He hopes to contact some keen students of B.N.A. in the Maritimes. Those in the district who are collectors will find Dr. Whitehead a real student of philately. Our best wishes to Dr. Whitehead as he assumes his new post.

BNAPS

I saw only one BNA collection during my trip to Puerto Rico, Haiti, and Jamaica. That was of Newfoundland and belonged to a new BNAPS'er, Everard F. Aguilar of Kingston, Jamaica. He is a keen student of Jamaica postal history and is at present writing a book on the subject. I spent some time looking over his reference collection and also Newfoundland. Before leaving Jamaica, I contacted several dealers, but no BNA. While in Haiti, I had the privilege of being conducted through the entire postal system.

BNAPS

The Canadian Christmas Seal uses the text in English and French. England, Newfoundland and Bermuda use the Canadian seals with the English text with Bermuda overprinting the seals with the name of the country.

BNAPS

With the announcement of the Canadian government to issue a special 4c postage stamp to commemorate the marriage of Princess Elizabeth to Lt. Mountbatten, R.N., and the release of the de-

sign, disappointment is expressed by the collectors over the small size of the stamp.

BNAPS

I haven't noticed this rumor reported anywhere but I've heard that Canada might issue a combination booklet which will contain, beside the regular postage stamps, some panes of the airmail stamps. Has anyone heard?

BNAPS

At long last, precancel collectors welcome the latest edition of Hoover Bros. *Official Catalog of Canada Precancels*. BNAPster H. G. Walburn is the Editor and an excellent job he has done. Now precancel collectors have a complete listing of all known varieties of these stamps. Prices may alarm some collectors but all will agree that increases, in many instances, were long overdue.

BNAPS

My Philadelphia agent advises that they now have a very active group which attends their meetings. The last meeting was favored with an exhibit of Canadian Revenues by BNAPster Wilmer Rockett. Sales Manager, Harold Meyers, sees that the meetings have a good representation of BNAPS Circuit books for the members to look over. The Philadelphia group would especially like to have BNAPsters from all the neighboring areas visit with them at their meetings. The trip would be well worth it.

BNAPS

To hand is a copy of Vol. 2, No. 1 of the *C. P. S. Bulletin*, official organ of the Canadian Philatelic Society. With this issue, the C. P. S. innovates a new printed magazine which will be released bi-monthly and will present and report on services and activities for members of the Society. Members will continue to receive an annual subscription to *Popular Stamps* in addition to this new service.

BNAPS

This is to wish every BNAPster a MERRY CHRISTMAS and to thank all who have contributed items for use in this column.

THE PORT HOOD AFFAIR

BY M. W. CRYDERMAN

On January 1, 1899, the new rate for domestic letters, reduced from three cents to two cents, came into effect. On January 5, the Postmaster at Port Hood, N. S., apparently short of two cent stamps, cut three cent stamps vertically into two portions, of approximately $\frac{2}{3}$ and $\frac{1}{3}$ each. Some of the $\frac{2}{3}$ portions were surcharged with a rubber stamp, 2, in violet, and some were left unsurcharged. The number, 1, in greenish blue, was applied to some of the $\frac{1}{3}$ portions. The $\frac{2}{3}$ portion, or two of the $\frac{1}{3}$ portions, were used to make up the 2c rate, which was now the one in demand. The probable scheme of division was such that a row of stamps would give first a $\frac{2}{3}$ portion, then 2 $\frac{1}{3}$ portions, then 2 $\frac{2}{3}$ portions, then 2 $\frac{1}{3}$ s, and so on, ending with a single $\frac{2}{3}$ portions on the tenth stamp. There would be a left hand and right hand variety of each piece and we may conclude that each variety would be prepared in both a surcharged and unsurcharged condition. There would then be eight varieties:

1. Left $\frac{2}{3}$, unsurcharged.
2. Right $\frac{2}{3}$, unsurcharged.
3. Left $\frac{2}{3}$, surcharged 2 in violet.
4. Right $\frac{2}{3}$, surcharged 2 in violet.
5. Left $\frac{1}{3}$, unsurcharged.
6. Right $\frac{1}{3}$, unsurcharged.
7. Left $\frac{1}{3}$, surcharged 1 in greenish blue.
8. Right $\frac{1}{3}$, surcharged 1 in greenish blue.

Since any kind of bisecting or mutilation of Canadian stamps is strictly forbidden, the matter was investigated, the balance of the stamps impounded and the Postmaster severely reprimanded. The Postmaster's explanation is given in the following letter:

"When the change in Canadian postage was made—of which we got notice by wire—I had only a very few two cent stamps in stock so that before I got my supply from Ottawa I ran completely out of them, and, to keep my account straight, I was compelled to cut threes. This was for one day only, and not over 300 stamps were cut. I would say about 200 "2" and 100 "1" were used. Those stamps I put on letters for delivery within the county as much as possible. About 100 "2" and probably nearly as many "1" were marked with the figures 2 and 1 as you describe and were placed on letters for delivery in towns throughout the Dominion. Those were the only provisional stamps used by this office."

The matter of deciding when a bisect or split is legitimate is somewhat difficult. If we apply the rule that it must have been necessary, as with the $7\frac{1}{2}$ d rate in Nova Scotia, and must have been authorized by the Post Office Department, we rule out all Canadian bisects. Yet some of our Canadian bisects are highly prized by specialists. So, although not legal, they are at least collectible, on cover only, of course, if they were not manufactured for philatelic purposes.

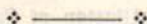
The question arises as to whether these Port Hood emissions were made for philatelic purposes or not. First the new rate was proclaimed on December 29 and since the Postmaster was notified by wire we may presume that he knew of the change on the 29th. Although Port Hood is 221 miles from Halifax, and over 1000 miles from Ottawa, the seven days that elapsed between December 29 and January 5 would seem sufficient for obtaining a supply of 2c stamps if the Postmaster were genuinely concerned about having them on hand in time. The 2c Map Stamp, of Xmas, 1898, had just been issued and local supplies should not have been exhausted. The regular 1c and 2c stamps, as well as the 2c Map Stamp, should have been available in some quantity. Moreover, while it was

strictly forbidden to cut postage stamps, it was not impossible to forward the letters as paid, though stampless, or to forward those leaving the district to Halifax with the correct amount of money and have the stamps applied there. The ingenuity required to prepare eight varieties to overcome this crisis, and the foresight necessary to have violet and greenish blue ink on hand, should have been equal to the emergency, within the bounds of the law. In the light of the foregoing evidence we may conclude that these emissions were inspired by some ambitious philatelist.

It has been suggested in defense of these emissions, that the small number prepared shows that they were not a speculation, and that the fact that Stanley Gibbons secured some is not evidenced against them in itself. But as a speculation it would matter little whether a small number at a big price or a large number at a low price were prepared. The fact that Stanley Gibbons secured a few before the Post Office Inspector arrived proves one thing only, that the local inspiration was right on the job. Further the cataloguing of these items by Gibbons and Scott, while other bisects of the day were ignored, doesn't legitimize them. The most ridiculous thing connected with the whole affair is the listing of the unused items at all, let alone at $2\frac{1}{2}$ times the used. Even an amateur could prepare them in quantity.

In view of the foregoing evidence, we cannot classify these emissions as legitimate provisionals, but rather as interesting oddities, collectible as such, of course, provided they are correctly dated on cover.

[Ed. Note: Much of the information offered in this article was gleaned from Boggs', Jarrett's and Howe's books.]



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