



BNA TOPICS

Vol. 5, No. 1

January, 1948

Whole No. 44

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OFFICIAL PUBLICATION OF THE
BRITISH NORTH AMERICA PHILATELIC SOCIETY

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CANADA

BNA TOPICS

*Official Journal of
The British North America Philatelic Society*

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THE BRITISH NORTH AMERICA PHILATELIC SOCIETY

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PUBLICITY, R. L. Pearsall, 635 Hudson St., Ithaca, N. Y.

*The N. Y. Group meets the 1st Tuesday of each month at the Collector's
Club, 22 East 35th Street, New York City*

*The Philadelphia Group meets the 1st Thursday of each month at 7934
Pickering Street, Philadelphia.*

INCOMPLETE NOTES

PRESENTATION BOOKLETS OF CANADA

By REG. BARRACLOUGH

It may seem unnecessary to explain what these 'gems' of the Art of Advertising look like. There may be some however who have never had the pleasure of seeing one of these products of our Post Office Department's desire to promote the prestige of Canada at Home and Abroad.

The Presentation Booklets of Canada are, with few exceptions, beautifully made little books measuring $5\frac{1}{4}$ inches by $4\frac{1}{4}$ inches. The great majority of the covers are bound in Morocco with inscriptions in gold lettering. The covers are in various colours with bright red predominating. The booklets vary in 'make-up' from 3 pages to 30 and in contents from 20 stamps in singles to 104 stamps in 26 'blocks of four.'

The existence of these attractive items has been known for years by the philatelic fraternity, and many are the collectors who, running across one of these booklets in the stock of some dealer friend, have fallen in love with its beauty. At the time, the problem of what he would do with the item after he had purchased it had never entered his mind. But as time passed, and further booklets came to hand, the collector was faced with the necessity of deciding what was to be done with these booklets he had acquired over the years.

By the manner in which they are made, these booklets cannot be easily mounted in an album because in all cases they are at least $\frac{1}{8}$ of an inch thick and in some cases are more than double that thickness. They cannot be 'exploded' to facilitate mounting as in most cases the entire effect would be destroyed if the booklet were taken apart. Above all they are too beautiful to be relegated to obscurity in the hidden recesses of a desk drawer. "What to do with them." That is the problem, the solution of which is essential before these Presentation Booklets will take their rightful place in the collection of every enthusiastic philatelist.

In trying to solve this problem, it is first necessary to find out as much as possible about these booklets so that, when we do find the solution, the problem will remain solved for at least long enough to allow the building of a presentable collection.

The facts pertaining to these booklets have not been easy to secure, partly due to official reticence and partly to scarcity of material. Although limited in scope the facts I have been able to secure from one source and another are, I believe, sufficient to warrant an attempt at a solution of this engaging problem of "How can Presentation Booklets be shown to advantage."

Presentation Booklets as we know them are prepared for two purposes; one General in nature and one for Special reasons or occasions.

The General purpose for the preparation of these Presentation Booklets is for use at Postal Conferences such as the Universal Postal Union and the Postal Union of the Americas and Spain. Two types of Presentation Booklets are prepared for these meetings. One type is made to provide Canada's Representative with a souvenir to be given to the representatives of the participating countries as an act of courtesy and good-will. The other type is made for the use of Canada's Diplomatic Representative in the country acting as Host to the Conference to be given as souvenirs to the Members of the Diplomatic Corps. The exchange of Presentation Booklets between Postal Representatives to these Conferences has been a custom of long standing. Some readers may know when this practice started and if so the writer would be very thankful to be honoured with the information. These two types of Presentation Booklets prepared for Postal Union purposes are sometimes very much alike in appearance and at other times are very different both as to appearance and contents.

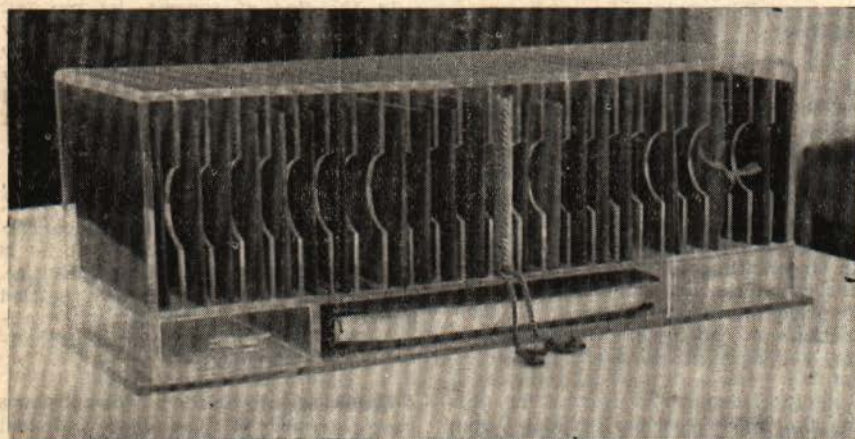
The Special Issues of Presentation Booklets are prepared for so many different reasons that it is difficult to enumerate them all in this short article. In order to give the reader some idea of this type of issue I will refer to only

two issues. No. 9 in the list I have been able to prepare can be best described as follows: "A very Special issue of ONE only was prepared, bound in Blue Morocco and suitably embossed in gold. The booklet was issued on April the 20th 1931 and was presented to His Majesty King George V. The booklet contained a specimen of each stamp issued by Canada during the period between 1917 and 1930." These Special issues were for obvious reasons very limited in number and much more elaborate in design than the General issues. The number issued varied from One only to Twenty in some cases.

From the information I have been able to secure the number of issues of Presentation Booklets during the period between 1924 and 1947 is 35. Of this number I would list 21 as being the General type and 14 being Special issues. Due to the number of booklets made up for the Special Issues it would appear as being impossible for the average collector to ever hope to acquire one. For this reason I believe we should only consider the General Issues when figuring out how much space will be required to house our Collection of Presentation Booklets. As under normal conditions the Postal Unions have a Conference every four years, then it is reasonably accurate to figure on a new booklet every two years. Allowance must of course be made for large issues that may be made for special occasions. Such a special occasion is the explanation of the issue in June 1942 of a Presentation Booklet at the time of the presentation to the Public of the WAR EFFORT ISSUE. At this time about 500 booklets were made and given to Members of Parliament and their Friends. This issue is number 32 in the list I have prepared.

Now if you will bear with me while I review what has gone before in order that we may see what limitations we have to prepare for in trying to arrive at a solution to our problem of "How can Presentation Booklets be shown to advantage."

Presentation Booklets of the General type measure $5\frac{3}{4} \times 4\frac{3}{4} \times \frac{1}{8}$ or more. Are bound in beautifully coloured morocco (with a few exceptions). The colours we have examined are Bright Red, Dull Red, Maroon, Purple, Sage Green, Gold, Navy Blue, Royal Blue, Light Blue and Black. The number we can hope to add to our collection would be in the neighborhood of 20 to 25.



My Solution

Made of Plexi-glass in the form of a miniature book-shelf. The vivid colours are easily seen through the sides, back and top, to say nothing of the smart appearance from the front.

This is your magazine. Your contributions are welcome

Reports and Reviews

by ED. WHITING

News about the Philadelphia Group which, having started its activities last spring, is now really "going to town" under the very able leadership of James Culhane and Charlie McDonough, Regional Director for Philadelphia. The Group has inaugurated what they call "B. N. A. Nights" at various local Clubs. The latest was held December 5th in conjunction with the **Keystone Stamp Club** at Philadelphia's Central Y. M. C. A. At this, as at other such soirees, the BNAPS Group were guests of the local Club at its regular meeting and, after the business part of the meeting, took over the program. The meat of this December 5th program was a talk by Wm. Philler who showed his unusual collection of Newfoundland which, as he said, lacks only about eleven stamps to be "complete" but they would set him back in the vicinity of "ten grand." It was a most interesting and worthwhile evening and the Philly Group hopes their proven pleasure will serve as an incentive for others to form groups and enjoy similar pleasures, possible mainly by such group activities.

A couple of new magazines and house organs have reached this Editor. Jim Sissons presented Vol. I, No. 1 of **Sissons B. N. A. News**, an occasional House Organ. This first issue introduces the reader to the Sisson's organization, its policies and its staff. An interesting addition, or perhaps feature, of the magazine is the listing of prices realized at recent Sissons' auctions. A worthwhile magazine for only \$2.00 per year.

Another magazine reaches us, this one the **Maple Leaves**, Official Organ of the Canadian Philatelic Society of Great Britain. This issue, Vol. 2, No. 1 introduces their first printed release and, as usual, contains some very interesting and informative articles. The

magazine is one of the features of the Society and is issued free to members as part of their \$1.50 dues. If any BNAPS'ers are interested to learn more about the Society, they should write to either R. J. Duncan, Box 118, Armstrong, B. C., Canada, or J. Levine 74 Arlington Ave., Brooklyn 7, N. Y.

The London Philatelist, Official Journal of the Royal Philatelic Society of London, Vol. LVI, No. 661, December 1947, offers a most enlightening study, "The Canadian 'Map' Stamp of 1898" by A. S. Deaville. Visitors to the Lecture Hall at CIPEX on the evening of "BNAPS NIGHT" will always remember the guest speaker, Mr. A. S. Deaville, and his subject for the evening. Correct—the 'Map' stamp. They will also remember the wall size enlargements of 'slides' illustrating some of the designs submitted on this stamp. Mr. Deaville's article in this issue of the **London Philatelist** should be the 'last word' on that stamp. Accompanying the article are four full page reproductions of the original designs submitted—correct again.

In the line of reports, let me tell those of you who don't already know that our President has been very busy of late—busy with a-fixin' his new home. Here's wishing you lots of good luck and happiness at 217 Columbia Street.

Our Vice-President, Dick Hedley, has been very busy lately too. So busy, in fact, with his duties as Sales Engineer that we understand that he is dropping the stamp dealing activities. Well, boys, now that we've settled down and will have more time available, maybe we'll be seeing and reading you in **TOPICS**.

Speaking of settling down, yours truly stepped off the deep end last November and took as his bride Miss Rowland, of Paoli, Pa. We're living at 126 Woodland Ave., Malvern, Pa. (By the way, the bride is strictly not stamp minded!—Poor me!!)

Propose Your Friends to BNAPS

Some Notes on Canadian Christmas Seals

by CHAS. ARMSTRONG



Early Seals

So far as is known, the first Canadian Christmas Seal was issued in 1908. This and all seals up to 1927 are known as "Locals." Some of these early Christmas seals are not dated, and for this reason the year of their issue is not known in many instances.

National Seals

National Seals were used exclusively after 1926 with the exception of the Muskoka Hospital undated oval and round stickers which were used up to 1933.

It is sometimes hard to distinguish between U. S. and Canadian seals. The 1928 seal was of the same design as the U. S., but the Canadian seal can be distinguished by the lighter colors in the seals and background. These were only issued in the English text so it was decided to issue one in French for New Years. This bears the words "Bonne Annee, 1929." It should be considered as a part of the 1928 issue.

The 1929 U. S. seal is similar to the Canadian, but the inscription reads "Health Greetings" instead of the "Christmas Greetings" version on the U. S.

The 1930 Canadian seal is similar to the U. S. seal but has the words "Health to All" added on the bottom of the stamp, and the red outer frame is omitted.

Local Seals

The Temiscouiti Ligue Anti-Tuberculosis used the U. S. national seals for 1919, 1920 and 1925, but these were issued in the French Text.

The Muskoka Free Hospital for Consumptives pioneered in this field and issued dated seals from 1908 to 1922. From 1923 to 1933 they used undated seals similar to commercial stickers. After 1933 they used regular national seals.

Many of the "Locals" are very hard to find, in fact some of them are real rarities.

Information Needed

No information seems to be available for the following undated "Local" seals:—

1. Convalescent Hospital,—Winnipeg
2. Vancouver General Hospital
3. Laurentian Sanatorium

4. The Tranquillian
5. Halifax County
6. Hamilton Mountain Sanatorium (Issued 2 seals, one in 1926. Other —?)
7. British Columbia Anti-Tuberculosis Society (Issued 2 seals, one in 1910, other —?)
8. Mowat Memorial Hospital, Kingston.

Any information on these locals would be appreciated by Canadian Xmas Seal fans.

Varieties

A catalogue of Canadian Christmas Seals would be very extensive. The major groups of varieties and specialty fields include:—

1. Perforates and Imperforates
2. French text and English text
3. Slogan Corner, or other special position seals
4. Progressive Color Proofs
5. Imperf. between pairs.
6. Tete-beche pairs and blocks (these of course are also found in the progressive color proofs.)
7. Wide Gutter variety of 1945
8. Booklet panes, perforated and imperforate
9. Secret Letters, printers marks, and plate varieties.
10. Special size sheets.

If one wishes to specialize, there are those with colors not in register and patches of color where none should be.

Canadian Christmas Seals provide a big field for collectors. It can provide a great deal of pleasure and it can be an inexpensive sideline.

LETTER TO THE EDITOR



Editor, "BNA TOPICS"

Dear Sir:

Here's a tracing made of the cancellation appearing on a strip of four of the 2c carmine, First George V issue of 1923. The color of the cancellation is purple.

Intriguing little thing, isn't it? Does anybody know the story behind it? Why should a little place like Six Roads, N. B., too small even for a railroad station (at least in that name), have such an elaborate registry marker? Where is the place, anyway? I've never seen such a marking before (which may not prove anything), but have any other Canadian cities or towns used it, or is it something the local Postmaster dreamed up all by himself?

The questions that might be asked are almost endless, but in any event, I hope you'll be just buried by the letters that will pour in, giving us the low-down on this curiosity.

—F. WALTER POLLOCK

Support your magazine. Send in your information

REPORT OF THE SECRETARY

NEW MEMBERS

- 460 Banner, Harold L., 349 - 11th Street East, No. Vancouver, B. C., Canada.
 461 Bucke, P. P. F., 334 Eleventh Street, Brandon, Man., Canada
 462 Byers, May, Office of the Mayor, Ottawa, Ont., Canada
 463 Gladieux, Jay P., c/o C. A. A., Annette, Alaska
 464 Powe, Roland L., North Windham, Conn.
 465 Snyder-Volk, F., Pittstown, N. J.
 466 Sparrow, W. H., 125 Lytton Blvd., Toronto 12, Ont., Canada
 467 Teale, Frank H., Forest P. O., Ontario, Canada.

APPLICATIONS FOR MEMBERSHIP

- Bira, Dr. C., 508 Canada Bldg., Saskatoon, Sask., Canada (C) Canada & Nfld. By C. A. Anderson, No. 361.
 Bricker, Forbes C., Listowel, Ont., Canada (CX) CAN, NFD, PRE—Postage, mint & used. CAN, NFD—A'mails. CAN—Blks., coils, plt. nos. By R. J. Duncan, No. 37.
 Bruce, Allister, St. Devenicks Pharmacy, Cults, Aberdeenshire, Scotland (C) B.N.A. Airmails. By A. E. Stephenson, No. 337.
 Campbell, Ross V., 5788 W. Oxford St., Philadelphia 31, Pa. (C) Nfld., Early Canada. By C. McDonough, No. 27.
 Fraser, Oswald, 85 Fonthill Road, Aberdeen, Scotland (C) B.N.A., Airmails (semi-official). Gt. Britain, N. Zealand. By A. E. Stephenson, No. 337.
 Gurry, J. F., 40 St. Mchel St., Apt. 3, Quebec, Que., Canada (C) General. By R. J. Duncan, No. 37.
 Nixon, T. H., 43½ East St., St. Thomas, Ont., Canada (DC) Canada. By R. J. Duncan, No. 37.
 Rankin, Alex. R., P. O. Box 462, Revelstoke, B. C., Canada (C) Canada, Gt. Britain. By R. J. Duncan, No. 37.
 Sanders, H., 11 Floreston St., Stepney Green, London, England (C) B.N.A. By A. E. Stephenson, No. 337.
 Smith, Frank A., 2508 West 21st Street, Minneapolis 5, Minn. (C) B.N.A., U.S. By R. J. Duncan, No. 37.
 Thomas, Alice C., 3411 N. 15th St., Philadelphia 40, Pa. (C) B.N.A., U.S., Br. Colonials. By R. R. Leuf, No. 166.

ADDITION TO EXCHANGERS

- McKee, Dr. C. S., 1200 West 15th, Vancouver, B. C., Canada (X) Cancell. small cents.

CHANGES AND CORRECTIONS TO ADDRESSES

- Seed, A. H. Jr., 932 N. W. Bank Bldg., Minneapolis 2, Minn.
 Garcia, Ivon, correct to read—214 West 6th St., No. Vancouver, B. C., Canada
 Needham, R. M., correct to read—P. O. Box 181, Pataskala, Ohio

DECEASED

- 418 Conger, Edwin D., Mercoal, Alta., Canada

SUMMARY OF MEMBERSHIP ENROLLMENT 1947

R. J. Duncan	42	J. N. Sissons	2
J. Levine	28	ONE each C. W. Brazer,	
E. A. Richardson	13	F. W. Campbell, C. Coleman,	
R. P. Hedley	9	L. R. Day, A. E. Edwards, J.	
A. E. Stephenson	6	D. Graham, H. Herst Jr., L. S.	
B. C. Binks	5	Holmes, F. A. Johnson, P.	
D. C. Meyerson	5	Kreischer, R. R. Leuf, J. C.	
C. McDonough	5	Martin, H. R. Meyers, W. S.	
V. G. Greene	3	Meyerson, K. Minuse, R. R.	
A. F. Gardiner	2	Smith, L. T. Vowles, H. G.	
E. Goodale	2	Walburn, E. J. Whiting.	

INDEX TO CANADIAN PHILATELIC MAGAZINES

By R. J. DUNCAN

THE CANADIAN PHILATELIST

Vol. I published at Rouleau, Sask., by Andrew King. Vol. II published at Regina, Sask., by Stephen Golder. Various coloured paper wrappers. Vol. I size 5x7 1/4 except No. 7 which is 5x8. Vol. II size 6x9.

Vol. I, No. 1. April 1910. Nos. 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10 (Jan. 1911). No. 11, Feb. 1911.

Vol. II, No. 1. March 1911. Nos. 2, 3 (May 1911).

B. N. A. CONTENTS

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 One Cent Canada on 3 Different Papers Vol. I, No. 1.
 Death of King Edward VII Vol. I, No. 2.
 Early Canadian Stamps Vol. I, Nos. 4, 5, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11.
 Rodolphe Lemieux, Postmaster General of Canada Vol. I, No. 5.
 Newfoundland's New Stamps Vol. I, No. 6.
 The Postage Stamps of New Brunswick Vol. I, No. 6.
 The Newfoundland Guy Vol. II, No. 1.
 Empire Coronation Stamps. Canada. Newfoundland Vol. II, No. 1.
 Early Postal Treaty between the United States and British Columbia Vol. II, Nos. 1, 2.
 Canadian Letter Writers Vol. II, No. 3.

SALES TOPICS

During the last year 133 circuits were sent out to the 59 active members on my buyers list. This does not include the Special Circuits sent to Philadelphia for that group's monthly meetings.

For a membership list like ours, 59 is a small proportion of the total who have requested this department's service. We are getting in new material continually, and I look forward to greater activity in 1948. If you have neglected until now to place your name on the circuit list, don't neglect it any longer, but write me now—a post card will do. Just ask to receive the circuits, and I'll do the rest.

H. R. MEYERS, Sales Manager
 101 West 60th St., N. Y. 23, N. Y.

PRESS RELEASE

Postmaster General Ernest Bertrand announces with regret that it has been found necessary, due to production difficulties, to postpone for one month the issue of the special 4-cent postage stamp which will commemorate the marriage of H. R. H. The Princess Elizabeth, Duchess of Edinburgh, to H. R. H. The Duke of Edinburgh. Instead of Thursday, January 15th, the date of issue will be Monday, February 16th, 1948. Sales to the general public and to philatelists, also the handling of First Day Covers, will be unavoidably delayed in accordance with the above.

TOPICS Ads Get Results

Bringing News About People & Stamps

By REV. JOHN S. BAIN

Most of you know by now that Canada certainly remembered her philatelists for Christmas and New Years with the release of the "Gift Folder" booklet, which offered for the first time panes of airmail stamps and airmail sticker labels, and with the announcement of the postponement from January 15th to February 15th of the issuance of a "Royal Wedding" commemorative stamp, due to production difficulties. This we know, but what I and perhaps others would like to know is the history of the printing of the booklets—first day, plate layout of the airmail panes and label panes, amount printed, etc., AND who philately's good friend was who played such an important part in the issuance of the booklet? Let me know so I can tell all the others.

BNAPS

The 13th American Philatelic Congress held in Detroit, Mich., December 5-7th, 1947, was one of the best ever held, according to BNAPS'ers H. Gates, General Chairman, and J. Alex Park, Finance Chairman. The bourse was the largest at any show last year except CIPEX. Visiting BNAPS'ers I met there included Sissons, Jarrett, Bayley, Shoemaker, DeLisle, Dempsey, Campbell, Hunter, Dr. Richardson, J. Martin and many others. Les Davenport was a judge on the Exhibition Jury. BNAPS'ers made quite a showing—in the British Empire Section: Second Award, Canada, 'Larry' Shoemaker; Third Award, Canada, 'Vince' Greene. Essay & Proofs—Foreign Section: Second Award, Canada, 'Tom' Morris. The Hartwell Cup: Canada, Fred Jarrett. Special Honorable Mention: Canada Revenues, 'Good-y' Harris. It certainly was BNAPS—all the way!!

BNAPS

One of my scouts reports an item about Canadian Revenue Proofs. These are of the Third Issue Alberta Law Stamps and are of India paper and come on card. All issued values are represented and an additional unissued denomination in a 20c vermilion. The overprint "Specimen" appears on

all stamps and to the reporter's best information and knowledge, all stamps are hole-punched.

BNAPS

Another news-bit reaches me about Canadian Revenue proofs. This one, that the "Essay Proof Society" will use their outstanding "Journal" to present a listing of revenue proofs. This should receive a very appreciative reception judged by everything else ever offered by the Society. My personal deduction is that BNAPS'er Clarence W. Brazer, Editor of the "Journal," will play an important part in this compilation.

BNAPS

Every now and then I send out an S. O. S. for contributions of bits of information and news to be used in this column—every now and then I gratefully acknowledge the assistance from some of the members. Our Editor advises me that you readers like some of those short tid-bits mixed in with longer articles in an issue of our magazine. I'm sure my ears are listening, even when asleep, for any bit of news or gossip about stamps—something I can report to the rest of you. But, I can't and don't hear everything. I'm sure that between all our members, however, we must each know a lot that the other fellow may not know. Please tell me so I can tell the others.

BNAPS

An old thought returns to me, originated by Nelson Bond, that TOPICS have as a feature column, a series of "Profiles" on BNAPS members—one each issue, introducing and presenting that member to the other members. What do you think? Swamp me with letters clamouring for such a column and, if you agree with me there, that Nels Bond be drafted to do the column.

BNAPS

This being my first column for a new year it is appropriate that I wish it to be a Happy New Year to all BNAPS'ers and a successful New Year for BNAPS.

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PHILATELIC FRIENDS AND FELLOW SCHOLARS:

As many of you know, I am a writer by profession. As most of you do not know, a year ago was published my first volume of collected short stories, a tidy little tome rather frighteningly entitled:

MR. MERGENTHWIRKER'S LOBLIES and Other Fantastic Tales.

Don't blame me for the title. Blame the publisher, whose brainstorm it was to name the book unpronounceably after the lead story, which has been reprinted and aired literally dozens of times, and has even been dramatized for television.

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