

OCTOBER
1949

B * N * A

Topics

Official Publication of the
British North America Philatelic Society

In this issue . . .

Pre-Adhesive Postal History & Postal Markings of Newfoundland By William S. & Daniel C. Meyerson	173
An Interesting Bisect. By J. A. Gray	179
Initial Listing of the Presentation Booklets of Canada. By Reg. Barraclough	185
Another "Red River" Cover. By John L. Norbeck	187
The Arms Watermark of Newfoundland. By S. C. Calder	189
King Island, B. C. By R. M. Bryan	194
Convention Report.	

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BNA TOPICS*Official Journal of**The British North America Philatelic Society*

Published monthly at Lawrence, Kansas \$3.00 per year

Vol. 6, No. 8

October 1949

Whole No. 62

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ADVERTISING RATES

	1 Insertion	6 Insertions	12 Insertions
Full Page	\$8.00	\$7.00	\$6.00
Half Page	4.75	4.00	3.50
Quarter Page	3.00	2.50	2.00
Single Column Inch	1.00	.85	.75

Copy Must Be Received by 15th of Month Preceding Publication

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Letters to the Editor

Attention Board of Governors

Dear Sir:

It was in the March 1949 issue of BNA TOPICS that I suggested the compilation by our Society of a Catalogue of B. N. A. Varieties. You were good enough to regard the suggestion as worthy of consideration and called for an expression of views from the members. In the interim since March numerous letters have appeared in response to your request, the outstanding feature of which has been the unanimity with which the suggestion has been received. Views have varied somewhat, perhaps, as to procedure but the call for such a Catalogue has been emphatic and that our Society could advantageously take up such a work has been generally conceded. (It is to be noted that out of our entire membership only one letter has appeared deprecating the necessity for such a catalogue, and only one other questioning the source from which the catalogue should originate.)

Under these circumstances I feel that no useful purpose can be served by further delay and would like to see the suggestion advanced a further stage by respectfully calling upon the Board of Governors to officially explore the matter and take such steps as may be deemed necessary to implement the evident desire of our members for a comprehensive and authoritative Variety Catalogue.

There are no constitutional difficulties involved since the project falls well within the scope of Article 2 which reads in part: "... and to disseminate information on the subject within its purview (the study of postage stamps and Postal History of the Dominion of Canada and Newfoundland) for the benefit of its members and the hobby of Philately in general."

In laying the matter on the doorstep of the Board of Governors I would not seek to minimize the magnitude of the proposed task. It is admittedly a big job and of necessity a long range undertaking calling for devoted service and research over a long period of time, but not often can such an objective be undertaken under more favour-

able conditions. With a membership largely composed of B. N. A. specialists, apparently in sympathy with the proposal and geared to render all possible aid, and with a magazine available through which to keep in touch and make their wants known, the Board and its committees are in a position to tap reserves of information not readily available for a work of this kind. The wholehearted offer of cooperation from C. G. Kemp appearing in his letter in the July-August BNA TOPICS typifies I think the general attitude of our members.

W. T. White
Vancouver, B. C.

2000 perf 12½ 3c Small Queens?

Dear Sir:

In Russ Allison's "Looking Here... Looking There" for July-August I read with no little interest the note reporting that over 2000 copies of the 3c Small Queen perf 12½ have been located overseas.

I don't question that perhaps that many actually exist but it requires a tremendous effort on the part of my digestive apparatus for me to believe that over 2000 have been located. Anything can happen and maybe someone found a few mint sheets but on this score I'm from Missouri.

Let's look at the facts. The Stanley Gibbons Ltd. Catalogue of 1939, the latest I have, makes no mention of the 12½ perf. It would seem reasonable therefore to assume that the stamp was no better known in England in those days than it was over here. Scotts have only listed it in recent years and Jarrett, who was and is no "slouch" on Canada, made no mention of it in his book in 1929.

Larry Shoemaker recently wrote up this stamp and reported that he had a record of 61 specimens. Boggs in his "Canada" mentioned a figure of about 60. It would be bully if there were 2000 to go around but it's very unlikely. A figure of 200 recorded might get by, otherwise a lot of people have been hoarding a stamp that has not been too well known.

In any event I wouldn't advise anyone to conclude that this stamp is anywhere near as common all of a sudden as this note from abroad might suggest. It would be interesting to hear more of the background of the report regarding the 2000 specimens recorded. I would welcome any substantiating data and also hasten to congratulate any person or persons that has completed such a colossal job as recording this number of stamps.

H. W. Lussey
New Milford, N. J.

Information Wanted—Please

Dear Sir:



It has been suggested that I write you regarding two Canadian Patriotic covers I recently purchased. They are small covers and both dated 1861 and contain the Union Jack with a white background. Under the Union Jack they contain the inscription in red, "Our Queen and Country," and in black immediately below the inscription this quotation, "The Flag that's braved a thousand years, the battle and the breeze."

One cover is franked with a Prince

Albert and is dated October 17, 1861, and is cancelled, "G. W. P. East C. W." The other is franked with two 5c perforated beavers and is dated September 19, 1861, and is cancelled, "Paris, C. W. D. P. O.", and both covers are addressed to the same party at Ashtland, Ohio.

The only explanation I can give for these is that they are contemporary covers with our Civil War Patriotics. There was no occasion either in Canada or Great Britain to issue patriotics in 1861. Any information the readers can give will be greatly appreciated.

Clayton W. Tyler
Cleveland, Ohio

ED— Replies directed to the Editor will be forwarded to Mr. Tyler and also published in subsequent issues of BNA TOPICS.

P. E. I. Early Town Cancels

Dear Sir:

I read with interest Mr. Crosby's informative article in the May 1949 BNA TOPICS. I can throw one further ray of light upon the subject where "St. Peter's" and "St. Peter's Bay" cancellations are concerned. I have in my collection a strip of three "Small" 1 cent with:

HEAD OF ST. PETER'S BAY —
P. E. I. — 18 JU 85.

Evan R. Gill
Liverpool, Eng.

For the asking

Dear Sir:

My main purpose in writing is because of something I've run across which may not mean anything to our fellow-members but the opportunity is theirs for the asking. I have approximately 50 postcards from all over the world, some old letter-heads and various other bills, etc., which I found in an old attic up here. If anyone is interested and will let me know, I will be more than glad to send some to them.

Jay P. Gladieux
Katalla, Alaska
(via Cordova)

BNAPEX Best Wishes

Richard P. Hedley, Pres.

Dear Sir:

It has been my intention to be with you this evening at your First Annual Convention and Exhibition but owing to recent tragedy to Noronic unable to secure transportation from Toronto. On behalf of **Canadian Philatelic Society** I would like to extend our sincerest good wishes for the success of your Society at its first convention. Regards.

John W. Yaxley, President
Canadian Philatelic Society

R. P. Hedley, Chairman BNAPEX

Dear Sir:

Every good wish for a happy and successful conference. Sorry I cannot be with you.

S. C. Calder
Cheshire, Eng.

of the Show, and I know I'm voicing the way everybody felt when I say that we had a really marvelous time—
W. S. B."

"It certainly was a swell party and very nice meeting everybody—C. A."

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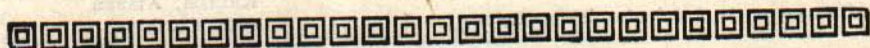


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Pre-Adhesive Postal History and Postal Markings of Newfoundland

By William S. & Daniel C. Meyerson

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(continued from page 148, July-August)

AMENDMENTS TO ACT OF 1851

In spite of this first very progressive step taken towards the establishment of a uniform inland postal system, the results for the first year were extremely disappointing. The total revenue for inland mail amounted to £52 2s 11d., all collected from the main post office at St. John's and the three post offices at Brigus, Carbonear and Harbor Grace on the western shore of Conception Bay. The inhabitants of the rest of the communities boasting a post office were evidently unappreciative of the services that had been prepared for their convenience.

Postmaster General Solomon had evidently anticipated the initial failure of the inland postal system as he prepared a very strong case to present to the legislative Committee stressing that conditions had been so bad during the first year that the system had not had a fair trial. He evidently presented his case well as the Committee not only voted to continue the routes, but even went so far as to expand them and thus offer far better and more frequent service.

In the reports of the Legislative Council for 1853, we find the following amendments added to the Inland Postal Act:

"The Postmaster of Placentia shall upon receipt of the Mails from St. John's, assort the same, and put into the Mail Bags to be kept for that purpose all Letters, Periodicals, Newspapers and Publications addressed to the several parties residing in the respective places following;—In Oderin, Great Paradise, Oliver's Cove, Presque, Isle Valen and Merasheen, which Mail Bags shall be transmitted in the Mail Packet sailing from Placentia to Great Paradise on her route to Oderin and Burin, at which place (Great Paradise) the Mails for that place, for Oliver's Cove, Presque, Isle Valen and Merasheen shall be left in a Way-Office to be established for that purpose, provided always, that the said Mail Packet Boat between Placentia and Burin, shall on her outward and return voyages from Burin call at Oderin and at Great Paradise, and on each voyage remain at Oderin one hour, and at Paradise one hour, and no longer."

The amendments continue:—

"The Postmaster General shall have the power to make the necessary arrangements for the conveyance from Little Placentia to Harbour Beaufette (Harbour Buffet), of the Mail Bags for Harbour Beaufette, Burgeo, Barren Island, Woody Island, Sound Island and the settlements adjacent, provided that the Postmaster General shall be at liberty to establish a Way Office at Harbour Beaufette."

Thus we can see that the service was extended in the Placentia Bay area alone to include several new settlements such as Great Paradise, Little Paradise, Presque, Oliver's Cove, Merasheen, Little Placentia, Harbour Beaufette, Burgeo, Barren Island, Woody Island, and Sound Island not previously covered in the original act. The same expansion of mail service is to be found in other sections throughout the entire colony.

That the service was continually enlarged is graphically shown by examining the Postmaster General's report for the period Oct. 1, 1853 to Sept. 30, 1854 (Figs. 60 & 61).

150

APPENDIX, No. 16.

APPENDIX No. 16.

POST MASTER GENERAL'S ACCOUNT CURRENT OF RECEIPTS AND EXPENDITURE FOR THE YEAR ENDING 30th SEPTEMBER, 1854.

Annual Expenditure for the following Services shewing the number of Post Masters, Way Officers, Clerks, Couriers, and Contractors, from the 1st October, 1853, to 30th September, 1854.

NAME OF PARTY.	FOR WHAT SERVICE.	AMOUNT.
W. L. Solomon	Post Master General	£275 0 0
Martin Shea	First Clerk	100 0 0
E. Solomon	Second Clerk	50 0 0
John Freeman	Messenger and Assistant Assorter	35 0 0
Andrew Drysdale	Post Master, Harbor Grace	45 0 0
Edmund M. Hanrahan	“ Carbonear	45 0 0
William T. Stentafor	“ Brigus	25 0 0
A. Buchanan	“ Trinity	15 0 0
John Lawrence	“ Bonavista	15 0 0
Lorenzo Moore	“ Greenspond	10 0 0
James Fitzgerald	“ Fogo	15 0 0
Joseph J. Pearce	“ Twillingate	15 0 0
Martin Williams	“ Bay Bulls	15 0 0
John Morry	“ Ferryland	15 0 0
John Devereux	“ Trepassey	15 0 0
Hannibal Murch	“ St. Mary's	15 0 0
M. Morris	“ Placentia	15 0 0
Thomas Birkett	“ Burin	15 0 0
Thomas E. Gaden	“ Harbor Briton	15 0 0
Henry Cramp	Way Master, Garnish	4 0 0
Alexander Burke	“ Little Placentia	4 0 0
Thomas E. Collett	“ Harbor Buffett	4 0 0
Patrick Hurley	“ Salmonier	4 0 0
Michael Murphy	“ King's Cove	4 0 0
Matthew O'Rielley	“ Port-de-Grave	4 0 0
William Coughlan	Conveying Mails to and fro Portg. Cove	10 0 0
	“ St. John's and Salmonier	40 0 0
	(Winter Months,) Concep. Bay by land	45 0 0
Patrick Ryan	“ St. John's and Ferryland	29 0 0
	“ Ferryland and Trepassey	32 0 0
Thomas Kelley	“ Salmonier and Placentia	30 0 0
	Special Mails to & fro Plac. & St John's	15 0 0
Daniel Whelan	“ Trinity and King's Cove	23 8 0
Daniel Sullivan	“ Carbonear and Perlican	20 0 0
	Carried forward	£1018 8 0

APPENDIX, No. 16.

131

Post Master General's Account Current—Continued.

NAME OF PARTY.	FOR WHAT SERVICE.	AMOUNT.
	Brought forward	£1018 8 0
William Peddle	Special Mails Salmonier and St. Mary's	20 0 0
Thomas Singleton	“ Trinity and Bonavista	20 0 0
Matthew O'Rielly	“ Brigus and Port-de-Grave	10 0 0
Alexander Burke	“ Little and Great Placentia	4 0 0
Francis Howell	“ South Side Trinity	6 0 0
Thomas E. Collett	“ L. Placentia and H. Buffett	10 0 0
Conception Bay Steam } Navigation Company }	To and fro Conception Bay	180 0 0
Peter Coleman	Conv. Mails to & fro Perlican & Trinity	120 0 0
John Collins	“ Placentia and Burin	130 0 0
Philip Nicholle	“ Burin and Har. Buffett	110 0 0
Thomas Coyle	“ St. John's & Twillingate	100 0 0
John Bishop	Courier between Bonav. & King's Cove	15 0 0
John Kelley	Conveying Northern Mails during winter to Greenspond	35 0 0
John Hayes	1 Trip on above service	5 0 0
Printing		30 0 0
Stationary		30 0 0
Office Rent		25 0 0
Fuel and Light		15 0 0
		£1883 8 0

*Statement of Receipts and Expenditure of Postal Department from 30th
September, 1853, to 30th December, 1854.*

Sept. 30	To amount Ex- penditure as per annexed table	£ s d	Jan. 5	By Revenue Col- lected during this Quarter	£ s d
		1883 8 0	April 5	Ditto	104 7 7
			July 5	Ditto	76 4 5
			Sep. 30	Ditto	120 12 8
		£1883 8 0			129 5 2
					£430 9 10

Fig. 61

We see that the salaries have been increased well beyond the standards established in the Act of 1851, and that new Way-Offices have been added. Revenue has also increased to £430 9s 10d, but it is still far below the expenses for the same period which amount to £1883 8s. There has also been a considerable number of changes in personnel. Edmund M. Hanrahan has replaced Thomas Hanrahan as Postmaster of Carbonear. Greenspond with Lorenzo

Moore as Postmaster has evidently been advanced from a Way-Office to a full-fledged Postoffice. William Coughlin is now the overland courier between St. John's and Portugal Cove, Daniel Whelan between Trinity and King's Cove, Daniel Sullivan between Carbonear and Perlican, Thomas Singleton between Trinity and Bonavista, Matthew O'Rielly between Brigus and Port-de-Grave, Alexander Burke between Little Placentia and Great Placentia, Francis Howell along the South Side Trinity and Thomas E. Collett between Little Placentia and Harbor Buffet. Peter Coleman conveys the mail between Perlican and Trinity, Phillip Nicholle has replaced John Collins on the run between Burin and Harbor Buffet. Thomas Coyle conveys the mail between St. John's and Twillingate and John Bishop is the overland courier between Bonavista and King's Cover. During the Winter, John Kelley conveyed the Northern Mails to Greenspond.

POSTAGE RATES 1851-1857

We still know very little about the postage rates in effect at this time between Newfoundland and the outside world. The inland rate was definitely fixed at 3d. per $\frac{1}{2}$ oz. and an additional 3d. for every additional half ounce. The rate to England remained at 1/ per $\frac{1}{2}$ oz. until some time in 1855 when it was reduced to 6d. per $\frac{1}{2}$ oz.

By virtue of the Act of 1851, letters within the Colony could either be sent prepaid or collect. If prepaid, the amount of postage was shown in red on the face of the cover, if collect it was shown in black. The rate markings are found in both manuscript and hand-stamped form. As is to be expected, the manuscript rate markings from the different postoffices are individually distinctive since the handwriting of each individual Postmaster was different. However, though we have only seen a few, we find that the hand-stamped markings also differ.

It would seem as though a different and distinctive rate handstamp was given to each Postmaster and Waymaster. It is also a known fact that each of the original Post Offices and Way Offices were supplied with cancelling devices for marking the letters handled by them.

RATE MARKING 1851-1857

The first rate markings that we will consider are those that were in use at St. John's, since the greatest part of the mail carried by the Inland Postal System originated in St. John's. As mentioned previously, both manuscript and stamped rate markings are to be found, either in red to denote that postage was prepaid, or in black to denote that it was collect. However the color is of no importance as the markings were the same regardless of the color. If manuscript, the writer merely dipped his pen in red ink or in black ink; if stamped, he had recourse to the red ink pad or the black ink pad. The earliest stamped markings we have recorded is the very small "3" found on a letter posted Apr. 26, 1852, at St. John's and addressed to Harbor Grace (Fig. 62).



Fig. 62

We find continuous use of this handstamped numeral during the balance of 1852 and we have it on a letter posted as late as Nov. 22, 1855, at St. John's and

addressed to Harbor Grace. The second stamped rate marking is the larger, more ornate "3," earliest example of which is found on a letter posted on Mar. 15, 1854, at St. John's and addressed to Harbor Grace (Fig. 63).

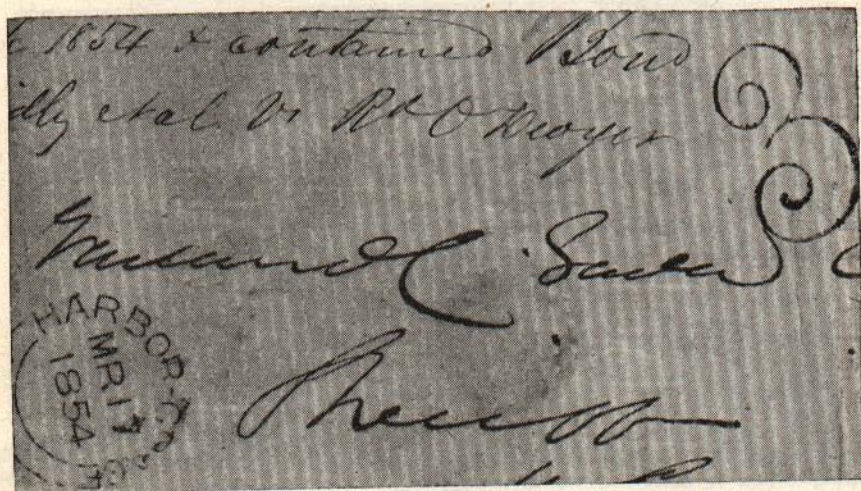


Fig. 63

This handstamp was used continuously from this date to the end of the pre-adhesive period. Evidently Figs. 62 and 63 were used concurrently at St. John's during the latter part of 1854 and the early part of 1855. We know of no example or double or triple rate stamped markings from St. John's of this period.

When we turn to manuscript rate markings from St. John's during this period we find a far greater variety. All of the markings to be discussed and illustrated are found on letters posted at St. John's and addressed to Harbor Grace. We find three different manuscript single letter rate markings, possibly one each for the three employees of the St. John's post office; W. L. Solomon, the Postmaster General; Martin Shea, First Clerk; and E. Solomon, Second Clerk. The first manuscript "3" is found on a letter posted Nov. 7, 1851 (Fig. 64), the second manuscript "3" on a letter posted Sept. 7, 1852 (Fig. 65), and the third manuscript "3" on a letter posted Apr. 18, 1854 (Fig. 66).



Fig. 64



Fig. 65



Fig. 66

We also have evidence of a double rate letter as shown by the manuscript "6" found on a letter posted on Sept. 26, 1854 (Fig. 67).

the 24th Sept 1854 from W. H. May
ained. P. J. Norman & Co. Boston
Gulian & Baccen Esq
Shipp N. O.
Aurora Ga

Fig. 67

An example of the manuscript triple rate marking is found on a letter sheet posted on Apr. 20, 1854, bearing the numeral "9" (Fig. 68).

In fact, we even have a sample of a manuscript quadruple rate marking as evidenced by the 1/ mark on a letter posted on Oct. 5, 1852 (Fig. 69).

Whitman & Walbank
to
G. C. Baden
Oct 2nd
(Pardon from Superior Court)
G. C. Baden Esq
Shriff of Northern District
of the County
Harbor Grace

TOWNS, NEW JERSEY, OCT 5 1852
FIVE CENTS PAID OCT 5 1852
LATE
LATE

Fig. 69

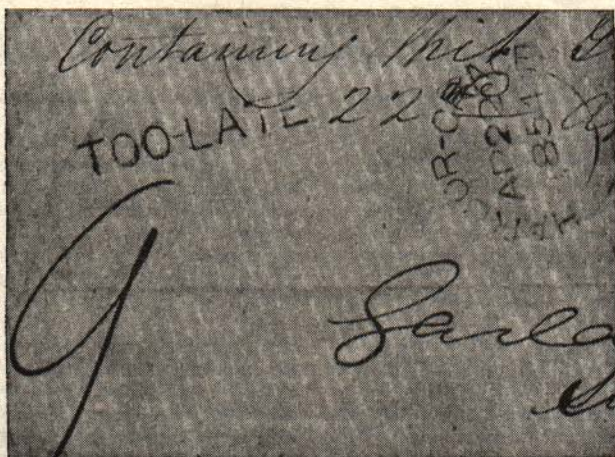


Fig. 68

(to be continued)

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.

An Interesting Bisect



Illustrated above is a cover I purchased in 1941 at Sherbrooke from the stock of the late Bert Williams, well known stamp dealer before the last war.

I sent a photograph of the cover for inspection and information to the late A. Stanley Deaville. He was very interested in the bisect and went to a great deal of trouble to learn anything about its history but could get no information for me.

I am sending this photo for illustration in BNA TOPICS in the hope that perhaps one or more of the readers could throw some light on this phenomenon.

J. A. Gray

Bringing News About People and Stamps

By Rev. John S. Bain

Latest official opinion from Ottawa is that the new stamps to replace the current War Issue 1c to 5c will make their appearance before the end of the year—probably in November.

An important official advice from Ottawa portends bright days ahead for O. H. M. S. collectors. These stamps will hereafter be overprinted and not perforated as formerly. This should mean recognition and listing in Scott's Catalog and might well increase interest and demand. Better get what you can from the Agency at Ottawa!

BNAPS

There's an interesting story behind the cancellation on covers cancelled at St. John's, Newfoundland, April 1st, commemorating entry of Newfoundland into Confederation with Canada. This was a "philatelic first" in Canadian cancellations reading, "FIRST DAY OF ISSUE" in two lines. The story behind this is revealed in an interview Lorne W. Bentham had with L. J. Mills in March 1949 and recorded in "ENSIGN" of Montreal, Canada. "Just recently I had a lengthy conversation with L. J. Mills on the subject of first day cover service for collectors. I informed him of the collectors' dissatisfaction at the way the 100 years of Responsible Government stamp 1st day covers were handled. For one thing, I said the cancellation used on them was just like that placed on any ordinary letter passing through the mails. I went on to say that one could distinguish it as a 1st day cover, as the postal authorities cancelled them with the words, "Pay Small Accounts by Postal Notes." I suggested to Mr. Mills that it would be much better to have the words "First Day of Issue" cancelled on the covers with this issue. In reply he stated that this was an excellent suggestion and that he would consider using it on this new issue. He also said that this cancellation would not cost any more money as the majority of the covers were cancelled in the same office." Evidently Mr. Bentham's suggestion was adopted! It does pay to speak to officials with constructive ideas about philately!

BNAPS

The collecting of Canadian Postage Meter stamps has increased. I had the opportunity to examine a collection in a dealer's hands and found "specimen" impressions, trial impressions, tape varieties, and type listings. He informed me that they are always interested in buying the earlier Canadian material. Many of these items are far scarcer than postage stamps of similar year dates. This type of cancellation does form a part in showing the development of Canadian postal services. The world's rarest postage meter stamp is the Washington, D. C. 2c experimental in use for 5 days. Does anyone know what is the rarest Canadian Postage Meter Stamp?

BNAPS

I would like to make a repeat request in this column in the hopes some one can supply the answer. Does anyone know the whereabouts of the "Kelly Provisional Stamped Envelope" mentioned on page 104 of BNAPSer Fred Jarrett's (1929) Catalogue?

BNAPS

Articles on forgeries are currently being featured in many philatelic publications. Our own BNAPS Library can provide you with a copy on loan of an excellent study of the forgeries of B. N. A. presented in the British Colonial Handbook by BNAPSer A. C. Johnson. It contains a ½ page on British Columbia; 11 pages on Canada; ½ page on N. B. and N. S.; 3½ pages on Newfoundland. A request to our genial and energetic Librarian, R. J. Duncan, Box 118, Armstrong, B. C., Canada, will be well worth your while.

BNAPS

I missed our first BNAPEX and am very sorry and disappointed. Being in Turkey did not permit me to be in Buffalo at the same time. To all fellow-members I was looking forward to meeting for the first time—we have a date at least for the next one. So those I was looking forward to seeing again—write me and tell me all about it, please! I know it was a swell affair and though I couldn't be there in person, let me be there by your words.

CONVENTION REPORT

No doubt you members who couldn't attend are anxiously awaiting a report of what transpired at our first convention. I must apologize for this sparse report but ask your indulgence and understanding. I just had time to get back home and send this off to the printer in the hope it could still make this issue.

The best way to describe and pass opinion on the affair is to say, "Ask anyone who was there." I'm taking no chances, I know, because everybody had the same comment to make—the best, swell, marvelous, wonderful, great. Ask any of these members who were there:

Allison, Chas. Armstrong, Banner, Bayley, Beatty, Boggs, Brazer, Frank Campbell, Culhane, W. Davis, Dempsey, deVolpi, A. E. Edwards, C. F. Foster, Goodale, Goodwin, Greene, Hackspacher, G. R. Harris, Hedley, Holmes, W. L. Jackson, Jamieson, Jarrett, Jephcott, A. C. Johnson, F. A. Johnson, Gerald A. Johnson, Kelly, Kemp, Kessler, Law, Levine, Littlefield, Lussey, MacMaster, Makepeace, Meyers, D. C. & W. S. Meyerson, Moll, McDonough, Noye, O'Leary, Park, Patten, Pearen, Peterman, E. A. Richardson, Rockett, Sharpe, Shoemaker, Sissons, Walton, Wheller, Whiting, Wooley, Yapp, Bruner, Gaylord, Gladish, Wm. H. Russell, Carter, Flower, Fromm, Holness, McIntyre, Purdy, and others who did not sign the register but were there.

The Convention Auction on Friday night, September 16th, was very well attended; in fact so well attended that the Parlor provided for it was too small to hold everyone who came there. However, from inside or outside the room, many fine buys were knocked down under auctioneer Walter Bayley's gavel. Auction Chairman, Ed. Richardson, is to be congratulated for getting together such a fine representation of material.

The exhibit provided some of the finest B. N. A. ever shown in an exhibition hall. It certainly required the best Judges to decide the winners and Award Committee Chairman Larry Shoemaker selected just the calibre men for the tough job:— Walter S. Bayley, Winthrop S. Boggs and Fred Jarrett. Winners were announced later at the Dinner when the Grand Award was presented. The list of exhibitors:

Thomas E. Boggs	Canada	3c Small Queens	1 frame
Frank W. Campbell	Canada	Stampless Covers	1 "
Goodwin R. Harris	Canada	Revenues	5 "
C. George Kemp		Prince Edward Island	4 "
Wm. O. Lea	Canada	Pence Issues	2 "
Harry W. Lussey	Canada	King Geo. Vth Issues	6 "
	Canada	Stampless Covers	2 "
Harold R. Meyers	Canada	Postal Stationery	1 "
Ian C. Morgan	B. N. A.	Military Covers	3 "
		Air Letters	1 "
J. Alex. Park	B. N. A.	Pre-Confederation	3 "
	B. N. A.	Victoria & Edwards	3 "
	B. N. A.	Large & Small Queens	3 "
John Siverts	B. N. A.	Large Queens	2 "
W. S. & D. C. Meyerson	Newfoundland	Postal History	5 "
	Newfoundland	Pre 1900	5 "
	Newfoundland	After 1900	2 "
	Newfoundland	Airmails	5 "
Mervyn V. Quarles	Canada	Pre 1900	1 "

CHICAGO BNAPS MEMBERS — Not For Competition

Earl H. Wellman	"Wings over Canada"	1 frame
	20th Century Canada	2 frames

M. V. Quarles, E. Meschter Jr., M. H. Boyce, H. L. Burkhardt, P. Kreisler

Dinner was preceded by cocktails in Parlors B and C and anybody who didn't "have a cocktail on Dick Hedley" can claim it at the next convention.

The Banquet really provided one of the highlights on the affair. Over eighty persons were lucky enough to have attended one of the finest banquets possible. The friendly manner of the genial Toastmaster, Walter Bayley, the

excellent dinner, and, top all that off with a most informative and enlightening address by the guest speaker, L. J. Mills, Director of the Financial Division, Post Office Department, Ottawa, and you just had to have a "superb" time. And, by no means a small contributing factor to the evening's pleasures was the announcement of the winners of the exhibit by Award Committee Chairman, L. D. Shoemaker, and the presentation of the Grand Award.

GRAND AWARD — Newfoundland — W. S. & D. C. Meyerson

GOLD MEDAL — P. E. I. — C. George Kemp

SILVER MEDAL — Canadian Revenues — Goodwin R. Harris

BRONZE MEDAL — General Canada — J. Alex. Park

The following have merited Honorable Mention:

1) Military Postal History of Canada — Ian C. Morgan

2) King George V Issues — Harry W. Lussey

3) Canadian Stampless Covers — Thomas E. Boggs

These collections received a great deal of consideration from the Judges. In a more diversified Show, gold and silver awards in their classes would have been awarded them. Please understand these are not consolation awards, but they really merited high consideration of the Judges in the open competition show.

The business session was held Sunday morning as is reported elsewhere in this issue.

It was truly a marvelous affair and we missed you if you weren't there and you missed it if you didn't attend. Our next one will be at least as good (that's possible) because when BNAPSers get together, you just have to have a swell time!

J. Levine

MINUTES of the First Annual Convention of the British North America Philatelic Society

held Sunday, Sept. 18, 1949, in Parlor D of the Statler Hotel, Buffalo, N. Y.,
at 12:30 P.M.

The chair was taken by the President, Mr. Richard P. Hedley, and with thirty-six members present, a Quorem was declared and the meeting opened and called to order.

Mr. Hedley designated Mr. William S. Meyerson as Sargent-at-Arms for the meeting.

Mr. William C. Peterman, Treasurer, reported to the meeting that the Society finances were favorable and would show a surplus for the year.

Mr. Jack Levine, Secretary, reported that membership in the Society continued to increase. As Editor, Mr. Levine expressed his appreciation for the fine co-operation of the membership to the evident improvement of the Society publication.

Mr. Charles P. deVolpi, International Secretary, advised the meeting that an intensive program has been prepared for the development and advancement of relations with overseas Societies.

The President called on Mr. Edward A. Richardson, past President, and Mr. Richardson commended the excellent progress made by the Society and expressed his pleasure with the apparent success of our first Convention. Mr. Vincent C. Greene was called on to speak and similarly expressed his satisfaction and pleasure with the Convention.

Mr. Harold R. Meyers, Sales Manager, reported to the meeting that sales

for the first half of this year were over \$1000 and expressed his hope that more of the members would participate in the circuits.

At this time, Mr. Hedley appointed the following to serve and function as a Resolution Committee to study and propose any resolutions presented at this meeting for final presentation to the membership where required.

Chairman—Lloyd W. Sharpe (Hamilton, Ont.)
 Frank V. Hackspacher (Buffalo, N. Y.)
 C. George Kemp (Montreal, Que.)
 B. C. Binks (Vancouver, B. C.)
 Ralph C. Hunter (Detroit, Mich.)

Mr. Levine asked for the floor and requested of the President that he step down from the Chair so that Mr. Daniel C. Meyerson may take it over for presentation of the "Greene Award" to Mr. Hedley for 1948. The request was granted and the presentation formally made.

Mr. Hedley resumed the Chair and recognized a motion by Mr. Fred Jarrett, seconded by Mr. C. George Kemp, that the Board of Governors prepare a definite set of rules to guide Judges in their method and procedure of judging. After discussions by Messrs Sissons, Lussey, Sharpe, Meyerson, Jarrett and Kemp, the motion was voted accepted and formally referred to the Board of Governors.

Mr. Hedley recognized a motion by Mr. D. C. Meyerson, seconded by Mr. J. N. Sissons, that the Constitution be amended whereby the date for the Annual Meeting shall be voted at the previous Convention for any time it shall determine. The motion was carried and so ordered to be prepared for amendment.

Mr. Hedley recognized Mr. V. G. Greene who suggested that miniature replicas of the "Greene Award" be given annually to the winner of that Award. The suggestion was accepted by the meeting and referred to Mr. Hedley for arrangement to that effect.

It was moved by Daniel C. Meyerson, seconded by Mr. Thomas E. Boggs, that the Constitution be amended whereby the Board of Governors shall be increased to nine members and that elections thereto shall be made each year but three members shall be so elected thereto for a term of three years. After due discussion, the motion was voted accepted and therewith referred to the Resolution Committee for preparation.

A motion by Mr. J. N. Sissons, seconded by Mr. H. A. MacMaster, that the Board of Governors be empowered to appoint Regional Directors overseas as and when required. The motion was affirmed and so ordered.

It was moved by Mr. E. A. Richardson, seconded by Mr. G. R. Harris, that the Constitution be amended whereby any organized stamp club may become a Chapter of the British North America Philatelic Society providing at least five (5) members of the club applying shall also be members of B. N. A. P. S. After due deliberation and discussion, the motion was defeated.

The Chair recognized Mr. L. D. Shoemaker and he suggested that the Society institute immediate plans for a membership drive. Mr. Shoemaker's suggestion was well received and the membership expressed their appointment of Mr. Shoemaker as Chairman for such a drive.

Mr. Paul Patten requested the floor and presented the Society with a gavel for use at its meetings.

The bid was entered for the Philadelphia Group whereby the Annual Convention for 1950 shall be held in Philadelphia. The meeting recognized and honored the request and therewith designated Philadelphia as the locale for the 1950 Annual Convention.

Mr. L. W. Sharpe moved a vote of thanks to the BNAPEX Committee and the Niagara Frontier Group for the excellent affair they so successfully arranged and provided at the First Annual Convention. A rising vote of thanks was given by all members present at the meeting.

There being no further business for consideration at this meeting, it was worthwith voted adjourned at 2 P.M.

Respectfully submitted:

Jack Levine, Sec.

REPORT OF THE SECRETARY

NEW MEMBERS

- 575 Baresh, Leopold, 82 Baker St., Weybridge, Surrey, England.
 576 Brunner, Frederick W., 2247 Whitney Avenue, Niagara Falls, N. Y.
 577 Campbell, Dr. Murray, 95 Sherbrooke St., Winnipeg, Man., Canada.
 578 Fraser, Douglas G., 550 Highland Ave., Ottawa, Ont., Canada.
 579 Gaylord, S. B., 223 Liberty St., Schenectady 5, N. Y.
 580 Gladish, W. M., 75 Belmont Ave., Ottawa, Ont., Canada.
 581 Hennell, Robert Gordon, Rm. 26, 441 Seymour St., Vancouver, B. C., Can.
 582 Hofbauer, Frank Louis, 24 S. Clinton Ave., Trenton 9, N. J.
 583 Hurst, Peter John, 1455 Drummond St., Apt. 111, Montreal, Que., Can.
 584 Langer, F., 508 Hornby, Vancouver, B. C., Canada.
 585 Morell, Major Harry, M. D., Maple Avenue, Sutton, Que., Canada.
 586 Parke, Howard, Birmingham V. A. Hospital, Van Nuys, Calif.
 587 Russell, William H., 7 Vinton St., Melrose 76, Mass.
 588 Schaefer, John W., 1711 Water St., Olympia, Wash.
 589 Smith, Trafton C., 2756 Mortenson Blvd., Berkley, Mich.
 590 Thomas, R. E. C., 49 Bank End Lane, Almondbury, Huddersfield, Surrey, England.

APPLICATIONS FOR MEMBERSHIP

- Carter, Walter P., 53 Bedford Park Ave., Toronto, Ont., Canada—Proposed by R. P. Hedley, No. 164.
 Cooke, J. R., Hickson, Ont., Canada (C) CAN, NFD, PRE—19th & 20th century used postage. 1st Day Covers. Literature. Proposed by R. J. Duncan, No. 37.
 Flower, Rollin E., 259 Wardman Road, Kenmore 17, N. Y.—Proposed by A. E. Edwards, No. 225. Seconded by J. C. Goodwn, No. 171.
 Fromm, Frank, 155 Harvester Ave., Batavia, N. Y. (C) CAN, NFD—19th century used postage. Pre-stamp covers. Precancels. Christmas Seals. R. R., territorial, 2 & 4 ring numeral cancellations. Proposed by R. P. Hedley, No. 164. Seconded by H. A. MacMaster, No. 484.
 Goffin, John, Carrier 47, Niagara Falls, N. Y. (CX) CAN, NFD, P. E. I., N. B., B. C.—19th & 20th century mint & used postage. Mint blocks. Coils. O. H. M. S. federal revenues. Mint airmails. Proposed by R. Allison, No. 520. Seconded by G. A. Johnson, No. 555.
 Holiness, A. B., 1185 Avenue Road, Toronto, Ont., Canada (C) CAN, NFD (specialized). Proposed by W. M. Gladish, No. 580. Seconded by J. Levine, No. 1.
 McCabe, Philip J., 40 Stanley Avenue, Mimico, Ont., Canada (C)—Proposed by R. J. Duncan, No. 37.
 McIntyre, Eugene, 2904 Niagara Ave., Niagara Falls, N. Y. (D-CX) CAN, NFD—19th & 20th century mint and used postage & blocks. Mint booklet panes. Precancels. Revenues. Mint & used airmails. Postal stationery. Proposed by R. Allison, No. 520. Seconded by G. A. Johnson, No. 555.
 Purdy, Robert G., 31 Glen Manor Drive, Toronto 8, Ont., Canada (C)—Proposed by V. G. Greene, No. 40. Seconded by C. F. Foster, No. 184.
 Thomas, George Stewart, 466 Main St., Yarmouth, N. S., Canada (C) Canada & U. S. Proposed by J. Levine, No. 1.
 Tyler, Clayton W., 318 Leader Bldg., Cleveland 14, Ohio (C) CAN—19th century mint & used postage. Mint blocks. Patriotic covers particularly. Proposed by J. Levine, No. 1.
 Waite, C. Frank, 304 Pine Ridge, Ann Arbor, Mich. (C) CAN, NFD, PRE—19th & 20th century mint & used postage. Pre-stamp & stampless covers. Coils. O. H. M. S. Precancels. Used airmails. Postal stationery. Literature. All cancellations. Proposed by R. J. Duncan, No. 37.
 Wiley, Gerald, 720 Davidson St., Watertown, N. Y. (C) CAN, NFD—19th & 20th century mint & used postage and blocks. Pre-stamp, stampless, war (all), R. P. O., and commercial covers. Mint & used booklet panes. Coils. Precan-

(Continued bottom page 190)

AN INITIAL LISTING of the PRESENTATION BOOKLETS OF CANADA

by Reg. Barraclough

(All Rights Reserved)

(concluded from page 162, July-August)

LIST of LIMITED ISSUES of PRESENTATION BOOKLETS (as supplied by the POSTOFFICE DEPARTMENT)

No. I Issued June 9th, 1927.

Limited issue with hand tooled leather cover.

Listed as being for a special purpose.

No details given other than that the quantity issued was less than 25.

No. II Issued October 30th, 1927.

Limited issue with hand tooled leather cover.

Listed as containing a copy of all stamps in use at the date issued.

Reported to have been given to "a very select group of person-ages" numbering less than 10.

No. III Issued April 20th, 1931.

A very special issue of ONE ONLY bound in Blue Morocco and suitably embossed in Gold, containing a specimen of each stamp issued by Canada during the period between 1917 and 1930.

Presented by Canada to His Majesty King George V.

No. IV Issued May 22nd, 1931.

A limited issue bound in Blue Buckram of less than 10 was presented to a group of Special Individuals containing stamps issued by Canada between 1917 and 1930. No further details are available although it has been suggested that the recipients were the Federal Cabinet who had admired the gift that had been made to the King the month before.

No. V Issued January 20th, 1932.

A limited issue bound in Black Cloth of less than 25 was prepared for presentation to a group of Special Personages.

No details available.

No. VI Issued December 22nd, 1933.

A Special Issue of ONE ONLY was prepared for His Majesty King George V containing current stamps.

No details available.

No. VII Issued May 17th, 1935.

Leather Folder containing 1935 Silver Jubilee Issue, was made for the Post Office Department Washington, D. C. No details are available.

No. VIII Issued June 13th, 1935.

Limited Issue bound in Cloth was presented to a group of personages containing a complete set of Silver Jubilee Stamps. No details are given.

No. IX Issued June 29th, 1935.

Limited Issue bound in leather was prepared for a group of 20 Special Personages containing a complete set of Silver Jubilee Stamps. No details.

No. X Issued May 21st, 1937.

No. XI Issued May 31st, 1937.

No. XII Issued July 28th, 1938.

Three limited Issues of 3 booklets ONLY each. Bound in morocco and containing Silver Jubilee and Coronation Stamps. No details of WHY or TO WHOM.

No. XIII Issued May 30th, 1939.

Special Issue presented to Their Majesties The King and Queen and The Royal Princesses at the time of the Royal visit.

No. XIV Issued June 3rd, 1939.

Limited Issue in the form of a Blue Hand Tooled Morocco Folder, 8x10 inches. Presented to a small group of notables who had something to do with the Royal Visit.

No. XV Issued June 27th, 1939.

Limited Issue of 12 ONLY, bound in Maroon Watered Silk, containing Royal Visit Covers especially prepared by the Philatelic Department of the Post Office. Presented to the same two groups who received Nos. XIII and XIV.

No. XVI Issued August 10th, 1939.

Limited Issue of 15 ONLY in the form of an 8x10 inch Folder bound in Bright Red FINE Leather and containing a series of First Flight Covers of the TRANS-ATLANTIC type. The cover has the Coat of Arms of Canada with "FIRST FLIGHT" — — "AIR MAIL COVERS" — — "CANADA" printed in 3 lines under the coat of arms. No details of the contents are available except that the covers were all prepared by the Philatelic Department of the Post Office.

No. XVII Issued June 23rd, 1942.

Special Issue of TWO ONLY in Purple Cloth and containing the DIE PROOFS of the 1942 War Effort Issue was presented to King George VI and President Roosevelt.

PRICES

Prices of Presentation Booklets vary materially. The author personally values booklets on the basis of value of covers only. The stamps contained in the cover are treated separately. Prices paid for covers have varied from 50 cents to \$15.00 exclusively of stamps, depending entirely on scarcity and conditions. These remarks of course only apply to General issues. Limited issues would be something else again and as the author has only had the opportunity to acquire copies of two limited issue booklets he is in no position to advise others as to prices and values.

Acknowledgements—

The author wishes to acknowledge with thanks the assistance he has received from the Post Office Department in compiling this listing and the advice and constructive suggestions received from BNAPS member Nelson S. Bond and others.

ED—BNA TOPICS readers will remember Mr. Barraclough's article in the Jan. 1948 issue of the magazine in which he offered his very practical solution to the problem of "How can Presentation Booklets be shown to advantage."

Another "Red River" Cover

John L. Norbeck

In the June 1949 issue of POPULAR STAMPS there was an article by Dr. Murray Campbell of the "Winnipeg Philatelic Society" telling of a very outstanding "find" of some fifty covers which were mailed to or from the Red River between the years 1849 and 1870. This wonderful lot brought us a new insight into the postal history of the region in and around Winnipeg and old Fort Garry. Those of us interested in Minnesota Territorial covers were surprised and delighted in hearing of these covers which we had no idea were in existence. Dr. Campbell describes one cover in particular which has the well known Saint Paul, Min. Ter. circle postmark. It is dated Nov. 28, 1853 and leads the author to state that "This letter was apparently carried on the first regular mail sent via the United States to Canada."

That earlier letters were carried to Canada via St. Paul, Minnesota Territory, is shown by the existence of another cover in the possession of this writer.



It is a small mourning cover originating in England and bearing the following address:

Mrs. D. Ross
 (late Norway House)
 Red River Colony, Hudson's Bay
 via St. Paul's, United States
 Pembina
 Minnesota
 North America

The cover in question bears the postmarks as follows:— an English marking in the usual box type from a town which cannot be determined, although the date 3-11, 1853 can be seen on the front. On the reverse is the Liverpool

transit showing a Mr 19 1853 date and an oval marking with L Mr 19 A in three lines, both in green. The Exchange Office charge to the United States is also shown in green on the front—a large 19 CENTS—denoting carriage by a British Packet with payment to be made by the recipient of the letter. The usual circle postmark in black of BR. PACKET BOSTON APR 21 is stamped on the front.

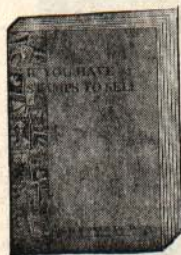
This letter was sent from Boston to St. Paul, M. T., where it received the balloon type territorial marking on the reverse of "Saint Paul Min. Ter. 25 Apr." It also received a handstamped "5" with a line drawn under it in pen and "29" in pen denoting the total amount to be collected from the addressee of 29 cents—24 cents for the trip from England to Saint Paul and an extra 5 cents for forwarding to Pembina. England received a credit of 19 cents at our Boston Exchange Office for her part of the journey—16 cents for carriage in a British ship and 3 cents for domestic postage. The United States received 10 cents—5 cents for domestic postage and 5 cents for forwarding.

This cover is interesting in that it shows a forwarding to the Red River Colony via St. Paul seven months earlier than the ones in the Winnipeg lot of covers. Unfortunately, the letter is not enclosed so that we do not know what sad news was sent over this long and hazardous route. I have always considered this cover a "Red River Cart" cover as it was probably carried to Pembina in one of the carts portrayed on the U. S. 1949 Minnesota commemorative stamp.

Further correspondence about the Red River letters, or any phase of Minnesota Territorial markings will be welcomed and appreciated.

Mention this publication when answering ads. Thanks!

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As the largest wholesale stamp firm in the United States, we are constant buyers of large wholesale quantities and collections of all kinds of postage stamps.

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H. E. HARRIS & CO.
108 Massachusetts Ave., Boston, Mass.

The Arms Watermark of Newfoundland

By Stanley C. Calder

I have been asked more than once "Exactly what does the ARMS watermark of Newfoundland represent?" and a recent enquiry in an American philatelic journal prompted me to sit down and write out a description of it. I can well understand that those who use Scott's catalogue are a little dubious as the illustration of the watermark in that publication is very poor and very incorrect. There may be some readers of BNA TOPICS, therefore, who would like to have some fuller information about it.

This Watermark is a simplification of the registered design of the Arms of the Colony of Newfoundland which was granted by Royal Letters Patent dated January 1st, 1637, in the reign of King Charles I.

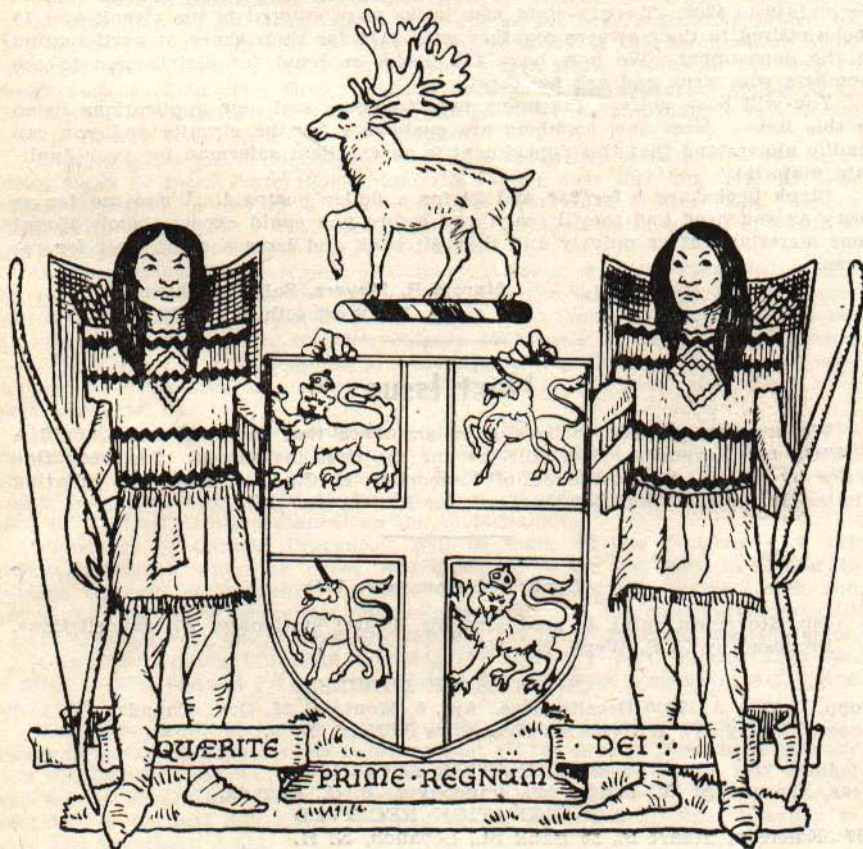
The official and correct heraldic description is:

Arms: Gules a cross Argent, in the first and fourth quarters a Lion passant Guardant crowned Or: in the second and third quarters, an Unicorn passant Argent, armed maned and unguled of the third, and gorged with a crown, thereto a chain affixed passing between the forelegs and reflected over his back also Or mantled Gules doubled Argent.

Crest: On a Wreath Or and Gules an Elk passant proper.

Supporters: Two Savages of the clime armed and apparelled according to their guise when they go to war.

Motto: "Quaerite prime regnum Dei" ("Seek first the Kingdom of God")



I have made a rough tracing from a copy of the original which was in the possession of the Trade Commissioner for Newfoundland in London and also a tracing of the watermark. From this you will see that the Watermark shows the heraldic shield with the two Savages supporting it, each having their wicker shields behind them and a bow in each outer hand. Above is the elk on the wreath. Below is the motto scroll, the shape of which has been altered from the original in order to simplify the design. The Lions and Unicorns on the shield and the motto have been omitted. It is interesting to note that the animal on the Crest is the Elk and not the Caribou or Moose.

The "bits" on the dandy roller which makes the watermark did not extend to the full width of the sheet and as the same paper was used for various different sizes and shapes of stamps from 1931 onwards it was not possible to synchronise the printing to the watermark so that it might show fully on each stamp. We find therefore that many of the printings show a strip of stamps at one side of the sheet without watermark, whilst the balance of the sheet shows the watermark as usual. This has given rise to the charging of greatly inflated prices for pairs, one with and one-without watermark. The variety is so common that this is not justified.

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.

Next Issue

We are very pleased to be able to announce that the next issue of BNA TOPICS for November, 1949, will present the first installment of a very fine series by Mr. H. A. MacMaster, of Vancouver, B. C., on the subject, "Plating the 'Ic Guy' of Newfoundland." Look for it next month!

(Continued from page 184)

cels, Revenues, Mint & used airmails. Postal stationery. All cancellations.
Proposed by G. S. Wegg, No. 308.

CHANGES OF ADDRESS

Copp, Dutton A., 5600 Decelles Ave., Apt. 5, Montreal 26, Que., Canada.
Lussey, Harry W., 137 Voorhis Ave., New Milford, N. J.

RESIGNATION ACCEPTED

Tees, Fraser, 402 W. Pender St., Vancouver, B. C., Canada.

RESIGNATION RECEIVED

207 Emerson, Stuart B., 23 Bank St., Lebanon, N. H.

Canadian Precancels

by H. G. Walburn

I have just recently enjoyed one of those rare treats that comes the way of the philatelic-minded once in awhile—the opportunity of purchasing a collection of that particular class of stamps that most appeals to the individual tastes of the collectors—in my own case, Canada Precancels.

The collection in question, that Mr. Levine offered to me, and for which I fell, is unusually complete and contains many rare items and a fine selection of blocks. I have just finished giving it a once over and found that it included many unusual varieties, among them being a cover franked with a '21' cancel on the 1c yellow 'small Queen's' (Hoover #5). I had on previous occasions found several examples of this '21' cancel on the 1c and 3c values, which are recognized by many collectors as precancels, but this is the first one I have seen on cover, and obviously used as a precancel.

There were several specimens of the "unofficial" Portage La Prairie, Manitoba, precancels, and a number of blocks of the early experimental numerals, some of which are listed in the 1947 catalog (Beamsville 1-153 etc.)

Some interesting labels were next to be investigated, showing how one or two high value precancels did duty for hundreds of 1c mailings, in one case two \$1 and one 50c Ottawa precancel prepaying mailing charges on 250 1-cent leaflets.

Next, several pages were devoted to separate collections of Die I and Die II of the 1930 Maple Leaf issue, which have not as yet been separately priced, as they are in postage catalogs. A more intensive study of this issue seems to be indicated which would probably yield some worth while results in the way of rarity factors of the two Dies. Another section of the collection consisted of the thin paper varieties of the 2c green and 5c violet of 1924, many of which are now, of course, listed in the Hoover Catalog.

Next, a collection of blocks, the numerals appearing to be just about complete, many of them Plate Blocks, and the earlier ones including Halifax 1-85 which is scarce enough as a single and the first block I have seen. Also a block of Victoria, B. C. 1-74a, Rock Island, P. Q. complete in blocks of 4 and 6, and a large block of Sherbrooke, P. Q. 1-195.

A most unusual vertical pair of Calgary, Alberta, #74, showing the precancel tete-beche, normal on one and inverted on the other. This had been reported as having been seen some years ago by C. C. Sonne but must be extremely rare. It may also occur on other Calgary precancels of Type I though I have seen a full sheet of a later stamp precancelled in this Type which were all normal, so at some time or other the inverted line of precancel type must have been corrected.

The collection includes some rarely encountered Bar types, such as a dozen variations of precancels on the small ½c black (#15), a superb T-3b, several of the scarce higher value Jubilees, 1898 Map stamp, 20c and 50c 'Widow Weeds,' and a beautiful copy of the \$2 Jubilee, T-42. Another unusual Bar type is a copy of V-171bx, triple precancel on the 1c Medallion.

Collectors of Canada Precancels will be more or less familiar with the Bridgeburg error, where an extra 'B' slipped in, in the last vertical row of 10 stamps, spelled 'BriBdgeburg.' I have seen a number of vertical pairs and strips showing the 'B' error but this collection includes the first horizontal pair I have seen showing one 'Bridgeburg' normal, the other 'BriBdgeburg' the error.

Other rare items I noticed includes the Carberry 1-74, Edmonton 2-90a, Halifax 2-111b, London 2-74a, 6 varieties of Toronto 2-26, Vancouver 3-114, and many more.

The recent news about the issue of 1c-5c postage stamp is of particular interest to precancel collectors as it means that all the present War Issue precancels will become obsolete. Sixty varieties of these are listed in the 1947 catalog and several others have been reported since, as follows: V-220, the new 1c coil perf 9½; X-214 and X-216, Bar types of the 3c violet and 5c blue; Brandon 4-211; and Peterboro 3-211.

Trail of the Caribou

By Freres Meyerson



G. Lewis

We have some further information concerning the Air Letter forms we discussed in the June 1949 issue of BNA TOPICS. In the "Trail of the Caribou" we mentioned in discussing Type I that we had received our copy late in '45 or early in '46. Our memory must have been exceedingly hazy as we are in receipt of a letter from Mr. R. R. Smith, BNAPS #91, who encloses one of these forms postally used from Harbor Grace on June 4, 1947. The content of the letter advises "This letter sheet should make a collectors item. Apparently our P. O. ran out of regulation forms late last Fall and borrowed some from Canada. You will note the obliteration of Canada and the Newfoundland imprint." I guess that fixes the time of issue rather conclusively as late in 1946, particularly as we got our copy from the same chap that Mr. Smith got his.

We are in receipt of a letter from BNAPSer Bill Kemp, #85, concerning plate numbers on the latest issue of Newfoundland stamps. As all readers of the "Trail" know by this time, we have reported all values except the 7c value, Scott's #258. Bill advises that he checked with Ottawa and they tell him the 7c value was never issued with a plate number. Confirmation enough we would say.

Joe Chambers, BNAPSer 545, writes in to ask about the various dies used for the printing of the 5c Caribou, Scott's #s 191, 191a, 257. This is a question that bothers many Newfoundland collectors judging by the mail we get, and the best answer we can give is they read Arthur Moll's authoritative article on the subject published in a 1945 issue of BNA TOPICS. If you don't have a copy, write Bob Duncan, our Librarian, and he will lend you a copy from the Society Library. We understand Arthur is doing some more work on the subject and we two (and many other members) sure would like to see a subsequent article in a not too distant issue of BNA TOPICS. What say, Arthur?



Al Kessler, BNAPS #334, has submitted a cancellation to us that has us puzzled and we are printing a photograph (above) of the cancellation in the hope that one of our fellow-members can help us with an explanation. The cancellation which reads "T. S. S. NORTH STAR/PURSER'S OFFICE" in circle with the words "POSTED ON THE HIGH SEAS" in the center, is struck on a postcard written on Aug. 14th. The year however is missing. The postcard is franked with the 3c Coronation, Scott's #234 and is not tied to the card. Can anyone enlighten Mr. Kessler and ourselves with the story behind the postmark.

In the March '49 issue of TOPICS, we advised that the 1c, 2c and 3c stamps of the last issue had appeared with new plate numbers. At that time we said we didn't know whether new plates had been made or whether new numbers had been placed on the old plates to designate a re-order. The printer has written us to the effect that a new 2c plate was definitely laid down and we assume that this is true of all the other values that appeared with new numbers. The printer also advises that plate #43078 was made on Aug. 19, 1946 and plate #43968 on Sept. 9, 1948. The latter plate however was first recorded from Newfoundland on Dec. 10, 1948.

Sketches of BNAPSers

By V. G. Green



ROBERT J. DUNCAN

Our librarian, Mr. Robert J. Duncan, was born on March 27, 1900 in the County of Grey, Ontario, of Scotch Irish parents who were pioneers in that district. In 1910 he moved to British Columbia and later on settled in Armstrong, B. C., which place he has called "home" ever since. Married, with two sons and a daughter, he is a successful farmer in the famed Okanagan Valley, and "Bob" as he is familiarly known to many of us, finds time to look after the BNAPS Library and answer the numerous inquiries regarding philatelic literature on which he is perhaps the greatest authority in Canada.

Although a collector of postage stamps since his school days, he has in recent years applied himself to Postal History and Markings of British North America and to the collecting of philatelic literature of B. N. A., British Empire and the United States. His collection of philatelic literature of B. N. A. is probably the best in Canada and he has most of the early rarities.

Mr. Duncan is Contact Member for

Canada of the C. P. S. of Great Britain and is also a member of the Collectors Club, New York, Canadian Philatelic Society, Canadian Revenue Society, and many others.

Our Society has no greater booster than "Bob" Duncan. Indeed he sent in more applications for membership last year (and this year too, so far) than any other member. He is enthusiastic about the future of the British North America Philatelic Society and takes great pleasure in replying to questions pertaining to philatelic literature and B. N. A. stamps. Those who have had the pleasure of meeting Mr. Duncan have enjoyed an extreme pleasure indeed; those who haven't yet met "Bob," are hopefully looking forward to that pleasure at future BNAPEX affairs, or almost definitely at CAPEX in 1951.

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King Island, B. C.

Philatelic by-ways can at times lead to the unfolding of history or geography which the philatelist did not dream existed, as in the following case after the discovery of three Canada Small Queens, Ottawa, printing of the 1889 issue, pale vermilion, bearing a rubber stamp script type overprint or cancellation King, B. C.

There is no such place as King in British Columbia; there is a King Island, and in looking into the history of the Island it is found that it was so named by Captain George Vancouver in 1793 in memory of his deceased friend, Captain James King of the Royal Navy.

The island lies in Fitzhugh Sound close to what is now known as Ocean Falls; Deane Channel runs to the North and Burke Channel to the south; Bella Coola is at the end of the latter channel at the mouth of the Bella Coola River.

There is an interesting story in connection with King Island, which would appear to have some element of truth according to information gleaned by investigations made to date.

The story relates that in the early 1890's when a northern railroad to the Pacific was being contemplated, it was thought that the railroad would follow to some extent the MacKenzie Route across British Columbia and that the island would be the western terminus. However it was some years later, in 1900, that the decision to build the Grand Trunk Pacific from Atlantic to the Pacific came into being. There is no mention made in reference books on the construction of this railroad that such a terminal point was ever considered.

On the strength of the rumors which were prevalent around 1890-1891, so the story goes, a promoter was successful in interesting some English capital to invest in what was to be a townsite and terminus on the Island. It has been reported that later some of these families came out from England to take over and develop their holdings and the first reference which appears to bear this out is in the British Columbia Directory of 1892, which shows King Island with 3 inhabitants, a James Codville, his wife and son, and the Directory also mentions that "he has a fine building suitable for a hotel."

It is possible then that with the ambitious start and having a fine building suitable for a hotel, the actual townsite would be known as King, B. C.

Again, in referring to the 1895 Directory the same family is shown as the only people on the Island and the fact is stated that "communication is with Victoria by steamer."

In 1897, however, there is a change; no mention is made of Mrs. Codville, the Directory shows James Codville, J. P. and James Codville, which it is presumed were father and son, but no mention is made of other settlers. This is understandable because the Island is rugged with no commercial timber or any other means of settlers making a living.

The son, James Codville, left the Island and became lighthouse keeper at Pointers Island light, where he stayed for a number of years, retiring two or three years ago to reside at Prince Rupert.

The stamps, of which there are three, bear a rubber stamp print "King B. C." When and where this cancellation was used is not known as no post office is shown to have existed on the Island, as a matter of fact in 1897 Bella Bella is given as the post office for King Island. It is conceivable, then, that the stamps were cancelled with the rubber stamp "King B. C." before being given to the carrying steamer; this at the moment is uncertain.

It is hoped that further information will come to light to show how the mail was handled, because the Directory of British Columbia for 1892 states that communication with the Northern coast was anything but satisfactory and that there was no mail contract let, the Canadian Pacific Navigation Company being paid by the postal authorities at so much per trip for carrying the mail. It was no uncommon thing during the winter months for a period of six or seven weeks to elapse between sailings, but in the summertime the service from Victoria ran to two sailings per month to Naas River and way points. The S. S. "BARBARA BOSCHOWITZ," the old reliable of the northern coast, under command of Captain Williams, the veteran steamboat man, the coast could always

depend on two trips per month. This steamer called regularly at Alert Bay, Rivers Inlet, Bella Bella, Skeena, and way points and the Queen Charlottes when cargo warranted.

With recent talk of aluminum development on the west coast of British Columbia, Deane Channel has been mentioned as a possible site for water power. King Island becomes of more than passing interest and in spite of its rugged nature may yet come into its own.

R. M. Bryan, #450

Review:

Canada—*Essai sur Quelques Obliterations et Marques Postales*—(Essay on the Various Obliterations and Postmarks of Canada), by Corbisier de Meaultsart, F. R. P. S. L. (16 pp., printed in French).

This 16-page pamphlet, published under the aegis of the Belgium Philatelic Society, lists and describes the various obliterations and postmarks used in Canada in both the pre-stamp and stamp-issuing periods. Although nothing new in this line is brought to light, the work was no doubt received with interest in Europe, and should also be of interest to French-speaking collectors on this side of the Atlantic. The booklet is neatly printed and is illustrated by reproductions of no less than 52 Canadian postmarks.

—Gordon P. Lewis

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