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B * N * A

Topics

Official Publication of the
British North America Philatelic Society



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By R. M. Bryan

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Vol. 7 — No. 6

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Niagara Loose Leaf Stamp Sections, in business for over 20 years, has published quadrilled pages for the U. P. U. commemoratives. Printed on heavy rag content Hammermill Bond ledger paper, the pages are punched for the standard three-ring binder. Pages come in sections of 25 for \$1.00. Sample page on request.

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I collect Canada only—For Sale or Exchange—Stationery; B. C. Laws; Plate Nos; Flag Cancell. C. B. D. Garrett, Box 512, Cranbrook, B. C.

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From the President

I wish to begin these few words this month... with a note of congratulations... to Gordon P. Lewis, our new editor of TOPICS. Gordon has done a bang-up job as is evidenced by the May issue of our magazine. He has taken over one of the most difficult jobs of the Society... and taken it over from Jack Levine, who has given such an excellent magazine all these years that many of us do not realize the amount of time and effort that it requires. Nice going Gordon—my hat's off to you!

With reference to the BNAPEX 1950 Convention and Exhibition, the Philadelphia Group, host to the Society this year, has announced that the speaker at our Second Annual Banquet will be Mr. Vincent G. Greene of Toronto. Mr. Greene, as president of the CAPEX show in 1951, will touch on the CAPEX activities to date, and also tell us of those interesting stamp stories for which he is so well known. Mr. Greene, truly a fine person to have the pleasure to know, will have a most interesting message and I'm sure you will all want to hear him.

Secondly, the Philadelphia boys announce that Robson Lowe, Inc., will conduct one of their well known auctions at the convention. We understand the sale will consist of B. N. A. material for the most part.

At Buffalo last year, the motion was made and referred to committee, that our Board of Governors be increased from seven to nine members. As this vote will be taken at the 1950 Convention, proper ballots will be sent to the membership for return to the ballot committee. On receipt of your ballot, kindly return promptly.

Time is going fast... are you planning to attend BNAPEX? We're all hoping to see you there.

RICHARD P. HEDLEY

AN APPEAL FOR THE 1950 YEARBOOK

The 1950 edition of the Yearbook of the British North America Philatelic Society will be combined with the September issue of BNA TOPICS. This book will be issued on September 1, in plenty of time for members to receive a copy prior to BNAPEX 1950.

While BNA TOPICS, during the remainder of the year, is supported by Society funds as well as advertising revenue, this special Yearbook issue must be entirely self-supporting. The cost of this publication is financed by advertising received from members, member-dealers, and dealers outside the Society. If every member of BNAPS used a small \$1.75 space to send greetings to other members, and state their wants and other interesting facts, the Yearbook could operate at a profit, and extra monies could be used to provide a bigger TOPICS during the remainder of the year.

The Yearbook will contain all TOPICS features, plus special articles, membership listing, etc., and will provide a mine of information to members and others.

We urge all members to reserve some size space and to ask their friends and favorite dealers to do likewise.

Date of Issue: September 1st. **Deadline for Copy:** August 1st.

Schedule of Rates:

Full Page \$17.50 — Half Page \$10 — Quarter Page \$6
Eighth Page \$3.50 — Column Inch \$1.75

SEND ALL COPY TO THE EDITOR OF TOPICS:

G. P. Lewis

13 Eastern Ave., Brampton, Ont., Canada

CANADIAN VARIETIES

By R. M. BRYAN

Suggestions have been made from time to time that a catalogue should be developed which would list all known re-entries and minor varieties of Canadian stamps.

This would be a tremendous undertaking and in many instances, if not in the majority, it would be almost impossible to tie in the variety with plate number and position.

Apart from whether plate and position could be identified such a catalogue or work would in the main be a valuable treatise to the specialist and those interested in this type of philately.

It is not the intention in this article to make any attempt to list varieties as shown in Jarrett, Boggs, Marler and others, but rather it is a listing of some of the varieties in the writer's collection, commencing with the Queen Victoria 4-leaf issue of 1897. Previous issues have been well covered by various authorities and many references are available. Wherever possible plate position and number will be given. Scott Nos. will be used to identify the stamp if not identified otherwise.

Scott No. 66. The ½ cent black; there is a re-entry showing a doubling of the vertical spandrel line in the top right extending from the top horizontal line to the line opposite the lowest point of the maple leaf.

Nos. 67-68-69. Doubling of the lower horizontal spandrel lines occur, some being quite pronounced re-entries; so many can be found that no attempt is being made to give any further description.

No. 69. There is a distinct and interesting variety in the 3 cent carmine which appears to have been constant, a white horizontal dash, probably caused by a worn plate, to the left of "T" of THREE, plate position unknown.

No. 71. Six cents brown, a retouch and tool slip show in the centre bottom frame line.

In the Numeral Issues there is a wide open field for study. The one, two and three cents show the same characteristics of doubling of spandrel lines as those found in the Maple Leaf Issue. In addition there are some particularly good re-entries to the

lines of the numeral boxes and here again no attempt is being made to describe individual differences.

No. 76. The inside vertical line of the right numeral box of the two cent violet shows a distinct break between the sixth and eighth spandrel line. Also in No. 76 a variety shows a vertical white dash parallel with the "T" of the TWO. Plate No. 1, stamp No. 5, has a nice re-entry showing a doubling of CENTS, "E" of POSTAGE, both numeral boxes, also outer oval L. R. This is in a mint plate block, which pane of the plate not known.

No. 77. It is the 2 cent carmine that produces the widest field of varieties. The only listing to which reference is being made is Stamp No. 6, Plate 7 (Pane ?), a retouch and tripling of the left frame line.

No. 78. The 3 cent carmine shows only a few varieties, this is hard to understand in view of the numbers in other low denominations.

No. 83. The 10 cent brown violet: left frame line is doubled.

No. 88. There is a surcharge variety which is included. It is a small "2," stamp No. 48 right pane.

No. 85. Map Stamp of 1898; there are many re-touches and re-entries to the cable frame line, mostly occurring on Plate No. 3. Outer frame line on right doubled, No. 27, Plate 2. The islands provide several varieties such as one island missing. Also extra island between North and South Islands of New Zealand, stamp No. 48, and the two islands in the same line of latitude, stamp No. 46.

King Edward Issue

Re-entries and retouches occur in the one and two cent, similar to those in the Victorian Issues although not quite so numerous. The worn plate and retouched cross-hatching of the five cent blue can be treated as recognized varieties and are well known. Hairlines are to be found in the one cent green and two cent carmine and are well worth trying to find.

Quebec Issue

The recognized variety is the re-entry in stamp No. 44, which shows a line through bottom of letters "AN-

ADA" of Canada and a tool slip from the centre of the bottom frame line. Hairlines are to be found on the one cent green, known as the cracked plate varieties.

King George V "Admiral"

The "Admiral Issue" provides much of interest in the way of varieties and retouches; many are to be found. The specialist, however, cannot do better than study Marler's Notes on the 1911-25 Series; for this reason no other reference need be made in this article.

Scroll Issue 1928-29

There are no known varieties of importance, but a minor variety is the one known as the "Man on the Sail" of the 50 cent Bluenose. This is a scratch near the top of the forward mast.

Confederation Issue 1927

Scott No. 144, dot in the ball of the right "5," No. 67, Pl. 2 U. L.

Arch and Maple Leaf Issue

In the Arch and Maple Leaf Issue of 1930-31, many errors occur as well as minor varieties. There is also a particularly fine example and well-known re-entry. The re-entry occurs in the one cent orange and one cent green, stamp No. 96 Plate 2 U.L. it was later retouched in the green stamp. The "Large Moustache" variety occurs in the two cent red and the two cent brown, No. 65, Plate 8 L.R.

In the coils there is the variety crudely called the "Cockeyed King." This is in reality a retouch to the King's right eye and face; it occurs on the left hand stamp of some line pairs, in all three colors of the two cent stamps.

These are the three varieties recognized by most writers, there are a number of others in this issue that are worthy of note.

No. 1 Plate 3 U.R. shows four small tool scratches in the tail of the right 2 in both the green and the red two cents.

No. 16 Plate 2 L.L. dot in ball of right 2 of the two cent brown.

No. 65 Plate 4 U.R. dot in "C" of CANADA; also dot in upper part of right 2.

No. 10 Plate 5 L.R. tool scratch in the tail of the right 2 in the two cent green and red.

No. 26 Plate 5 L.L. dot and damaged

frame line opposite left numeral box in the two cent brown.

No. 27 Plate 5 L.L. small dot in the second "A" of CANADA occurs in all three colors of the two cents.

No. 83 Plate 8 L.L. dot in the "N" of CENTS in the two cent red.

No. 96 Plate 8 L.L. dot in "N" of cents in different position to No. 83 listed above.

In the 1932 surcharges there are two varieties in the surcharges themselves; on stamp No. 4 of the L.R. pane the "3" is damaged.

No. 54 believed to be L.R. pane, top bar over right 2 is bent down.

Medallion Issue

The known varieties in the "Medallion Issue" of 1933 are few, the best known being the broken "E" of POSTAGE No. 87 Plate 2 L.R. of the three cent carmine.

A decided break occurs in the portrait oval frame below the last "A" of CANADA in the two cent brown.

There are two re-entries in the five cent blue. No. 79 Plate 2 U.L. shows traces of re-entry on the bridge of the nose and at the right of the medallion shading. The second occurs in the doubling of "CANADA."

Commemoratives 1933-34

No. 20 Plate 1 U.R. Postal Union, there is a line across the right 5.

No. 19 Plate 1 R. Regina Conference, short arm on "X" of EXHIBITION.

No. 2 Plate 2 in the Cartier Issue, dot of color behind neck of Cartier.

No. 97 Plate 2 also Cartier Issue, scar on the cheek of the seated sailor.

Stamp No. 10 of each vertical row of the New Brunswick, Scott No. 210, shows a continuous frame line above "C" of CANADA, whereas in all other nine rows the line is broken.

Next variety of importance occurs in the Silver Jubilee Issue of 1935. The one cent green, named the "Weeping Princess" No. 21 Plate 1 U.R. is too well known to need much comment. This was later retouched when the error was noticed.

1935 Issues

No. 1 Plate 2 U. R. tool scratch in scroll above left Maple leaf one cent green Scott 217.

No. 21 Plate 4 U. L. scratch across nose three cent carmine No. 219.

No. 81 Plate 1. L. Large dot in centre of top bar of right "5" of the five cent blue.

There is another dot in the right "5" further to the left than on No. 81, position unknown.

Scott No. 223 Mounted Police, pronounced tool scratch through "S" of CENTS, position unknown.

No. 224 the thirteen cent violet, string of dots in "N" of CANADA No. 46 Plate 1 U. L.

No. 225 Niagara Falls, line bisecting stamp almost direct centre, plate and position not known.

No. 226, there is a strong re-entry in the fifty cent Parliament Buildings, doubling in "CANADA" also below the wording "PARLIAMENT BUILDINGS" No. 25 Plate 1 L. R.

There is also the thin left numeral of the one cent green coil, Scott No. 228.

In the Airmails, Scott C1: The angel on the left of the stamp has an enlarged left breast; this is No. 4 Plate 2 U. R. This of course also appears in the C3, as the same plates were used for the overprint.

Scott C5, the "Moulting Wing" variety, is in reality a tool scratch or damaged plate, No. 14 Plate 1 L. R.

The writer to date has made no research in the later issues, that is since the first King George VI of 1937.

As previously stated no attempt has been made to list all varieties. What have been mentioned have been found and great deal of pleasure has arisen in the finding. Undoubtedly many others exist and so the search continues.

After all philately is what you make it and the finding of varieties can be of the greatest interest in building up a specialized collection.

Prospectus Available For 1951 CAPEX Show

The initial prospectus for CAPEX, to be held in Toronto on September 21-29, 1951, is now ready for distribution. Those interested can get a copy by writing to CAPEX, 70 Bloor St. West, Toronto 5, Ontario, Canada.

The prospectus contains all the information concerning the exhibition available at time of going to press. A second final edition will be issued late in 1950. The initial prospectus is, of

WAR ISSUE PLATES

By ARCH. MILLAR

This contributor received a letter a short while ago from our genial librarian, R. J. Duncan, suggesting an article on Canadian Plate Blocks would prove of interest to some of our readers. It occurs to Yours Truly that now the new "revised" and "unrevised" issues have apparently replaced the Canadian War Issue series it would be appropriate to set forth the plates issued in that series so that our readers may have a check list. So here it is:

#249	1c	Plates 1 to 32.
250	2c	1 to 6
251	3c	1 to 10.
252	3c	6, 7, 10, 11 to 34
253	4c	1
254	4c	1 to 28, 30 to 50
255	5c	1 to 4
256	8c	1
257	10c	1 to 6
258	13c	1
259	14c	1
260	20c	1 to 2
261	50c	1
262	\$1	1
C7	6c	1 to 2
C8	7c	1 to 5
CE1	16c	1
CE2	17c	1
E10	10c	1

I am warning you now, some of these positions will prove very elusive. You will look a long time before you pick up the four positions of C7, plate 2; or C8, plate 5. And you have a real task on your hands to get the four positions of Plates 6-7-10 of No. 252.

Of a total of 152 plates or a "possible" of 608 plate positions very few varieties are to be found. A constant one is that of the "hair-line" in the lower left plate block corner of #259, the 14c value.

Two plates have been reported as damaged, and so no printings are to be expected of these. They consist of plate 3 of the 1c, and the other is plate 29, of the 4c, #254.

course, tentative, and is subject to change in some degree. All changes will be incorporated in the final publication. Entry blanks for the show will also be included in the latter book,

Bringing News About People and Stamps

By Rev. John S. Bain

This is an appeal for help from BNAPSers. Although outside our club interests I believe any information that can be supplied will aid as a background in the study of BNA. A friend of mine, Roland C. Oertel, who is also a collector of BNA, is writing a thesis entitled, "NEWFOUNDLAND AND THE DOMINION OF CANADA: A history of the movement that leads to Newfoundland entering Canada as a Province on April 1, 1949." He is primarily interested in securing a loan of documents of the Quebec Conference of October, 1864, and of the meetings held in Halifax, Nova Scotia, and Fredericton, New Brunswick. In addition any newspaper articles on the meetings and conferences held regarding the union from December 1945 to and through the election of 1948. None of this material is available to him at the University of Illinois. Mr. Oertel can be reached at Apartment 213, 300 South Goodwin Avenue, Urbana, Illinois. There is the possibility that should "TOPICS" desire to print the thesis when completed that it can be arranged.

BNAPS

Had a cover given to me showing the use of the Pitney-Bowes meter postage stamp being used to stamp dead letters. This particular cover reads in three lines where the advertisement would appear "THE DEAD LETTER OFFICE / BUREAU DES REBUTS / VANCOUVER-CANADA" with the postage indicator reading "00." The meter number is 143947. Does any BNAPSer know of any list published listing the offices using this form of dead letter stamp?

BNAPS

On the subject of reprinted articles in "TOPICS," the Prince Edward Island Study Group has made the excellent suggestion that Donald A. King's "Prince Edward Island" be one of the future articles. I should like to add that if it is possible Bertram W. H. Poole's book on "Canada" should be included in order to provide copies for reference of this scarce work.

BNAPS

As promised, I am giving the comments on Newfoundland and New Brunswick, taken from the book, "How Old Stamps Are Artfully Repaired and Forged," in the German language. "The characteristics and beautiful stamps of New Brunswick and Newfoundland, all values with the heraldic flowers, and likeness of Queen Victoria and the Prince of Wales, are usually seen only singly in most German collectors' albums. These classic overseas stamps in later years had a noticeable recession in Germany, because speculators and specialists bought them up and exported them to foreign countries. Therefore, those that make their appearance in German collections are either repaired or restored."

A. H. Kessler Wins Trophy at Pottstown

By GEO. E. FOSTER

BNAPSer Alfred H. Kessler brought glory to the Philadelphia Group and the Society as a whole when he was awarded the President's Trophy at the Pottstown (Pa.) Stamp Club's 12th Philatelic Exhibition held in April. This cup was given for the best exhibit in the BNAPS section of the show. Mr. Kessler exhibited "Victoria Regina on stamps of British North America and selected pages of B. N. A."

Three other members of the Philadelphia Group also exhibited in this class, the results being as follows: 1st, Charles McDonough (Vancouver Island, British Columbia, New Brunswick, Nova Scotia, Prince Edward Island, Province of Canada and Canada); 2nd, James T. Culhane (Newfoundland, moderately specialized); 3rd, Samuel P. Goldstein (Canada).

Charles McDonough reports that the group put on a miniature membership campaign for BNAPS during the show, distributing copies of TOPICS, application blanks, etc. A large sign was also displayed advertising BNAPEX 1950.

CANADA—KING GEORGE V TYPE OF 1912

By IAIN D. JEX LONG

(In G-O-G Review)

As is well known, the 50c of this type exists in two states, viz:

1. Shading in upper spandrel open at sides.
2. A vertical line closes the ends of the shading in right upper spandrel.

Later printings show this addition and other similar additions in various spandrels on several shades. It, therefore, occurred to me that this question might be worth investigating and I have done so on the following lines.

THEORETICALLY there are 16 possible states, viz:

A.	Horizontal shading in all four spandrels open at ends.
B.	" " " " closed in Left top spandrel only.
C.	" " " " Right top spandrel only.
D.	" " " " Left lower spandrel only.
E.	" " " " Right lower spandrel only.
F.	" " " " Left and Right top spandrels only.
G.	" " " " Top and Left lower spandrels only.
H.	" " " " Top and Right lower spandrels only.
I.	" " " " Top and both lower spandrels only.
J.	" " " " all four spandrels.
K.	" " " " Right top and Left lower spandrels only.
L.	" " " " Right top and Right lower spandrels only.
M.	" " " " Right top and both lower spandrels only.
N.	" " " " Both lower spandrels only.
O.	" " " " Both top and left lower spandrels only.
P.	" " " " Both top and Right lower spandrels only.

PRACTICALLY, I have seen or heard of the following:

State A.	1c green	2c green	
	2c green	3c brown	
	3c brown	3c brown coil	
	10c purple	3c red	
	10c blue	3c red coil	
	50c grey	4c yellow	
State B.	50c sepia	5c blue	
State C.	2c carmine	5c purple	
	3c brown	7c brown	
State D.	7c yellow	8c blue	
	5c blue	10c purple	
	5c purple (1924)	10c blue	
State E.	20c green	10c brown	
State F.	1c green (pl. 4)	20c green	
	1c coils	50c grey	
	1c yellow (pl. 2)	50c sepia	
	2c rose	20c red War Tax	
	2c green (pl. 1)	2c+1c War Tax	
	3c brown	2c+1c coil	
	10c purple	2c+1c brown	
	2c plus 1c brown	\$1 D. orange	
State G.	1c green coil	State K.	Nil.
	5c blue	State L.	2c+1c brown
	7c yellow		50c grey
State H.	Nil.	State M.	20c green
State I.	Nil.		1c green War Tax
State J.	1c green coil	State N.	Nil.
	1c yellow (pl. 3)	State O.	1c green (pl. 2)
	1c yellow coil		2c green
	2c rose		3c brown

2c+1c red
2c red War Tax
10c brown

State P. 1c green
10c purple
2c+1c brown (type 1)

There are also sub-types of J and O in which the vertical line in Right upper spandrel only commences at second horizontal line from top.

Some of these are very clear; others are so faint that it is difficult to say whether there is or is not a vertical line as this varies in thickness from being the same width as the horizontal shading down to a mere thread.

The above list is tentative and incomplete and it will be interesting to see if some other reader can fill in some of the blanks.

THREE INTERESTING CATALOGUES

By R. J. DUNCAN

I have before me three interesting catalogues; the same size, 3x4 $\frac{3}{4}$ in.; stiff binding in red. Each booklet contains 37 pages of catalogue listing.

No. 1—Outside cover: Albrechts Catalogue, 1895. Inside title page: Complete Catalogue of the Postage Stamps of British North America and West Indies. May 1895. New England Stamp Co., 323-325 Washington St., Boston, Mass.

No. 2—Outside cover: Blank. Inside title page: Same wording as No. 1, except the publisher, Bogert & Durbin Co., 722 Chestnut St., Philadelphia; 160 Nassau St., New York.

No. 3—Outside cover: Peckitt's Catalogue, 1895. Inside title page: Catalogue and Price List of the Postage Stamps of British North America and the West Indies. W. H. Peckitt, 440 Strand, London, W. C.

This latter catalogue has two pages of advertising at the back, while the others have not; but the first two have one page of preface and one page of index, which the latter omits.

The prices in the Peckitt catalogue are, of course, in English currency, but equal to the American currency of the same period. The listings in the booklets are all the same.

In Canada, the 1851-57 issues are classified as (a) laid paper, (b) wove paper, (c) ribbed paper. The 1868-75 issues are listed in (a) wove paper, (b) watermarked paper. Those of type (b) are not priced in Peckitt's catalogue, however, but are in the others. The 1870-93 issues are listed in (a) wove paper, (b) ribbed paper. The latter are priced only in the American catalogues.

In New Brunswick, three split stamps

are listed and priced in the two American catalogues, but only listed in the English publication.

In Newfoundland, three split stamps are treated the same way as New Brunswick, but in Nova Scotia six split stamps are listed but priced only in the two American books.

In Prince Edward Island, a 2d rose rouletted, and 4d and 9d imperforate vertically, are listed, as also is a 3c rose, "period after Prince." Six split stamps are listed.

All three catalogues are printed on one side of the page only. I wonder if any of our members know of any more catalogues belonging to this series of 1895.

All . . . Copy
Advertising
Correspondence

Concerning this magazine should now be addressed to:

Gordon P. Lewis
13 Eastern Ave.
Brampton, Ont.
Canada.

SEE YOU IN PHILLY
Sept. 29-30, Oct. 1



Dr. Armand Gelinus, of Fitchburg, Mass., has consented to act as chairman of the Small Queens Study Group, which will be composed of members of BNAPS. Purpose of the group will be to undertake a systematic and thorough analysis of these interesting issues. So far the response has been most encouraging, and at time of writing the following members have pledged their support, in addition to Dr. Gelinus: Peter Hurst, Richard Hedley, Louis Crosby, A. K. Grimmer, B. C. Binks, Roland L. Powe, Lester Littlefield, R. J. Duncan, M. W. Cryderman, R. W. Lees-Jones (of Great Britain), and the writer. A survey shows that the "3 Center" will be the topic for our first study, therefore the re-printing of L. D. Shoemaker's article on this stamp in May TOPICS was most timely.

Vol. 1, No. 1 of The Canadian Philatelist, new official organ of the Canadian Philatelic Society, has been received. The magazine is a fine job of printing, with colorful cover, and an interesting selection of articles, including one on "The Dundas 12d Black" by BNAPSer Fred Jarrett, and another on "The Postage Stamps of Newfoundland" by BNAPSer C. G. Kemp.

Among the five one- or two-page articles on Canadian stamps published recently in Weekly Philatelic Gossip, the one that brings forth new information is that one written by Peter Hurst entitled "The First Printing Order of the Ten Cent Prince Albert of 1859" (March 11 issue). Mr. Hurst states that Senator Calder made no mention of the two major shades for the first printing order, a brownish-

black (mostly black) and a deep chocolate-black (with the brown color more prominent). Instead, Senator Calder assigns them two printings. He mentions that Mr. Jarrett in his "BNA Record" in December 1930, wrote that he considers the brownish-purple as the first printing and the chocolate-black as the second printing.

However, Mr. Hurst goes further to say that the first printing shipment was made of two shades. His theory is borne out by dated copies and a cover in his collection. The actual sequence of ink mixing is impossible to determine, and the question as to which shade was printed first, during execution of the first order, will probably never be solved.

New Post Offices

Fielding, N. B., re-opened March 1.
Lac-Equerre, P. Q., March 6.
Remac, B. C., February 8.
St. Benoni, N. S., March 13.
St. Charles de Drummond, P. Q., January 23.
Semiahmoo, B. C., March 1.

In a recent Robson Lowe auction, an 1851 letter from the U. S. bearing the "St. John, N.B./Ship Letter," to New Brunswick, brought almost \$33. A P. E. I. 1863-68 2d rose, a diagonal bisect on large piece, brought almost \$39. A Nova Scotia 1851 6d green, fine used, brought almost \$45.

SEE YOU IN PHILLY
Sept. 29-30, Oct. 1

What's in the Mail

By JACK LEVINE

Mervyn Quarles writes us lots of good news. First nice thing he mentions is that he sent a copy of the Part I Reford Sale catalogue for Mr. Lees-Jones—you can always count on a BNAPSer to help. Thank you very very much, Mervyn. Sure nice readin' is his favorable opinion on establishing Fellowships in BNAPS. That's the first so far, at this time of writing, but I'm hoping to tell you of more.

You may know that Mervyn was largely responsible for organizing the now internationally renowned and honored P. E. I. Study Group of BNAPS. Well, the last thing he writes is that he would be more than happy to do what he can to help any groups contemplating organizing—can you ask for better? Write him at 8255 S. Ellis Ave., Chicago 19, Ill.

o o

We just have to give the next letter verbatim. "I have been waiting for the medal before I answered your letter and today I received it. Usually when you enter into any sort of competition, you are thrilled to hear your name mentioned as a winner; the prize sometimes is secondary. But not with BNAPS! When I opened the box, I was amazed; I have never seen such a masterpiece. Whoever is responsible for the design should also get a medal. I showed it with much pride to some of my non-philatelic friends and they voiced the same opinion. It will always be one of my proudest possessions—Bill Kemp." Wonder how the other winners like their's? Guess "Hank" Thurston who designed them is happy to know how they are being received. By the way, this year's medals are the same except they'll be inscribed "1950." Wanna try?

o o

BNAPS #300, E. Calver Bayliss, never forgets us. Someday we're going to be right proud of our "1st Jet Flight from Toronto to N. Y." cover and we won't have to think to remember where we got it. We won't have to wrinkle our brow to remember any English covers we have—A. Gabbitas

always remembers us and this time with one from the London International Stamp Exhibition. Thanks lots and lots, fellows.

o o

BNAPSer Bayliss also writes us that he is trying to round out a complete collection of all position plate blocks of the "unrevised" issue. He encloses his list of "needs" and "duplicates" and offers to exchange. We can't help any but maybe some of you are interested—49 Russett Ave., Toronto 4, Canada...New applicant Major K. Hamilton White is a recognized authority on the King George V issues and Plate Blocks, and someday soon, we hope, we will hear from him in our magazine...

o o

You really meet and get to know the nicest people in BNAPS. Last year in Buffalo, among the many we said "hello" to for the first time was H. L. Banner, of No. Vancouver. We hear again from Lloyd and he sends us two of the unrevised 4c's to show us the difference in the paper thickness. We didn't know about it until we saw these, so thanks for the information, Lloyd, and the examples.

o o

It's Yearbook time again. I'm supposed to help Lewis on this and it looks like the only way I ever help anybody is by asking others to help me. Will you help me help Lewis by reserving some advertising space for yourself and then trying to get your dealer-friends, or other friends, to do likewise? Do I work hard! Please, huh?

BNAPS ALL

SEE YOU IN PHILLY
Sept. 29-30, Oct. 1

POSTAL HISTORY OF RED RIVER, BRITISH NORTH AMERICA

By DR. MURRAY CAMPBELL

The following is the substance of a talk given by the author to the Manitoba Historical Society on November 22, 1949. Dr. Campbell is a member of the Canadian Philatelic Society and the Winnipeg Philatelic Society.

(Continued from Page 115)

PART THREE (Conclusion)

Captain Dick was furnished with postage stamps to be sold at the Red River. There is no proof that these stamps reached their destination. The postage on a letter between Red River and Pembina, or vice versa, was one penny—on every newspaper one-half penny unless it proceeded directly from the office of publication on which there shall be no charge. In addition, there was the American postage of 10 cents, this being the rate to the Province of Canada. The revenue of the Red River post office in 1859 was 149 pounds, and the expenditures 154 pounds.

The postmaster following William Ross, who died on May 4, 1856, was William Drever, at six pounds per annum. He resigned in September of the same year because he considered the salary inadequate. Nathaniel Logan held the position for 12 months, following which James Stewart became postmaster. On March 10, 1859, "the postmaster was instructed, in conjunction with the Governor of Assinibola, to send an extra messenger to forward the return mail from Pembina." Two months later James Ross was appointed postmaster in place of James Stewart "resigned," at a salary of 10 pounds, and the "Governor of Assinibola be empowered to make all the necessary arrangements concerning the Postal Affairs."

To the Honourable, the Governor and Council of Red River Settlement, Sept. 4, 1860:

"We, the undersigned inhabitants of Red River Settlement, respectfully call the attention of your honourable Council to the great inconvenience of the present system of postal delivery in the Settlement, which has long been a source of great annoyance, embarrassments, and inconvenience to your petitioners, in common with the other people of the Settlement, and this has

been increased since the establishment of the Canada Mail, Fortnightly Mail, through the United States, Letters &c., often remaining at the Upper Post Office for weeks, as some of your Hon'ble Council can testify. In order to remedy this, as far as practicable, your petitioners humbly pray your Hon'ble Council to establish Branch Post Offices, throughout the Settlement, for the Receipt and Delivery of Mail Matters, and that persons may be appointed to deliver the same, according to the directions, and collect the postage it may be necessary to charge, according to the Plan followed in England and in Canada. And, as in duty bound, your petitioners will ever pray." (57 signatures).

This petition was "laid on the table" and disregarded.

This mail from Pembina probably changed its route about this time with the establishment of the stage between St. Cloud and Fort Abercrombie, going to the latter place instead of Crow Wing. At Fort Abercrombie in the autumn of 1865 "Archdeacon Cochrane secured passage in the mail gig on its way to Pembina by Georgetown." (Hargraves). And on June 28, 1865, James Ross, writing from Pembina, says: "I gave \$3.00 for my passage from Abercrombie to Georgetown by the mailman. From Georgetown to this place I got with another mailman and paid to him that pound note (H. B. Co.) I brought from Canada."

New Post Office Opened

It was not, however, until March 18, 1862, that another post office was opened in the settlement. Thomas Sinclair was made postmaster at St. Andrews at a salary of six pounds.

James Ross, whose duties and responsibilities undoubtedly warranted a higher salary than 10 pounds, wrote a long letter to the Council on May 17, 1862. The following are excerpts;

McDuff House,
May 17, 1862.

William McTavish, Esq.,
My Dear Sir—

I have now managed the Post Office for three years. I have laboured diligently and faithfully . . . bestowing more care and attention than perhaps any other would have done, considering the trifling salary which is given. It was not the salary that induced me to take the P. O., but my wish to fill a sphere of public usefulness. The same motive will induce me to keep it, if I should get no more than at present, but I hope this willingness on my part will not be made a reason for continuing an arrangement which is hardly fair to me . . . I have been obliged to erect a Post Office Building, at an outlay of 30 pounds . . . I have to keep accounts with the Pembina P. O., with the mail carrier, and with Mr. Sinclair (P. M. at St. Andrews); I have the responsibility of the monies due the U. S. on account of postage; and at the year's end, have the year's account to make out and give in. . . . One constant source of labour is keeping running accounts with Mail-dealers. There are many poor people who cannot pay at once, and many others who, though able, on account of the distance at which they reside, pay only at intervals. There are over 20, sometimes as many as 30, with whom I thus keep open accounts. I am aware that this is not obligatory upon me; but you know, dear Sir, how difficult it is to enforce strictly the rules of immediate payment. This manifold account-keeping imposes much additional labour, but it is a very great convenience to Mail-dealers. It is, in fact, a necessary evil. The worse feature of this case is, that too often I lose the postage altogether. . . . Previous Postmasters have complained that the allowance was too small, and one (Mr. Drever) actually threw up his post because the Council would not increase his salary. Those who have had to do the work may be taken as good judges of its extent and character." (The salary was not increased.)

On November 25, 1862, Mr. MacTavish stated that he "wished to bring under the consideration of the Council the conduct of one of the Public Officers, viz Mr. Sheriff Ross, in stirring

up the people as he has lately been doing to opposition to the Council and in endeavoring to thwart the Council in the measures they had thought proper to take for the public peace, and common safety, by calling upon the public to look upon their acts with suspicion, and representing to the Home Government that there was no Justice to be obtained between man and man in this Settlement—such conduct being incompatible with his position of an Officer of the Government." It was, therefore, moved "that Mr. James Ross be removed from all Public Offices this day." Mr. A. G. Bannatyne was appointed postmaster. He also had his troubles—on January 4, 1866, the following statement was made by the Council of Assinibolia:

"With reference to the complaint of Mr. McKenny regarding alleged irregularities in the Post Office, the President submitted a statement on the subject from Mr. Bannatyne accompanied by a document signed by most of the merchants of the Settlement expressing their satisfaction with the present Postmaster's management, and also a memorial from Mr. McKenny with affidavits by himself and others in support of some of his complaints, and the Council taking the whole subject into consideration, came to the following resolution as moved by Mr. Clare and seconded by the Bishop of Rupert's Land, namely, 'that in the opinion of the Council the only complaint by Mr. McKenny in reference to the Post Office, for which there appeared to be any good ground, was that of the Postmaster having occasionally given persons calling at the Post Office access to the mails; that the Council, however, believed that the Postmaster had permitted this in the spirit of accommodation to the public and saw no ground for imputing to him any improper motive in the matter; but at the same time the Council could not but regard the practice as one that was open to serious objection; and they therefore directed that Mr. Bannatyne, on being informed of the result of this investigation, be instructed to discontinue it in future, and to make it a rule that, in the receiving, as well as in the distributing of the mails, none but himself or some trustworthy person in his employment,



The Ross House was used as a post office between February, 1855, and March, 1856. The house is shown (above) after being moved from its original location on the banks of the Red River, to the William Whyte Park facing the C. P. R. Station in Winnipeg. The winter siding was removed because it is believed that no other dwelling in the Red River was "winter-boarded" at this time and it would not, therefore, be representative

of the homes of the Settlement. It served as a post office once more during Winnipeg's 75th Anniversary Celebrations, June 6-11, 1949. This special cachet (left) in green, and a special cancellation were only used at the Ross House, where approximately 9,800 covers were posted during the celebrations.

be permitted to handle the letters and papers."

Portage la Prairie P. O.

I do not know when the post office was established at Portage la Prairie, it being outside the jurisdiction of Assiniboia, but on the same day the Council considered a petition from that Settlement. "A Petition on the part of the Settlers at Portage la Prairie was then read, praying for assistance in the establishment of a fortnightly mail between the Post Office and that Settlement . . . and it was agreed that the sum of five pounds be granted as a contribution towards the object for six months, but on the understanding that it shall only be paid after the actual performance of the service, for that period in a manner satisfactory to the Governor."

In 1867, Dr. Schultz offered to carry the mail to Portage la Prairie for six pounds per annum bi-weekly, but

"as it appeared to the Council that no such postal arrangement could properly be entered into at present" his offer was not accepted, but on December 17, 1868, Mr. Bannatyne was authorized to make arrangement with the "NorWester Express Stage" or any other party to carry the mail to Portage la Prairie at 5/- weekly. At the same time the Bishop of St. Boniface was allowed three pounds to fit up a post office at the house of Joseph Ameln, St. Norbert, from June 1, 1869, Bannatyne's salary was increased to 50 pounds, it having been increased from 10 pounds to 20 pounds at some previous date.

Riel took over control of the post office on Christmas Day, 1869, and held it until August 24, 1870, the date of the entry of the troops, and until June 30, 1870, paid all expenses. It was during this time that he was said to have issued a stamp bearing his own likeness.

On November 1st a through mail was established between Fort Garry and Windsor, and Fort Garry constituted a regular post office. From August, 1870, until July, 1871, the mails were under the jurisdiction of the Manitoba Government.

On July 24, 1871, Inspector Dewe of the Post Office Department, submitted a very interesting report to the Hon. A. Campbell, Postmaster General, at Ottawa. Roger Goullais was still in charge of the Pembina mail which was now twice-a-week. His former salary of one pound, ten shilling a trip was increased to \$15.00 on October 1st, and \$20.00 per trip on December 12, 1870. The mail was carried to Portage la Prairie and St. Anrews at \$7.50 per trip to the former, and to St. Andrews at \$1.55 per trip.

Immediately on the arrival of the troops, a post office was established at Lower Fort Garry, and the rate was \$1.55 to Red River. Between October, 1870, and June, 1871, contracts were let by the Provincial Government on a yearly basis with the exception of the Pembina route. If Portage la Prairie is included, and it is assumed that the post office at St. Norbert was in actual operation, Assinibola had four post offices at the time of Confederation with Canada. In addition, the Company had its private post office at Upper Fort Garry which had been in existence for many years. I do not know the date of its establishment but Hargraves has this to say about Company mails: "Letters and other mail matter are constantly arriving for different individuals employed in the vast territories of the Company in the Northern Dep't. These are received by the Company's agent at Fort Garry where a regular post office exists in which accounts are kept open with the officers and servants resident inland."

"At certain seasons packets are despatched (the starting of the Northern Packet from Red River [about December 10th] is one of the great annual events in the colony) containing the letters and papers which have accumulated for transmission. These packets on their return bring out letters which, after being duly weighed and stamped in the Company's office, are forwarded by the local mail for postage at Pembina in U. S. territory."

I have seen several early envelopes which were carried solely by Company mails but none were stamped.

In closing, a few quotations from the letters of William Ross about his home, "the first post office in the West." On July 28, 1853, "My house is up, but at present delayed for want of wood." August 22, 1854: "My house has been ready for the plasterers for a month, but cannot get one—the outside is weather-boarded, lead colour, the roof brown. Hugh did most of the carpenter work, and without boasting it is one of the best, the handsomest and most comfortable house on the banks of the Riviere Rouge—it has cost to date 252 pounds." November 14, 1854: "I have not yet got into the new house—want of workmen has delayed the work very much but hope in a few days we will."

William Ross, the first postmaster, was also Counsellor of Assinibola—"salary nothing"; Justice of the Peace—"salary, trouble and annoyance"; Petty Judge of the Middle District—"salary, 5 pounds a year"; Sheriff—"salary, trouble and expense"; Governor of Gaol—"salary 30 pounds"; Member of the Board of Public Works—"salary 4 shillings a day when employed"; and Paymaster and Secretary to the Board of Public Works.

Further details about the "first post office in the West" will be found in the June, 1949, issue of "Popular Stamps."

ADDENDUM

Since this article went to press, copies of letters, sent by the Kittson Express and now in the possession of the Minnesota Historical Society, have come to hand and these throw considerable light on this period of Red River Mails.

On January 30, 1848, James Sinclair, a free trader at Red River, wrote to Henry Sibley of the American Fur Company at St. Peters: "The Bearer Rienville has a packet of letters, which I have to request of you to have them posted at Fort Snelling, also to pay the postage of the same through the account, and I have further to request of you that should there be any letters either at the Post Office at Fort Snelling or at St. Pauls for Red River, to pay postage of them and to hand them over to Rienville and by his re-

turn please let me know the amount, so that I may either remit you the amount or to Mr. Kittson as you may desire."

Norman Kittson, stationed at Pembina, wrote to Sibley, January 3, 1849: "This will be handed to you by Francois Rienville whom I send express for any letters or paper there may be in the post office either for myself or any person of the Settlement of Red River."

The third letter, dated January 27, 1850, contains a similar statement. The Kittson Express then was Francois Rienville, and it would seem reasonable to conclude that he was employed jointly by the free traders of Red River and the American Fur Company, and that he formed a fairly effective means of by-passing the censorship of mails imposed by the Hudson's Bay Company. Perhaps the cover owned by Mr. John Norbeck and illustrated in the October, 1949, issue of BNA TOPICS was carried by the Kittson Express, as the date of March, 1853, was some months before the first unofficial mail of the Red River settlers.

Rienville probably carried the mails to St. Peters, via the Red River, Bois de Sioux and St. Peters River.

REFERENCES

(1) Documents Relating to Northwest Missions, 1815-1827, Grace Nute; (2) The North-West Company, Davidson; (3) Minutes of Council of Northern Department of the Hudson's Bay Company, 1821-1831; (4) Narrative of an Expedition to the Source of St. Peter's River, Lake Winnipeg, Lake of the Woods, etc., performed in the Year 1823, by William H. Keating, A. M., London 1825; (5) Report from the Select Committee on the Hudson's Bay Company, 1857; (6) Sibley Letters, 1848-1850, Minnesota Historical Society; (7) Canadian North-West, Vol. I, Oliver; (8) "Old Time Post Office at Pembina" by C. Cavileer, in "Early History of North Dakota" by Col. C. A. Lounsbury; (9) Ross Letters, Provincial Library, Manitoba; (10) Red River, 1869, James Hargrave; (11) "Narrative of the Canadian Red River," Henry Hind; (12) Postal Service of Manitoba and North-West, from the Report of the Department of Agriculture and Statistics of the Prov-

ince of Manitoba, 1882; (13) Papers Relative to the Exploration by Captain Palliser of (Certain) Portions of British North America, 1859; (14) Postage Stamps and Postal History of Canada, Appendix K, Vol. II, W. Boggs; (15) Winnipeg Free Press, April 5, 1913.

On April 6, 1950, Dr. Campbell's article, "Postal History of Red River," was presented to the University of Manitoba Women's Club at Ralph Connor House, Winnipeg.

Fortunate Flaws

By RON TUCKWELL

(No. 2)

(Editor's Note—Articles under the above heading will appear in TOPICS from time to time. The following material appeared originally in "The Canadian Magazine" for January 1937, under the title "Dollars You Throw Away." Written by Mr. Tuckwell at the time in a manner to create interest among readers who were, for the most part, not stamp collectors, the material will be edited for presentation to BNAPS members. The author hastens to point out, however, that he makes no claim for the varieties and errors mentioned being complete except up to the date of original publication. Illustrations are by Mr. Tuckwell.)

King George V—1912

Of the first King George V issue of 1912, scores of "varieties" are known. There is the One Cent green with hairlines, and the Two Cents rose, also with hairlines; also the Twenty Cents olive, with an inner frame-line added to the cross shading (differentiated from the normal variety that has no such line).

One of the very best of this first issue, however, was the Two Cent rose, in which the oval below the King's breast is doubled, the medals on the breast are doubled in outline, as also are the maple leaves at the left side. Below the medals are five light lines, instead of three; and on the box a-

bove the left "2" there are double lines.

War Tax Issue—1916

It was in the "War Tax" issue of 1916 that the greatest modern rarity in Canadian stamps occurred. There were four stamps of the One Cent superimposed on Two Cents value—two carmine and two brown; and two distinct dies were used in printing these. The carmine stamp printed from Die II will cost you in the neighborhood of \$12 unused. The brown stamp of Die I is today worth \$20. Does it begin faintly to insinuate itself into your mind just how much further ahead you'd be if you had bought and kept a flock of these brown and red threes at the selling price of three cents each, instead of investing the money in a ticket on the Dublin Sweep?

A LAURIER ERROR—



Confederation Issue

In the Sixtieth Anniversary of Confederation issue of 1927 appeared a pretty Five Cents purple with a handsome portrait of Sir Wilfrid Laurier on it; five cents it cost us then, but on one stamp of each sheet there was a variety that showed a dot in the ball of the figure "5" at right, and this has jumped in price!



New Regular Issue—1930

A new "regular" issue of new design

appeared in 1930, showing a fresh portrait of His Majesty. We admired the stamps at the time . . . and overlooked a glaringly obvious error on the One Cent orange (occurring once per hundred) in which a dropped line cut through the letters "ent" of Cent, and through the figure "1" at left. The same error occurred on the One Cent green issued later in the year when the colors were changed to conform to International Postal Color Scheme agreements.

In that same issue, the Ten Cents olive pictured the Parliamentary Library Tower at Ottawa; on one stamp per sheet the top of the "lightning rod" on the Tower is broken off and missing. In the normal stamp the lightning rod tip goes right to the top of the oval border; in the error variety, there is a distinct blank white space where the tip has been broken off.



Provisionals—1932

In 1932 the Two Cents red of the then current issue was surcharged with the figure "3" and the "2" blocked out with four bars, each side. And some rare birds turned up . . . including one in which the King's moustache was elongated and made to appear a huge military whisker. Another had a bend or break in the top bar, left, and still another had a big chip knocked out of the bottom loop of the "3", and this is the best of them all. Others have distorted, hump-backed figure "3's" and are premium bringers. All big profits, these represent, on an original three cent investment!

THE FIRST DR. REFORD SALE

By E. H. SULLIVAN

Messrs. Harmer, Rooke Inc. held the first sale of the Reford collection from February 28th to March 3rd, 1950.

Dr. Reford possessed essays, proofs and stamps of the utmost rarity and his collection contains many items that are not to be found in any auction held during the last 25 years. The writer gives a list of these, so far as he knows them. Most of them are so rare as to have no catalogue value given in any specialized catalogue.

Lots No. 61 and 62: The original essays by Sir Sanford Fleming for the 3d and shilling 1851 issue. The writer believes there are only two copies of each in existence, but this may not be correct.

Lot 75: The 3d beaver on thick, white laid paper. The writer was fortunate in obtaining this. Mr. Pack stated that this is very rare and he had seen very few copies (Howes, page 44). A collector in New York, who has probably the finest collection of B. N. A. in the U. S., next to that of the late Mr. Lichtenstein, has a copy but has never seen another. The laid lines are very strong and in the copy bought by the writer the laid lines slope down appreciably from left to right, viewed from the back. If this is the case with other copies probably only one sheet was printed on this paper. The paper was put slightly askew into the press.

Lot 80: 3d, laid lines wavy instead of straight. This is extremely rare.

Lot 279: 1857 cancel. This is rare, is usually blurred, and such a clear strike is very rare indeed (Jarrett 850 X).

Lot 502: 1868 ½d, watermarked. Dr. Reford seemed to possess almost a monopoly of these.

Lot 771: Large die proofs of the Maple Leaf 1897 issue, prepared for presentation to King George V, but mislaid, entailing the presentation of a duplicate set. This, the original set, is obviously unique.

Lots 861 et seq: Die essays of the proposed MacDonald-Cartier issue (Jarrett, page 149). It is erroneously copied in the catalogue that only two copies of each are known, but Boggs says six and the writer knows the whereabouts of three.

Lots 896 et seq: Die essays of the 1930-31 issue. Here the catalogue states that only one copy of each is known but the writer knows of two copies of one value in one collection.

Essays and proofs sold well under catalogue but good stamps sold well.

CANADIAN NOTES

By "TWENTY"

The Notes this month will cover but one main idea. That will concern the possibilities of research and writing on Canadian topics.

(A) It might be a good idea for a regular column in BNA TOPICS featuring a digest of the news of Canadian stamps as culled from the magazines of the world. Who will volunteer to do this?

(B) L. D. Shoemaker's excellent article on the Three Cent Small Queens of Canada, which appeared in Stamps in 1941, and was re-printed in TOPICS in the last issue, was very complete and very concise. What about similar research on the One-center of this issue?

(C) Same on the Two-cent Small Queen.

(D) There is a demand right now for a very complete article and check list of the plate numbers of Canadian stamps. Gladish recently had an article on this need in The Ottawa Citizen. Such research and writing should be done by a co-operative movement on the part of several specialists. Who will volunteer to head such a committee?

(E) Over ten years ago, Roy Woodhouse had an article in the mimeographed bulletin of the Canadian Philatelic Society, on "Perforated Initials Found on Canadian Stamps." According to his own admission, the published list was not complete. This should be brought down to date and made more complete. Roy Woodhouse should do this for us.

Do you have any other ideas for research or writing which concern Canadian stamps? Write to "Twenty," 1932 Princeton Ave., St. Paul 5, Minn.

Sketches of BNAPSers

By V. G. Green



LESLIE A. DAVENPORT

One of Canada's foremost philatelists is BNAPSer Leslie A. Davenport, of Toronto, who has spent nearly 50 years in the stamp trade in Canada. Born in Franklin, New Jersey, on April 3, 1894, Mr. Davenport came to Canada at an early age and for many years was manager of the Marks Stamp Company of Toronto. For the last 10 years he has been "on his own", specializing in the stamps of the British Commonwealth, and is reported to have one of the best stocks of these popular stamps in Canada.

"Les," as he is familiarly known to hundreds of friends and customers in Canada and the United States, has sold some famous "pieces" over the years, amongst them being the block of twelve Canada six pence on cover, now in the Lees-Jones collection in England, and no less than ten Canada twelve pence. The opinion of a man of Mr. Davenport's experience as to stamp values is always interesting and instructive and he believes that the stamps of the British Commonwealth, particularly British North America and West Indies, in fine condition, offer the discriminating buyer an investment second to none. For

example, he sold a mint Hawker stamp to an American collector in 1919 for \$50 and the Canada 1897 Jubilees in Mint blocks for \$325 to the same buyer. In J. N. Sissons recent sale of April 24-26 these items sold for \$1,500 and \$2,000 respectively.

Mr. Davenport and his wife are very active in church affairs, and at the present time he is on the executive of Presbytery of the United Church of Canada, and also Clerk of Sessions of his local church. He is also a keen Rotarian and is on the Board of the Toronto Club, as well as being a director of St. Christopher House, one of Toronto's social service centres.

The directors of CAPEX, the International Philatelic Exhibition to be held in Toronto in September 1951, were very fortunate in being able to persuade Mr. Davenport to act as General Manager and, in fact, "run" the show. His experience of international exhibitions and his personal knowledge of most of the prominent dealers and collectors of the world, should prove invaluable. He urges all members of the British North America Philatelic Society to join CAPEX either as a life member (\$25) or as a sustaining member (\$10) and help make this centenary exhibition of Canada's first postage stamp the greatest philatelic event ever to be held in Canada.

Jet and Helicopter Speed Canada Mails

On April 25 a two-day test series was inaugurated in Toronto in which a helicopter replaced regular mail truck services between the main post office and Malton Airport. The plane took 19½ minutes to make the trip, less than half the time a truck takes for the same run.

In the tests a flat field in the harbor area was used for take-off and landing, but authorities said that the flat roof of part of the post office building would be used if the service became permanent.

This test followed by a week the jet plane air mail flight from Malton to New York, in which several thousand letters were carried, in a trip that took less than one hour.

Trail of the Caribou

By Freres Meyerson



I am in receipt of a letter from a stamp collector who is a member of the World War Cover Society. He encloses a Newfoundland cover franked with 5c in Newfoundland stamps and addressed to the United States. The cover has been censored. However, what bothered the collector in question was the circular postmark "ST ANTHONY N. F./L.G.A.P.O./DE 15 42." He wanted to know if it was an APO marking. No, we regret to advise that the initials in question are merely an abbreviation of the words INTERNATIONAL GRENPELL ASSOCIATION. Another cancellation from this same source is occasionally seen. It consists of a rather large oval with the following markings, "ST. ANTHONY NFLD/L.G.A./JULY 31, 1948." The initials I. G. A. mean in this instance exactly what they did on the cover mentioned above.

Alec MacMaster, BNAPS #484, has just bought a few nice items of the pence issue. One of the pieces he sent down for our inspection was a used copy of the 6d. rose, #20, on thick paper. Another was a very nice copy of the 6½d rose of the same issue that may or may not be on the thick paper. It was a moot question and we couldn't give him an exact reply. The piece de resistance, however, was a superb 1/ rose, beautifully tied to place and cancelled at St. John's on Feb. 30, 1863. We will admit that the date was rather strange but it was undoubtedly the result of a mistake in the date stamp. The piece, though, is really an eye-opener and we hope that Alec will exhibit it at Philadelphia in September.

We picked up a couple of nice pieces ourselves at the recent Sissons auction. We think rather well of our provisionals, and as a result we try

and add to them wherever and whenever possible. Jim's sale gave us a chance and we made the best of it. After all these years we finally purchased the invert of the 3c on 6c gray, #160a. The second item was one that we needed and were glad to purchase. It was the TWO CENTS on 30c Cabot Essay in red overprinted in 1920, the companion piece of the two essays on the 6c Cabot printed in red and in black. The third and last item was one that we had never seen before. It was a block of the Halifax overprint, C2, in what can be called a diagonal surcharge but is undoubtedly the result of a misfeed. Only one sheet of 25 is reputed to exist and what makes our new block so outstanding is that it consists of positions 4, 5, 9 and 10. Positions 4 and 5 are the rare date shifted positions, so the block in question may well be unique.

If anyone wants to accumulate a Gold Medal collection of Newfoundland in a hurry, we can tell him just where to go. In last week's mail we received a letter from Francis J. Field, Ltd., quoting on a few Newfoundland airmail items—but what items! They have for sale a mint pair of the Hawker, a Martinsyde manuscript on cover, a complete sheet of 25 of the Alcock-Brown, a mint de Pinedo, a Balbo invert and a copy of the Balbo surcharge on the 10c yellow. Last but not least, they have complete mint sheets of 50 of the 5c and 10c 1933 Labrador airmail issue in imperforate condition. A fellow trying to complete his Newfoundland Airmail collection including all of the rarities would be more than half way home after the purchase of the items listed above. We have a sneaking suspicion that all of the pieces mentioned are ex-Sir Lindsay Everard, and if so, we are not the least bit surprised that his collection won innumerable medals and awards.

Robson Lowe Auction Convention Feature

According to latest word from Philadelphia, a special feature of BNAP-EX 1950 will be an auction to be staged by Robson Lowe Inc.

The Philadelphia Group is to be host to members of BNAPS when they gather on September 29-30 and October 1 for the Society's second annual show and convention. Reservations should be sent in at once for exhibition frames at \$2.00 per frame. It is pointed out that there will be a special award for the best exhibit in the show, which has never before won an award in a national event.

For information on this big BNAPS gathering, contact any of the following committee members:

James T. Culhane, Gen. Chairman, Coleston, 119 Montgomery Ave., Norristown, Pa.; Wilmer C. Rockett, Treasurer and Publicity, 318 Elm Ave., Glenside, Pa.; Edward J. Whiting, Cachets and Seals, R. 2, Malvern, Pa.; Donald Steele, Banquet Chairman, 430 Vernon Rd., Jenkintown, Pa.; Charles McDonough, Exhibition Chairman, 3214 N. Howard St., Philadelphia 40; Alfred Kessler, Bourse and Registration Chairman, 7934 Pickering St., Philadelphia 19.

A wonderful program is being planned—"it'll be a nifty in '50!"

CANADIAN POSTAL SYSTEM

The postal system of Canada is based on that of Great Britain and commenced about 1760. It was not taken over by the Canadian authorities until 1851. As soon as Canada came under British rule, the British Postmaster-General appointed Benjamin Franklin in charge of the British Colonies in North America.

POST OFFICES

In 1851 there were 601 post offices in Canada, in 1867 there were 2,333, which shows the growth of the service after it was put under Canadian control. In Nova Scotia the number of post offices doubled in four years, and in New Brunswick multiplied by four times in 15 years.

Award of the "Vincent G. Greene Trophy" for 1949

In accordance with the ruling of the Board of Governors, the four elected officers, the seven members of the encumbent Board and the Donor have each been canvassed for his selection of the best, second and third best article or series of articles published in BNA TOPICS during 1949 and authored by a member or members of BNAPS. Based on a point system of 3 for first selection, 2 for second, and 1 for third, the votes have been tabulated and the following results noted:

William S. & Daniel C. Meyerson	23
J. Reginald Barraclough	11
Rev. John S. Bain	4
Gerald E. Wellburn	3
Harris A. MacMaster	3
Russell Allison	2
John L. Norbeck	1
Mervyn V. Quarles	1

One ballot was not received but since it would not effect the results indicated, the "Vincent G. Greene Trophy" is hereby awarded for the year 1949 to

William S. and Daniel C. Meyerson

WANTED TO BUY

BNA TOPICS

Vol. I, No. 1, 1944

Vol. I, No. 3, 1944

Will pay at least DOUBLE CAT. or your price for **Two Ring Numeral Cancellations** I want as below on:

Large Head 3c 1868

8-10-16-16-18-19-20

21-22-24-26-28

33-34-35-36-37-38-39

40-42-44-45-46-49

50-55-56-58-59-60

Small Head 3c 1870 (any shade)

2-6-8-9

14-16-19

20-24-26-28

31-39

42-44-47-49

51-55-57-59

Or will trade my duplicates

H. E. Canham

(BNAPS #77) (APS #17213)

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Canada

Report of the Secretary

MAY 15, 1950

NEW MEMBERS

- 645 Billings, F. L., 2044 Quilchena Place, Vancouver, B. C., Canada
 646 Carson, Mrs. Donald M., 259 McMillan Road, Grosse Pointe 30, Mich.
 647 Catterick, James W., 88 West Street, Brampton, Ont., Canada
 648 Mehringer, Jerome, 4669a No. 125th St., Butler, Wisc.
 649 McNeil, C. Russell, 123 Edgemount Ave. So., Hamilton, Ont., Canada
 650 Philhower, Charles A., 303 Mountain Ave., Westfield, N. J.
 651 Reader, Harry W., 2266 Turner Road, Windsor, Ont., Canada

APPLICATIONS FOR MEMBERSHIP

- Brown, Paul L., 82 King St. E., Brockville, Ont., Canada (C) CAN., especially mint plate blocks. Proposed by R. J. Duncan (No. 37); seconded by T. B. Higginson (No. 378).
- DesBrisay, Ian G., R. R. 1, Box 2246, Penticton, B. C., Canada (C) CAN.—19th & 20th century mint & used postage and mint blocks. Mint booklet panes. Coils, O.H.M.S. Precancels. Mint & Used airmails. Proposed by R. J. Duncan, No. 37.
- Jennings, Carl, 29 James St. So., Hamilton, Ont., Canada (C) CAN, NFD, PROV.—19th & 20th century mint & used postage and blocks. Stampless, 1st day and patriotic covers. Coils. Mint & Used airmails. Proofs & Essays. Flag, 2 & 4-ring cancellations. Proposed by Ed. Goodale, No. 115. Seconded by H. T. Humby, No. 379.
- Maguire, Hugh Scott, Fraser Mills, B. C., Canada (C) CAN—Mint & Used postage. Coils. Mint & Used airmails. Proposed by H. A. MacMaster, No. 484. Seconded by Lt. Col. F. B. Eaton, 608.
- McMartin, Arthur K., R. R. No. 1, Ladner, B. C., Canada (DC) Proposed by R. J. Duncan, No. 37.
- Paul, Francis A., 86 James St., Fairfield, Conn. (C) CAN—Mint & Used postage. Coils. Mint airmails. R. R., Territorial, Flag, 2 & 4-ring and all types of cancellations on Large Cents Issue & 1875 Registration Issue. Proposed by J. Levine, No. 1.
- Profit, Arthur R., c/o Bank of Toronto, Winnipeg, Man., Canada (C) Proposed by John S. Siverts, No. 59.
- Vienno-Michaud, Laurier P., New Boston, N. H. (C) CAN—19th & 20th century mint & used postage and blocks. Pre-stamp and stampless covers. Mint, used booklet panes and complete booklets. Coils. Mint, used and semi-official airmails and on cover. Literature. Proposed by R. J. Duncan, No. 37.
- White, Maj. K. Hamilton, 3564 S. W. Marine Drive, Vancouver, B. C., Canada (CX) CAN—19th & 20th century mint & used postage and blocks. Mint, used booklet panes and complete booklets. Coils. O.H.M.S. Mint & used airmails. Lathe work all types Canada. Proposed by R. J. Duncan, No. 37.
- Wilson, William E., Wood Ave., Armstrong, B. C., Canada—(C) CAN, NFLD.—Mint 19th and 20th Century; mint air mails. Proposed by R. J. Duncan (No. 37); seconded by J. H. Harrison (No. 349).

CHANGES OF ADDRESS

- Bradley, Harry A., 1349 Dell St., Dubuque, Iowa
 Harper, Major G. B., 53 Chesil Court, Chelsea Manor St., London SW3, England
 Lambe, H. R. c/o B. A. Oil Co. Ltd., 402 W. Pender St., Vancouver, B. C., Canada (from Toronto).
 Romaine, Theo. K., 1034 Arthur Ave., Fresno, Calif. (from Orleans, Nebraska)

RESIGNATION RECEIVED

- 273 Smith, K. M., 337 McDougal St., Fostoria, Ohio

BNA TOPICS

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The British North America Philatelic Society

Vol. 7 — No. 6

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Whole No. 70

ADVERTISING RATES

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NOTES and COMMENTS

By The Editor

Plate Block Group

Plate block collecting seems to be "hot" news at the moment among BNAPS members, and the preliminary work of organization is well under way. Members Higginson, Millar, Bricker, Duncan, Grimmer and the Editor are all interested in this project, although Mr. Grimmer states that pressure of work will prevent his taking a very active part for the time being. Many other members have indicated an interest in this group, and there is every indication that another live body of specialists will soon be working within the framework of BNAPS. All interested in this project should get in touch with F. C. Bricker, Listowel, Ontario. After all those interested have been contacted, further organization will take place, and studies undertaken. Results of all studies and other information will be issued in the form of printed sheets.

Members Needed for CAPEX

"Certainly, I want to have a personal share in the forthcoming Canadian International Philatelic Exhibition." That is the answer it is hoped every active stamp collector and dealer will give

the committee of this great show to be staged in Toronto in September of 1951.

Every effort is being put forward to make the CAPEX Exhibition a real achievement, not only for Canadian philately, but for philatelists throughout the world. To members of BNAPS, and to all other collectors throughout Canada and the United States is presented the need for Life and Sustaining Members of the Association. A letter to "Capex," 70 Bloor St., West, Toronto 5, Canada, will bring full particulars and application forms.

Combined July-August Issue

As has been the custom in previous years, the July and August issues of BNA TOPICS will be combined in one number. This will allow the printer a much-deserved vacation period, and also give a breather to the editorial staff. Copy for this combined issue should reach the Editor at the same time as usual, June 15, or the purpose of the holiday lay-off will be defeated. Attention is also drawn to the appeal for the Yearbook appearing on page 128 of this issue. Copy for this book must be on hand by August 1.

B. N. A. P. S. GROUPS

The NEW YORK GROUP meets the 3rd Thursday 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 St., Philadelphia, Pa.

The TWIN CITY GROUP meets the 2nd Tuesday of each month at 4932 Morgan Avenue, Minneapolis, Minn.

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

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