

B·N·A TOPICS

Journal of the British North America Philatelic Society



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 W. W. Chadbourne, G. E. Foster.

Views and Reviews By the Editor

How About an OHMS-G Group in BNAPS?

On page 95 of this issue of BNA Topics there appears an article on OHMS-G Issues of Canada written by 1st Lt. Vern Persinger, a leading specialist in these stamps, associate editor of Weekly Philatelic Gossip, and a new member of BNAPS. We are very pleased to welcome a member of this calibre to our society, and the editor is especially pleased in that Mr. Persinger has promised to write further articles for us. In a recent letter from Mr. Persinger, he enquired about the possibility of organizing a group for the study of Canadian OHMS perforated and printed, and "G" issues, which could contribute to BNAPS by working in this field in the following manner:

"1. Determine accurately the existing perfs. OHMS. I do not think any person or committee has examined all the listed varieties.

"2. Endeavor to determine what plate numbers were assigned to perforated OHMS and G issues. As you know, no record was ever kept at Ottawa of the sheets perforated OHMS.

"3. All positions of OHMS perf. blocks were not available from Ottawa. The ones that were are available now from dealers; the ones that weren't are definitely rare.

"4. Furnish historical notes to all collectors belonging to this subdivision of BNAPS to help in building an OHMS-G collection."

Today there are more than 530 OHMS varieties known, and of these Mr. Persinger added almost 200 by working with readers of Weekly Philatelic Gossip and other correspondents who also collect these issues. If you are interested in seeing such a group formed, drop a line to the editor and he will pass on all letters and postcards to Mr. Persinger, and then further organization work will be undertaken.

Sissons B. N. A. Catalogue, 1951

The latest catalogue from BNAPSer J. N. Sissons has made its appearance. This B. N. A. price list of 50 pages, costing but 25 cents, is a leader in its field and is eagerly awaited by collectors. A quick perusal shows some trends which have been mentioned in Topics before. Canada No. 1 continues to advance slowly but surely in price, and should continue to do so in this Centenary Year. Practically all issues from 1851-1859 show an increase in price. As expected, Newfoundland shows a decrease in price generally, as a result of the British market and other factors. There is a new listing for officials perforated OHMS, some of the prices of which will be eye-openers. Remember when nobody wanted them? We like the new arrangement of Canada booklet panes. Matched sets of Canadian plate blocks have additional listings in this new catalogue. Copies may be obtained from J. N. Sissons, 59 Wellington St. West, Toronto 1, Canada.—J. S. B.

B. N. A. Articles of Interest

CANADA:

Essays and Proofs Catalogue (C. W. Brazer), Essay Proof Journal, No. 28
"Norris" Imperfs., Notes (H. Gates), Essay Proof Journal, No. 28.

N. W. Territories, Postal History of Arctic (G. P. Culress), Stamp Collecting, No. 75.

1890 Numeral Issues Re-entries (L. S. Holmes), Stamps, No. 73.

Notes on 1931 Cartier (M. W. Cryderman), Popular Stamps, No. 13.

1935 Silver Jubilee Plate Blocks (H. Jacobi Jr.), Popular Stamps, No. 13.

PRINCE EDWARD ISLAND:

Perfs and Dies (M. V. Quarles), Stamp Collectors Fortnightly, No. 56.

Proofs, Essays, Postmarks (M. V. Quarles), American Philatelist, No. 64.

Bulletins from B. N. A. Club of Montreal

From time to time, the B. N. A. Collectors' Club of Montreal (among whose membership are many BNAPSers) issues in mimeographed form important papers given at meetings of this society. The latest to come to hand via Librarian R. J. Duncan are: "The Army Postal Service in British North America" by Ian Morgan; "The Postage Stamps of New Brunswick" by C. G. Kemp; "Canada 'Small Queens'—The Two Cent Green" by Rev. Dr. Geo. Dewey. These papers are all very informative and make good reading to those interested in the various fields dealt with.

WORTHWHILE VARIETIES OF P. E. I.

PREPARED BY THE P. E. I. STUDY GROUP

PART II



Secondary Dies of the 3¢

As stated in "The Cents Issue of Prince Edward Island," published in BNA Topics in June, July-August and September, 1948, the currency of the island was changed by a statute passed April 17, 1871. Previous to this enactment the Postmaster-General had already ordered new stamps corresponding to this new decimal currency. On Jan. 15th, 1871, he wrote to Charles Whiting of London, England, as follows:

"Dear Sir—In answer to yours of 15th ulto., I beg to state that the government has decided to order from you the stamps required for Post Office Department under the Decimal Currency Act.

"It is impossible for me by this mail to give you any further orders than for 'one cent' and 'three cent' stamps and as the decimal currency comes into operation on the 1st January next I trust you will be able to furnish, etc."

Mr. Williston Brown further wrote in the Philatelic Journal of America February, 1889, that "I find from the same book (Letter Book of the Post Office Department 1869-1872) that on the 28th December, 1871, there was another order sent to London for 1¢,

2¢, 3¢, 6¢ and 12¢ stamps."

He further quoted from a letter dated January 11, 1872, also addressed to Charles Whiting from the Postmaster-General:

"I beg to acknowledge the receipt of yours of 19th ulto., with the three packages of the one and three cent stamps. I regret to say that in the crossing in the ice-boats they got damp and many of them stuck together so as to render them useless. Parties in the government who have examined them do not like them even as well as the others."

This letter then would seem to indicate there were two orders of the 1¢ and 3¢ values supplied and might explain the use of Machines C (Perf. 11½-12) and Machine E (Perf. 12½-13) on these two values.

The 3¢ sheet consists of one hundred stamps in ten horizontal rows of ten. A group of ten moulds arranged in two rows of five was used to prepare five electros which were made into a plate. A further electro was taken of the whole plate in one operation, and this was joined to the original to form the complete plate of one hundred as shown in accom-

panying diagram.

The secondary variations of this value are not clearly marked in a number of the dies, and, as the tertiary flaws are less constant than in the case of the 1¢ value, a detailed analysis of them is of little value, since reconstruction of the group of ten dies is not possible when using single copies.

Five of the dies are recognizable, as they have more or less well defined features as follows:

DIE II

This has achieved catalog recognition in Stanley Gibbons' publication from very early days, as there is a prominent uncolored dot in the name label between the words "PRINCE" and "EDWARD."

DIE III

A small uncolored dot joins the D of "ISLAND" to the uncolored space outside the name label at a point two o'clock from the center of the D.

DIE VI

(a) There is an uncolored flaw

which usually takes the form of a complete break in the third line of shading in the background from the bottom of the back of and close to the neck.

(b) There is a small uncolored spot on the outside of the right-hand side of the A of "EDWARD" a fraction below the cross-bar.

DIE VII

The sixth line of shading from the bottom of the neck is broken at a point above the end of the second E of "THREE."

DIE X

(a) There is a small uncolored dot between the letters H and R of "THREE" at a point about one-third of their length from the bottom.

(b) The outer colored frame line on the left is thinned towards the bottom and does not join the bottom frame line.

DIES I, IV, V, VIII and IX have no constant identifiable features.

(continued on next page)

Plate Arrangement of the 1¢ and 3¢ Stamps

| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 | 8 | 9 | 10 | |
|---|---|---|---|----|---|---|---|---|----|-----|
| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 10 |
| 6 | 7 | 8 | 9 | 10 | 6 | 7 | 8 | 9 | 10 | 20 |
| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 30 |
| 6 | 7 | 8 | 9 | 10 | 6 | 7 | 8 | 9 | 10 | 40 |
| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 50 |
| 6 | 7 | 8 | 9 | 10 | 6 | 7 | 8 | 9 | 10 | 60 |
| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 70 |
| 6 | 7 | 8 | 9 | 10 | 6 | 7 | 8 | 9 | 10 | 80 |
| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 90 |
| 6 | 7 | 8 | 9 | 10 | 6 | 7 | 8 | 9 | 10 | 100 |

CANCELLATIONS

By KENNETH C. VIZZARD

I have always thought it would be fun to buy an old collection or accumulation and search through it. Recently I brought home a carton containing old albums, three-ring note books, a stock book and the proverbial shoe-box full of junk. This was the Canadian section of a collector who had passed on some years ago.

The pence issues did not amount to much, but from there on there was plenty to interest a collector. The owner had not been as condition-conscious as I should have wished, but he had surely picked for cancellations . . . plenty of numeral cancellations on Large Queens, about 50 crown cancels from the Small Queens to the 50¢ Edward, including Ottawa precancel 1¢ with a crown; way cancels, leafs, corks, faces, etc. In the Small Queens hundreds of interesting cancels, including the crossed flags shown in Jarrett, also an early Eugenia straight line on 3¢ Small Queen.

About this time the fabulous price paid for a No. 32 on laid paper from the Reford collection was being written up, so when a page of No. 24 turned up, I examined these and sure enough, one on laid paper! But, wait—it was definitely a forgery. However, even a forgery of No. 32 on laid paper is rather unusual.

Then there were two of the Large Queens 3¢ on laid, one of which had a heavy laid line running through the middle of the stamp, diagonally across the other laid lines. Perhaps someone can explain this to me.

Two 12½ Perfs.

As usual, out came the perforation gauge to try those 3¢ Small Queens from Nova Scotia which might hide a 12½ perf. Have you any idea how many of these a collector will try in 40 years—well, neither do I, but I can assure you it has been a great many. Here is a No. 54 Truro, N. S., and at last a full 12½ all around. A little later on a Halifax cancel another 12½ perf., just as easy as that after all these years, so you had bet-

ter keep trying them.

Some rather poor covers, but a strip of No. 24 on a piece was promptly soaked off and it is a very fine strip with green grid cancel. There was a collection of map stamps with varieties, and two with red omitted in used condition; also three albums of stampless, which do not interest me too much.

Railroad cancels, flag cancels, slo-gan cancels, precancels, even in the later Queens and modern stamps meant something to this collector, also varieties and re-entries. Not a very valuable collection, but one to give many hours of pleasure to a collector of Canada.

Worthwhile Varieties of P. E. I. (from page 82)

BIBLIOGRAPHY:

Secondary Types of the Cents Issue of P. E. I.—P. L. Pemberton PJGB 1926.

P. E. I.—The Secondary Dies by Leslie G. Tomlinson, FRPSL.

Drawing of the die varieties is by BNAPSer C. G. Kemp of Montreal.

BNAPS MEMBERS WIN AT SEPAD

Three members of BNAPS were among the winners at the recent Sepad Stamp Exhibition, held in Philadelphia, Pa. Charles McDonough, trophy; Donald M. Steele, gold medal, and George B. Llewellyn, silver medal. As these members all exhibited in the same section, they were matched against each other.

The exhibition was a wonderful success, there being 276 frames of 16 pages each. Speakers at the banquet were Harry L. Lindquist, publisher of "Stamps"; Michael Miller and John W. Britt. Judges for the exhibition were George S. Hill, chairman; Michael Miller, Denwood Kelly, and Arthur Pierce of Robson Lowe Inc.

Three Reford B. N. A. Sales Bring \$195,000; Two More Scheduled

The vast British North America collection of the late Dr. Lewis L. Reford has so far realized approximately \$195,000 in the three sales held by Harmer, Rooke & Co., Inc., of New York. There will be at least two more Reford sales, the next probably in May, according to auctioneer Gordon Harmer.

The four-day Part III sale, held on Feb. 27 to March 2, brought a total of \$54,200. The highest price in this sale, \$1,900, was paid for a very fine used 12-pence black of Canada.

The British Columbia section of the sale was "very well supported," in the words of Mr. Harmer. An imperforate 1861 2½p dull rose (No. 1), brought \$145. A mint pair of the 5c bright red of 1869 (No. 14) sold for \$132.50.

The Canadian prices included the following interesting realizations:—Sheet margin copy of No. 1, the laid paper 3p red of 1851, \$90 (catalogue \$27.50). The 6p grayish purple, No. 2, a used single, \$77.50 (catalogue \$60); a used pair, \$185. A superb vertical used pair of No. 4, the 3p red beaver on wove paper, \$115 (catalogue \$20). Practically all copies of Nos. 4 and 4a in fine condition fetched well over catalogue.

A superb used pair of No. 4d realized \$82.50 (catalogue \$20) and a strip of five, \$170. A very fine used single of No. 5, the 6p gray, \$75 (catalogue \$60), and one with imprint, tied to cover \$130. A used 10p blue (No. 7), \$82.50 (catalogue \$70); a used thick paper copy (No. 7a), \$107.50.

Two used copies of the 7½p green (No. 9) brought \$125 and \$100. A block of four of the 1859 1¢ rose, mint, \$180. A very fine used 10¢ (No. 16) brought \$105 (catalogue \$75). A diagonal bisect of the 10¢ deep purple (No. 17d) on cover, \$165. A fresh mint 15¢ deep violet (No. 30c), \$360 (catalogue \$300).

A set of imperforate blocks of four of the 1908 Quebec Tercentenary set sold for \$310.

New Brunswick 6p yellow (No. 2), very fine with red Paid and black grid cancels, \$77.50. A horizontally imperforate sheet of 100 of the 2¢ orange, No. 7, \$550. A 10¢ diagonal bisect (No. 9a) tied to a neat cover, \$90.

Newfoundland No. 4, the 4p scarlet vermilion on lettersheet, \$210. A used 1sh orange No. 15, \$450.

Nova Scotia No. 1, a strip of three of the 1p red brown on cover, \$240. The 6p dark green, No. 5, mint, \$210; a used 1sh dull violet, No. 7, \$200.

The Prince Edward Island stamps, especially those on cover, sold extremely well, and so did the proofs and essays of Canada and the provinces.

"CAPEX" JOTTINGS

The Canadian Post Office Department will probably release details of the different stamps to be issued at the International Philatelic Exhibition in Toronto in September, about April 1st. The set will comprise four stamps and the denominations are: four cents, five cents, seven cents, and fifteen cents.

Miss Therese Reiter of the Royal Philatelic Society, had recently arrived in Toronto and will act as executive secretary until the exhibition is over. Miss Reiter did an excellent job with the London Philatelic Exhibition last May and her experience should prove very helpful to the CAPEX executive.

PLATE BLOCK CATALOGUE

Major K. H. White and other members of the Plate Block Study Group are busily engaged in assembling data for the proposed catalogue of Canadian Plate Blocks. We hear that Major White has reached No. 164 (2¢ green 1930 issue) while working on this catalogue, and this tough nut is by way of being cracked wide open. Three distinct stages of plate imprint nomenclature seem to emerge into a picture of great philatelic interest.

Trail of the Caribou

By Freres Meyerson



Upon several occasions we have written about the existence of the 4¢ rose lake, Scott #189, in line perforation 13.7 and 14.1. We had no idea when these line perforation varieties first appeared as the first printings were comb perforated 13.4. We recently had the occasion to purchase 600 unpicked used copies and we jumped at the chance. An examination of the stamps we bought showed cancellations from 1933-1935, and everyone was comb perforated. We admit that the line perforated stamps are considerably scarcer than the comb perforated variety but not in the percentage shown by our experiment. The only conclusion we can come to, and this purely by deductive reasoning, is that the line perforated stamps are the later issues and did not make their appearance until after 1935. In the case of the 15¢ magenta, Scott #195, which is also known in comb perf 13.4 and line perf 14.1, we have seen the line perforated stamp used on cover from St. John's as early as June 9, 1933, which would indicate that this stamp made its appearance in the line perforation rather early.

At the auction held by Irwin Heiman on Feb. 15, 1951, a superb copy of the 3¢ on 6¢ provisional with the 5 mm. black surcharge, Scott #160b, sold for \$127.50 against a catalogue valuation of \$160. We've been reading about the deplorable state of Newfoundland stamps and were anxiously looking forward to the sale as we expected to be able to buy this stamp that we need for our collection at a very reasonable figure. Need we add that we didn't think that a reasonable figure but we did come away with the firm conviction that the prices on good items were still as high as ever.

We have Jim Sissons' 1951 B. N. A. catalogue in front of us and we note that more and more Jim is trying to make it a specialized catalogue for Newfoundland collectors. He follows the lead of Stanley Gibbons and prices the elusive comb perforation stamps of the long Coronation set. He goes a step further and beyond Gibbons in that he prices the 1¢, 2¢ and 5¢ values of the 1911 set in the line perforation. Why not go all the way Jim and really make your catalogue a handbook for the B. N. A. specialist. Why not price the line perforated Gilberts, the line perforated 4¢ rose, Scott #189, and the rough perforated stamps of the re-engraved unwatermarked Publicity issue of 1929. With your extensive stock you should certainly be in a better position to accurately price these varieties, so dear to the heart of every specialist, than any other firm. Instead of following, why not take the initiative and price these stamps. They are not too difficult to procure and you undoubtedly have them in stock. The many Newfoundland collectors would thank you, and the rest of the publishers would have to follow you. What say Jim.

Also to hand is the Stanley Stamp Company's NEWSLETTER dated March 1951. It is rather newsy and of prime interest to the collector of Newfoundland is a price list of Newfoundland plate blocks. It is the first I have ever seen, but they say that it has run once before and that the response was terrific. No reason why it shouldn't have been, the prices look reasonable and the plate blocks are not too easy to come by as they only appeared on the later printing of the last Newfoundland set to be issued.

Sketches of **BNAPSers** by V. G. Greene

GORDON P. LEWIS

Many of the readers of Topics would like to know more about our genial editor, Gordon Pelham Lewis. He was born in North Battleford, Saskatchewan, on October 30, 1913. He learned the printing trade in the West, moving to Quebec Province in 1940. Married, with two children, a girl of eight and a boy of three, Gordon is now a resident of Brampton, a town about 25 miles north-west of Toronto, and is a teacher of graphic arts at the Ryerson Institute of Technology in Toronto. During World War II he was in the Royal Canadian Air Force and served for four years in England, France, Belgium, Holland and Germany.

Our editor started collecting stamps when he was 11 years of age and gradually narrowed his collection to the stamps of the British Commonwealth, and now concentrates on B. N. A. stamps exclusively. He is a member of the Canadian Philatelic Society and the C. P. S. of Great Britain. His other hobbies are drawing, photography and wood-working.

Having been in the printing business for 20 years, Gordon was a "natural" for editor of BNA Topics, and our readers will agree with the writer that he has done a fine job



since taking over the editorship a year ago. He has several plans for improving the magazine but these are contingent on increased advertising and a larger membership which would allow a bigger budget for expansion. He advises an advertising manager and this suggestion should be studied by the new President and Board of Governors of the BNAPS.

Robson Lowe to Visit U. S. and Canada

Robson Lowe, of London, England, accompanied by his daughter, Miss Marion Lowe, will visit the United States and Canada during the month of May. Clients may contact him at the following places, dates of arrival being as follows:

May 5, Hotel John Bartram, Philadelphia; May 7, 4 p.m., Lord Balti-

more Hotel, Baltimore; May 8, 11 a.m., Hotel Willard, Washington; May 10, 8:30 a.m., Drake Hotel, Chicago; May 12, 7 p.m., Hotel Statler, Detroit, May 13, 3:25 p.m., Royal York Hotel, Toronto; May 16, 9 a.m., New Weston Hotel, New York; May 20, 4 p.m., Hotel Statler, Boston; May 24, 6 p.m., New Weston Hotel, New York, departing May 26.

Mention this publication when answering ads. Thanks!

NOTES ON THE 'ADMIRAL' SERIES

By J. P. MACASKIE

(PART III)

3 Cent brown, perf. 12

This value falls into a somewhat different category to the previous values mentioned, in that it was not included in the original series in 1912. It was issued, according to "Boggs," on the 6th August, 1918. Jarrett, on the other hand, gives the date as October, 1918. The earliest date in the writer's possession is 6th October, 1918.

The die was retouched late in the life of the issue in brown (Plates 118-120) but this should not be confused with the new 3 cent die which appeared only in the later issue in carmine.

The 3 cent brown was the first to change to the method of printing on dry pre-gummed paper. All the printings from the plates 118-120 were apparently by this method, but in addition a portion of the printing from Plates 112-114 were also on pre-gummed paper. These latter would be from the original die, whereas those from Plates 118-120 are from the retouched die.

Relief breaks are not as numerous as on the 1 cent green or 2 cent red, but general weakness may occasionally be found in the vertical lines of the value tablets. Two distinctive, constant, types have been noted, as follows:—

1. Vertical line of the left-hand value tablet broken in two places, one

about 1 mm. from the top, the other about $\frac{1}{2}$ mm. from the bottom.

2. The same line as above, but broken in three places, one break at the top, another $\frac{1}{2}$ mm. lower down, and one at the bottom.

Among other distinctive types noted on this stamp, the early issues provide the following:— The upper-right outside frame-line is indented in several places. According to Marler this is typical of Plates 1-4, and the dated copies found by the writer showing this variation are mostly October or November, 1918.

Many examples of what are frequently stated to be "file marks" may be found in the outer frame-lines on the 3¢ brown. If the cause was a file, then it must have been applied, accidentally or otherwise, to the transfer rolls, since the marks appear as white lines crossing the frame-lines, and also because of the constancy of some types. The different types are distinguished by differences in the direction and position of the diagonal file marks in the outer frame-lines. To simplify the following descriptions the lines sloping upwards from right to left will be referred to as "left diagonals," and those sloping upwards from left to right will be referred to as "right diagonals." The main types found are then as follows:

1. Left diagonals at top left, lower right and left centre. Right diag-

"FILE MARK" TYPES

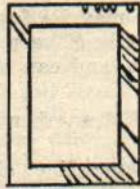
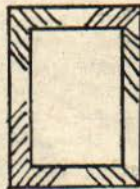
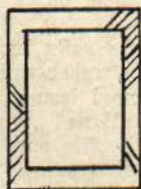
1

2

3

4

5



For clarity, the diagram shows the file marks in black on a white frame. On the stamps the file marks are, of course, in white on the brown frame lines.

onals at lower left and upper right. Two indentations in the frame line at top right.

2. As type 1, but no indentations at top right, and hardly any trace of left diagonals at top left.
3. Left diagonals at top left, upper left, upper left, bottom right and upper right. Right diagonals at lower left, bottom left and top right. This type has also been found on the Imperf. x P8 coils.
4. Left diagonals at upper left, bottom right, lower right and upper right. Five or six indentations in the frame line at top right. This type has also been found on the Perf. 12 x Imperf. coils.
5. Left diagonals at lower left, and occasionally at lower right, and two at right centre. Right diagonals at bottom left, upper right and top right. In the bottom left-hand corner the left and right diagonals meet to form a cross. This type has also been found on the Imperf. x Perf. 8 coils.

Of these frame line varieties, type 3, in the writer's experience, is by far the commonest, and types 2 and 5 rather uncommon. Heavy inking often makes sections of the marking difficult to detect, and some apparently different types are caused by this.

Retouches.

Some of these are so numerous that Marler refers to them as type 2, and states that they are from Plate 23. These are the strong retouches affecting the left-hand side of the stamp in the upper and lower spandrels and frame junction-lines. Examination of even a small quantity of these is sufficient to show differences which point to them being retouches to the plate.

Other retouches may be found, but the writer has not been very fortunate in this respect, and can only list the following:—

1. Top frame line strengthened by a thick line.
2. Upper-right frame line similarly strengthened.
3. Very thick vertical line in the left value tablet.

Re-entries.

Few of these have been found, and these are mainly of the bottom lines in the value tablets. Others are as follows:—

1. Vertical line inside and parallel with the centre of the left hand frame line.
2. Left-hand figure "3" doubled, also the top line of the left hand value tablet.
3. Traces of doubling at the centre of the top frame line.

Printing.

The printings on dry pre-gummed paper result in the stamps being wider than those printed on damp paper (or longer if the sheets happen to be fed in sideways, though this is not common). The reason for this, presumably, is that the damp paper shrinks more when dried than it expands when dampened. The stamps by the dry process all measure approximately 18mm. across, those by the damp process usually being approximately 17½mm. across.

That this subject has for a long time been a controversial one the writer cannot deny, but is not of the opinion that the differences are in any way connected with the dies or plates.

The difference in the measurements is so small that apparent discrepancies in published statements, and in the findings of individual collectors, may easily be explained by the human element or by the use of a measuring instrument which can, itself, expand or contract under certain conditions.

Coils.

The earliest date the writer has found of the Imperf. x Perf. 8 coil is 14th November, 1918, but no doubt many earlier dates than this are known.

The early coils have the indentations in the upper-right frame line as in the normal issue.

As mentioned previously, some types of the file marks may be found on the coil stamps, types 3 and 5 having been seen on the Imperf. x Perf. 8 coils, and type 4 on the Perf. 12 x Imperf. coils.

Retouches. Two only have been found, both these being on the Imperf. x Perf. 8 stamps.

1. Top left frame junction line and outer frame line irregularly strengthened. Traces of type 5 file marks.
2. Upper and lower spandrels at the left strengthened by the addition of strong vertical lines. Showing type 3 file marks in the frame lines.

Re-entries. Only one, minor, re-entry has been found, this being on a Perf. 12 x Imperf stamp.

1. Bottom of the centre oval and top of the letters in "THREE" doubled.

Booklets.

The 3 cent brown in booklet form was issued only in panes of four, and all printings were by the "damp" process. No variations such as file marks, etc., have been found, nor have any signs of wear been detected, and the vertical lines of the spandrels are all fine and clear, the impression being very similar to that of stamps from the retouched die. However, as the die was not retouched until 1923, it is doubtful if any booklet plates were laid down from it, and from this the writer concludes that the clear impressions are due to the use of a new transfer roll, laid down possibly at a much earlier date.

HAIR LINES APPEARING ON THE KING EDWARD AND ADMIRAL ISSUES

By G. B. HARPER

Mr. Macaskie in his article "Notes on the Admiral Issue" (B. N. A. Topics Vol. 8, No. 2) raises an interesting and controversial point regarding the cause of the Hair Lines that are to be found on the 1 cent and 2 cent values of both the King Edward VII and Admiral Issues.

The cause of these Hair Lines is in my opinion a function of the plate hardening rather than the quality of the steel used, although the properties of the steel would effect the surface obtained and so the physical appearance of the lines.

The hardening process being applied separately to each individual plate is an independent feature producing a surface condition peculiar to that plate. By virtue of the process used the depth of hardening obtained would vary from plate to plate no matter what precautions were taken to achieve uniformity and as the surface stresses set up during the curving of the plate and subsequent working are proportional to this depth, the embrittlement of the surface would vary, leading to surface fracture when this factor was high. The actual form of the fracture and consequently the appearance of the print-

ed line would, however, be dependent on the crystalline structure of the steel used. Thus though the cause of the hair lines can be directly attributed to the surface hardening, the form of the lines is dependent on the crystalline structure or quality of the steel used to make the plate.

My observations are based mainly on the results of a study carried out in connection with the King Edward VII issue. All specimens of the 1 cent and 2 cent values of this issue that I have examined were printed after 1905, i.e. after the practice of hardening the plates had been adopted, and further it would appear that these hair lines developed whilst the plates were in use. It would appear that the hardening produced in certain cases a brittle surface which may have partially fractured during the plate preparation or later due to work hardening whilst in use. This produced the hair lines which careful examination will show first appearing as flecks of color, finally developing into actual hair lines. This semi and final state could have been produced during the preparation of the plate, i.e. the flecks and lines appearing on separate plates. However, from the

general appearance of the specimens examined I am of the opinion that the development occurred during service.

The actual difference in the hair lines appearing on the 1 cent and 2 cent values of the Admiral Issue described by Macaskie could have been caused by a change in the steel quality. Specimens of this issue bearing hair lines that I have examined show the regularity mentioned, and further no signs of the development during use is apparent. However, the observations regarding surface hardening

would still apply but if the crystalline structure of the steel used differed due to wartime restrictions as suggested, then a difference in the form of the surface fractures is to be expected.

An explanation of why only the 1 cent and 2 cent values show these lines is, I think, obvious from the consideration of the relative number of plates used; in the case of both issues far more plates being prepared for these values than for the other values in current use at this time.

Colored Reproductions of Canada Stamps as Souvenirs

By FRANK W. CAMPBELL

A series of souvenir postcards with lithographed stamps of the early 1900 era for many countries has been seen in scattered places for many years. A similarity of arrangement indicated a common origin. Probably 20 countries have been represented thus.

A Canada one with 12 stamps from the 3 cent Small Queens to the Map stamp and the Edwards almost complete has been in my collection for some time, awaiting more data to be found about it. The coat-of-arms of British Columbia in color was in the center of the stamp arrangement, and I was wondering if a series had been issued with coat-of-arms of each province.

My copy was mailed to a German address about 1907 evidently, carrying adhesives of a Berlin local issue. Lately I saw in another collection the same card, unmailed, but having on reverse in black a picture of the steamer "Princess Victoria" entering Victoria, B. C., harbor, with the imprint of "T. N. Hibben & Co., Victoria, B. C." at right, reading down. This second copy, so far, is all the Canadian tie-up known to me. If other provinces exist, I'd like to hear of it.

On some, not all, of the other countries in the series, is the imprint of "Ottmar Zieher—Munich—1905." The great similarity of the whole group would indicate this Canadian design

is of the same German origin.

The stamps are slightly smaller than normal, rather close to correct color, and the map stamp illustrated had the wording as to holding "a greater empire than has been" smudged intentionally, evidently. Otherwise this map stamp is printed more clearly than the original often was impressed.

WESTERN STAMP SHOW

The annual Pacific International Exhibition, sponsored by the Northwest Federation of Stamp Clubs, comprising some 20 philatelic societies on the west coasts of the U. S. and Canada, will be held at the Empress Hotel, Victoria, B. C., May 19-21. The Vancouver Island Philatelic Society and the Greater Victoria Philatelic Society will be hosts for the event, which is being held in Canada this year because it is this country's centenary year.

A fine program has been planned. The Dominion Government will have an exhibit as well as showing a film of philatelic interest. The dinner speaker will be BNAPS President B. C. Binks, who will talk on Canada's first issue. The post office will use a special exhibition cancellation for the two weeks prior to the event.

100 Years of Canadian Postage Stamps

- ★ 1951 is indeed a big year for Canadian philately, and for all who collect the stamps of British North America. To commemorate this occasion BNAPS should have a Year Book worthy of the event. Last year's issue was received with enthusiasm by all members and others outside the society, and from a financial point of view was the most successful yet issued. We should be able to make the 1951 edition twice as good—but all members will have to lend a hand.

- ★ The preparation of this annual review of the work of the British North America Philatelic Society entails a great deal of effort by those engaged in this endeavor, and any encouragement you can lend them will be greatly appreciated by all. The most tangible expression of support is the placing of advertising in this special Year Book edition. A small space from all members of BNAPS would put the project over the top with a bang! Won't you take a few minutes and drop the editor a postcard reserving space for your message to your fellow members? Reserve the space NOW and we will bill you later if you wish. Rates are the same as previous years . . . as follows:

Full page \$17.50

Quarter page \$6.00

Half page \$10.00

Eighth page \$3.50

Column inch \$2.00

SEND ALL COPY TO THE EDITOR OF TOPICS:

Gordon P. Lewis

13 Eastern Ave., Brampton, Ont., Canada

Bringing News About People and Stamps

By Rev. John S. Bain

Stephen G. Rich, writing in the January 27 issue of "The Western Stamp Collector," makes a real point when he calls for the elimination of the "bin room" in international philatelic exhibitions. While we have abolished it in local and national shows it makes an appearance in the international ones because of custom. Here is a real opportunity for CAPEX to cut expenses and lead the way in streamlining such exhibitions. The albums in "bin rooms" contribute nothing to the show as viewed by the spectators. An exhibitor can take a few of his best pages and put them on display and then put the rest in the "bin room." Mr. Rich says, "Now the 1951 Toronto International Stamp Exhibition is again missing the bus by not making this change." Let CAPEX lead the way by abolishing the bin room.

BNAPS

Centenary philatelic prognostications—The Canada Post Office will issue stamps that will be definitely historical, such as Sanford Fleming, designer of Canada's first postage stamp appearing in the design; reproduction of the first stamp, and also Queen Victoria as she appears on the 12d black.

BNAPS

I have two requests for catalogues of Part I of the Dr. Lewis L. Reford sale conducted by Harmer, Rooke & Co., Inc., February 28 to March 1-3, 1950. If readers can supply copies I shall be happy to forward them to those making the requests.

BNAPS

Quite a number of dealer's house organs come to my desk, and among them the "Stanley Stamp Company Newsletter" offers both philatelic and funny reading. BNAPSer H. A. MacMaster edits the effort giving you "The Horror of Hornby Street" to Canadian first flight covers franked

with C1 for 15¢. The local BNAPS gathering is given free display, not to mention the philatelic poetry! If you want to receive this unique publication write to the Stanley Stamp Co., 877 Hornby St., Vancouver, B. C., Canada. It's free for the asking.

BNAPS

The March-April issue of the Stamp Collectors Exchange Club magazine, run by BNAPSer J. R. Cook, Hickson, Ontario, Canada, will feature an article on Prince Edward Island. The January-February issue had one of the most up-to-date listings of the Canada OHMS stamps. I am also advised that future issues will feature a topical series on Canadian ship stamps and maritime scenes. Have you noticed how articles on BNA have been appearing in the philatelic press recently? Healthy sign!!



Canada Easter Seals

1951 Issue Now Available

Sheet of 100 Perforated or Unperforated, including extra Imperf Block --- \$1.00

Complete set of Imperf Blocks all issues, 1947-1951—

English ----- 1.00

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VARIETY

HUNTING in Canada

Ron Tuckwell



Wax Wings Melted (and Moulded)

Rated by world philatelic authorities as one of the most beautiful stamps of the century, the six cents red-brown Airmail of the 1935 Pictorial issue also ranks high with the Hunter—it yielded up several nice error items well worth the finding. The stamp is interesting because of its mythical nature; portraying "Daedalus," father of "Icarus," builder of the Cretan Labyrinth in which he and his son were imprisoned; they escaped by affixing waxed wings to their arms; Icarus however flew too close to the sun, which melted his wings, and he ended up wet and lifeless in the "Icarian Sea." All a nice, interesting fable. But it's no fable

that error items in this fine stamp will reward the Hunter.

Best of all is the "Moulting Wing" (illustrated) in which a heavy line above the left leg in wing, and short line above it, look like moulting feathers.

Other good ones: (1) Hairline from beneath "C" of "Canada" into wing and strong through "A" of "Air." (2) On Nos. 30-35, Pl. 1. LR, a line from "C" of Canada goes down through wing and crosses bottom margin into "A" in Canada of stamp below, and continuing down through head and body. (3) Hairline runs through left numeral 6. (4) Hairline runs horizontally across top of "R" in Air. (5) Line through "N" of Cents, left side.

NEWFOUNDLAND PLATE BLOCKS

By H. A. MACMASTER

Together with many other students of the postage stamps of Newfoundland, although I knew that there were more than one plate for some of the 1932 issue, I never really knew until recently that the plates were actually numbered nor the method of numbering.

Over a period of years I have gathered together a few top left corner blocks of the 1932 issue with the sheet margins intact and small numbers in the margins about level with the top of the stamp, some of them normal and some in reverse.

I was so intrigued with these little numbers that I was inspired to write to Messrs. Perkins, Bacon Ltd. and was fortunate enough to have been put in touch with Mr. A. John Hubbard, a director in the company and a collector of the stamps of Newfound-

land. He kindly gave me as much information as was available to him.

Owing to enemy action in 1941 all the firm's records were destroyed so that he was unable to give me a complete record of the numbers which appear in the top left corner of the sheets. I did learn, however, that generally speaking, the first plate of each value has no figure 1 in the corner but rather is marked with a dot. This dot represents the number of the first plate. Mr. Hubbard was at a loss to explain the number 1 on the block of Scott #183 which I have in my collection.

Whenever new plates were made they were numbered consecutively, sometimes in reverse with no apparent reason for this reversal. On No. 183 (which was in use for a very considerable period) numbers are known

to exist up to 5. On the 2¢ I know of a dot and a 2; on the 3¢, a dot, 2 and 3; on the 4¢, a dot and a 2; and on the 5¢, which also was in use for a considerable period, I have seen a dot a reverse 2 and a 3. There may be more but if so, I have never seen them.

New Plates Made

On the re-issued stamps of 1941, following the destruction of the Perkins, Bacon plant by enemy action, New plates had to be made and the old form of numbering was discontinued and replaced by five figure numbers, e.g.: 42430 in the center of the margin top or sides. With the exception of the 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 8 and 10 cent values, the same number was used throughout their printing (see "Trail of the Caribou" in previous issues of Topics). In the case of these

values, there are two numbers each for the 1, 2, 3, 5, 8 and 10 cent values, three numbers for the 4 cent and a different one for the 5 cent Cabot. In many cases this number was cut off before the stamp sheets were delivered.

Towards the end of the issue of these stamps the plate numbers were added to the plates in each of the four corners at the request of the authorities. The plates were not otherwise altered.

Corner blocks are very difficult to obtain in all four positions and side plate numbers are even more so. A complete set of matched positions in all values of this issue may well become very valuable property in the years to come. At any rate they are elusive items to try to gather together and that is the charm of the hobby.



Prices Realized on Nova Scotia and New Brunswick Proofs Harmer, Rooke, January 9-10

Market prices on proofs and essays are fairly hard to establish, then, too, it isn't very often that sizeable collections reach the market. The high catalogue prices attached to these essays have scared me from bidding in the past, but when I saw what percentage of catalogue the items sold for, then I changed my mind. Assuming that there are other BNAPSers in a similar frame of mind, I am listing each of the lots with a description, catalogue number and price realized. Condition is assumed to be fine or very fine unless noted. (See end of list.)

New Brunswick—(5TC3) 1860, 5¢ T. C. P. P. in orange, \$17.50—\$3.50; (5P3S) 5¢ P. P. in brown overprinted "Specimen," \$15—\$3; 1860-3 (6TC3-11TC3) 1¢-17¢ T. C. P. P. in various

colors, 5 duplicates, \$49—\$10; (6aP3) 1¢ brown violet P. P. block of 4, \$25—\$9; (6aP3S-11P3S) 1¢-17¢ P. P. issued color, overprinted "Specimen" in red or green, includes 3 strips of 3, \$59.50—\$12; (6aP3S, 8P3S) 1¢-5¢ P. P. block of 4, issued color, overprinted "Specimen," \$35—\$5.50; (7P30) 2¢ orange, imprint plate block of 4 mtd. on card, \$22.50—\$9; (7TC3) 2¢ T. C. P. P. blocks of 4 in black and dull rose, \$40—\$18; (7TC3) 2¢ T. C. P. P. blocks of 4 in green and dull rose, \$40—\$17; similar lot with imprint, \$14 (8P3) 5¢ yellow green, P. P. block of 4, issued color on card, slight stain, \$22.50—\$8; similar lot only 5¢ blue green, \$25—\$15; (8TC3) 5¢, two trial color P. P. in orange (shades) on card, \$40—\$7; (8P3S, 9P3S) 5¢, 10¢ P. P. blocks of 4, issued color, over-

printed "Specimen," \$35—\$12; (9P3) 10¢ vermilion, two P. P. blocks of 4 in issued color (shades), one mounted on card, \$45—\$12; (9TC3) 10¢ T. C. P. P. block of 4 in orange, \$25—\$8; (10P3) 12½¢ blue P. P. block of 4 issued color, \$22.50—\$12.50; (10P3S) 12½¢, two P. P. blocks of 4, issued color, overprinted "Specimen" in red, \$40—\$16; (10TC6) 12½¢ small die proof on bond paper, perf. 12, in yellow green, yellow gum, \$40—\$22; (11P3) 17¢ black P. P. blocks of 4 in issued color, one on card, \$45—\$18; (11P3S) 17¢, two P. P. blocks of 4 in issued color, overprinted "Specimen" in red, \$35—\$15.

Nova Scotia—(8P3) 1¢ black, margin imprint P. P. block of 4 in issued color, \$25—\$16.50; (8P3 and 9P3) P. P. blocks of 4 in issued color, \$50—\$12; (Betw. 8TC3-12TC3) 1¢-10¢, 6 different T. C. P. P., various colors, \$28—\$5; (8TC3) 1¢, 2 imprint T. C. blocks of 4 in green and in orange, one stamp slight thin, \$40—\$5; (8-10P3S) 1¢, 2¢ and 5¢, P. P. blocks in green or black, overprinted "Specimen" in red, \$62.50—\$10; (9P3) 2¢ lilac, margin imprint P. P. block

of 4 in issued color, \$25—\$12; (9TC3) 2¢ margin imprint T. C. P. P. block of 4 in violet grey, realized \$10; (9-10TC3), 2¢ and 5¢ T. C. P. P. blocks of 4 in orange, \$40—\$15; similar lot with imprint, \$50—\$16; (10P3) 5¢ blue P. P. block of 4 in issued color, \$30—\$15; (10-11P3) 5¢, 8½¢, P. P. blocks of 4 in issued color, \$55—\$17; (10-12TC3S) 5¢, 8½¢ and 10¢ T. C. P. P. blocks of 4 in black or red overprinted "Specimen," \$60—\$8; (11-12TC3) 8½¢ and 10¢ T. C. P. P. blocks of 4 in orange, \$40—\$5; (12P3) 10¢ margin imprint block of 4 in red, \$30—\$10; (12-13PC3) 10¢, 12½¢, P. P. imprint blocks of 4 in issued colors, \$50—\$17; (12-13TC3) 10¢, 12½¢, T. C. P. P. blocks of 4 in orange, \$40—\$15; (13TC3) 12½¢, two T. C. P. P. blocks of 4 in green and red, latter slight thin, 40—\$6.50; (13P3S and 13TC3S) 12½¢ P. P. block of 4 and T. C. P. P. blocks of 4 in red or green, overprinted "Specimen," \$67.50—\$10.

Catalogue numbers, "Essay Proof Journal"; all paper is India; "T. C."—trial color; "P. P."—plate proof. Catalogue price is listed first, followed by price lot realized.

"ON HIS MAJESTY'S SERVICE"

By 1st Lt. VERN PERSINGER*

U. S. Marine Corps

Fake perforations OHMS are being seen more and more. Any OHMS stamp worth having (and what one isn't?) should be subjected to an examination. This fakery in perfs makes collecting OHMS an intriguing job. However, I want to give you several ways of distinguishing true government OHMS from fake OHMS perfs. As a matter of fact, it is so difficult to ALWAYS tell genuine from fake perfs, that the cataloguers will not recognize any stamp which is distinguished from any other stamp only by perforated initials or designs. Since we face a task that is harassing and the necessity for which is dis-

gusting, a few pointers to chart the way to accurate identification may not go amiss. Please be assured that I did not procure this following information from any other source, that only a keen interest in things OHMS-G have furnished the guide.

1. By and large these fake perfs occur only on the 5-hole type of OHMS stamp—because of their great value. It is not difficult to see that if a used 10¢ Cartier can be changed from a retail value of 2¢ to \$9.00, a Bluenose from 75¢ to \$20.00, and a 10¢ Mountie from 1¢ to \$12.50, for example, that some monkey is going to tamper with these stamps . . . and

* Lt. Vern Persinger is an associate editor of Weekly Philatelic Gossip, and this article will also appear in his regular column in that publication.

once the machine is made to manufacture OHMS perfs, it doesn't take much effort to make doubles, triples, pairs one with and one without, or any other combination.

Just recently I learned that one reader of this column has one of the new 3¢ Geo. VI WITHOUT Postes-Postage, perforated OHMS. I absolutely refuse to believe that such a thing was ever made by the Canadian government.

2. The next thing I check on an OHMS stamp is the position of the individual letters OHMS. I take one stamp that I know to be genuine and place the suspected fake on top of it. By holding the two stamps together I place them before a strong light to see that the perfs absolutely match. There must be perfection here. If not, I consider the stamp being checked has a counterfeit OHMS.

3. If there is still reason to believe that the stamp may be bogus in spite of the check listed in paragraph 2 above, I check the diameter of the holes on the stamp I'm examining and the holes of the stamp I know to be genuine, or if the diameter of the holes on the stamp are not consistently the same, I mark my stamp as fake.

4. Inasmuch as all 5-hole OHMS's are used, this test tends to be a sure-fire thing. Stamps have thickness and when the OHMS is perforated into that stamp each perforated hole is a tiny cylinder with a wide diameter and a very short height. When the stamp was cancelled if the OHMS was in the stamp at the time of cancelling some of the cancelling ink will usually soak into the cylinder walls. If not, it won't. Therefore, check the cylinder walls for ink or the presence of fresh new paper. Again, use a magnifying glass.

5. But then the stamp may also have a bogus cancellation and here are some ways of telling that. It is MOST desirable to have a clear town cancel, not a smear—anyone can duplicate the latter with ease. Examine the town cancel. See that the postmark date agrees with the normal life of the stamp. Ottawa, where more

government mail is posted than in any other city, has used postage meters for many many years in ALL government departments and has NEVER used an OHMS stamp. For someone to take a legitimate OHMS stamp to Ottawa and post same on government business is unlikely and unethical. I would not recognize any OHMS-G stamp from there, and some exist with as handsome a postmark as you ever saw!

Remember that only the largest of the Canadian cities—Quebec, Montreal, Toronto, Winnipeg, Vancouver, and others, would ever carry the 17¢ Special Delivery Airmail and/or the regular 50¢ and \$1 values even today. Most towns' federal offices carry only the airmail value and the 1¢ thru 20¢ varieties.

Because I believe that no one nor any committee in the world has examined all of the OHMS-G stamps to attest for the accuracy of the listings (and there are about 540 varieties listed now), it seems advisable to me that a committee of international character ought to be set up to examine all known varieties and to authenticate the present list. Maybe a division of BNAPS could be the place to begin. Surely the cataloguers are going to need to do something on this order . . . but if we waited for the cataloguers to set the pace, there wouldn't be any OHMS-G collecting today. Only the Holmes catalogue lists any of the perforated OHMS issues, and it is such a skeleton listing that it is of little use except to an amateur.

So if from your own collecting you feel the need of such an examination of stamps to determine the existence of genuine copies for all the listed varieties, please send a post card or letter to Topics Editor, Gordon P. Lewis, 13 Eastern Ave., Brampton, Ontario, Canada, requesting that such a committee be formed.

(Editor's Note—In the next issue of Topics we will publish the first master list of OHMS plate blocks to appear in a philatelic magazine, together with other information on these interesting issues by Lt. Per-singer.)

Be Seeing You in Toronto . . .

September 27-28-29

Yes, those are the dates finally decided upon for BNAPEX-51. Registration will take place on Thursday, September 27, and the Annual Convention will be held on Friday and Saturday, September 28 and 29. The BNAPS Luncheon will be held on the Friday, to be followed by the Annual Meeting of the Society.

DONATIONS WANTED

Due to the fact that our convention is being held in connection with CAPEX this year, our Society is deprived of several sources of revenue which usually finance our Convention and Show. Therefore, an appeal is being made to all members to come to the aid of the Committee in charge to ensure that the 1951 Convention will not operate at a deficit. No amount is too small—every donation will help to put BNAPEX-51 over the top! If you can help in this way, please get in touch with BNAPEX Treasurer, Charles F. Foster, 81 Cheritan Ave., Toronto, Canada.

Meet your friends at Lounge 7.

BNAPEX

September 27-28-29

CAPEX

September 21-29

Send your hotel reservations NOW to:
Lloyd W. Sharpe, 7 Hughson Street South, Hamilton, Ont.

What's in the Mail... of Jack Levine

Lost opportunity . . . we provided no column last month, thanks to Lady Flu. She's back with a "re-issue" this month but we're not letting her stop us this time. Thanks to Editor Gordon Lewis, BNA Topics is now such a wonderful magazine that it really is a pleasure to appear in it. So, a backseat, Lady Flu.

o o

Delayed answers on our part but which you, of course, provided immediately. We now know and can tell where to procure reproductions of the Coat of Arms of each of the Provinces of Canada thanks to assists from H. L. Paine of Moose Jaw and F. W. Campbell of Royal Oak . . . Did a copy of Vol. I, No. 3 of BNA Topics reach Ithaca? We were told they were reasonably sure they had one and would send it . . . "That last letter from H. W. Lussey on the FORWARDED marking just put the lid on my questions" . . . B-NAPS—B-happy!!

o o

New questions and we have lots of them for you this time . . . "I hold two blocks of the \$1 Champlain (Canada), Scott's #227, in two distinct shades of color. What's the story, if any?" . . . BNAPS #143 would like someone to help him with tracings of the double circle postmarks for Nova Scotia in the 1820-40 period of Truro, Windsor, Annapolis, Yarmouth and Digby; especially of Truro. We sure would like to acknowledge any offers here . . . A letter asks if we can learn who purchased the job lots of Saskatchewan and Alberta Law Stamps at the Reford Sale—the writer was too ill to participate . . . Can someone tell us where and at what cost we can buy a copy of Part 2 of the "American Air Mail Catalogue," published last fall, if that is the one which covers the Canadian airmails.

o o

Still more questions. "I now have a specialized collection of imperforate Beavers which includes some unlisted

varieties, special cancellations . . . such an article would have to be profusely illustrated . . . Therefore I would hesitate to promise such an article at any specific time, but do not want to give the impression that one will not be forthcoming at a later date. If I could obtain some help on the illustrations, it might speed up the work." Now there's something for you.

o o

Two questions come from H. W. Lussey—"I had forced upon me a cover with a manuscript marking of Georgetown Febr. . . also Due 10 cent. It is postmarked Ft Abercrombie D by Feb 17 1870 and backstamped Ottawa Feb 25 1870. Now here is my problem. The letter is addressed to Hon. Wm Mc Dougall C. B. House of Commons Ottawa Canada and I want to know if this man was the "first Governor of the West" as I notice from a comment on the cover."

My second problem is—What and where is Dumsslin or Dumplin or Dumplire Island? A letter was written there on Sept 22 1829 and was received at Halifax on Nov 20th and postmarked at that point Dec 2 on its way to Quebec. On the reverse in manuscript is "rec'd Halifax N. S. 20 Nov 1829 & fwd by your ob serv CFG." This same manuscript marking appears on letters from St. John's, Nfld., postmarked at Halifax around 1830. The letter refers to the cod fishing being bad and asks that some supplies be sent to "Bristol" or of no boat available for that port then to London. It looks like a Newfoundland letter but what and where is the island and two months is a long time from Newfoundland to Halifax unless it was from some inaccessible point, as other letters were in transit only one month."

o o

Ours to serve you and we think we'll be doing just that by telling you to write H. A. MacMaster, 1022 Davie (continued on page 102)

Various and Sundry *By G. E. Foster*

In a recent auction catalogue we saw the following under New Brunswick: 1863—#7, 2¢, a magnificent copy with Beckettville Town cancel, "On The Nose." After looking over our notes, we were a little doubtful about the item, but nevertheless submitted a bid, which didn't click. Just as well! Now we learn that Beckettville was established as a postoffice in 1883 and closed three years later (1886).

* * *

In the January number of "The Essay-Proof Journal," Henry Gates reviews the article by BNAPSer Leslie G. Tomlinson in "The London Philatelist" dealing with the essays and imperforate stamps of P. E. I. and also with the articles of BNAPSer M. V. Quarles appearing in "The American Philatelist" on the same province. We echo the last line of the review: "Both of these articles deserve reading by students of B. N. A. philately."

* * *

This same number of the Journal "dresses up" its front page with an enlarged cut of the die proof of the Canada 12 pence black, showing the scarred CE of pence. Handsome enough to frame for the den.

* * *

In looking over the writings of an early writer on New Brunswick, E. A. Craig, we came across a reference to an endorsement of "On Her Majesty's Business," on post office mail. Not having seen anything of this nature, we wrote for further information to an old standby, Frank W. Campbell, who says: "In the early days both N. B. and N. S. had identical postmarks in the 30 mm group with ON POSTOFFICE BUSINESS for P. O. mail, and about Confederation time they had the P. O. Dept. corner card or back card, but never did I see a 'On Her Majesty's Service' type of frank."

Sales Topics

This month we announce a new service for large lots, wholesale lots and items which cannot be mounted in the Circuit Books. Advise what you have for sale in this category, and it will be listed in this column. Service charge 10% of net.

FOR SALE

- Lot #1—121 different Canadian First Flight covers all franked with C1 ----- Net \$15.00
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 - Lot #3—36 Canadian First Flight Covers 1933-42 Holmes cat. \$15. (Includes some Transatlantics) ----- Net \$7.50
 - Lot #4—23 Covers franked with Canadian Small Queens 1¢, 2¢, 3¢, 5¢ and 8¢ in singles, pairs, strips and combinations. Some with 2¢ and 5¢ Reg. stamps, also one Telegraph Cover ----- Net \$17.00
 - Lot #5—14 Canadian small stampless covers, includes House of Commons, Unpaid, Paid, 3d Hand stamp, Free, Registered, etc. ----- Net \$6.00
 - Lot #6—298 Canadian covers and cards, all with Slogan Cancellations, from 1912 to date. Also some other interesting items. This is a donation lot, and will be sold to the highest bidder. Proceeds go to the BNAPS General Fund. Bids close April 30.
- New books are coming in with some nice items. Ask to be placed on the mailing list. If you have Edwardian Precancels and King Edward Plate blocks or strips—put them in the circuit, you can dispose of them quickly. Blank books are 5 for 25¢.

HAROLD R. MEYERS
101 West 60th St.
New York 23, N. Y.

MEMBERS ON THE AIR

BNAPSer Douglas A. Patrick conducts the broadcasts of the "Stamp Club of the Air," sponsored by the Canadian Broadcasting Corporation. At least two members of BNAPS in the persons of V. G. Greene and J. R. Cooke have made guest appearances on this popular radio feature.

To the Editor

5¢ Quebec Tercentenary

Dear Sir: In the February issue of BNA Topics (lent to me by Dr. Jas. Goodwin) a letter from Thos. J. Miller queries an engraved dotted line on the 5¢ Quebec Tercentenary.

I have a block in which the line mentioned by Mr. Miller occurs. The line extends from a dot in the "P" of POSTAGE to the right, and fades out in the figures "1608" in the adjoining stamp. From the dot in the "P" a fine vertical line extends upwards. The dot in the "P" appears to occur on most of the 5¢ values that I have, and also on the 7¢ values. The dots and the fine lines may have been used as position points on the plates, similar to dots in the earlier issues and in the 1912 issue.

W. H. Woods

Nanaimo "Broken Circle"

Dear Sir: In the December 1950 issue of Topics I was much interested to read Dr. Alfred Whitehead's fine article on the Nanaimo "Broken Circle" Cancellation. I was particularly interested, because many years ago I came across a fine example of the Schreiber "broken circle" on piece, and I have often looked at it and speculated as to its probable origin. Like Dr. Whitehead, I concluded that it had been originated by the postmaster occupying a few spare moments with a file.

The remarkable uniformity of the Schreiber and Nanaimo "broken circle" cancellations would seem to indicate some other explanation, and the ingenious solution of the problem by Frank W. Campbell is most commendable. The relationship of the "broken circle" postmarks to the prototype "squared circle" (Jarrett's type 373) cannot be doubted; and at the same time, this relationship gives us a logical explanation for two such widely-separated post offices having identical modifications of their date stamps.

In support of this theory I have observed that the top and bottom seg-

ments of the Schreiber "broken circle" post mark, are not true arcs, their inner surfaces being flat. Such a result would be obtained if one starts with a variety of Jarretts type 373 in which the top and bottom slugs of the killer are rectangular instead of having a curved indentation

instead
of

Such varieties of #373 are quite common, the top and bottom slugs being tangent to the circular opening occupied by the date stamp. It will be interesting to learn of the finding of a copy of the Schreiber original, as I think that a close comparison of same with examples of the Schreiber "broken circle" will definitely prove a specific relationship between the two.

As a matter of record, I have a Nanaimo "broken circle" cancellation dated May 31, '97, and a Schreiber "broken circle" dated Sept. 6 '97, both of these being on the 3¢ small Queen, and somewhat ante-dating the copies reported by Dr. Whitehead. Has anyone found any earlier copies?

H. M. Dilworth

Yarmouth, N. S.-Boston Covers

Dear Sir: The letter from Harry W. Lussey in the February issue of Topics prompts me to give you details of the four YARMOUTH, N. S.-BOSTON covers in my collection which were shown at a recent meeting of the Royal Philatelic Society, London as mentioned on p. 240 of your issue for October 1950.

They are all addressed to the Liverpool shipping firm of G. T. Soley & Son, a firm which has long since gone out of business.

No. 1. Canada 3¢ showing the Yarmouth "squared circle" cancellation dated Oct. 25 1895. U. S. 5¢ (S. G. 363) with BOSTON c.d.s. Oct. 28 (?29) '95. Cover endorsed: "Via - New York."

No. 2. Canada 3¢ and U. S. 5¢ both cancelled with the Boston c.d.s. dated Jan. 19 '96 but with endorsed: "Per S. S. Boston & via New York." (I have seen a

(continued on page 102)

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|---|-------|-----------|
| 1c-4c 1943 | ----- | .25 .25 |
| 1c-5c 1950 | ----- | .25 .20 |
| 10c, 14c, 20c | ----- | .50 .20 |
| \$1, 50c Oil, S. D. | ----- | — 1.60 |
| 50c Lumbering | ----- | 2.00 2.00 |
| 1c-\$1 "G" used, fine, (13) two dollar values and Bear Lake 10c | ----- | 3.65 |

Mint Plate Block List Free

ERRORS — Missing S-dot, on used 10c, \$3.25; 14c, \$4; 20c, \$4. On mint 10c pl. blk. 5.50. Perf-orated large 5-hole, 1937—1c, 70c; 2c, \$1.55; 3c, 25c; 4c, \$1.45; 5c, \$1.35; 10c, 75c; 13c, 75c.

O. H. M. S. Check Lists 5c ea.

Wholesale Canada List Free.

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| | | |
|---|-------|--------|
| 8* 8d Scarlet Vermillion, Very Fine | ----- | 30.00 |
| 9 1/ Scarlet Ver. Used, 3 margins, minor repair, light cancel. An excellent space filler. Cat. \$400 | ----- | 112.50 |
| 9 Used, 3 Margins. Light cancel and crease. Otherwise sound | ----- | 137.50 |
| 11* 2d Orange, very fine | ----- | 40.00 |
| 13 6d Orange, VF 4 margins light cancel | ----- | 80.00 |
| 13* 6d Orange, 4 margins but repaired. Cat. \$500 | ----- | 100.00 |
| 13 6d Orange used 3 margins, 4th close, repaired | ----- | 27.50 |
| 17 2d Rose, 4 margins, V. F. Cork Cancel | ----- | 37.50 |
| 37-40* 1¢-5¢ Rouletted, Fine unused set | ----- | 32.50 |
| 75* 1¢ on 3¢ Block of 4x2, VF mint and variety no serif on C | ----- | 15.00 |
| 78-85* ½¢-5¢ Fine-VF, mint blocks of 4 | ----- | 8.00 |
| 104-109, 110a-114* Complete set of VF Mint block of 4 | ----- | 187.50 |
| 115-126* VF Complete mint set of Caribous | ----- | 82.50 |
| 131a and 132a* 1 pane 1¢ and 2 of 2¢ Complete Booklet as issued, FINE MINT | ----- | 150.00 |

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|-----------------------------------|---------|-----------|
| Dues—465 Membership Renewals | 1395.00 | |
| Dues—65 New Members at \$2.50 Av. | 160.00 | |
| Topics advt. | 365.00 | \$1920.00 |

EXPENSES

| | | |
|---|---------|---------|
| Topics—Printing, Cuts, Mailing, Postage | 1550.00 | |
| Topics—Miscellaneous Expenses | 50.00 | |
| Library | 50.00 | |
| General Expenses—Dues, bills and postage | 30.00 | |
| General Expenses—Memb. Cards and Postage | 30.00 | |
| General Expenses—Ballots and Postage | 30.00 | |
| General Expenses—Stationery and Postage Secy. | 70.00 | |
| General Expenses—Misc. Printing, etc. | 40.00 | |
| CAPEX Award Medals | 30.00 | |
| Amortization of Typewriter | 20.00 | |
| Amortization of Medal Die Charge | 35.00 | 1935.00 |
| | | <hr/> |
| Deficit | | 15.00 |

To the Editor
(from page 100)

cover showing both stamps post-marked in Yarmouth!)

No. 3. Canada 3¢ showing Yarmouth c.d.s. 9 Feb. '98 and U. S. 5¢ with "PAQUEBOT" in addition. Cover Boston c.d.s. Feb. 10 '98. This also shows the "PAID LIVERPOOL U S PACKET" circular cancellation dated 19 Feb. '98.

No. 4. Canada 2¢. "Numerals" showing Yarmouth c.d.s. dated March 13 '01 and U. S. 5¢ (blue—S. G. 462) with Boston c.d.s. dated Mar 14 '01. This also shows the Liverpool cancellation as above but dated 24 Mar. '01.

Unlike Mr. Lussey's cover all four of mine show the Canadian stamps on the top right corner with the U. S. stamps well to the left but this fact does nothing to invalidate his theory

that both stamps were applied in Yarmouth.

Evan R. Gill

What's in the Mail
(from page 98)

St., Vancouver, asking for a sample copy of the NEWSLETTER published by the Stanley Stamp Co. Just write and then see for yourself . . . Another letter should go to A. L. McCready, Cobden, Ont., who has just published a most informative and profusely illustrated 40 page booklet on "Canadian Philatelic Literature," listing books and booklets published on Canadian Philatelic matters.

BNAPS ALL

GETS VOL. ONE 1892 MAGAZINE

BNAPSer J. R. Cooke, president of the Stamp Collectors Exchange Club, writes that he was lucky enough to obtain at a recent London (Ont.) auction, the complete Volume One of "London Philatelist," 1892; leather bound, complete with all plates and in fine condition—a very valuable reference book, and at a remarkable price! Mr. Cooke has a very large library of Canadian and B. N. A. philatelic literature.

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W. J. Rozmin

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Report of the Secretary

MARCH 15, 1951

NEW MEMBERS

- 719 apRoberts, G. I., 1575 W. 15th Avenue, Vancouver, B. C., Canada.
720 Jackes, Dr. H. L., 1826 W. King Edward, Vancouver, B. C., Canada.
721 Johnston, Gordon, Sanatorium P. O., Ont., Canada.
722 Latimer, Russel, New Norway, Alta., Canada.
723 Lethaby, Hubert, 79 Wellington, Victoria, B. C., Canada.
724 Newberry, Roger, 839 Fort St., Victoria, B. C., Canada.
725 Parker, H. H., Box 566, Rt. 1, Daves Ave., Los Gatos, Calif.
726 Richardson, R. M., 216 King St. East, St. John, N. B., Canada.
727 Slough, J. Burton, 2473 East 29th Avenue, Vancouver, B. C., Canada.

APPLICATIONS FOR MEMBERSHIP

- Caudwell, Norman Stuart, 126 Crescent Rd., Toronto, Ont., Canada (CX) CAN, NFD—19th and 20th century mint postage and blocks. Mint booklet panes. Colls. O.H.M.S. Mint airmails. SPECIALTY—Canadian Plate Blocks. Proposed by T. B. Higginson, No. 378
- Harris, E. A., 11013 129th St., Edmonton, Alta., Canada (CX) CAN—19th and 20th century mint & used postage and blocks. 1st Flight covers. Plate blks. Colls. Mint, used and complete booklets. Mint, used and semi-official airmails and on cover. R.R., Flag, 2 and 4-ring, crown, cork cancellations. SPECIALTY—1912 George V Issue and Plate Blocks. Proposed by H. A. MacMaster, No. 484. Seconded by D. C. Lee, No. 636.
- MacMillan, D. S., 264 Harvie Ave., Toronto 10, Ont., Canada (C) CAN—19th & 20th century mint and used postage. 1st Day Covers. Federal and Provincial Revenues. Mint and used Airmails. Proposed by R. J. Duncan, No. 37.
- McKee, Dr. C. S., McKee Rd., R. R. #3, Abbotsford, B. C., Canada (C) CAN—Small Cents. R.R. Cancellations. Proposed by B. C. Binks, No. 74. Seconded by J. Levine, No. 1.
- Oertel, Roland C., 496 S. Lincoln Ave., Kankakee, Ill. (CX) CAN, NFD—19th & 20th century mint & used postage. O.H.M.S. Federal & Provincial Revenues. Proposed by Rev. John S. Bain, No. 19
- Perkins, Forbes W., Right of Way, Lease & Tax Agent, Can. Pac. Ry., Vancouver, B. C., Canada (C) CAN, NFD, B.C., V.I., N.B., N.S.—19th & 20th century mint postage and blocks. Plate Blocks. Colls. O.H.M.S. Mint Airmails. SPECIALTY—Early mint Canada. Imperf. & part perf. 1912-28. Proposed by B. C. Binks, No. 74. Seconded by J. Levine, No. 1.
- Roberts, Jean G., 403 Young St., Victoria, B. C., Canada (C) CAN, NFD, PROV—19th & 20th century mint and used postage. Mint and used airmails. 2 & 4-ring cancellations. Proposed by R. J. Duncan, No. 37. Seconded by G. E. Wellburn, No. 538.
- Ward, Murray J., 11125 60th St., Edmonton, Alta., Canada (CC) CAN, PROV—19th & 20th century used postage and blocks. Used booklet panes. Colls. O.H.M.S. Precancels. Used airmails. R. R. & Territorial cancellations. SPECIALTY—Punched CNR, CPR and Co., large R cancellations. Proposed by R. J. Duncan, No. 37.

CHANGES OF ADDRESS

- Bryan, R. M., 324 Marine Bldg., Vancouver, B. C., Canada
Ingram, J. E., c/o Culver Hotel, Culver City, Calif.
Metcalfe, Robert E., 2730 Humboldt South, Minneapolis 8, Minn. (from Indiana)
Murphy, Sgt. John J., Hq. Sq. 52nd A. F. B., McGuire A. F. B, Ft. Dix, N. J. (from Mass.)
Persinger, 1st Lt. M. Vern, U. S. Marines 042989, Hq. Co., Hq. Bn. MCS, Quantico, Virginia (from Ohio)
Southworth, Robert R., Amenia, N. Y.
Staton, Wesley, Gray, Sask., Canada

RESIGNATIONS ACCEPTED

- Beaven, M. H. C., 4204 Pleasant Valley Rd., Vernon, B. C., Canada.
Bessell, R. P., 2208-12th St. W., Calgary, Alta., Canada.
Goldstein, Samuel P., 1704 Stenton Ave., Philadelphia, Pa.

Kruger, John, 1619 Athol St., Regina, Sask., Canada.
 Morell, Maj. Harry, M. D., Maple Ave., Sutton, Que., Canada.
 McMartin, Arthur K., R. R. No. 1, Ladner, B. C., Canada.
 Fendree, Reginald H., Kindersley, Sask., Canada
 Smith, R. R., 1330 S. Olive St., Los Angeles 15, Calif.
 Tait, H. Sinclair, M. D., Weston State Hospital, Weston, W. Va.
 Willecox, Frank, 465 St John St., Montreal, Que., Canada.

RESIGNATION RECEIVED

186 Leboeuf, Charles, 5 Fifth Avenue, Webster, Mass.

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Copy must be received by the Editor by the 15th of month preceding publication

ROBSON LOWE'S

NORTH AMERICAN JOURNEY

Robson Lowe plans to visit North America in the Spring accompanied by his daughter, Marion Lowe. There are several tasks that have to be achieved during this visit. Old friends to meet, arrangements to be made for the extension of the London Export Department to cities outside Philadelphia, publication agencies to establish and final details for British participation at "Capex" in Toronto.

Clients who wish to make an appointment should airmail the London Office immediately in order to contact Robson Lowe before he leaves London on April 25th.

For the benefit of local philatelists the scheduled itinerary is as follows:

| Arrive | City | Hotel | Depart |
|----------------|--------------|---------------------------------|----------------|
| May 5th | Philadelphia | John Bartram | May 7th 2 p.m. |
| 7th 4 p.m. | Baltimore | Lord Baltimore | 8th 10 a.m. |
| 8th 11 a.m. | Washington | Willard | 9th 5:30 p.m. |
| 10th 8:30 a.m. | Chicago | Drake | 11th 11 p.m. |
| 12th 7 p.m. | Detroit | Statler | 13th 8:55 a.m. |
| 13th 3:25 p.m. | Toronto | Royal York | 15th 8 p.m. |
| 16th 9 a.m. | New York | Collector's Club | 20th 9 a.m. |
| | | (22 East 35th St., New York 16) | |
| 20th 4 p.m. | Boston | Statler | 24th noon |
| 24th 6 p.m. | New York | Collector's Club | 26th |

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