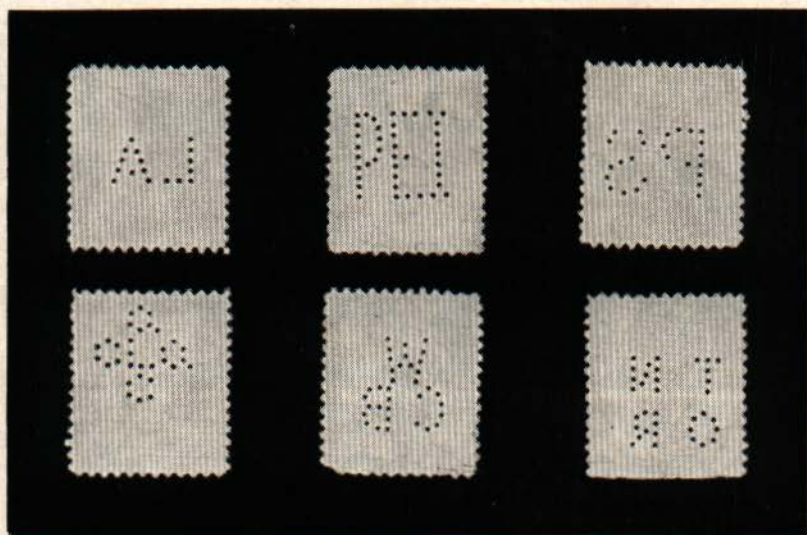


VOLUME 11 • NUMBER 6 • JUNE 1954

BNA Topics

The Official Journal of the British North America Philatelic Society



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C7	1.80	.45	E9	1.60	.40	203	5.00	1.25
C8	.45	.11	E10	.80	.20	204	1.60	.40
C9	.45	.11	E11	.80	.20	208	.80	.20
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The writings and illustrations of our Perfin Group have attracted many to this interesting field.

BNA Topics

VOL. 11
No. 6

JUNE 1954

WHOLE
No. 114

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• Plus Many Interesting Short Items •

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The Editor's Mailbag**The Other Side of the Perfin Story**

THROUGH the courtesy of one of your Perfin Study Group members, your March 1954 issue has come to me. I am happy to see these stamps getting attention and am almost tempted to join up with you to keep up with the topic as it is being treated in your journal. Only the fact that such a course of conduct would ultimately lead me to becoming a member of some 50 other societies for the same reason discourages me.

It is with considerable dismay that I read Mr. Jackson's comments about the interest being shown. Some years ago I was nearing completion of a highly-specialized group of U.S. plate markings and had reached the point where additions came only a few times a year and then by paying substantial prices in the occasional auction where I might find the material offered. I decided to go from the sublime to the ridiculous (dollarwise) and to collect stamps that had as little monetary value as I could find. There was then no organized group of perfins collectors and only a chance paragraph in a stamp magazine had suggested to me that the subject afforded a fair amount of area for investigation. Now, to hear a dealer suggest that 20 cents each for the commonest Canadian perfin is a fair price is pretty strong stuff! It takes much of the joy out of what I have been doing both because I find myself putting prices on the items in my collection and because I have given away thousands of them to get other collectors started.

No Basis for Valuing

Actually, I think we do not have a proper basis for valuing in Mr. Jackson's example. First, removal of perfins from mixture is such a simple operation that any schoolboy can be paid to do it, so an allowance of

more than a dollar an hour is unfair. Second, no allowance has been made for the residue which should have been enhanced in value by the removal of what, by ordinary standards, are damaged stamps. Even so, this will hardly reduce the cost to the two or three cents that Canadian perfin collectors are reported to be willing to pay. U.S. collectors, who are both more numerous and who have some 5,000 varieties to look for compared to some 300 Canadian types, seem to feel that a half-cent up is the limit of their interest. Why?

In the first place, there is the price-depressing factor that an ever-increasing supply can be brought out with only small increases in offerings. Every ordinary collector is a potential source of this material and he is usually willing to either give it away or take something of interest in trade. Comparing the membership of the largest general society to the Perfins Club, there are about 1,000 collectors of all sorts to one perfin collector; probably even more. So I expect it will take a long time for this factor to continue its effect before perfins will become as collectable as precancels, for example.

Large Untapped Reservoir

Secondly, I think that a comparatively sudden growth of interest in Canada has led some Canadian collectors to go to their usual sources of other philatelic material, whereas there is a large untapped reservoir of the material in the U.S., where general perfin collecting has been going on for at least 15 years, and has resulted in some men building up such stocks that they report their holdings in pounds! In my opinion it is not practical, certainly at the prices I consider fair, for an ordinary dealer to stock these stamps in the usual way in

stock books or approval books. Except for a few definitely rare items that may be priced accordingly, it seems more practical, as two of our specialist dealers here do, to send out envelopes containing a limited group of material to be gone over by the purchaser at one-half to one cent each. There are sufficient U.S. types so that all perfins beginning with a single letter go into one envelope. Canada is small enough so that the whole country might well be sent at once.

This method will probably appeal to the unadventurous collector. Those of us who have pioneered in this field, having built up collections that can no longer be significantly improved by purchases made in this manner, find that we must search for accumulations made by non-perfin collectors, to be bought at wholesale prices of 10 cents to 50 cents per thousand. We sort this out in a search for the proverbial

needle and in doing so provide the supplies for the less adventurous collector.

Every collector is entitled to collect what he pleases, and every dealer to trade in what he pleases. However, in doing so, it seems that in the long run each will come to better recognize the relative scarcity and demand for the material he decides to take an interest in and he will thus better appreciate the value of it. There can be no doubt that some of the perfin material is scarce, but thus far those who have wanted it have been even scarcer. If it is to be unearthed by conventional dealer methods, it will have to be priced according to the work involved, but I believe that this will not be the way most of it will be handled.

Keith Misegades,

President, the Perfins Club
and Editor of its Bulletin.

414 Main St., St. Joseph, Mich.



Port Maitland Provisional

As a member of BNAPS, I should like to ask the members if they know anything re the enclosed cover which is a Port Maitland provisional (see photo).

It is obvious that the postmaster issued this himself, as you can see from the envelope that he is Postmaster and General Merchant.

I can find nothing in Boggs or Jarrett re this provisional, but readers of TOPICS may be able to supply some information.

Incidentally, on the front cover of the December TOPICS you showed the Map stamp of 1898. I have a copy of a cover to England dated Dec. 25, 1898, mailed from Victoria.

W. H. Pollard (No. 551)

(MORE MAIL ON PAGE 181)

The Coil Jumps

AUTHENTIC INFORMATION ON THE REASONS BEHIND THIS "VARIETY"

THERE must be by now about 20 different articles which have been written about this subject, and if you have read them all, as I have, you will be more confused than ever. The reason for the jumps—the so-called "corner flaw"—coils showing jumps, others none, in the same strip—all this led me to make some further inquiries. And with apologies to all contributors and readers I am bringing this question once more to the attention of TOPICS readers.

For the purpose of printing coil stamps a special plate is prepared from a different die than is used for the sheet stamps. The reason for the special die is that the one used for sheets is not normally suitable for coils. The coil die is usually of heavier engraving and the lines are cut deeper.

The coil plate consists of 425 subjects. Two such plates are used for printing and these are curved around the rotary press cylinder. The plates are separated on the cylinder by a gap—one gap between each end of the plates—made necessary in order to allow for grippers which hold the plates in position. This means that the complete cylinder will look something like the drawing below. Stamp No. 1 from one plate will

be opposite stamp No. 25 on the other plate. Stamp No. 26 of the first plate will be opposite stamp No. 50 of the second plate, and so on.

Prints on Moving Paper Roll

Now assume that this cylinder rotates counter-clockwise and is printing at the same time on a continually-moving paper roll. Then, after the cylinder has rotated 10 times we should have 17 rows of 500 stamps each, each plate being 25 by 17, or two plates having 50 by 17 impressions. All would be fine were it not for the two blank spaces we get after every 25th stamp. These blank spaces, caused by the space allowed for the grippers, do not print any stamps. So, in order to eliminate the spacing and print a continuous strip of coils, we must do some mechanical operation.

There are a number of possibilities, but the one which is actually being used is the following. Let us rotate the press again so that we print one complete stamp plate, not the blank space. We then move the paper—instead of forward—backward, remembering the press is still rotating, as before, and then stop the backward movement

PLATE No. 1

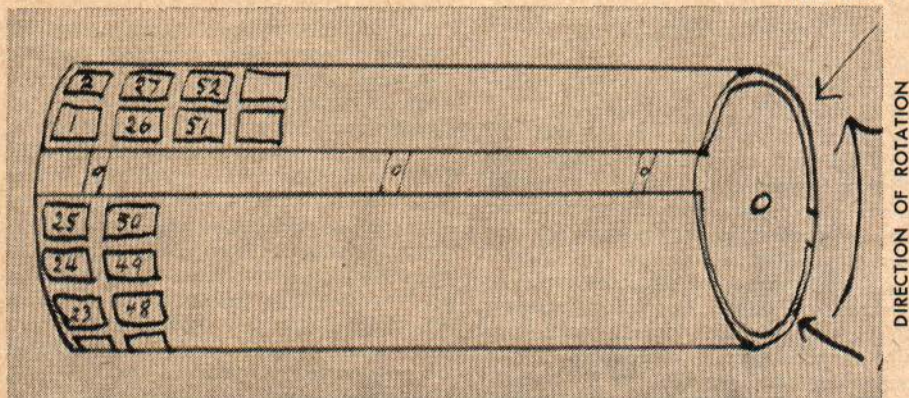


PLATE No. 2

of the paper at the moment the second plate comes up (and the proper spacing of the last paper impression, obtained from the first plate, is reached) and then start to print again on the forward-moving paper. Of course, we have to move the paper at the same time away from the press and then back on to the press to avoid smearing. With this process we should now have a normal spacing of stamps between the last stamp row of plate No. 1 and the first row of plate No. 2, and also between the last row of plate No. 2 and first row of plate No. 1.

Accuracy Needed

As you can see, this is a rather complicated process and certainly calls for a great deal of machine accuracy. Once the stamps are printed on the roll, and this is done by the wet printing method, the paper moves through the perforating machine and then into the slitters, cutting the large roll of paper up into strips of coils of 500 each. This machine was specially designed by the Canadian Bank Note Company and has been in use, as far as I can gather, for some 30 years. Having this information behind us, we may now try to understand the reason for the jumps.

To prevent irregularities in alignment of the stamps, the cylinder must rotate at a constant speed and must not show any play in the centre shaft. Play would move the cylinder perhaps a few millimeters to one side or the other. The same applies to the paper. The paper must be fed to the press without moving sideways, forward or backward more than allowed, regardless of the change in impact pressure at the moment (after the gap adjustment) the press starts printing again on the next plate. This impact amounts to many thousands of pounds per square inch.

As an example, try to suddenly move your foot with downward pressure forward on a carpet. You will see that the carpet will not stay flat after this impact. The same applies to the paper, and in split seconds the proper adjustment must be made to prevent a misalignment of the stamp impressions. The wear on such a press is very great and slight inaccuracies in alignment of paper, trigger mechanism, cylinder, and any unevenness in paper, may easily cause alignment differences in the impressions. This then is called by philatelists "the coil jump". Thus a jump, if any at all, must occur every 25th to 26th stamp

in the roll. If the machine is in good working condition, no jumps may be noted.

No Flaw at All

The corner flaw sometimes seen on the top or bottom left corner of the coil stamps is actually no flaw at all. The "flaw" can sometimes be noted on the 26th stamp. The pressure at the moment of starting to print a plate is very great and if the wiping operation is not perfect, the first impression may be blurred. This blurring gives the idea of a damaged corner, but it is not constant. If you look carefully at these corners, you will find that each one looks a little different, thus it cannot be a plate flaw. If the plate should become damaged, this is the most likely place for a break to occur, due to the pressure. This is well known and is borne out by the fact that many breaks have occurred in sheet plates in similar positions.

The information here has been given after consultation with Philatelic Agency officials in Ottawa, who are in agreement with the facts presented in this article. ★ ★

ANOTHER RED RIVER POST OFFICE REPORTED

It has been known for a long time that the Red River area had three post offices before it became part of the province of Manitoba—these were the Red River post offices at Fort Garry; St. Andrews, which was about 12 miles north on the Red River, and Portage la Prairie.

In 1868 the Bishop of St. Boniface was authorized by the Council of Assiniboia to establish a post office at St. Norbert and given three pounds for that purpose, but despite considerable search it has not until just recently been confirmed that this post office was in actual operation. An astute librarian at the Manitoba Provincial Library came across a petition in French to the Council of Assiniboia dated May 21, 1869, asking for an improved road in the village of St. Norbert, and one of the reasons for improving the road was to have easier access to the house of Joseph Amoulin so that the inhabitants would be able to get their mail more easily. This is the house the Bishop referred to in his 1868 request to the Council where he wished to establish the post office.

St. Norbert is and was 10 miles south of Winnipeg, on the Red River. ★ ★



The Exhibition Cachets and Postal

Markings of Canada • 1937-1953

A COLLECTION of covers bearing these markings forms an inexpensive and easily-completed sideline for any collector of Canadian stamps, and particularly for a frustrated first flight collector like myself. These yearly events are always of great regional interest, and special handling of philatelic mail at the exhibition post offices has assured neat clean covers. In this article, I shall discuss each event and chronicle its covers.

Calgary Exhibition and Stampede

This event is one of the greatest outdoor spectacles on this continent, and over the years has made Calgary the centre of Canada's range lands. The first Stampede was held in 1886, and the yearly event has grown from a purely rodeo meeting to include parades, fireworks, and the exposition of all types of Canadian farm and industrial products.

The first philatelic service was provided in 1937, and has continued without interruption, although cachets were not provided in 1943 and 1945. The interest of these covers is enhanced by the frequent use of souvenir envelopes and stationery printed for the Stampede organization. These may be obtained free of charge by request to the Calgary Exhibition and Stampede Ltd. Since 1937, a steel hammer cancellation reading "Exhibition Post Office—Calgary, Alberta" has been used, without any hour die. Calgary Stampede hammers are not known before 1937, although they may have existed. Slogan machine cancels from the Calgary post office have been seen as early as 1932; however, these are not necessarily Stampede covers.

The pictorial cachets have been uniformly in black until 1952. Listing follows:

- 1937—July 5-10: Cachet black; Indian tepees and post office.
- 1938—July 11-16: Cachet black; airplane and stagecoach, "Then and Now."
- 1939—July 10-15: Cachet black; post office and tepees.
- 1940—July 8-13: Cachet black; Indian chief, tepees, post office and cowboy.
- 1941—July 7-12: Cachet black; Indian brave, airplane and post office.
- 1942—July 6-11: Cachet black; soldier, tank and sailor with flags.
- 1943—July 5-10: No cachet.
- 1944—July 10-15: Cachet black; post office and victory torch inside steer's head.
- 1945—July 9-14: No cachet.
- 1946—July 9-14: Cachet black; tepees, airplane and covered wagon in diamond outline.
- 1947—July 7-12: Cachet black; cowboy on bucking bronco.
- 1948—July 5-10: Cachet black; chuck-wagon races.
- 1949—July 11-16: Cachet black; cowboy on bucking steer.
- 1950—July 10-15: Cachet black; steer wrestling.
- 1951—July 9-14: Cachet black; Indian chief.
- 1952—July 7-12: Cachet blue; stockade and tepee.
- 1953—July 6-11: Cachet red; R.C.M. Policeman and crown.

The 1937 and 1938 covers are scarce;

1950 was not well publicized and these are somewhat rare. Few 1943 and 1945 covers were made up, since cachets were not available.

Edmonton Exhibition

Philatelic service at this provincial exhibition started in 1948. Lack of publicity that year made covers scarce. The steel hammer reads: "Edmonton Exhibition Post Office—Alberta", and was used in each year. Cancellations are in black except in 1951, when a greasy brown ink seems to have been used.

1948—July 12-17: Black cachet; "Gateway to the North" and oil wells.

1949—July 18-23: Magenta cachet; "Energy-Industry-Enterprise" and oil wells.

1950—July 17-22: Black non-pictorial cachet; "Edmonton Exhibition 1950".

1951—July 16-21: Black and blue cachet; "Where City & Country Meet".

1952—July 14-19: Black cachet; "Western Canada's Premier Stock Exhibition".

1953—July 13-18: Black cachet; "75th Anniversary 1879-1953", non-pictorial.

Saskatoon Industrial Exhibition

Philatelic service here also began in 1948, but the steel hammer cancel reading "Saskatoon, Sask. Sub P.O. Ex" was not provided until 1949. Two rubber-stamp cancellations are seen in 1948 and occasionally in later years—a circular stamp, 1¼ inches diameter, with date in three lines, in black or purple; and an oval with date in one line, in black, magenta, red or green. The 1948 and 1949 cachets were supplied by the Saskatoon Stamp Club, the others by the Post Office Department.

1948—July 19-24: Black cachet; "Fair Week Philatelic Exhibition".

1949—July 25-30: Black or red cachet; "Philatelic Exhibition, Saskatoon Stamp Club".

1950—July 24-29: Black cachet; view of exhibition buildings.

1951—July 23-28: Purple non-pictorial cachet; "Hub City 1921-51".

1952—July 21-26: Green cachet; bridge over river.

1953—July 20-25: Red cachet; view of city.

Pacific National Exhibition (Vancouver)

This annual event is the longest in Western Canada, being of 13 days duration. Covers from 1950 have been reported, but

the writer has not seen them. The steel hammer reads: "Vancouver, B.C. Sub P.O. Ex", and was used exclusively.

1951—Aug. 23-Sept. 3: Black cachet; map and totem pole.

1952—Aug. 20-Sept. 1: Purple or black cachet; map and "Pacific National Exhibition" emblem.

1953—Aug. 26-Sept. 7: Purple cachet in August, blue in September, reading: "A Royal Show for a Royal Year". Some covers missed being cacheted.

Regina Provincial Exhibition

In 1953 only, covers are cancelled by machine with slogan reading: "Provincial Exhibition July 27-Aug. 1 1953". The red cachet shows the city' coat of arms, with suitable wording and ferris wheel, etc., in the background. The P.O.D. plans to continue this exhibition cachet.

Rossland (B.C.) Fall Fair and Carnival

In 1951 only, a green cachet was provided with suitable wording. Covers are cancelled by the Rossland steel hammer reading Sept. 7 or 8, 1951.

West Kootenay Fall Exhibition

A black non-pictorial cachet was provided Sept. 10-12, 1953, and the Nelson, B.C., steel hammer was used on covers.

Banff Indian Days

During July 21-24, 1949, a green printed cachet picturing Chief Walking Buffalo was applied to collectors' covers. The Banff machine cancel was used.

Windsor Philatelic Exhibition

A black rubber-stamp cachet, privately produced, was used during April 13-15, 1950, and contains "Philatelic Exhibition Post Office" within a border of maple leaves, with the 1851 Beaver design in miniature at the top. The ordinary Windsor steel hammer was used.

This ends the list of these exhibition covers that have come to my attention. Doubtless others exist from this 1937-1953 period, and I would welcome correspondence from others collecting in this field. ★ ★

"Post Horn and Saddle Bag"—This popular feature has been missing from recent issues because of pressure of personal business on "H.W.L.", but will be back soon. ★ ★

Trail of the Caribou

By Freres Meyerson



BILL PETERMAN, our genial treasurer, is in with the answer to our request for information concerning the wreck of the S.S. "Labrador", as mentioned in the April issue of TRAIL. Bill says the information is to be found in Adrian Hopkins' "A History of Wreck Covers". For the benefit of those members who do not have a copy of the book, I quote a passage passed on to us by Bill Peterman. "The Dominion Liner 'Labrador' from Halifax, N.S., to Liverpool ran on the Mackenzie Rock four mile from Skerryvore lighthouse, in the dense fog and was totally lost. All passengers and the crew were saved by a German steamer, 'Viking', with the exception of one boatload who landed at the lighthouse." The wreck occurred in 1899 and evidently the mail was landed at Montreal and then forwarded on to the addressee. We are sure that all our readers appreciate Bill's work in digging out the information. Herman Herst (BNAPS 165) sent the same information along.

* * *

That was certainly a fine list of Newfoundland perfin that P. D. van Oudenol, vice-chairman of the Perfin Study Group, had in the April TOPICS. We will list these along with a few others we have record of, and eventually we will print as complete a list as we can, and will continue to make additions as they are reported to us.

* * *

We heard from Stan Wood recently. He is BNAPS 221 from Auckland, New Zealand, and is just about our favorite correspondent as he always has something to say that is worth putting into the column. He didn't disappoint us this time, either, for he submitted two magnificent pre-stamp covers for our examination—magnificent in that they are scarce. The first was an example of the NEWFOUNDLAND hand-stamp in red listed by Boggs as Handstruck Stamp "C". Though this variety has been

listed in Robson Lowe as well as Boggs, this is the first one we have ever seen. The strike in question is on the reverse of the cover and it is used during June 1846. The second cover bears an example of a red circular CARBONEAR PAID, the only one thus far recorded. The inland rate, 3d, from Carbonear to St. John's, is shown in red in manuscript form in the centre of the handstamp. The cover itself is addressed to London and was posted at Carbonear on June 1, 1853.

* * *

H. R. Harmer, of London, England, had a previously-unrecorded item in their sale scheduled for May 25. The item in question is an unused block of four of the 48c Long Coronation (Scott 243) in imperforate condition. The block in question is from the right side of the sheet. We had previously recorded an imperforate block of the 24c, Scott 241, and a vertical imperforate pair of the 8c, Scott 236. It is entirely possible that the entire set exists in imperforate condition. Do any of our readers have any other of the varieties?

* * *

From all that we have been able to learn thus far from our correspondents, there are only three kinds of perfins to be found on Newfoundland stamps. They are AYRE, AND and GK. Those Newfoundland stamps found with CPR and CNR were put into use after Newfoundland became part of Canada and are not truly Newfoundland perfins. We will gladly act as the clearing house for the Newfoundland perfin collectors and do our best to compile as full and complete a list as they will send us. Any information sent to us will be passed on to the membership. ★ ★

• Fun for all at Niagara Falls, October 27-31—
BNAPEX-54.

Future of B.N.A. in Safe Hands!

REV. JOHN S. BAIN (BNAPS 19)

THE NEW 5c BEAVER booklet comes both stitched and stapled. We can look for the new 5c Queen also to appear in the same form. I should like reports from other BNAPSers regarding stitching on any other new booklets. Also, with the advent of the new Queen issue, we will have the first 5c coil stamp ever issued by Canada. Philatelic history in the making!

BNAPS

A letter from Member Marjorie Harris tells of her finding a variety on the 7c Canada Goose (Scott 320). It is a mark that resembles a "3" and is found under the "P" of POSTAGE, and above the neck of the goose, bracketing three of the shading lines. It is the 39th stamp of the lower right pane, Plate 2. Perhaps others can check and see if this variety is constant. BNAPSer Harris also encloses for my inspection (thank you for your kindness in sending these) the old Queen issue in plate blocks showing the "phantom" plate numbers. She submits the 3c Plate 1, and the 4c Plate 1, 2 and 3. The 3c shows a "phantom" of the same number, but each of the 4c shows different numbers and strongly suggests that some other number was not completely burnished off the plate. At least that is the only theory that I can offer until a positive explanation can be made.

BNAPS

I mention S. Allan Taylor again because of his relationship to the early philatelic history of Canada. It has been recorded that his magazine, "The Stamp Collector's Record", ended with No. 44, October 1876, New York. However, I have unearthed a single copy with the old title heading, "The Stamp Collector's Record", and listing prices of the stamps he had for sale. This copy bears the address, "No. 75 Devon-

shire Street, Boston". It is known that Taylor moved from New York to Boston around 1878, thus this would make a later copy of the magazine than has been previously recorded, and would extend its run to at least No. 45. BNAPSer R. A. Jamieson, who has done much research work on S. Allan Taylor, writes in answer to a previous column that the "S. Allan Taylor" memorial collection in the Collectors' Club of New York contains nothing that is not known from previous writings of both Mr. Jamieson and of Sid Tucker.

BNAPS

No need to fear for the future of B.N.A. ! At a recent Sacramento (Calif.) Stamp Club exhibit, I passed dealer (and BNAPSer) William T. Adams' table and observed a number of children making purchases. There were boys and girls ranging in age from about 9 to 13 years. Guess what they were buying? Nice mint commemoratives? No! Only Canada in used blocks of four! Mr. Adams carefully displayed several blocks and the youngsters would choose meticulously the block with the best centering and light cancellation. I asked them why they were buying used Canadian blocks. They replied that they liked used blocks, and Canadian stamps had such nice designs that they preferred them to other stamps. Then one boy spoke up and with all the worldly philatelic wisdom that youth could muster, informed me, "You know, Canada used blocks are not easy to find." BNAPSer Adams and I looked at each other with knowing smiles. Here is the future of B.N.A. philately. But fancy collecting used blocks! When I was their age, I was content to collect a single of each. Here is the lesson to learn—philately has grown up. The youth of today has learned the finer points of the hobby. ★ ★

**WHEN WRITING TO THE EDITOR, NOTE CHANGE OF ADDRESS:
NOW . . . P.O. BOX 74, BRAMPTON, ONTARIO, CANADA**

Revenue Group News

SECRETARY: Prof. R. DeL. French, 7481 Upper Lachine Road, Montreal 28, Quebec

AS USUAL, we read the 1954 budget speech of Hon. Douglas Abbott, the Minister of Finance, with a good deal of interest, as did all Canadians. It was delivered in the House of Commons, Ottawa, on April 6. Canadian members were naturally interested in how the budget would affect them personally, but also in what effects, if any, it might perhaps have on our revenue stamps and tax-pays.

Mr. Abbott reduced taxation here and there—but not much. The most important change from the collector's point of view was that the tax of 21 cents a pound on malt was abolished and an excise duty of 36 cents per Imperial gallon on beer was imposed in place of it. This could lead to an issue of beer stamps, but it is our guess that there won't be any, but that the tax will be based on sworn returns and collected in cash, just as is the present excise duty on spirits.

The exact wording of the clause in the budget speech is as follows:

Resolved that it is expedient to introduce a measure to amend the Excise Act and to provide, among other things:

1. That the excise duty on malt be repealed and an excise duty of thirty-eight cents a gallon be imposed upon all beer or malt liquor subject to an allowance for wastage.
2. That any enactment founded upon this resolution be deemed to have come into force on the seventh day of April, nineteen hundred and fifty-four.

* * *

How many collectors of our revenues go in for "covers"—revenue stamps on the original documents? Not many, we fancy. For one thing, such documents are not easy to come by and for another they are generally so large as to be hard to mount and display.

Cheques and drafts with the lower denominations of bill stamps and of the recent issues of excise stamps are relatively easy to find, but we have never seen any with the higher denominations. Next commonest are probably certificates of the in-

spection of scales, measures and gas and electric meters. On these it is the lower denominations of stamps which are the less common, for official instructions to the inspectors call for the use of the highest possible denominations on such certificates.

For a short time, merchants were required to attach excise stamps to sales slips to indicate the payment of federal luxury taxes, but this was such a nuisance that the requirement was soon dropped; such taxes are now paid monthly, based on the merchant's sworn statement of the value of the goods he has sold and the tax paid in cash. So such sales slips bearing stamps are not common.

A spectacular piece we owned some years ago was a broker's return of federal stock transfer taxes, amounting to over \$1,100. The back was plastered with practically every denomination of excise stamp, from the \$100 in blocks, down. Another interesting piece was a marriage contract executed in St. Jean, Que., in the 90's. The stamps were the common Quebec beaver registrations and of no particular value, but the document was most amusing. In it the executor announced that, because of the undying love he bore her, he gave his bride-to-be all that he then owned or could ever hope to own. Who says women have no business sense?

And we know where there is a mortgage bearing no fewer than 28 copies of the current Quebec registration stamp, but it will be a long time before it can be released from an attorney's file.

These revenue "covers" have always intrigued us, not only because of the stamps they carry, but because they so often tell a human interest story. Have you any? Tell us what they are.

* * *

We wonder if there are any perfin revenues. They could exist and would be most likely to be found on the denominations of excise stamps used on cheques. Of course, many of the firms which would be most likely to use them, used meter impressions or cheque forms with impressed stamps. We would be glad to hear of any such "perfins".

★ ★

"Small Queens" . . .

The 3c Value of 1870-97

TO BEGIN to tackle the classification of the Small 3c as to shades, perforations, papers, etc., is definitely a big undertaking. Mr. L. D. Shoemaker of Lakewood, Ohio, deserves a great deal of credit for undertaking such a job as he did in an article published in BNA TOPICS, May 1950.

In my opinion, it can be truly said his articles have been the means of creating great activity in the collecting of this stamp and have been the foundation of many a fine collection. As one who is very much interested, and who has spent plenty of time and effort in fabricating and putting together a fair collection, I will endeavor to pass on to you my opinions and findings and will classify them according to my own opinion from the pages of my album.

Please do not think me selfish or one guilty of handing out discouragement when I say, "If you haven't got lots of entires or dated copies, don't attempt to specialize in this stamp, because entires are extremely scarce and dated copies at a premium."

An order from Ottawa prohibited the date from falling on a stamp when being cancelled, for in case the stamp became separated from the envelope, the date would still remain so that it might be traced in case the envelope went astray.

Believed Montreal Printing

Philatelic research or knowledge has definite assurance that this stamp was issued in the early part of January 1870, and it is recognized as a copper red and believed to be a Montreal printing. I am of the opinion that the first printing up to 1874 were Ottawa printings due to the fact that the first post card was issued in 1871 and bears the imprint Montreal and Ottawa—but what difference does it make! Should my attempt at classifying meet with the approval of fellow collectors, I will continue further.

A position dot in the lower left corner has been a factor in determining early or Montreal printings from 1870 to 1888, but I have copies, although scarce, showing a dot on the issues up to 1888. This date was

supposed to be the year the printing was transferred to Ottawa.

I have seen horizontal strips of three or more, which showed the left stamp without a dot and the stamps to the right showing a dot. It is believed by many that in some cases the left vertical row of the sheet did not have dots, and again it could be that the dot fell on the perforation and was lost when the perforation freed itself. I happen to have two copies with the perforations adhering and the dot is on the perf.

Copper Red a True Description

The first printings are definitely in a class by themselves and copper red is a true description of its color. One characteristic of early printings is their smooth feel when the finger is passed over the paper, and when held at an angle towards the light it shows a gloss.

Scanning the pages of my album, I will start at the beginning—1870:

1870

No. 1—Paper A. Copper Red. Perf. 12x12.

Horizontal Mesh.

This paper is a fine quality toned, smooth surface, opaque paper, with a horizontal mesh.



WALTER P. CARTER

Chairman of the Small Queens Study Group,
and author of this article on a popular stamp

- No. 1A—Paper A. Copper Red. Perf. $12\frac{1}{2} \times 12\frac{1}{2}$.
Horizontal Mesh.
This is a very scarce stamp, in fact "rare."
- No. 1B—Paper A. Copper Red, in a dull shade.
Perf. 12x12.
Horizontal Mesh.
- No. 1C—Paper A. Pale Dull Rose. Perf. 12x12.
Horizontal Mesh.
- No. 1D—Paper A. Deep Rose. Perf. 12x12.
Horizontal Mesh.
- No. 1E—Paper B. Pale Dull Rose. Perf. 12x12.
Vertical Mesh.
A hard smooth surface, toned paper with the design showing through, and a vertical mesh.
- No. 1F—Paper B. A deep shade of Dull Rose.
Perf. 12x12.
Vertical Mesh.
- No. 1G—Paper B. Rose Red. Perf. 12x12.
Vertical Mesh.

1871

- No. 2—Paper A. Rose Red. Perf. 12x12. 1
Horizontal Mesh.
- No. 2A—Paper C. Carmine Red. Perf. 12x12.
Horizontal Mesh.
This paper is in a class by itself, being a very thick, soft paper with the perfs. usually adhering, and often referred to as "blotting paper." This stamp is seldom found well centred and is considered "rare."
- No. 2B—Paper D. Pale Dull Rose Red. Perf. 12x12.
Horizontal Mesh.
This paper is a medium weight, toned white, pebbly surface with a horizontal mesh.
- No. 2C—Paper B1. Rose Red, in a dark shade.
Perf. 12x12.
Vertical Mesh.
A paper thinner than B. Design visible on the back, vertical mesh.
- No. 2D—Paper B. Deep shade of Dull Rose. Perf. 12x12.
Vertical Mesh.
- No. 2E—Paper B. Dark Carmine Rose. Perf. 12x12.
Vertical Mesh.
A real scarce shade.
- No. 2F—Paper E. Bright Rose in a medium shade.
Perf. 12x12.
Horizontal Mesh.
A thin toned white paper, with a horizontal mesh, with the design showing through.
- No. 2G—Paper E. Dull Pale Rose. Perf. 12x12.
Horizontal Mesh.

In describing the shades and colors, there are many angles to consider. You no doubt have noticed that in some printings the color is slightly fainter on the right side of the profile than on the left. In other words, the face stands out quite boldly, while other printings show the face almost the same shade or color on both the left and right sides of the face. I have tried as far as possible to adhere to the paper listings at outlined by Mr. Shoemaker, and while my listing of varieties shows an increase over his, they are just as I find them. I am never satisfied, nor do I list anything unless I have two or more of that particular item. In all cases I have an entire or dated copy.

I would be pleased to hear from anybody interested, and it will be a pleasure at all times to discuss anything pertaining to this wonderful stamp. I hope, if nothing

¹NOTE: An entire dated Jan. 5, 1871, might mean that this printing could have been issued in 1870.

unforseen happens, to have an interesting exhibit at the coming convention at Niagara Falls in October.

Do you know that in some post offices a business man, doctor, lawyer, etc., who rented a box, could post a letter without a stamp? He would mark in the corner of the envelope "Charge to Box —" and the rate of postage would be charged to his box account. Colored envelopes were used in the early days for business and white envelopes for personal mail. ★ ★

VARIOUS and SUNDRY

GEO. E. FOSTER (BNAPS 293)

NEW BRUNSWICK COINAGE

BEING somewhat curious about the coinage of money in New Brunswick, I investigated and find that in 1843 a quantity of pennies and half-pennies were coined. This supply seems to have met requirements for the next 11 years. In 1854, a further supply of pennies and halves were minted. The total coinage of the two issues amounted to 480,000 pieces of each value.

This opens a new field of speculation. Many collectors believe that if a mailer needed, for instance, a $1\frac{1}{2}$ d to make up the rate of $7\frac{1}{2}$, he bought a 3d stamp and proceeded to cut it in half. Some philatelic writers convey the same impression in their writings.

I wonder if this view is correct. With $1\frac{1}{2}$ d in coin at hand, did not many postmasters, as a public convenience, and as a courtesy to their patrons, make split stamps available at their offices?

After the Act of 1860, changing the monetary system from sterling to the decimal units, a larger program of small coins was undertaken. In 1861 some half-cents and one million one-cent pieces were minted. There is no mint record of the number of $\frac{1}{2}$ -cent pieces produced, but from the present scarcity of this coin, the quantity must have been small.

In 1862, 5, 10 and 20 cent pieces made their appearance. A further minting took place in 1864, when another million one cent pieces were produced as well as 5, 10 and 20 cent coins. The number of coins of the latter three produced in the two years was 200,000 of the 5c, 250,000 of the 10c, and 300,000 of the 20c pieces. ★ ★



PERFIN

SECRETARY: R. J. Woolley,
359 Ellis Pk. Rd., Toronto 3

STUDY GROUP

THERE ARE two well-known types of perforated initial stamps used by the Canadian Government offices, and usually referred to as the five hole (Type I) and four hole (Type II) O.H.M.S.

As the result of an enquiry, the manufacturer of the machines supplied the following information. An order for a five-hole machine was received by them on June 23, 1923, so it is reasonable to suppose that it was available for use within approximately one month of this date. Whether another machine was used prior to this date at Victoria, B.C., is not known.

This machine was supplied for the use of the Department of Finance at Ottawa and stamps perforated Type I were used by the offices of the Assistant Receiver General in the various provinces across Canada until March 11, 1935, at which time these offices were taken over by the Bank of Canada.

It is reported by other writers that during 1936 to 1938 stamps so perforated were used by the Customs Department.

It would appear that during this period, Type I would rightly be regarded as being issued for Departmental use.

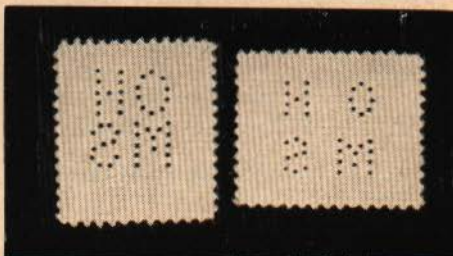
Correct official use of O.H.M.S. perforated stamps is covered by a Treasury Board minute No.T1790926 dated March 28, 1939, ordering the system of perforating stamps to be put into effect for Government departments on July 1, 1939. The system was placed under the administration of the Post Office Department, who supplied the stamps, perforated them, and attended to their distribution.

As the Post Office Department had no perforating machine at this time, the old style Type I machine was borrowed until such time as a new machine could be delivered. Thus the stamps with the five-hole design, distributed from July 1, 1939, until the placing in use of the Type II machine would be correctly considered as official usage.

A new machine with Type II design was ordered early in August 1939, and was

probably placed in use towards the end of September 1939.

Although it is not one of the objectives of the Perfin Study Group to establish a check list of the O.H.M.S. perforated stamps, it is thought that the subject has sufficient general interest to be included in this article. BNAPS'er C. Garrett has supplied us with a check list of the stamps with Type I perforation which he has seen and the writer has added some numbers which he knows to be in other collections.



Type I O.H.M.S. Perforated

1912-25—Scott No. 104, 105, 106, 107, 108, 109, 110, 111, 112, 112a, 113, 114, 115, 116, 117, 118, 119, 120, 122.

1917—Scott No. 135.

1927—Scott No. 141, 142, 143, 144, 145, 146, 147, 148.

1928—Scott No. 149, 150, 151, 152, 153, 154, 155, 156, 157, 158, 159.

1930—Scott No. 162, 163, 163b, 164, 165, 165a, 166, 167, 168, 169, 170, 171, 172, 173, 174, 175, 176, 177.

1931—Scott No. 184, 190.

1932—Scott No. 191, 191a, 192, 193, 194, 195, 196, 197, 198, 199, 200, 201.

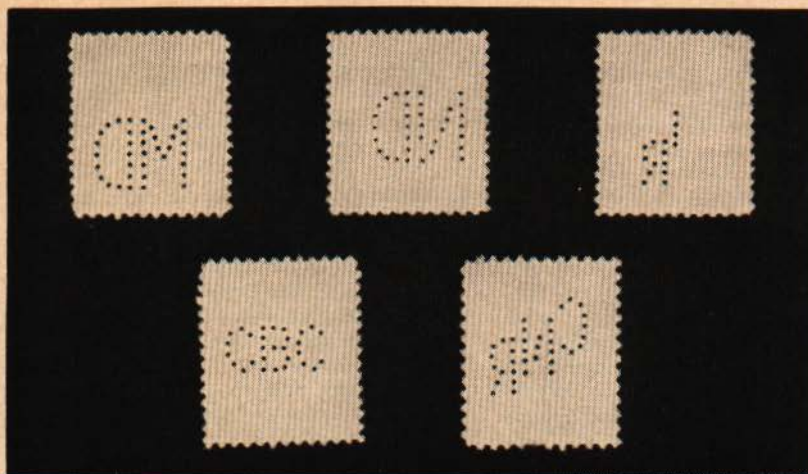
1933-34—Scott No. 202, 203, 204, 208, 209, 210.

1935—Scott No. 211, 212, 213, 214, 215, 217, 218, 219, 220, 221, 222, 223, 224, 225, 226, 227.

1937—Scott No. 231, 232, 233, 234, 235, 236, 237. Coil, 240.

1938—Scott No. 241, 241a, 242, 243, 245, 246, 247, 248.

Air—Scott No. C1, C6.



**Dominion
Government
Uses Perfins
Extensively**

1942—Scott No. 256.

S.D.—Scott No. E1, E5, E6, E7.

In comment on the above, the writer has seen two copies of Scott 135, both of which appear good, one of the copies having the typical blind perf. No responsibility is taken for the reported copy of Scott 256 which hardly fits in with the above notes.

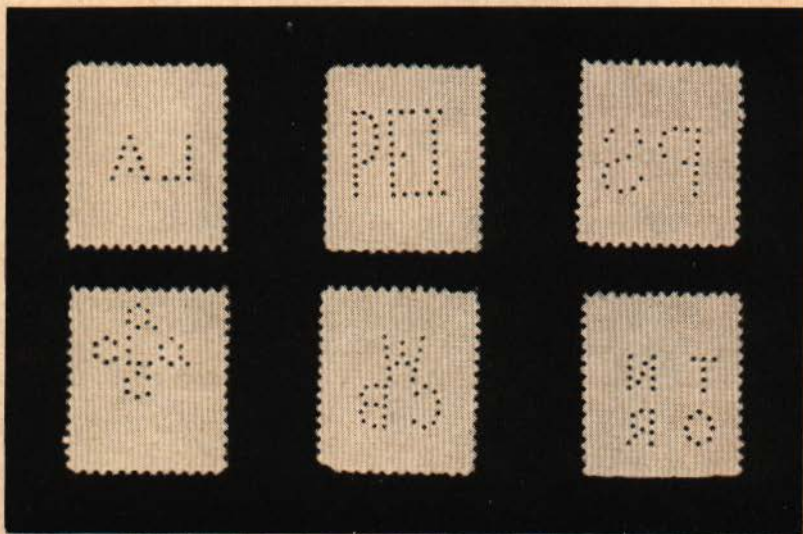
Type II O.H.M.S. Perforated

Scott No. 223, 10c Mountie; 224, 13c Charlottetown; 225, 50c Victoria; 237, 3c Coronation; 246-7-8, Royal Visits; 231-6, 1937 Portraits; 241 and 241a to 245; 249-262, War Issues; 268-273, Peace Issues; 285-6, 2c and 3c Revised; C1 and C5-9; CE1-CE4; E7 and E9-11.

Three other departments of the Dominion Government also used stamp perforating machines which are here illustrated.

MD by the Militia Department, ND by the Department of National Defence, and the IR is believed to have been issued by the Department of Internal Revenue. Confirmation of this latter by someone owning a copy used on cover would be welcome by the group.

There are also two Crown companies using perfins which should be mentioned. CBC is used by the Canadian Broadcasting Corporation, and the four types of CNR in diagonal form are used by various offices of the Canadian National Railways, one of these being originally supplied to the Cana-



**Provincial
Government
Departments
Add to
Variety**

dian Northern Railway, and continued in use under the Canadian National System.

Three Provincial Legislatures and two departments of Provincial Governments complete the listing of official and semi-official agencies.

L A—Legislative Assembly, Province of Ontario; P E I—Province of Prince Edward Island; P S—Province of Saskatchewan; Q/QLC/C—Quebec Liquor Commission, Province of Quebec; W C/B—Workmen's Compensation Board, Province of B.C.; TN/OR—Temiskaming & Northern Ontario Railroad. The last-named has been included as it is now owned by the Province of Ontario, although at the time their machine was in use it was probably a privately-owned line.

* * *

Thanks to BNAPSers Peter J. Hurst and W. H. Pollard for help in confirmation of

the usage of ICR by the Intercolonial Railroad, and to P. D. van Oudenol for reporting the perfins so far noted on the stamps of Newfoundland. We understand his report has been responsible for identifying the user of G.K. Thanks also to Freres Meyerson and Rev. John Bain for kind notices in their columns.

* * *

The third of our Small Queens is still a puzzle—JH/S has been suggested by correspondents from the U.S. as being similar in design to one used by a company in Buffalo, N.Y. The copies known on Canadian stamps appear only on the Small Queen issue, and are known postmarked in Montreal. Le Comte de Volpi has agreed to act as special agent (honorary) of the Perfin Study Group in tracing down the user of this elusive item. ★ ★

Canadian Illustrated Covers

E. L. PIGGOTT (BNAPS 629)



No. 10

THIS COVER postmarked in May 1898 is a fine example of advertising types used in the Victorian era. The company which sponsored the cover was founded in 1860 by a descendant of one James Fulton, an Irishman who emigrated to Canada in 1760, one hundred years before, at the age of 20. This young man helped survey the Province of Nova Scotia, and later became a county court judge and member of the Legislative Assembly.

Through the years, and despite the handicap of its remote location, 14 miles from

a railway, along with four disastrous fires, many obstacles and much competition, the business founded almost a century ago still carries on, through the trade name has changed. The company's one product—chairs—is sold in large volume throughout Canada, the British West Indies and South Africa.

It seems, therefore, appropriate to quote here from Emerson: "If a man has good corn, or wood, or boards, or pigs to sell, or can make better chairs or knives, crucibles, or church organs, than anybody else, you will find a broad hard-beaten road to his house, though it be in the woods." ★ ★

THE EDITOR'S MAILBAG

Phantom Plate Number

Plate number 4 of the 2 cent Queen Elizabeth II lower right has also what might be termed a smear through the plate block inscription. The phantom plate number shows on my two blocks but not as clearly as the Winnipeg collector seems to suggest (see March TOPICS).

In the eighth stamp down from the top left corner several lines of color seem to be scratched into the stamp in such a way as to strike right into the right eye of the Queen.

The phantom number of the plate block is "5" undoubtedly.

It might be a good idea to have the Winnipeg collector compare his "find" with mine. I have two blocks with nine stamps in each one and some blocks of four showing the "messaging" through the plate block inscription.

W. H. Daw.

Montreal Ship Letters

Reference article on Montreal Ship Letters in recent Postal History Column, I have an entire cover dated London (England), 7 April 1839, addressed to March, Ottawa River, with clear oval mark: "SHIP LRE., MONTREAL" (with crown) in red. This, therefore, should settle the query. My copy, although clear, has no outer frame but is the same size as usual ovals.

The covers described in the article were doubtless landed somewhere up the river and then went overland to Montreal.

Frank Staff (No. 399)

Some Perfins

Just read your article on "Perfin" stamps and took an hour off looking through some 2,000 Canadian stamps I have and came up with the following:

Scott No. 82, perforated S.L.A.Co.; No. 107, B.L.L.R.; No. 108, B.L.L.R.; No. 108, B.L.L.B.; No. 108, B.T.; No. 108, P.T.L.; No. 163, C.N.R.; No. 164, C.P.R.; No. 217, C.N.R.; No. 231, O.H.M.S.; No. 232, B.T.; No. 233, T.R.A.V.; Nos. 249, 252, 254, O.H.M.S.; No. 255, B.T.

I probably have many others, but as a hobby I do not collect "Perfin" stamps.

R. L. Tinker (No. 1174)

Small Queen Cancellation

In looking over my Canadian covers, I came across one with a cancellation that will identify No. 1243 on page 144 of the February issue of TOPICS.

This cancellation was used from Merrickville, Ont., Jan. 29, 1879.

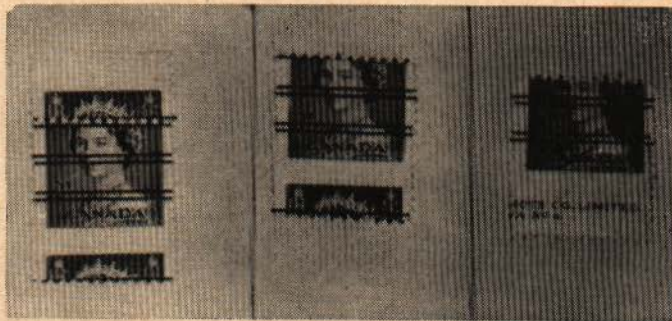
W. H. Russell (No. 587)

Unusual Perforating Job!

I am enclosing a photograph (see below) of three precancelled stamps which were mailed to local furniture dealers in the Windsor area by the Remington Air Conditioning Company whose whereabouts I do not know. They reached Windsor on February 17 last.

I thought precancel collectors might be interested in noting the existence of this unusual perforating job.

R. H. Larkin (No. 958)



The PEM . . . BINA Twins



ONE OF THE most fantastic stories in the world of philately had its beginning on November 2, 1858, in the little town of Pembina, North Dakota. The story began when a Canadian free fur trader arrived in this town to mail a letter, bearing an imperforate pair of the 7½d green Canadian stamps issued in 1857, and later to become very rare.

It is known today that this Canadian letter, mailed in the United States, contained complaints on the living conditions which the early Selkirk settlers had to endure in that far-away country which we know today as Manitoba.

In those days, the Hudson Bay Company was the undisputed ruler of the region. It enforced its authority by imposing a strict censorship on all the settlers' mail, in order that the London Government would not become aware of the adverse conditions.

Many years later, during the winter of 1906, a philatelist who was in urgent need of money, decided to sell his holdings which included the pair of Canadian stamps cancelled "PEMBINA." The owner, unconscious of the real value of the pair, washed it from the envelope, in which state it would have been of great importance today. Being rare stamps and of high value even at that time, the owner was unable to find a client who would purchase the pair. For this reason, he separated the pair with scissors to facilitate their sale. In 1906, one of these stamps bearing the "PEM" portion of the postmark, was sold at auction in London. The other stamp, bearing the "BINA" portion, was sold at auction in New York about the year 1921.

The stamp bearing the "BINA" portion became the property of Dr. Lewis Reford, the outstanding authority on Canadian stamps, and the "PEM" portion found its way into the hands of Col. J. S. O'Meara, another Canadian specialist and member of BNAPS before his death.

The eminent Canadian specialists were

great friends and often spent long hours together studying their stamps. One day in 1936, when Dr. Reford was making a meticulous examination of Col. O'Meara's stamps, he noticed the 7½d green with the "PEM" cancellation. This greatly intrigued him, as he knew he had one himself bearing the letters "BINA." To satisfy his curiosity, he placed his copy beside that of the Colonel and found that they lined up perfectly, establishing without a doubt that they had been an original pair. Both men being wealthy, a drawing was agreed upon to determine who would become the first owner of the re-united pair, a considerable sum of money which the loser would receive having been decided upon beforehand. The honor of ownership fell to Dr. Reford and the famous "PEMBINA" pair were re-united.

Dr. Reford had a friendly spot in his heart for his colleague, and upon his death willed the pair to Col. O'Meara. Following the death of Col. O'Meara, in 1952, the pair was purchased by Paul H. Dolbec, of Quebec City, who has since that time refused some very interesting offers for the renowned "PEMBINA" twins. ★ ★

Ross House To Re-open

On May 29, Western Canada's first post office re-opened as a post office and museum. It may be remembered that it was open last year in the summer months in the same capacities. Many tourists and Winnipeg citizens visited this interesting site in 1953, viewed its interesting historical contents and posted letters or cards with the special cachet which shows a picture of the House and gives details of its first opening in 1855.

All mail posted there this year will again receive the special cachet. Those desiring such covers may forward self-addressed envelopes in a cover addressed to the Postmaster, Winnipeg, marked Ross House. ★ ★

NEWFOUNDLAND:

The Rare 1d Reddish-Brown

(Scott No. 16 : Gibbons No. 17a)

SPECIALISTS have for a number of years been perplexed by this stamp, which is undoubtedly one of the great rarities of British North America.

In "The Postage Stamps and Postal History of Newfoundland" by Winthrop S. Boggs, the stamp is listed under the caption, "Prepared for use but not issued" No. U.11—1d Reddish brown, and the statement that "these appeared on the market long after the stamps had become obsolete—apparently they were never sent to the Colony". While I have no reason to doubt this statement, I would like to mention that from my own experience everything indicates that the majority of the existing specimens have found their way into the collections belonging to American or Canadian collectors of this colony.

During the last 10 years no less than seven copies have passed through my hands, and it is perhaps worthwhile to record that only three of these had gum. Two of these specimens originated from undoubtedly English sources; the other five specimens originated from the United States, and four were without gum. During this period I can recall only one copy being offered for sale through the English auctions (H. R. Harmer, Vowles Sale, Jan. 10, 1949) while no less than six copies have been offered by the principal New York auctioneers and of these the Reford collection contained three specimens.

As a point of rarity, one should observe that during the same period the number of 1/- Scarlet Vermillions that have passed through the auctions must be at least ten times greater.

No Support for New Die Theory

Many of the experts have been of the opinion that a new die and plate were prepared for this stamp, but I find no evidence to support this theory. Boggs states that the stamp is smaller than the 1857 issues in the Brown Purple shade, and other specialists believe that the numerals are larger in the Reddish Brown than in the Brown-

purple and Chocolate shade. This is contrary to the evidence I have obtained from the stamps in my hands. The measurements are as follows:

1d Brownish-purple, Scott No. 1 (Gibbons No. 1), 22.1/22.3 x 22.4/22.6.

1d Chocolate, Scott No. 15a (Gibbons No. 17), 21.9/22.9 x 21.8/22.

1d Reddish-brown, Scott No. 16 (Gibbons No. 17a), 22.3 x 22.25.

Size of numerals in all three issues, 1 4/5 mm.

The Brownish-purple is printed on a thick opaque white wove paper, similar to the papers used for the Barbados and Trinidad stamps of the same period, and most probably was made by T. H. Saunders. The Chocolate shade is on a very thin wove paper, a product of Stacey Wise.

Now it may be that the thin Stacey Wise paper, after being dampened for printing, shrank much more than the other paper, thus producing the difference in the size of the two issues. Cases of shrinkage of 1 mm. have been reported on other stamps, especially the Canada 1854 10d on thin oily paper, which differed in width by 1 mm. from the later printings on thicker paper.

Shrinkage Varies Considerably

The Reddish-brown, however, differs only slightly in size from the first issue, consistent with the normal shrinkage difference between thick and thin paper, but this stamp is printed on similar paper to the Chocolate shade, so it is apparent that the shrinkage to each sheet must have varied considerably, and that the size of a stamp must not be taken into account when considering whether a new die or new plate was made.

When the firm of Perkins Bacon Ltd. was liquidated, the dies and plates of this issue were defaced and then presented to the Newfoundland Government, who in turn presented them to the Royal Philatelic Society, in whose archives they at present repose, available for examination at any time by members. It is interesting to note that

this plate consists of 120 subjects, which finally disposes of the theory of many collectors that, because the sheets of the 5d denomination comprised 40 subjects, it was more than likely that the 1d sheets were of the same format. The defacing of the plate has made careful and thorough examination difficult, but it was my opinion that one die and one plate was used for printing all three issues, but just prior to the printing in Reddish-brown, the plate was re-entered.

No Repair Is Recorded

However, on discussing this point with Sir John Wilson, he very quickly disposed of my theory by stating that no record of a repair to this plate was contained in the day records of Messrs. Perkins Bacon, which were published by the Royal Philatelic Society. He accounts for the blurred appear-

ance of the Red-brown printing by the fact that the inkmaker failed to compound an ink to suit the absorbent qualities of the Stacey Wise paper, so that after one sheet had been pulled in the Red-brown shade, Perkins Bacon, noting the blurred appearance, decided on a change in the ingredients, and the Chocolate-brown shade was used in preference to the Red-brown. This theory does not account for the burr marks which appear in profusion in the margins of all the Red-brown stamps I have examined. Incidentally, these burr marks are a definite aid in identifying this very rare stamp.

It may be that, owing to the great scarcity of this stamp, and the impossibility of acquiring sufficient copies for study, that the explanation of these burr marks may remain a mystery for all time. ★ ★

Groups In the News

CALGARY BNAPSers ELECTED—At the 33rd annual meeting of the Calgary (Alberta) Philatelic Society, BNAPS member G. H. Moxham was elected president, and BNAPSer G. M. Hill, secretary. Another member, S. T. Richardson, is past president, having just completed his third consecutive term of office.

* * *

PHILLY GROUP BUSY—The Philadelphia metropolitan area is learning more and more about our society due to the fact that the group is being called upon more frequently when a speaker is wanted for meetings. During May, Bert Llewellyn was called upon to talk and exhibit for the Monmouth County Philatelic Society; Jim Culhane for the Princeton Philatelic Society, and Al Kessler for the quarterly meeting of CENJEX. Naturally, when any BNAPSer gets before a group, you can depend upon it that before he sits down everyone present will know that "there must be something about the British North America Philatelic Society".

Al. Kessler of the Philly Group will be glad to hear from any of the other groups that are being called upon to furnish speakers, etc. Let him know so if there are any inquiries (and there are!) as to whom is available in such and such a place, he can contact you.

The Philadelphia Group wishes to hereby advise (or shall we say "warn") that they will be present in force at Niagara Falls, come October 27. We will be looking forward to seeing you all there. Let's give Dick Hedley, et al, of the Niagara Group, our 100 per cent support—in attendance, if possible; financial support where possible; and, what's more, all the exhibits he can handle. Can we count on you?

* * *

12d BLACKS!—Winnipeg is now in the philatelic forefront. K. Bileski has purchased four 12d Blacks on wove paper, including the only known mint copy; one on cover and a used pair. Highlight of a recent meeting of the Winnipeg BNAPS Group was the showing by Mr. Bileski of a card on which was mounted: (1) Mint 12d Black on wove paper, with Royal Certificate; (2) Used 12d Black on laid paper; (3) Used 2c green No. 32, on laid paper (only three known copies in the world!).

The card was passed around that members might feast their eyes on these philatelic gems—the first time in history that these three jewels have been brought together and shown jointly to a gathering of fanatical stamp collectors. It may well be said that Mr. Bileski has put Winnipeg on the philatelic map. ★ ★

Sketches of BNAPSers . . .

By V. G. GREENE (BNAPS L40)

No. 57: A. Earl Edwards

BNAPSer A. EARL EDWARDS was born in Ealing, Ont. (now a suburb of London) on March 24, in the "mid-nineties", as he puts it. Educated at London Collegiate and University of Toronto, he was going through Osgoode Hall to be a lawyer when the first Great War broke out and he immediately enlisted (Sept. 1914) but owing to physical ill health, did not get overseas. Earl was an inspector with the Department of Munitions until 1916 when he moved to Toronto and joined the staff of Ryrie Bros. Ltd. He left Ryrie's in 1921 and has been in the jewellery business for himself ever since.



A. Earl Edwards

Earl started a general collection of stamps in 1908 but when the war started he was forced to give it up. After the war he began to specialize in the Edward issue of Canada, of which he has a fine collection.

In 1945 Earl became intrigued by Canadian bank bills, both of the chartered banks whose bills were withdrawn on January 1, 1945, and the obsolete and defunct bank bills which circulated in the early days in Canada. His collection of bank notes is considered one of the finest of its kind. In this connection, over the years Earl has collected something which we know cannot be duplicated, namely, the proofs and vignettes, dating back to 1850, which go into the making of the dies of these said bills.

Earl was president of the Toronto Stamp Collectors' Club, 1949-51, and is regional governor for Canada of the American Philatelic Society, and also a member of the board of the convention committee of the A.P.S. He is also a member of the Essay-Proof Society, Collectors' Club of N.Y., Canadian Philatelic Society, and was a director and member of the executive of CAPEX.

A prominent Rotarian, he is chairman of various committees of the Rotary Club of Leaside. Earl married Miss Mildred Milling of Napanee, Ont., in 1932, and consequently is keenly interested in all covers and historical documents pertaining to Ealing and Napanee, Ontario. ★ ★

A Word to the Wise . . .

It's YEARBOOK time again!

Once again the time rolls around to solicit the support of our members in the publication of the 1954 Yearbook of the British North America Philatelic Society. The publication of this annual review is only made possible by the funds received from advertising. The issue of our magazine must be entirely self-supporting, and the response in previous years has been a tangible expression of appreciation for the efforts of those who produce BNA Topics each month. A handy postcard is enclosed—won't you fill it in for the size of advertisement you require, put a stamp on it or place in an envelope so as to reach the Advertising Manager as soon as possible. He wants to go on his holidays, so an early response will be a great help!



Reviews...

By G.P.L.

CANADA CATALOGUE OF CONSTANT PLATE VARIETIES. By Hans Reiche (BNAPS 783). Published by Fritz Billig, 168-39 Highland Ave., Jamaica 32, N.Y. 48pp. \$2.00.

This catalogue is published as one of the famous Billig Specialty Handbooks, and is a completely enlarged and revised edition of the popular booklet by Mr. Reiche which appeared a few years ago. This is the only comprehensive listing of the constant plate varieties of Canada which has come to our notice, and it has the additional features of accurate pricing and helpful illustrations, without the inclusion of any "oddities". The prices represent a careful study of the market, and although this feature may lose its value as time goes on, the booklet is highly recommended to all BNAPS members interested in Canadian varieties. In fact it will make a welcome addition to any collector's library, whatever his interest.

May be obtained from the publisher or from the Canadian agent, Hans Reiche, 235 Cooper Street, Ottawa, Canada.

BIBLIOGRAPHY OF LITERATURE ON REVENUE STAMPS. Compiled by Josef Schonfeld. 34pp. 50c.

As the collecting of Revenue stamps of all countries seems to be increasing in popularity, the demand for literature pertaining to this branch of the hobby should rise considerably. Mr. Schonfeld has gathered together more than 250 titles of works on revenue stamps of the world, including an extensive listing of Canadian material which will be of interest to members of the Canadian Revenue Study Group, and other members. The gathering of the titles and facts in this volume could have been no easy task, and must have taken considerable time.

May be obtained from Josef Schonfeld, 3049 Hemlock, Vancouver 9, B.C., Canada, at price mentioned above. Libraries, clubs and individuals who order five copies at a time will be charged a wholesale price of \$1.50 for five copies. ★ ★

BNAPSers TAKE AWARDS IN CPS ANNUAL SHOW

Their fellow-collectors in BNAPS wish to congratulate Walter P. Carter, Doug Patrick and Ed. Goodale upon their award-winning exhibits at the CPS 26th Annual Convention and Exhibit, held at Kitchener, Ont., April 22-24.

Once again we point out that rarely is there a show that will not include at least one BNAPSer among the award winners—which is a reminder: October 27-31 will soon be here. What about your exhibit for our Sixth Annual Show—will it be ready?

L. M. Lamouroux was re-elected president of the Canadian Philatelic Society at this annual meeting, and reported marked progress during the year in all departments.

Several guest exhibits were on display during the exhibition, including two frames shown by the Canada Post Office of die proofs of the new Elizabeth stamps to be issued June 10, and the recently-issued animal stamps. An exhibit of Irish stamps that had been specially sent over from the Post Office in Dublin, and which were beautifully written up in English and Gaelic, attracted a great deal of attention. Cardinal Spellman of New York sent two frames of illustrated pages from his famous collection of "Religion on Stamps" which were greatly admired.

It was announced that the Canadian Philatelic Society's next convention would be held in Montreal in April 1955, with the Union Philatelique de Montreal acting as host club. The 1956 convention will be held in Windsor, Ontario. ★ ★

'GOSSIP' TO FEATURE HOLMES' HANDBOOK

Holmes' Handbook of Canada and British North America will be reprinted in weekly 8-page sections by Weekly Philatelic Gossip, of Holton, Kansas.

The author, L. Seale Holmes, M.D., is a member of BNAPS, and is well known throughout the philatelic world. The first edition of this book was a complete sell-out; the second was absorbed in a short time. It will be reprinted with the original subject matter and illustrations covering 69 chapters consisting of 246 pages. The first 8-page section will appear on July 3. ★ ★

OFFICIAL SECTION

BRITISH NORTH AMERICA PHILATELIC SOCIETY

OFFICIAL NOTICE Nominations and Elections

ARTICLE IV, Section 3—As amended April 1954.

A President, Vice-President, Treasurer and Secretary shall be so elected by ballot in the even-numbered years, during December. Three (3) members to the Board of Governors shall be so elected each year by ballot during December for a term of three (3) years. All elected officers shall serve as such officers until their respective successors are elected and shall qualify.

Nominations may be filed with the Secretary by Groups or by any five (5) members in good standing not later than ninety (90) days prior to the election date. At least ninety (90) days prior to the election date, the President of the Society shall select and appoint three (3) Members of the Society to serve and function as a Nominating Committee whose prime purpose shall be to prepare and present a slate of nominees for each elective office to be voted. Each nomination made shall be published in BNA TOPICS not less than sixty (60) days prior to the election date.

An Official Ballot shall be prepared by the Secretary containing all nominations, spaces for marking against each name, and space for the signature and number of the Member casting the ballot, if he so elects. The Committee on Elections shall canvass the vote and report the results to the Secretary for filing and notice in BNA TOPICS. If no one candidate shall receive a plurality of the votes cast for such office, the Committee on Elections shall issue new ballots for the election to this office containing only the names of the two (2) candidates receiving the highest number of votes in the last previous balloting.

Report of the Secretary . . .

By JACK LEVINE, Secretary, 74 Arlington Ave., Brooklyn 7, New York

May 15, 1954.

NEW MEMBERS

- 1177 Carlsen, Irina M., c/o Dept. of Slavonic Studies, University of B.C., Vancouver 8, British Columbia.
- 1178 Drake, Everett N., 136A Walmer Road, Toronto 4, Ontario.
- 1179 Duncanson, A. A., 358 Russell Hill Road, Toronto, Ontario.
- 1180 Kemp, H. Douglas, 462 Greenwood Place, Winnipeg, Manitoba.
- 1181 MacDonald, Dr. John J., P.O. Box 38, Antigonish, Nova Scotia.
- 1182 Nystrom, David, 512 Anderson Street, Nelson, British Columbia.
- 1183 Risteen, F. R., 122 Smythe Street, Fredericton, New Brunswick.
- 1184 Rutherford, George Albert, 747 Spruce Street, Winnipeg, Manitoba.
- 1185 Stewart, Willard, 535 Teaneck Road, Teaneck, New Jersey.
- 1186 Watson, H. J. Michael, 71 Flatt Avenue, Hamilton, Ontario.

APPLICATIONS PENDING

- Bentham, Chester N., 22½ Stewart Ave., Hanford Bay, Silver Creek, New York.
- Brandli, E., Hilltop Road, Mendham, New Jersey.
- Champ, W. Harold, 138 Gloucester, Ottawa, Ontario.
- Dodd, Leslie H., 1111 Burlingame Avenue, Detroit 2, Michigan.
- Eisele, Herman, 824 Engineers Bldg., Cleveland 14, Ohio.
- Porfar, Keith, 3152 No. 27th Street, Milwaukee 10, Wisconsin.
- Hamilton, H. T., 11316-73 Avenue, Edmonton, Alberta.
- Harris, Theodore H., 530 Outremont Avenue, Outremont 8, Quebec.
- Jamieson, Robert A., 215 Main Street, Binghamton, New York.
- Knox, Stewart I., 26 Stoke Street, Port Arthur, Ontario.
- Liveright, Frank I., Hillsdale, New Jersey.
- MacDonald, Daniel G., 63 Elmwood Drive, Sunny Brae, West Co., New Brunswick.
- McCallum, J. A., Met. Officer, RCAF Station, Bagotville, Quebec.
- McDonald, Susan M., 3125 Crescent Road, Massillon, Ohio.
- Novotny, Jan M., 379 Elm Avenue, Westmount 6, Quebec.
- Peters, Reimers A., 5454 W. Vernor Hwy., Detroit 9, Michigan.
- Richardson, C. N., 8 Mulgrave Road, East Croydon, Surrey, England.

Rines, Homer G., 12 Wind Road, East Hartford 8, Connecticut.
 Robertson, Donald George, Little Werneth, Claremont Road, Redhill, Surrey, England.
 Silberstein, Milton Leonard, 1607 Francis, Houston 4, Texas.
 Slimmon, Donald Hood, 1020 Grosvenor Avenue, Winnipeg, Manitoba.
 Stokely, N. F., Del Rio, Tennessee.
 Swanker, Wilson A., M.D., 133 East 58th Street, New York 22, New York.
 Webb, Jim F., 309 Sunnyside Avenue, Toronto 3, Ontario.
 Williams, Homer F., 12208-126 Street, Edmonton, Alberta.
 Zahn, Anton H., 1351 Westmorland Avenue, Syracuse 10, New York.

APPLICATIONS FOR MEMBERSHIP

(Objections must be filed within 15 days after month of publication)

- Baulch, Bert L., 52 St. Clair Ave., East, Toronto 7, Ontario (C) CAN, PROV—20th century mint and used postage and blocks. 1st Flight Covers, Seals, Federal and Provincial Revenues, Mint and used Airmails and on cover. R.R., Flag and Slogan cancellations. Proposed by W. C. Rockett, No. 249. Seconded by C. MacR. Makepeace, No. 107.
- Brock, Rear Admiral P. W., D.S.O., c/o United Service Club, Pall Mall, London S.W.1, England (CX) CAN, NFD, B.C., N.B., N.S., P.E.I.—19th and 20th century mint and used postage and mint blocks. Mint booklet panes and complete booklets. Coils. O.H.M.S. Precancels, Mint and used Airmails. Literature. Territorial and Slogan cancellations. Proposed by N. Todd, No. 1135. Seconded by R. J. Duncan, No. 37.
- Decarie, Maurice, 6667-19th Ave., Rosemount, Montreal, Quebec (CX) CAN, NFD, PROV—19th and 20th century mint and used postage and blocks. Plate blocks. Coils. O.H.M.S. Mint booklet panes and complete booklets. Precancels. Seals. Federal and Provincial Revenues. Mint and used Airmails. Postal Stationery entires and cut-squares. Literature. R.R., Territorial, Flag, Slogan, 2 and 4-ring numeral cancellations. Perfins. Proposed by J. P. Rouleau, No. 744.
- Fisher, Paul J., 16 Thomas St., Johnson City, N.Y. (C) CAN, NFD—Mint and used postage. Proposed by J. W. McGuire, No. 239. Seconded by C. F. Chadwick, No. 867.
- Grumm, Fred, 2702 Donner Way, Sacramento 18, Calif. (CC) CAN—19th and 20th century mint and used postage and blocks. Pre-stamp and stampless covers. (Matched) Plate Blocks. Coils. O.H.M.S. Mint and used booklet panes and complete booklets. Mint and used Airmails. Literature. Proofs and Essays. R.R., Territorial, Flag, Crown, Cork, etc., cancellations. SPECIALTY—Matched Plate Blocks. Officials. Proposed by Rev. J. S. Bain, No. 19.
- Hewer, Edgar Elliott, Box 140, Chase, B.C. (CX) CAN, NFD, PROV—Used postage. Coils. O.H.M.S. Used Airmails. Literature. Proposed by R. J. Duncan, No. 37.
- Johnson, B. Connor, 306 W. High St., Urbana, Ill. (CX) CAN, N.B., N.S., P.E.I.—Mint and used postage. 1st Flight covers. Coils. O.H.M.S. Mint booklet panes. Federal and Provincial Revenues. Mint and Semi-Official Airmails. Postal Stationery entires. Proposed by B. M. Zuckerman, No. 1176.
- Jorissen, Andre L., 1006 Highland Road, Ithaca, N.Y. (C). Proposed by E. A. Richardson, No. 168. Seconded by R. A. Compton., No. 817.
- Little, Philip Jr., RFD No. 5, Box 59, Wayata, Minn. (C) CAN—Federal, Provincial and Tax-Paid Revenues. Revenue Proofs and Essays. Proposed by C. MacR. Makepeace, No. 107. Seconded by W. C. Rockett, No. 249.
- Menzies, Robert W., 513-21st St., West, Owen Sound, Ontario (C) CAN, NFD—19th and 20th century used postage and blocks. Coils. Precancels. Used Airmails. Proposed by G. P. Lewis, No. 506.
- Neuls, John J., 157 E. 7th Ave. (P.O. Box 303), Melville, Sask. (C) CAN, NFD—Used postage and mint blocks. Coils. O.H.M.S. Mint booklet panes. Federal and Tax-Paid Revenues. Used Airmails. Postal Stationery cut-squares. Proposed by G. P. Lewis, No. 506.
- Pearse, Langdon, P.O. Drawer F (3 Golf Lane), Winnetka, Ill. (C) CAN, NFD—Mint postage. Federal, Provincial and Tax-Paid Revenues. Mint and Semi-Official Airmails. Postal Stationery entires. Proposed by W. C. Rockett, No. 249. Seconded by C. MacR. Makepeace, No. 107.

CHANGES OF ADDRESS

- Anderson, A. G., Cape Mudge Lighthouse, Quathiaski Cove, B. C. (from Heriot Bay, B.C.)
 Bond, P. V., Ste. 106, St. Stevens Court, Toronto 18, Ontario.
 Coleman, Clarence, P.O. Box 3752, Kirkwood 22, Missouri (from Fitchville, Conn.)
 Ditmars, V. M., 369 Charlotte St., Fredericton, New Brunswick (from St. George, N.B.)
 Fairburn, Thomas C., 5708 Alma St., Vancouver 13, B.C. (from Hongkong, China).
 Gordon, 2Lt. John S., AO2234513, Wright Air Development Center, Area B, Box 7974, Wright-Patterson AFB, Ohio (from Woodbury, N.J.)
 Harris, E. A., 9649-84 Avenue, Edmonton, Alberta.
 LaPerriere, Charles A., 1014 Church St., Ann Arbor, Mich. (from Malverne, N.Y.)
 Levine, Irving, 65 Aberfoyle Rd., New Rochelle, N.Y.
 McIntyre, Eugene, 208 Monmouth Street, St. Albans, W.Va.
 Paine, H. L., 27 Bevdale Rd., Willowdale, Ontario (from Moose Jaw, Sask.)

RESIGNATION ACCEPTED

Weeks, William A., Montrose, N.Y.

RESIGNATIONS RECEIVED

782 Purvey, Cyril R., 507 Victoria Road, Nanaimo, British Columbia.
 230 Watts, I. R., 3382 Ormond Rd., Cleveland 18, Ohio.

DECEASED

663 Chivers-Wilson, Victor, 4234 Fraser, Vancouver 10, British Columbia.

MEMBERSHIP SUMMARY

TOTAL MEMBERSHIP, April 15, 1954	816	
NEW MEMBERS, May 15, 1954	10	826
RESIGNATION ACCEPTED, May 15, 1954	1	
DECEASED, May 15, 1954	1	2
		2
TOTAL MEMBERSHIP, May 15, 1954		824

Report of the Treasurer . . .

RECEIPTS AND DISBURSEMENTS ACCOUNT — JAN. 1, 1953, TO DEC. 31, 1953

BALANCE AS OF DECEMBER 31, 1952

Dues and Fees in Advance—1953	\$ 219.52	
Dues in Advance—1954	9.00	
Dues in Advance—1955	5.45	
Topics—Advertising in Advance97	
Life Membership Fund	675.00	
Funds in Custody of Editor	55.00	
Funds in custody of BNAPEX-52 Chairman	68.21	
Custody Fund	6.25	
General Funds on Deposit	230.85	
		\$1270.25

RECEIPTS

Membership Dues and Fees:

Dues and Fees for 1952	4.75	
Dues for 1953	2007.16	
Membership Fees (New Members)	144.00	
		2155.91
Dues for 1954	138.00	
Dues for 1955	12.25	
Dues for 1956	5.50	
		155.75

Topics:

Advertising—1951	6.25	
Advertising—1952	62.01	
		68.26
Advertising—1953	417.75	
Subscriptions and Sale of Back Issues	19.64	
		437.39
Reimbursement for Galley Proofs	1.38	1.38
Advertising—1954 in Advance	4.25	4.25

Yearbook:

Advertising—1951	3.50	
Advertising—1952	23.00	
		26.50
Advertising—1953	334.25	334.25
Gift—Maj. K. H. White (Royalty, Plate Block Catalogue of Canada)	12.50	12.50

Circuit:

Sale of Books (Old Stock)	4.65	
Sale of Books (New Stock)	31.50	
		36.15

BNAPEX-52 Committee—Cost of Medals	24.42	24.42
BNAPEX-53 Committee—For Medals (\$.23 in excess of cost)	59.11	59.11

\$4586.12

DISBURSEMENTS

Topics:			
Printing of ten issues and Index		\$1702.34	
Cuts		336.20	
Plates, Mailing and Shipping		61.56	
Postage		183.26	
Envelopes		70.00	
Stationery		17.05	
Miscellaneous		6.62	
		<hr/>	
Galley Proofs—Treasury Reimbursed		1.38	\$2377.03
			1.38
Yearbook:			
Printing		288.25	
Cuts		8.50	
Postage and Mailing		30.60	
Miscellaneous		5.98	
		<hr/>	
			333.33
General Expenses:			
Postage		150.00	
Ballots and Envelopes		10.25	
Membership Cards		12.00	
Stationery for President, Secretary and Treasurer		117.88	
Advertising		31.25	
Bonds for Treasurer and Sales Manager		35.00	
Miscellaneous		15.92	
		<hr/>	
			372.30
Typewriter for Sales Manager (to be amortized)		74.25	74.25
Library		50.00	50.00
Circuit Books (Treasury to be reimbursed as sold)		59.85	59.85
BNAPEX-53—Cost of Medals (Treasury reimbursed)		58.88	58.88
		<hr/>	
			Total
			\$3327.02
		Funds in Custody of Editor.....	55.00
		Topics Petty Cash Fund—Balance	13.47
		Funds on Deposit	1190.63
			<hr/>
			\$4586.12

BALANCE SHEET — AS OF DEC. 31, 1953

LIABILITIES			ASSETS	
1954 Dues in Advance	\$ 147.00		Funds on Deposit	\$1190.63
1955 Dues in Advance	17.70		Funds in Custody BNAPEX-53 Ch'man	202.43
1956 Dues in Advance	5.50		Funds in Custody of Editor	55.00
Topics—Advertising in Advance	4.25		Typewriters (2)—Depreciated Value	118.75
Life Membership Fund	621.00		Topics Petty Cash Fund—Balance	13.47
Incorporating Expense Reserve	125.00		Circuit Books in Stock	33.96
SURPLUS:			Accounts Receivable:	
As of 12/31/52	\$561.49		Dues in Abeyance	6.00
For Year 1953	334.13		Topics—1953 Advertising	147.33
	<hr/>		Yearbook—1953 Advertising	48.50
As of 12/31/53	\$895.62	895.62		
		<hr/>		
		\$1816.07		<hr/>
				\$1816.07

STATEMENT OF OPERATIONS — FOR THE YEAR 1953

INCOME		
Adjustments for prior years		\$ 6.25
Membership Dues—1952 Dues and Fee paid in 1953	\$ 4.75	
Membership Dues—1953 Regular	2225.68	
Membership Dues—From Life Membership Fund	54.00	
Membership Fees—New Members	145.00	
	<hr/>	
		2429.43

Topics:		
Advertising	418.72	
Subscription and Sale of Back Issues	19.64	438.36
Yearbook—Advertising	334.25	334.25
Gift—Maj. K. H. White (Royalty, Plate Block Catalogue of Canada)	12.50	12.50
Circuit—Sale of Books	36.15	36.15
BNAPEx-53—Income in Excess of Expenses	202.66	202.66
Accounts Receivable:		
Dues in Abeyance	6.00	
Topics—Advertising	147.33	
Yearbook—Advertising	48.50	
		201.83

\$3661.43

EXPENSES

Topics—As per Receipts and Disbursements Account	\$2377.03
Yearbook—As per Receipts and Disbursements Account	333.33
Library—As per Receipts and Disbursements Account	50.00
General Expenses—As per Receipts and Expenses Account	372.30
Typewriters (2)—Amortization	40.00
Circuit—Cost of Books Sold	25.89
Topics—Advertising Written Off	3.75
Incorporating Expenses—Funds Set Aside in Reserve	125.00

Total Expenses ... \$3327.30

Surplus for 1953 334.13

\$3661.43

The Society's books were audited through the courtesy of Arthur J. Dean (BNAPS 199), and the above report is in accordance with this audit.

W. C. PETERMAN, Treasurer.

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